

Next Sunday - Advent 2

Readings: Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85.1-2,8-13 2 Peter 3.8-15 Mark 1.1-8

Rosters: Flowers: Ethel McInnes
8am: Bible Reader: John Girdlestone
Sidespeople: John Girdlestone
10am: Liturgical Assistant: Rev'd Steve Clarke
Bible Readers: 1st Fiona Dyer, 2nd Rebecca Palethorpe
Sidespeople: Chris Cheah & Roger Sharp
Chalice Servers: Tim Gowty & Denise Manley
Morning Tea: Ann Munro & Helpers please!

St Philip's Diary

Parish Council @ the Rectory Wednesday 14 December, 7.30pm

Special Eucharist & Lunch Sunday 18 December, 10am
To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Dedication & 30th anniversary of the
Consecration of St Philip's Church building. Bishop Stuart Preaching & Presiding.
This will be a combined Dinka & English service

St Philip's Carol Service Wednesday 21 December, 7.30pm
The Christmas story celebrated with Bible readings, choir pieces and carols sung by
everyone. *Please bring a plate of Christmas food to share for supper.*

Christmas Eve Saturday 24 December
Children's service 6.00pm
Bring a plate to share afterwards

Holy Communion (Midnight Mass) 11.30pm

Christmas Day Sunday 25 December
Holy Communion 9.00am

ABM REFLECTIONS

Today is a double unveiling of a new season: the fig tree in the gospel, and the Advent in the life cycle of the Church. A season of preparation for the end on the one hand and the glorious coming of Christ on the other, a season where we await the big event. It is not the horrific and tumultuous events that will bring the big event, but the glorious Second Coming of our Lord. Advent is a season when we are called to rehearse those things that we need to be doing every-day (not just before Christmas) in preparation of Christ's Second Coming - for our eternity.

- Pray for and reach out to those Christians living in tumultuous situations that make it difficult to prepare for Christmas.
- Give thanks for the Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, for Archbishops Brown Turei, David Moxon and Winston Halapua, and for their clergy and people.

Text: The Revd Vongai Mkaronda, Gender Co-ordinator for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea
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St Philip's Come & See

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT &
Rev'd Linda Anchell's 20th Ordination Anniversary
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2011**

8am & 10am: English language Eucharist
1pm: Dinka language Service

Readings: Isaiah 64.1-9 1 Corinthians 1.1-9 Mark 13.24-37

Candle Liturgy

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

This is the candle of HOPE.

With Christians around the world, we use this light to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

May we receive God's light as we hear the words of the prophet Isaiah:
"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined." (Isaiah 9:2)

Let us sing: (Hymn TIS 278 refrain only)

**O what a gift, what a wonderful gift!
Who can tell the wonders of the Lord?
Let us open our eyes, our ears and our hearts:
it is Christ the Lord, it is he!**

Let us pray together:

Lord as we look to the birth of Jesus, grant that the light of your love for us will help us to become lights in the lives of those around us. Prepare our hearts for the joy and gladness of your coming, for Jesus is our hope. Amen.

Psalm 80.1-7, 17-19

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock:
you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine out in glory;
- 2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh:
stir up your power, and come to save us.
- 3 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts:

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- how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears:
and given them tears to drink in good measure.
- 6 You have made us the victim of our neighbours:
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 17 Let your power rest on the man at your right hand:
on that son of man whom you made so strong for yourself.
- 18 And so we shall not turn back from you:
give us life, and we will call upon your name.
- 19 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Today

The flowers today are in memory of David and Mary Reid (Linda's parents) and to commemorate Linda's 20th ordination anniversary as Deacon

