



Second Sunday of Advent

5 December, 2021

We welcome you to St. Oswald's Church and to this service, especially if you are new or a visitor among us. Please make yourself known to the welcomers, so that they may introduce you to other members of the congregation. Please join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.

We acknowledge the sovereign country of the Wurrundjeri people of the Kulin nation on which we gather.

Outline of Today's Service from A Prayer Book for Australia

[Eucharist Setting **Together in Song 757**

Congratulations

Rev. Canon Glenn Loughrey

on the 12th anniversary
of your **Ordination** at the
Grafton Cathedral
5 December, 2009.

Advent Liturgy—Advent 2—The Prophets

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'

Amen, Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit

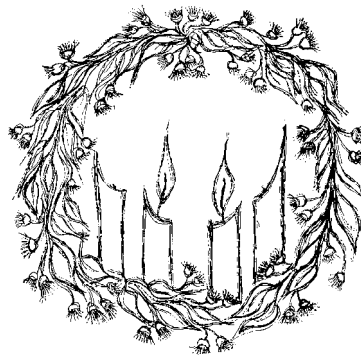
Jesus is the light of the world

A light no darkness can ever put out.

All Sing

**1. Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow,
tears and sadness,
changed for gladness
on that Day**

**2. Prophet voices loudly crying,
Making pathways clear;
Glimpsing glory, self-denying,
Calling all to hear.
Through their message—challenged,
Shaken -
Hearts awoken:
God is near**



Opening Hymn **TiS 276**

Holy Communion **Page 119**

The Collect

Readings Malachi 3: 1—14
 Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)
 Philippians 1: 1—11
 Luke 3: 1—6

After the Sermon **P. 124**

Offertory Hymn **TiS 158**

After the Collection **P. 127**

Prayer after Communion **P. 143**

Final Hymn **TiS 270**

Intercessions

For the church:

The Anglican Church of Burundi; Theological Colleges, Church Schools & Church Kindergartens; Church of the Ascension Springvale; All Saints' Kooyong - Baptism Service; St Andrew's Aberfeldie; Red Door, Caroline Springs; St Mark's Emerald.

For those who face challenges in daily living:

Lesley Whitehead, Gaye Loughrey.

Departed

Ronald Williams, Alice Fernando.

Today's Ministries

10 am Reader *D. Adams*
 Cantor *W. Andrews*
 Intercessor *C. Adams*



From the Vicar

It was wonderful to see so many people at our Annual General Meeting last Sunday. It makes a stark contrast to the online meeting of last year! The support for the Parish Council and the endorsement of the strategic plan gives encouragement to all involved and provides hope for our parish over the next 3 years.

Thank you!

As we have entered Advent and begin our countdown to Christmas, we are looking forward to participating in an as normal as possible Christmas celebration, both here in the church and at home with families. The festivities of Christmas focus on belonging and reconnecting and is only meaningful when we can all be together.

We do have to be mindful that there will be those who simply are unable to celebrate in this way due to distance, Covid restrictions, illness, and cost. Where possible we are to find ways to include these and others in our celebratory activities, maybe not necessarily physically but at least in sharing of greetings, phone calls and personal contact.

This is part of the voice crying in the wilderness asking us to make space in our world for others who are not included in so many ways.

Glenn

Diary for the week

St Oswald's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/stoswaldchurchgleniris>

go to Videos on left side of screen

You Tube—St. Oswald's Glen Iris

Tuesday 5 December

10 am **Morning Prayer**

Wednesday 6 December

10 am **Holy Communion**

Thursday 7 December

10 am **Morning Prayer**

7.30 pm **Choir Practice**

Sunday 11 December —Live streamed

Third Sunday of Advent

8 am **Holy Communion**

10 am **Family Eucharist**

Readings 11 December

Zephaniah 3: 14—20

Song of Isaiah

Philippians 4: 4—7

Luke 3: 7—18

Parish Contacts

Church Office 9885 0149

Open Monday-Wednesday 9am-1pm

Vicar

Rev. Glenn Loughrey

Mobile 0418 911 714

Churchwardens

Peter Johnson 9807 7647

Tim Andrews 9885 4659

Organist

Daniel Brace 0412 806 034

Treasurer

Helen Rehn 9885 7477

Vestry Secretary

Tom Fetherston 0411 730 752

Carol Harrison)

Hall Hire) **0419 535 085**

Pew Sheet Notices)

Email carolh@bigpond.net.au

St. Oswald's Website

<http://www.stoswaldsgleniris.net.au>

Second Sunday of Advent



Bringing Peace to children in Gaza

The recent bombing of Gaza and the escalation of tensions between Israel and Palestine can make peace feel more distant than ever, especially for children. Through the Christmas Bowl, you are helping our local partner run three health clinics across Gaza. They provide medical care and psychosocial support, including counselling and a place where children can play and feel safe. Your support gives children in Gaza a chance at the childhood they deserve. **Please give today.**



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

Covid-19 Regulations

- For the vaccinated there is no longer any limit on the number of people attending church services.
- Attendees must provide proof of vaccination, preferably by linking their digital certificate to their Service Victoria check in app.
- It is not necessary to book if you wish to attend Church.
- The 10:00am service will be live streamed if you wish to follow the service from home.
- All must check into St Oswald's using the QR Code poster. A Covid Marshal will assist you if you do not have a smart phone. In this case you must show a paper copy of your vaccination certificate and give your first name, surname and phone number and photo ID (eg drivers licence).
- Mask wearing is no longer mandatory in the Church. You are strongly encouraged to wear a mask if the church is full, if people are less than 1.5m apart and if people are indoors for 2 hours or more. You are welcome to wear a mask at church if you feel more comfortable. Mask wearing is mandatory for those not disclosing vaccination status.
- People serving refreshments or food before or after services, including fully vaccinated services, must wear masks. Self-service food is not allowed.
- Please maintain social distancing at all times (keep 1.5 meters from other parishioners).



