

This coming week @ St Philip's

Monday	St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre - including Lunch
Thursday	10am Holy Communion
Friday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion Recess
Saturday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion Recess
Saturday	10.30am Holy Communion @ Kankinya
Saturday	5pm Children's Christmas Service
Saturday	11pm Carol Singing
Saturday	11.30pm Holy Communion
Sunday	9am Holy Communion

Prayer Points

For those in need: Fay Pankhurst; Sam Mahony; Cath Holt; Grace Barnes; Betty Heaton; Roberta; Margaret Woodbridge; Barbara Dowley.

Those we remember: Dorothy Moore (12/12/84); Joe Heaton (13/12/88); Alice Saylor (20/12/88).

For Next Sunday - Christmas Day

11.30pm Holy Communion

Presiding & Preaching

Rev'd Martin Johnson

Organist

Colin Forbes

Chalice

Denise Manley

Liturgical Assistant

Philippa Wicks

Sidespeople

Volunteer

Readers & Readings

Gail Langendorf: Isaiah 9.2-7,
Denise Manley: Titus 2.11-14

9am Holy Communion

Flowers

Flower Roster Ladies

Presiding & Preaching

Rev'd Martin Johnson

Organist

Colin Forbes

Chalice

Tim Gulliver & Hardy Palethorpe

Welcomer

Helen Palethorpe

Liturgical Assistant

Elizabeth Allinson

Sidespeople

Fred Anchell & Hardy Palethorpe

Readers & Readings

David French: Isaiah 52.7-10,
Volunteer: John 1.1-14

Morning tea: In recess. Please help yourself in the Lamerton Centre



St Philip's *Come & See*

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Sunday 18 December 2016

Fourth Sunday in Advent

10am Music

Hymns: 290, 294, 283 & 268

During communion Janene Broere will sing from Handel's "Messiah":

Recit: Behold! A Virgin shall conceive

Aria: O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion

Sentence

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.

Matthew 1.23

Prayer of the day

Gracious God, you chose the virgin Mary, by your grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour: so fill us with your grace, that with her we may embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-7, 17-19; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-25

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Roster Ladies

8am Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson

Sidesperson: Volunteer; Liturgical Assistant: Elizabeth Allinson; Bible Reader: Volunteer

10am Welcomer: Erika Langman; Sidespeople: Peter Andersson & Kerry-Anne

Cousins; Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Liturgical Assistant: Brian McKinlay; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: Kerry-Anne Cousins (OT), Fiona Dyer (NT); Chalices: Denise Manley, James Kim & Volunteer; Morning Tea: Jan Gulliver & Manjuni Gregory

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:
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.

From the Rector

Dear Friends,
We are now so very close to the celebration of Christmass no doubt all your plans are well advanced. When Jesus says that we need to be like little children to enter into the kingdom, it is a big ask in our sophisticated, complicated, adult world. But at Christmass I can begin to get a glimpse of what he might have meant. My childhood Christmases were always filled with expectation and hope I was always surrounded by love and faith, I was very fortunate. It is difficult to recreate such a feeling but this should be the goal of our spiritual lives. It is easy to be sentimental and rather romantic about such things, I tend to be like that when I listen to Vaughan Williams or read the poetry of John Betjamen. But perhaps if we can hold on to that expectation and hope in the midst of the busyness we are coming close to what Jesus asked of us. Here's the last stanzas of Betjamen's poem 'Christmas.'

1. And is it true, This most tremendous tale of all, Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,	2. And is it true? For if it is, No loving fingers tying strings Around those tissue'd fripperies,
--	--

A Baby in an ox's stall? The Maker of the stars and sea Become a Child on earth for me?	The sweet and silly Christmas things, Bath salts and inexpensive scent And hideous tie so kindly meant,
3. No love that in a family dwells, No carolling in frosty air, Nor all the steeple-shaking bells Can with this single Truth compare - That God was man in Palestine And lives today in Bread and Wine.	Every blessing, Martin

PRAYERS

We pray for our children and young families. We pray we find someone to minister to them and we give thanks for the opportunities we have in this Parish. **Amen.**

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

St Philip's 2016 Advent Calendar is now on our website, with Bible readings, poetry, artwork, music, a prayer and a reflection for each day in Advent.

Friday 3 Feb, 7 – 8.30pm **St Philip's Youth Group**
Sunday 5 Feb 17 **AGM Reports due electronically to**
rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au.

Christmas Services

- Tonight - 7.30pm** **St Philip's Carol Service**
Nine lessons & carols, followed by supper. *Please bring something to share.*
- Saturday 24 Dec – 5.00pm** **Children's Christmas Service**
- Saturday 24 Dec – 11.00pm** **Carol Singing**
- Saturday 24 Dec – 11.30pm** **Sung Eucharist**

FLOWERS: Many thanks to all our regular flower ladies this year- Jo Lloyd, Anne Mahony, Jeannette McHugh, Colleen Rischbieth, Philida Sturgiss-Hoy and Rachael Tscharke. I think you will agree that their beautiful flower arrangements have reminded us of the beauty of this world and have added to the experience of worship at St Philips. Kerry-Anne Cousins