

This coming week @ St Philip's

Monday	St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre	- including Lunch
Tue – Fri	8am	Morning Prayer
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday	10am	Eucharist and Morning Tea
		- Lamerton Centre
Friday	10am - 1pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashions - CLOSED
Saturday	10am – 1pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashions - CLOSED
	10.30am	Eucharist @ Kankinya

Prayer Points

For those in need: Roger Sharp; Chris Cheah; James Kim; Ken Smith; Rosemary Lohmann; Chris Hudlass; Cath Holt; Grace Barnes; Roberta; Margaret Woodbridge; Barbara Dowley.
Those we remember: Dorothy Moore (12/12/84); Joe Heaton (13/12/88).

Next Sunday – Fourth Sunday in Advent

Readings: 2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16; Luke 1.47-55; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38

Presiding & Preaching: The Rev'd Martin Johnson

9am: Sidesperson:	Tim Woodburn & Volunteer
Liturgical Assistant:	Elizabeth Allinson
Welcomer:	Helen Palethorpe
Music:	Colin Forbes
Readers:	Linda Anchell (OT) Shane Woodburn (NT)
Chalice Servers:	Denise Manley & Hardy Palethorpe
Morning tea:	Ann Munro & Denise Manley

Pewsheets deadline: Thursday 12noon. Please forward notices and prayer points to pewsheets@stphilipsoconnor.org.au or 0414 309469



St Philip's Come & See

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www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au  @stphilipsoconnor

Sunday 17 December 2017

Third Sunday in Advent

10am Music

Hymns: 269, 289 (v 1-3 & Refrain), 258, 297 & 216

During Communion: 'Quia Respexit' - Magnificat in G by JHS Bach

**Blessing: 'Magnificat' – John Bell
sung by Denise Manley**

Sentence

Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God.
Isaiah 61.1-2

Prayer of the day

Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his rule of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5.12-28; John 1.6-8, 19-28

Today's Rosters

Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson

8am Sidesperson; Liturgical Assistant: Elizabeth Allinson; Readers: Volunteer;

10am Sidespeople: Kerry-Anne Cousins & Peter Andersson; Welcomer: Erika Langman; Music: Colin Forbes; Liturgical Assistant: Elizabeth Allinson; Readers: Gail Langendorf (OT) & Ann Munro (NT); Chalice

Servers: Tim Gulliver & volunteer; Morning tea: Anne Mahony & Jan Gulliver

Psalm: 126



- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
2. Then was our mouth filled with laughter
and our tongue with songs of joy. **Refrain**
3. Then said they among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
4. The Lord has indeed done great things for us,
and therefore we rejoiced.
5. Restore again our fortunes, O Lord,
as the river beds of the desert. **Refrain**
6. Those who sow in tears
shall reap with songs of joy.
7. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,
will come back with shouts of joy,
bearing their sheaves with them. **Refrain**

From the Rector

Dear Friends

Today is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. You will notice that today we light the pink or rather the 'rose' coloured candle. In some churches rose coloured vestments are worn. The violet of Advent put aside for just one day. The word Gaudete is a Latin word which means 'Rejoice.' In days gone by the Antiphon at the introit would have recalled St Paul writing to the Philippians: 'Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.' Hence Rejoice or Gaudete Sunday. It is a day to remind us that our wait is nearly over, a reminder that joy truly is the catchword of the season. The reason that Advent has that penitential flavour, violet vestments, no Gloria etc is because this waiting is difficult... we don't do it well, we struggle to find joy in waiting!

Let patience have her perfect work;
Let God refine your gold;
For in His time He'll show you why,
And blessings great unfold. - Bosch

The recent move by the US Administration to relocate their Embassy to Jerusalem has been viewed by many as more about prophecy than politics, Jerusalem is the place where for many the apocalyptic end times will unfold. There are many in the US who support such a move, for them it is about the Bible not about Palestinians or peace, it is ultimately about the 'end times.' Now this business of 'the end' has been around forever and Jesus mentions it more than once. He has some strong words to say to those who keep looking for signs of the end; this is a matter for God. Our business is to lift our heads and look humbly but confidently and expectantly for God coming among us in a myriad of ways.

My first Pew Sheet letter was Advent Three 2016, I quoted John Betjeman, one of my favourite poets. So let's keep up the tradition. One of Betjeman's favourite sayings was 'Look up' he wanted us to appreciate architecture and all that was 'above.' 'Look up'... very appropriate for this time of year!

Sing on, with hymns uproarious,
Ye humble and aloof,
Look up! and oh how glorious
He has restored the roof! - Betjeman

I hope you can appreciate the work that has gone on this week with our church roof. It does look very good! 'Look up!!' Blessings as we enter this last and most joyful phase of our Advent wait! 'O come, O come Emmanuel.'

Blessings, **Martin.**

St Philip's Calendar

Please check our website calendar for the latest information
<http://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/calendar.php>

Sunday 17 Dec	7.30pm	St Philip's Carol Service <i>Nine Lessons & Carols, followed by a 'bring and share' Christmas supper.</i>
Sunday 24 Dec		<u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>
	9am	Eucharist (combined 8am and 10am)
Sunday 24 Dec		<u>Christmas Eve</u>
	5pm	Children's Christmas Service
	11pm	Carol Singing
	11.30pm	Sung Eucharist
Monday 25 Dec		<u>Christmas Day</u>
	9am	Sung Eucharist
Sunday 31 Dec	from 8pm	New Year's Eve Party.

Chris, Roger, Leighton, Ruth & Zara will be hosting their biennial New Year's Eve party again. This year's theme is Hawaiian. Please bring some finger food to share. 26 Ashton Calvert Street, Casey.

EFTPOS available in the foyer to assist with your giving.

KEY POINTS FROM DECEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- Parish Council warmly congratulated Rev'd Martin on his first year in the Parish.
- The 2018 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at 11.15am on Sunday 25 February. Reports for the AGM should be submitted to Rev'd Martin **no later than Sunday 4 February 2018.**
- Parishioners wishing to, or thinking of, serving on the Parish Council for 2018 should talk to Rev'd Martin well before the AGM.
- Good progress has been made on the Rectory roof and on the replacement of the church and kindergarten fascia boards. The work will be completed by this weekend or next week at the latest. A REMINDER to remain careful around those areas while the work continues.