

16 DECEMBER 2018 TODAY'S SERVICE

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7.30AM—SUNG EUCHARIST

9.00AM—FAMILY EUCHARIST

ST JOHN  
THE BAPTIST

EST. 1888

ANGLICAN CHURCH

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

<b>THURSDAY</b>	20	9.30am	Mah-jong—Church
<b>FRIDAY</b>	21	10.00am	Eucharist
<b>SUNDAY</b>	23	7.30am 9.00am	Sung Eucharist Family Eucharist

**WELCOME!**

Thank you for joining us in our worship today.

We are happy to join with you in fellowship. If you are here for the first time, or would like to be more involved in our parish please make yourself known to one of the welcomers, or clergy. You can also complete one of the green cards on the table near the main door, to give us your contact details if you would like a call, or to be on our parish contact list. You can put the card in the collection plate or hand it to a welcomer. We hope you will join us for coffee after the service. The green cards can also be used for updating your contact details if you are already a part of our parish.

**Rector:** The Reverend John Milburn

**Email:** [john.milburn@stjohnsbulimba.org](mailto:john.milburn@stjohnsbulimba.org)

**Mobile** 0415 838 239

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

**Telephone:** 3399 1508 **Email:** [office@stjohnsbulimba.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbulimba.org)

**Website:** [www.stjohnsbulimba.org](http://www.stjohnsbulimba.org)

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## THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

### SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

Do not fear. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love. *Zephaniah 3.16–17*

**HYMNS:** 7.30am Eucharist:- **TIS:** 216, 690, 147, 265.

### 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 Saviour, 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 fulfilment of your promise of a Saviour 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:

Almighty God, you sent your Son into a world where the wheat must be winnowed from the chaff and evil clings even to what is good: let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all corruption, so that, purified, we may wait eagerly for him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## 1ST READING: ZEPHANIAH 3.14-20

Roslyn Thomson Judith Hancock

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

**Psalm A Song of Isaiah** (verses said alternately between the reader and congregation)

2. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
- 3. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**
4. And you will say on that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.
- 5. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.**
6. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**GOSPEL: LUKE 3. 7-18**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**Food Donations for Giving Tree**

We are collecting non-perishable food (no fresh food please) for donation to the Smith Family to help those in need this Christmas; the lonely, families in crisis and those experiencing homelessness. Please leave your donations of groceries and toiletries under the Christmas tree in church by Sunday 16th December so that they can be donated in time for pre-Christmas distribution.

**Last day for donations today Sunday 16th December**

## Parish Prayers

### The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

#### In The World: -

- ⇒ **The Diocese of Kivu - (Rwanda):** †Augustin Ahimana
- ⇒ **The Diocese of Newcastle:** †Peter Stuart; Regional Bishops: †Sonia Roulston, †Charlie Murry; Clergy and People

#### In The Diocese:

- ⇒ **The Parish of Everton Park:** Andrew Peters
- ⇒ **Anglicare SQ Rural & Remote Community Services**
- ⇒ **The Glennie School, Toowoomba:** Head of School – Kim Cohen; Chaplain – Sharon Baird; Chair of School Council – Elizabeth Gillam; members of School Council; staff and students

**Locally: For local charities distributing food and assistance to those in need.**

**Pray for The Sick:** Joel, Valmai, Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Steph, Kerrie, John, Roselee, Esther, Linda, Drew, Kerry, Helena, Audrey, Dawn, Chris, Stephanie, Andrew, Sue.

*(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)*

The Third Sunday of Advent– Sunday 16 December 2018

Zephaniah 3.14-20; For the Psalm: A Song of Isaiah – (Isaiah 12.2–6): Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18



Gaudete Sunday! The third Sunday in Advent is one of joy with its continuous refrain, Rejoice! The coming is near. We are more than half-way there. Salvation is at hand. As we light the rose-coloured candle on the Advent Wreath and, in some places, don our rose-coloured vestments, we are transported to a new vision, one that is seen through rose-coloured glasses!

Pray with an open and joyful heart that Christ's coming will herald a time of peace for all nations. Rejoice!

Pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa, giving thanks for the work they do to further God's mission in the world.

Text: The Rev Laurette Glasgow, Special Advisor for Government Relations for the Anglican Church of Canada and the Diocese of Ottawa.

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## **Cake Stall: (A major fundraiser for the Parish)**

A big thank you to all who contributed to our final cake stall for the year. It raised \$1376.25 which goes to make up the shortfall in our givings. Our next cake stall will not be until 24th February 2019.

### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

#### ***December 24th Christmas Eve***

6.00pm—Christingle Service, a very special way to celebrate the coming of Jesus. Very family orientated. (the children love it.)

11.30pm—Mid-night Eucharist

#### ***December 25th Christmas Day***

7.30am—Sung Eucharist

9.00am—Family Eucharist

#### ***December 30th***

8.30am- Eucharist

#### ***January 6th***

8.30am- Eucharist

***No Friday Eucharist until 11th January***

#### ***January 13th***

7.30am – Sung Eucharist

9.00am –Family Eucharist

## WHAT WE DO

### **Knitting Circle:**

The knitting circle which meets once a month in the Maheno room, knitting squares which are then joined and made into rugs, beanies, and crocheting tea towels, will not meet in December and will be in recess until March. The next one is on Wednesday 20th March, at 9.30am.

### **Mah-jong Group:**

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

### **Little Children's Church:**

Little Children's Church happens each Sunday in term-time, during the 9:00am 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.

### **Teen Church:**

Teen Church is an exciting youth programme offered during School term time at St John's. Each term the teens are invited to participate in 3 sessions exploring the Bible and their faith as well as 'In Service' services at the 9am Family service. They engage in ministry tasks and liturgical roles in the 'In Service' services which encourage their growth as Anglicans serving the community. Occasional group outings and fundraising events also form part of the Teen Church programme. Contact Caroline Daunton through the Parish Office for details..

### **Christmas Bowl**

Donations are invited for an annual Christmas Bowl appeal (envelopes are available at the back of the church) to assist Syrian refugees, food programs around the world and education for girls in developing countries. Please drop the envelope in the collection or post it direct.

### **Christingle Preparation**

We invite you to join us on Monday 24th December in the Maheno Room at 10.00am to prepare Christingles for the 6.00pm service. Please come and help in this enjoyable activity. Bring an apron!

### **Office Closed**

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from lunchtime on Friday 21st December, and will re-open on Wednesday 2nd January. For any urgent matters please contact Fr John on his mobile.

## Next Weeks Readings

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday 23 December 2018

Micah 5.2-5a  
Psalm 80.1-7  
Hebrews 10.5-10  
Luke 1.39-45 (46-55)

<b>ROSTERED DUTIES</b>	<b>7.30AM</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>
<b>L.A.'S</b>	Allan Thomson Roslyn Thomson	Sarah Davies
<b>READERS</b>	Sue Rowe Allan Thomson	Kate Down David Down
<b>DOOR</b>	Lionel Rowe Susan Rowe	Laurie Thomson Michael Smit
<b>TEA / COFFEE</b>	Alana Bear Lynette McAllan Marcia McAllan	Andrea Findlay Michael Findlay
<b>OFFERTORY COUNTER</b>	Allan Thomson Roslyn Thomson	
<b>FLOWERS</b>	No flowers during Advent	

**Weekly Giving : Budget \$1775/Week;  
Last Week \$ 1442.00  
Yearly giving is \$ 35,692.35 under budget**