

11 December 2016

Today's Services

The Third Sunday of Advent

7.30am—Sung Eucharist

9.00am— Family Eucharist

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

EST. 1888

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Incorporating ministries with Eastern
Hills Parish

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Tuesday	13	8.30am	Morning prayers
Wednesday	14	8.30am 7.00pm 7.30pm	Morning prayers Advent Study-Church Parish Council—Maheno Room
Thursday	15	8.30am 9.30am	Morning prayers Mah-jong—Church
Friday	16	10.00am	Eucharist
Sunday	18	7.30am 9.00am	Sung Eucharist Family Service

Welcome!

We are glad you are with us!

Before the service, speak to the Lord in prayer.

During the service, let the Lord speak to you.

After the service, speak to one another.

Feel free to stay after the service for a cuppa and a chat outside.
Please take this pew sheet home with you for your prayers in the week

Rector: The Reverend John Milburn

Email: john.milburn@stjohnsbulimba.org **Mobile** 0415 838 239

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Jamee-Lee Callard: jamee@stjohnsbulimba.org

Mobile 0452 338 933

Church Address: 171 Oxford Street, Bulimba **Postal Address:** PO Box 271, Bulimba Qld 4171

Telephone: 3399 1508 **Email:** office@stjohnsbulimba.org

Website: www.stjohnsbulimba.org

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sentence for the Day:

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.'

Isaiah 35.3–4

Hymns: 7.30am Eucharist:-**TIS:** 616, 264, 271, 273.

Third Sunday of Advent

Today we relight the first two candles of the Advent wreath. The candle of **HOPE** and the candle of **PEACE**.

Now we light the third candle of Advent.

This is the candle of **JOY**. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth.

From the Book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord:

"But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight."

-- [Isaiah 65:18](#)

From the New Testament, the words of Paul to the people of the church at Galatia:

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit."

-- [Galatians 5:22-25](#)

Let us pray:

We joyfully praise you, O Lord, for the fulfillment of your promise of a Savior and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. Amen.

The Collect for the Day:

Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love on our journey to meet the One who is coming: Strengthen our weak hands, make firm our feeble knees, and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom, so that our hearts may rejoice as we behold the majesty of our God. We ask this through you Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and Holy spirit, one God, for ever and ever

Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 35.1-10

Ann Winfield Therese Rein

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away

Psalm 146 (verses said alternately between the reader and congregation)

1. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- 2. I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**
3. Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.
- 4. When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.**
5. Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- 6. who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith for ever;**
7. who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;
- 8. the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**
9. The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
- 10. The Lord will reign for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel: : Matthew 11. 2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Christmas Brunch and Giving (11th December)

We will be having an early celebration of Christmas today 11th December. At both services, we are asking parishioners who would like to contribute, to bring non-perishable food items for those in need that can be placed under the Christmas tree during communion.

Suggestions: Either Christmas items or staples such as cereals, tea, biscuits, etc. We will donate these food items to families in need after the service.

Immediately following the 9am service all parishioners (from both services) are also invited to a Christmas brunch in the Maheno Room, to enjoy a light brunch and champagne as an early celebration of Christmas.

Please bring light food items (sweet and savoury) before the service.

Parish Prayers

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

In The World: -

The Diocese of Kericho - (Kenya): Vacant

The Diocese of Gippsland: †Kay Goldsworthy; Clergy and People

In The Diocese:

The Parish of Toowoomba West: John Dougherty, Malcolm Twine,
Matthew Weatherly, James Prosser

Anglicare SQ TRACC Brisbane Foster & Kinship Care

St Hilda's School: Head of School - Peter Crawley; Chair of School Council -
Susan Brandis; members of School Council

Locally: For all travelling to be with family during this time.

Pray for The Sick: Joel, Jim, Valmai, Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Steph, Kerrie, Ollie,
John, Roselee, Esther, Pam D., Linda, Drew, Mark, Kerry, Helena, Audrey, Dawn.

*(NOTE: under the Federal Privacy Act, consent of the person you wish to pray for must be
obtained. No details of need / illness can be published without consent)*

ANGLICAN  **VERSEAS AID**
ANGLICORD

LIFE.
ABUNDANTLY.
FOR ALL.

