

Prayer Points

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

Those we remember: Constance Morton

Next Sunday – First Sunday of Advent

8am **Holy Communion**

10am **Holy Communion**

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

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

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

Wednesday 9 Dec	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 12 Dec	11am – 1pm	Pandora's Christmas Party for Volunteers with Champagne and Good Cheer – hope you can come – even just to pop in and say hullo 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
Sunday 13 Dec	12–2.30pm 2pm	Sunday Home Group Leighton, Ruth & Zara's new House blessing & afternoon tea. Please bring a small plate of food to share.
Wednesday 16 Dec	7.30pm	St Philip's Carol Service Please bring a small plate of Christmas food to share for supper
Thursday 24 Dec	Christmas Eve 5pm 11pm 11.30pm	Children's Christmas Service Carol Singing Sung Eucharist
Friday 25	Christmas Day 9am	Holy Communion

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 29 November 2015

First Sunday of Advent

10am Music

Hymns: 265 (verse solo), 616, 275 & 273

Sentence

Stand up and raise your heads; redemption is drawing near.

Luke 21.28

Prayer of the day

Eternal God, you have taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand:

keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth, we may go out joyfully to greet him;

and, with all your saints, may worship you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Jeremiah 33.14-16; Psalm 25.1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13; Luke 21.25-38

Today's Rosters

Flowers: Vicki Luker

Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon

8am

10am: Sidespeople: Hardy Palethorpe & Fred Anchell; Liturgical Assistant: Brian McKinlay; Music: Colin Forbes; Readers: Kerry-Anne Cousins (OT), Fiona Dyer (NT); Communion Servers: Tim Gulliver & James Kim; Morning Tea: Helen Palethorpe & Anne Mahoney

Psalm 25.1-10

- 1 In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:
in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who wait for you be put to shame:
but let those that break faith be confounded and gain nothing.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord:
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:
for you are the God of my salvation.
- 5 In you have I hoped all the day long:
because of your goodness, O Lord.
- 6 Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness:
for they are from of old.
- 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions:
but according to your mercy think on me.
- 8 Good and upright is the Lord:
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.
- 9 The meek he will guide in the path of justice:
and teach the humble his ways.
- 10 All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments

From the Locum Tenens Rector

Psalm 25 outlines a comprehensive understanding of prayer. The psalmist cries for help, for deliverance from enemies and relief from distress, for forgiveness and for guidance and instruction. So the poet begins with a description of prayer (1), "To you, O Lord I lift up my soul." In Israel lifting up the hands in an outstretched position was a gesture of entreating and longing used in prayer so its use here is a metaphor for the praying person holding his or her life and identity in hands outstretched to God, displaying their dependence on God for life and help. This is the outward gesture that says "in you I trust" (2), "I take refuge in you" (20) and "I wait for you" (21). It shows teachability; "teach me" (5) and willingness to learn from God "He leads the humble in what is right" (4, 8-9). Trust amid threatening circumstances (2-3) is the way of living out this life before God.

The grounds for such prayer are God's unswerving loyalty and love in his covenant to his people (10). After the trauma of exile the people needed to learn again that lesson. It is impossible to pray i.e. stand with one's whole life given over to God's will, without confidence in God character of steadfastness and faithfulness. Such trust demands a humble, learning spirit, immersed in the great acts of God and drawing courage and confidence from them (5-10). Such a spirituality is the foundation for finding God's way of steadfast love and faithfulness, the path of what is right, and having the courage to live it.

Prayer is relational and not formal. God is addressed directly and God addresses us directly. God teaches us, leads us, makes his way known to us and befriends us. We address God with the circumstances of our lives.

In this psalm the author longs for protection when enemies exult over and pour shame on him or her, when they set traps for him, when the poet needs forgiveness and mercy, when loneliness strikes, when the heart is troubled, anxious and afflicted, and when violence and hatred overwhelm life. The poet sees the prayer relationship as the central component in a life of integrity and uprightness and suggests that waiting for God is the only source of such a life.

Colin

This week @ St Philip's

Monday		St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre - including Lunch
Tuesday	7.00pm	Choir rehearsal for Carol Service
Thursday	10am	Holy Communion
Friday	10am - 1pm 7pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion – OPEN Youth Group
Saturday	10am - 1pm 10am	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion – OPEN Holy Communion @ Kankinya

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.

People needed to help with rostered duties for Sunday

services. Are you able to help from time to time with some of the many duties that help to make our Sunday worship services run smoothly?

- Sidesperson to welcome people, hand out books, take up the collection and count the offerings in preparation for banking
- Liturgical assistant – see Rev'd Colin if you are interested in this
- Readers to read either the old or new testament reading of the day
- Communion servers
- Morning tea - preparation, serving and cleaning up
- Flowers – see Kerry-Anne

None of these jobs are onerous and many participants mean that the load is shared. All training and assistance will be provided. See Helen if you would like to contribute to our parish in this way. hpalethorpe@grapevine.net.au or 62488030