

Prayer Points

For those in need: Chris Langman; Linda Anshell; Adrian Knight; Brian Turner; Pat Forbes; Tracy Barralet; Grace Barnes; Betty Heaton

Those we remember: Peter Blaseotto; Dorothy Moore

Next Sunday - Third Sunday of Advent

8am **Holy Communion**

10am **Holy Communion**

Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-20; A Song of Isaiah; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Rosters: Flowers: Colleen Rischbieth

Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon

8am Sidesperson: Vicki Luker; Bible Reader: Rhonda Evans;

10am: Welcomer: Davidson family; Sidespeople: Jan & Tim Gulliver; Liturgical

Assistant: Rev'd Linda Anshell; Music: Colin Forbes; Readers: David

French(OT), Tim Gulliver(NT); Communion Servers: Doreen Sengati-

Odom, Andrea de Vaal Horciu & extra please; Morning Tea: Odom family

St Philip's Calendar <http://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/calendar.php>

Sunday 13 Dec following 10am **Parish Consultation on Rectory Renovation**

12-2.30pm Sunday Home Group
2pm **Leighton, Ruth & Zara's new house blessing & afternoon tea.**

Please bring a small plate of food to share.
26 Ashton Calvert St, CASEY. Ph 62427319

Wednesday 16 Dec 7.30pm **St Philip's Carol Service - nine lessons & carols**

Please bring a small plate of Christmas food to share for supper

Thursday 24 Dec **Christmas Eve**
5pm Children's Christmas Service

11pm Carol Singing

11.30pm Sung Eucharist

Friday 25 **Christmas Day**
9am Holy Communion

St Philip's Advent Calendar 2015

Enjoy the Advent Calendar on our website (stphilipsoconnor.org.au).

Locum tenens rector: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon
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Pewsheets temporary editor: Leighton Mann. Please forward notices and prayer points by Thursday 12noon.

pewsheets@stphilipsoconnor.org.au or 0418 686033



St Philip's Come & See

www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

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p: 61617334

Sunday 6 December 2015

Second Sunday of Advent

10am Music

Hymns: 546, 264, 270 & 692

Sentence

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.78-79

Prayer of the day

God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin: keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever & ever. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Malachi 3.1-14; Song of Zechariah; Philippians 1.1-11; Luke 3.1-6

Today's Rosters

Flowers: Ethel McInnes

Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon

8am Sidesperson & Bible reader: John Girdlestone; Liturgical Assistant: Elizabeth Allinson

10am: Welcomer: Denise Manley; Sidespeople: Sally Adams & Roger Sharp; Liturgical Assistant: Rev'd Andrea de Vaal Horciu; Music: Colin Forbes; Readers: Pat Forbes (OT), Gail Langendorf (NT); Communion Servers: Volunteers please; Morning Tea: Rebecca Palethorpe & family

The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
who has come to his people and set them free.
The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:
born of the house of his servant David.
Through the holy prophets, God promised of old:
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,
To show mercy to our forbears:
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear:
holy and righteous before him, all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation:
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God:
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way peace.
Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
as in beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen

From the Locum Tenens Rector

Song of Zechariah Luke 1:67-79 The Benedictus

This song breaks Luke's story as it rushes towards Jesus' birth providing a commentary on the meaning of what is happening. Central to it is the promise made to Abraham; the covenant to redeem them from their enemies and that they should be God's people in holiness and righteousness so that they might be a blessing to the nations.

Zechariah sets forth Israel's hopes at the time of the birth of John and Jesus. In summary they are; there is one God only and Israel is God's people by grace and covenant. They longed to be free of the colonial power of Rome, and to serve God without fear. They wanted a community dedicated to serve the kingdom of God, a kingdom in which they could pursue the right – God's justice for the poor and defenceless, the peace of God, the mercy of God, the faithfulness of God.

They prayed they be kept in safety from the enemy who hated them and their God. In that safety they would become a light to the whole world in the ways of God's justice and mercy. But more than anything else, sin and death themselves will be dealt with, they would be set free, and that is the story of the rest of the book.

The longing for a new order of freedom from colonial power and oppression, for a space where holiness and right, justice and peace could

flourish still rings powerfully in many people's ears 2000 years later. This is what salvation is. It sounds strange in our ears who persist in separating spiritual and social realities.

The prophet John would call the people back to their roots as the people of God, as did Malachi, so that the mercy of God could work through forgiveness to bring about God's salvation and prepare them for the coming of the Lord. God would be true to his covenant to Israel, especially the Abrahamic promise to rescue them. John was not the saviour but the preparing prophet and he was to announce one, as yet unnamed among the populace, but known to a few. Only through this unnamed one will the great reversal take place, bringing forgiveness and peace. Colin

This week @ St Philip's

Today	11.45am	Choir rehearsal for Carol Service
Monday	St Philip's Care	@ Northbourne Community Centre - including Lunch
Tuesday	7pm	Choir rehearsal for Carol Service
Wednesday	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday	10am	Holy Communion
Friday	10am - 1pm 7pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion – OPEN Youth Group
Saturday	10am - 1pm 11am – 1pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion – OPEN Pandora's Christmas Party for

volunteers with champagne and good cheer – hope you can come – even just to pop in and say hello at this busy time of the year. Please let me know if you can come for catering purposes. Thank you everyone for all your efforts this year. Kerry-Anne on behalf of Pandora's committee
10am **Holy Communion** @ Kankinya

Parish Consultation on Rectory Renovation

Parish Council will hold a Parish Consultation about the Rectory renovation project after the 10am service on Sunday 13 December. This will be an opportunity to hear about and ask questions about the Rectory project and how it is proposed to be funded. All parishioners who are in a position to do so are encouraged to attend.

Church Cleaning

Parish Council has reviewed cleaning arrangements for the church and related buildings and has decided to trial a new arrangement for the next 3 months making use of volunteers.

As a result council decided that the arrangements whereby Mary provided limited cleaning services for a fee should be stopped.

We are now urgently looking for volunteers who can assist with the various cleaning duties, either on a weekly basis or maybe on a duty roster.

If you can assist in some way please contact Roger on 0419 207 221.