



Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Readings

24 and 25 December, 2022

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 Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation on which we gather.

Outline of Today's Service
from A Prayer Book for Australia
[Eucharist Setting **Marty Haugen Mass of Creation**]

Readings for Christmas Eve are printed on page 4 and following
Readings for Christmas Day are printed on page 6 and following

A Christmas Message from the Vicar

Merry Christmas!

What an amazing Carol Service we all enjoyed last Sunday. A mix of traditional and modern, old and new, and a snippet of language to top it all off!

Christmas is not something we celebrate as a tradition that cannot evolve, it is an everchanging encounter with the breaking in of God, the Great Creator Spirit who was here from the beginning.

Christmas is ceremony enacted anew amid joy and sorrow, gladness and sadness, peace and strife. It doesn't come to us untainted by the vagaries of creation but blossoms and blooms despite our personal and communal struggles.

Let us perform Christmas this year with hope and possibility alive in our hearts!

Glenn

Diary for the Week

St Oswald's Facebook page

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/stoswaldchurchgleniris)

[stoswaldchurchgleniris](https://www.facebook.com/stoswaldchurchgleniris)

go to Videos on left side of screen

Wednesday 28 December

**NO HOLY COMMUNION DURING THE
MONTH OF JANUARY—RESUMES**

WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

Thursday 29 December

No Choir Practice until 2 February, 2023

Sunday 1 January —Live streamed

The Epiphany of Our Lord

8 am **Holy Communion**

10 am **Sung Eucharist**

Readings 1 January

Isaiah 60: 1—6

Psalms 72: 1—7, 10—14

Ephesians 3: 1—12

Matthew 2: 1—12

Parish Contacts

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Open Monday-Wednesday 9am-1pm

Vicar

Rev. Canon Glenn Loughrey

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new email for Glenn —

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Daniel Brace 0412 806 034

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Helen Rehn 9885 7477

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Tom Fetherston 0411 730 752

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St. Oswald's Website

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

**Please note—With the exception of Sundays
Glenn is on leave from 27 December 2022
to 15 January 2023**



The angel says: *Do not be afraid*. The phrase is used throughout the Bible – in the Hebrew Scriptures, in the Apocrypha and in the New Testament. God does not want us to be timid, afraid, anxious or troubled. God wants us, as the birth of Jesus shows, to come closer. Perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4.18), and today God surrounds us with perfect love in the birth of the Baby at Bethlehem.

- Pray this week that you may show perfect love to all you encounter.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa.

Text: Robert McLean" © Anglican Board of Mission, 2022

Intercessions

For the church:

St Stephen's Warrandyte; Victorian Council of Churches; St Stephen's Gardenvale;
Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia; The Anglican Church of Melanesia.

Departed

George Shepperd, John Landlands, Rex Walsh, Edward Hinton.

If Jesus was born Aboriginal

If Jesus was born Aboriginal
He would be
born under tree
in the arms of his two mothers
Rising out of his mother country
Bringing with him from her
The knowledge and wisdom of
The ancestors of his other mother Mary
And his father the Great Creator Being.

If Jesus was born Aboriginal
He would be
Surrounded by all his cousins
Kookaburra and crow
Kangaroo and wallaby
Goanna and snake
Gum tree and acacia
Wattle and blackbutt
Baaka and Martuwarra

If Jesus was born Aboriginal
He would be
Lain on the ground
To bond with his mother country
To live out his vocation of
Custodial care for all
Being responsible to and for
All who live alongside him
Respecting life itself in all things

If Jesus was born Aboriginal
He would
Learn to be at home
With country family and kin
Growing in wisdom and knowledge
An Elder sharing knowledge and wisdom
Guiding and leading
Respecting and caring
For all who share his home with him

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Jesus was born Aboriginal

Glenn Loughrey 2022

¹ Baaka or Darling River; Martuwarra or Fitzroy River

READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

[Isaiah 9: 2—7]

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96 *Please refer to Music Book*

A Reading from Paul's Letter to Titus

[Titus 2: 11—14]

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation: *Please refer to Music Book*

The Gospel

[Luke 2: 1—20]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they

made known what had been told them about this child;¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

For the gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah [Isaiah 52: 7—10]

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.⁹ Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96 Please refer to Music Book

A Reading from the Book of Hebrews [Hebrews 1: 1—12]

1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,² but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.³ He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very

being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷ Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸ But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

¹⁰ And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹ they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; ¹² like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation: *Please refer to Music Book*

The Gospel

[John 1: 1—14]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

For the gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Christmas Day SINCE 1949 THE CHRISTMAS BOWL OF CHARITY



Merry Christmas!

Mugisha*, along with her sister and two young children are just some of the millions of families living as refugees around the world. Mugisha fled to Kenya after conflict broke out in her home country of Congo. Since arriving, she has faced many challenges to meet the basic needs for her family. Through the Christmas Bowl, our local partners around the world can continue to share God's love with refugees like Mugisha by providing food, care and lifesaving support. **Please give today.**

*Mugisha's name has been changed for safety reasons.

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

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