Following 10am: Please join us for our celebration morning tea

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev'd Rebecca Newland

Rosters:	Flowers:	Jeannette McHugh
8am:	Bible Reader:	volunteer
	Sidespeople:	volunteer
10am:	Liturgical Assistant:	Rev'd Linda Anshell
	Musicians:	Colin Forbes
	Bible Readers:	1 st Erika Langman, 2 nd David Tscharke
	Sidespeople:	Brian McKinlay & James Kim
	Chalice Servers:	Leighton Mann & Doreen Sengati-Odom
	Morning Tea:	Margaret Woodbridge & Val Reeves

Our Prayers

Ecumenical Cycle: Liberia, Sierra Leone. Pray for the fullness of human life for all men, women and children of all tribes and ethnicities in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Wellington - (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia) The Rt Rev'd Dr Thomas John Brown

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocese of Willochra as they seek a new bishop.

Parishes of Cobargo: Harvey and Elizabeth Sloane; Bodalla-Narooma: Carol Wagner, Jane Simmonds; Open Sanctuary @ Tilba Tilba: Linda Chapman; Moruya: Linda Chapman; Batemans Bay: Ian Lambert, Colin Walters, George Browning, Peter Dillon, Ken Foster, Keith Stephens; Youth & Families Worker, Glenn Seddon; Aboriginal Ministry, Jim Lawrence; Boomerang Meeting Place, Mogo: Jim Lawrence; St Peter's Anglican College

Pray for: The newly ordained. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry: the Diocesan Koori Commission, Bimbadeen Training College, Cootamundra.

Those in need: Meg Colwell, Pat Forbes, Michael Sawyer, Baden Williams, Claude Woodbridge.

We remember and give thanks for: Constance Morton (d.25/11/01)

The Saints: Andrew, apostle & martyr; Francis Perry, founder of the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne (d.1892); Francis Xavier, priest & missionary (d.1552)

From our Rector

Greetings!

Welcome to the new church year! Today is the first Sunday in Advent, the time to prepare for the coming of our Lord. This year our Gospel is Mark, the shortest and perhaps easiest Gospel to read. It is anonymously written but traditionally ascribed to Mark the Evangelist (also known as John Mark). The gospel narrates the life of Jesus from John the Baptist to the resurrection (or the empty tomb in the shorter version), but it concentrates particularly on the last week of his life. Its swift narrative portrays Jesus as a heroic man of action, an exorcist, a healer and a miracle worker. It calls him the Son of God, the Son of Man, and the Christ (the Greek translation Messiah).

Two important themes of Mark are the Messianic secret and the obtuseness of disciples. At the heart of Mark is the question "who is Jesus?" Just as in a crime novel, the reader is given information not available to all the characters who have to piece the evidence together as the story progresses, so in the gospel we, the readers, are let in on the secret from the start. The very first verse tells us that this is the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It takes the disciples until half way through the gospel to recognize him when, at Caesarea Philippi, Peter answers Jesus' question 'who do you say that I am?' with the answer 'You are the Messiah'.

So much more important than reading about Marks Gospel, or listening to a sermon based on it is to read this Gospel for yourself (it only takes about an hour) and see how it helps *you* answer the question, "Who is Jesus?"

This seems to be a very good question to be asking as we begin the lead up to Christmas and the birth of our Lord. To help and inspire you as you ask that question and prepare for Christ's coming I draw your attention to the Advent Calendar on our web page. There you will find Bible readings, poetry, music and prayer for every day in advent. It is a wonderful resource and I encourage you to each day click on the date and take a moment to reflect and pray. Thank you to Brian McKinlay for putting the calendar together.

Have a blessed week, Rebecca.

Christian Care Refuge, Solomon Islands – Special appeal

Today - last day to donate to this appeal.

This Week @ St Philip's

Monday:	St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre – including lunch
Wednesday:	10am: English Language Holy Communion
Friday:	10am – 1pm: Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN
Saturday:	10am – 1pm: Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN

St Philip's Advent

Calendar 2011

Visit the St Philips website (www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au) to explore the St Philip's Advent Calendar, with a page of Bible readings, poetry, music and prayer for every day in Advent.