Luke's gospel quotes the prophet Isaiah about the preparation required for a royal visit—the road cleared, smoothed and straightened, valleys filled, and hills flattened. A dramatic picture indeed! In a similar way the people's moral and spiritual state needed drastic action in their deep need to repent, in readiness for the coming of the Messiah, Christ Jesus. As we look forward to celebrating Christmas, may we look closely at our own hearts and lives.

- We thank you Lord Jesus that in your coming you provided all that we need for cleansing, forgiveness and restoration. May our hearts overflow with joy!
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai*, the Anglican Church of Japan.

*Text: Meryl Broadley; Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans
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St. Oswald's Church – Caring Food

You will be aware that many people in our community are doing it very tough due to COVID, with lockdowns and job losses. We have been wondering how we can help. We have come up with a plan to provide some food relief to those people who need it in our local area, and for this I am asking for you to get involved if you can.

The plan is to provide a shopping bag containing basic food items to be collected from the church on a certain day, probably Wednesday morning.

Our task as a church community is to provide these bags, which should contain the items listed below, and can be left at the church foyer when the church is open, or I can pick them up from your home. You could perhaps make up 1, 2 or 3 bags each time, but if you feel unable to put a complete bag together, we are happy to accept monetary donations. Once we begin, this will be an ongoing project and we hope you will continue to provide these donations regularly – but any contribution will be appreciated. We are trying to achieve a system where the food does not need to be handled and sorted, hence the need for the supply of full bags. This collection will replace our annual collection for Anglicare for the time being.

People who would like this food support will make direct contact with Glenn, or via Samarinda or Ashburton Support Services. The food bags, one per person, will be available for collection from the church each Wednesday morning between 11.00 am and 12.30, or will be delivered by me or Peter. The scheme will be limited and not be open to the general community or widely publicized – and we will see how it goes, and make changes as we need to.

The food needs to be placed in a green shopping bag and should include the following items (approximate value \$25.00):

- Soup (tinned or packets of cup of soup)
- Rice/2 Minute Noodles
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Baked beans/tinned spaghetti
- Tea Bags (small)

- Coffee (small instant)
- Long Life Milk
- Dry biscuits
- Sweet Biscuits
- Block of Chocolate (or any other treat)

For any more details or information about the scheme, please contact me (0417 315 542) or Peter Johnson (0417 548 896) or email judysjohnson@icloud.com.

Thank you for your support of this new initiative, which we hope will be helpful in our community.

Best wishes

Judy Johnson

The **Walking Group Planning Lunch**
is on Sunday 5th December at 12.00 noon,
at St Oswalds Church Hall.

We are inviting all members of the parish to join us.

You will need to follow the same instructions as last year, and **bring everything you need** - all food, drinks, glasses, plates etc.

It will be like your own picnic in the hall.

We will begin with a celebratory glass of bubbly in the garden, (so if you come to the hall and there seems to be nobody there, check the garden).

Please let me know if you can come so I can set up the hall tables and chairs.

We hope to see you there.

Judy Johnson 0417 315 542
judysjohnson@icloud.com

TODAY'S READINGS & PRAYER

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

**Lord of the wilderness way,
whose word scours our smooth evasions:
take us on the unbending road
to the raw centre of our world
with a cry of invitation
and the call of sudden grace;
through Jesus Christ,
the one who is to come. Amen**

A Reading from the Book of Malachi

[Malachi 3: 1—14]

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. ⁵ Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. ⁶ For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. ⁷ Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' ⁸ Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, 'How are we robbing you?' In your tithes and offerings! ⁹ You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me—the whole nation of you! ¹⁰ Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour

down for you an overflowing blessing. ¹¹ I will rebuke the locust for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts. ¹² Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts. ¹³ You have spoken harsh words against me, says the Lord. Yet you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' ¹⁴ You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What do we profit by keeping his command or by going about as mourners before the Lord of hosts?'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Song of Zechariah

John McCann



He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour.

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Cantor:

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
 who has come to his people
 and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
 born of the house of his servant David. **R**

Through his holy prophets
 God promised of old
 to save us from our enemies,
 from the hands of all that hate us,
 to show mercy to our ancestors,
 and to remember his holy covenant. **R**

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 in his sight
 all the days of our life. **R**

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 all their sins. **R**

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 of peace **R**

A Reading from the Paul's Letter to the Philippians [Philippians 1: 1—11]

¹ Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church,
Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

Fintan O'Carroll

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Gospel Acclamation: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
All people shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel

[Luke 3: 1—6]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

- ¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene,
² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.
³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,
⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,
 ‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
 “Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make his paths straight.
⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
 and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
 and the crooked shall be made straight,
 and the rough ways made smooth;
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” ’

For the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