Pew Reflections: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Joy is our spontaneous response to the goodness and creative genius of God. The Christmas story is such an unlikely and inauspicious beginning that it may bring a smile. Authentic joy is never forced. For many, Christmas is not a happy time, but joy is still available to us whatever our circumstances. As our Indian partner, CRS, reflects, "We need to assure ourselves that our weaknesses, limitations, imperfections and failings need not prevent us from experiencing the joy of God as and when it is revealed." CRS urges us to look for glimpses of joy in the everyday.
Preparing:

1. Is Christmas generally a time of joy for you? What things can stifle our wonder and praise?
2. Christmas is sometimes overtaken by busyness, commercialism, and overindulgence. How can you take steps to counter these influences?
3. Where do you find joy, and do you experience the presence of the Divine on these occasions?

11 December 2016 News & Coming Events for your Diary

If you are new to the parish or visiting **Welcome**. Please accept this invitation to stay and join in with us for fellowship and a chat outside after the service, where tea and coffee will be served.

- ◇ Tuesday 13 December: 00.00am—Guild Meeting—Maheno Room
- ◇ Wednesday 14 December: 7.00pm—Advent Study 'Living in the Light'- Church
- ◇ Wednesday 14 December: 7.30pm—Parish Council—Maheno Room
- ◇ Thursday 15 December : 9.30am—Mah-jong—Church
- ◇ Friday 16 December: 10.00am—Eucharist
- ◇ Sunday 18 December: 7.30am—Sung Eucharist
- ◇ Sunday 18 December: 9.00am—Family Eucharist

4 Advent Bible Study sessions for the lead up to Christmas 2016.

'Living in the Light'

Wednesday evenings at 7pm

14th – 21st Dec.

All are welcome in Church, no need for previous study experience or consistent attendance.

Guild Christmas Raffle Results

1st—Hamper— Red A041—Linda Astil

2nd—Tablecloth—RedA088—Georgina Greenhill

3rd—Wrapping Paper—Orange F18—Cynthia Bellamy

4th—Bottle of Shiraz—Red A072—Linda Mitchell

5th—Man's Watch—Green A75—Dianne Coffey

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all who purchased tickets.

WHAT WE DO

Little Children's Church

Little Children's Church happens each Sunday in term-time, during the 9:00 service. We have stories and activities for children aged 3-years to Year 2, and younger children are also very welcome to attend with a parent. If you are visiting or here for the first time, your children are very welcome to join us.

Little Children's Church Christmas party - Sunday 11 December

The Little Children's Church Christmas party will be happening on Sunday 11 December, during the 9am service. We will be having Christmas activities and games during our usual lesson time. After the service we will join in the parish Christmas brunch.

Knitting Circle:

The knitting circle is in recess until 15 February 2017.

St. John's Guild:

The next Guild meeting is in the Maheno Room on Tuesday 13 December commencing at 11.00am, it will be their last for this year.

Mah-jong Group:

The Mah-jong Group meets Thursday morning from 9.30am—12.30pm at the back of the Church. If you can play mah-jong, or would like to learn, please join us . Tea and coffee is supplied.

Cake & Book Stall: (A major fundraiser for the Parish):

A big thank you to all who contributed to our stalls last Sunday. They raised Cakes \$1341.10– books \$244, making a total of \$1585.10 which helps to make up the shortfall in our weekly givings.

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 18 December 2016

Isaiah 7.10-16

Psalms 80.1-7, 17-19

Romans 1.1-7

Matthew 1.18-25

ROSTERED DUTIES	7.30AM	9.00AM
L.A.'s	Robert Bland Vanessa Hanlon	Howard Greaver Sarah Davies
READERS	Vanessa Hanlon Ruth Southgate	Therese Rein Louise Tervitt
INTERCESSOR	Robert Bland	Sarah Davies
DOOR	Lionel Rowe Stuart Winfield	Stephen Jones Judith Hancock
TEA / COFFEE	Dorothy Cameron Volunteer needed	Bjorn and Lauren Holdt
OFFERTORY COUNTER	Michael O'Kearney Margaret O'kearney	Sarah Davies Allan Thomson
LITTLE CHILDREN'S CHURCH	School Holidays	
FLOWERS	No flowers during Advent	

Weekly Giving : Budget \$1750/Week; Last Week \$1532.30

A deficit of \$217.70