

This coming week @ St Philip's

Monday	St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre - including Lunch - Recess
Thursday	10am Holy Communion - Recess
Friday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion - Recess
Saturday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion - Recess
Saturday	10.30am Holy Communion @ Kankinya - Recess
Sunday	9am Holy Communion
Sunday	10am 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: Alice Saylor (20/12/88); Norma Reynolds (28/12/00).

For Next Sunday - Baptism of the Lord

8am Holy Communion

Sidesperson

John Girdlestone

Reader & Readings

John Girdlestone: Isaiah 42.1-9;
Acts 10.34-43

Liturgical Assistant

Elizabeth Allinson

10am Holy Communion

Flowers

Flower Roster Ladies

Welcomer

Denise Manley

Presiding & Preaching

Rev'd Martin Johnson

Liturgical Assistant

Sarah Gowty

Organist

Colin Forbes

Sidespeople

Sally Adams & Roger Sharp

Chalice

Tim Gulliver & Volunteer

Readers & Readings

Gail Langendorf: Isaiah 42.1-9,
Tim Gulliver: Acts 10.34-43

Morning tea:

See below

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



St Philip's *Come & See*

www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

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Saturday 24 December 2016

Christmas Eve

11.30pm Music

Hymns: 303, 319, 299 & 304

Sentence

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given.

Isaiah 9.2, 6

Prayer of the day

Eternal God, who mad this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of the light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's Readings

Isaiah 93.2-7; Psalm 97; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-14

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Roster Ladies

11.30pm Sidespeople: Fred Anchell & Roger Sharp; Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Deacon: Rev'd Robin Moore; Liturgical Assistant: Philippa Wicks; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: Gail Langendorf (OT), Denise Manley (NT); Chalice: Denise Manley;

Pewsheets deadline: Thursday 12noon. Please forward notices and prayer points to comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au or 0414 309 469

Psalm 97

- 1 The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice:
let the multitude of islands be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him:
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
- 3 Fire goes before him:
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light the world:
the earth sees it and quakes.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax before his face:
from before the face of the Lord of all the earth.
- 6 The heavens have proclaimed his righteousness:
and all peoples have seen his glory.
- 7 They are ashamed, all those who serve idols and glory in mere nothings:
all gods bow down before him.
- 8 Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced:
because of your judgements, O God.
- 9 For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth:
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The Lord loves those that hate evil:
the Lord guards the life of the faithful, and delivers them from the
hand of the ungodly.
- 11 Light dawns for the righteous:
and joy for the true of heart.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:
and give thanks to his holy name.

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

This is an extraordinary night! It is as if the world suddenly pauses for a moment and all the busyness, the ordinary, the mundane falls away and we are able to glimpse what really matters. While Susan and I were travelling down from Brisbane to begin our new lives here at St Philip's we marvelled at the deep cuttings in the Pacific Highway north of Sydney. They reminded me of the Isaiah texts in the 'Messiah' that we have been hearing during Advent: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; the uneven ground shall be made level, and the rough places a plain.... God cuts through.

I read this recently: God does not respond to his world. He does not adjust his reaction to suit good people or bad. You do not have to be good before God will love you; you do not have to try to be good before God will forgive you; you do not have to repent before you will be absolved by God. It is all

the other way around. If you are good, it is because God's love has already made you so; if you want to try to be good, that is because God is loving you; if you want to be forgiven, that is because God is forgiving you. You do not have to do anything, or pay anything in exchange for God's love. God does not demand anything of you. Nothing whatever.

The child in the manger speaks to us of vulnerability and risk; are we really prepared to love and be loved in this way? God's love can do terrible things to you. It may make you kind, considerate and loving and we know what happens to those kind of people! I hope and pray that we can be prepared to risk it! Have a very happy and holy Christmas.
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

Tomorrow morning- 9.00am Holy Communion

Please note the change of time for this week only

FLOWERS: Many thanks to all our regular flower ladies this year- Jo Lloyd, Anne Mahony, Jeannette McHugh, Colleen Rischbieth, Philida Sturgiss-Hoy and Rachael Tschärke. 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