

20 DECEMBER 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

10.00 AM—FRIDAY EUCHARIST

8.30AM— SUNDAY EUCHARIST



ANNOUNCEMENT OF SERVICES

The next Friday service will be held on Friday 15th of January 2021 at 10.00am.

The next Sunday service will be a combined service at 8.30am on Sunday 27th December.

Pre-registration is not required for the Friday service, but is for the Sunday service. Please register online at <https://stjohnsbulimba.org/what-we-do/online-worship/> or call Felicity Scott on 0431 599 662 by Thursday 24th at 10.00 to make your booking for the Sunday service. We cannot guarantee you a seat if you have not booked, due to limitation on numbers. At recent services we have had room for more attendees so please come even if you have not booked.

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The office will be open on Tuesday 22nd December and will then close for two weeks, re-opening on 11 January 2021. During that period the email and phone will be monitored, but for anything urgent please call Sarah Davies on 0422 494 161 and I will try and find someone to deal with any important issues.

**Locum: Fr Terry Booth
(Sunday, Tuesday, Friday)**

Email: locum@stjohnsbulimba.org

Phone: 33991508 Fr Terry (home): 33007111

Office Hours Tuesday and Friday 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

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

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BSB 704 901 Account number 00014573. Account name Bulimba Anglican Parish**

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

This child will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Luke 1.32-33

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath -- the candles of **HOPE, PEACE** and **JOY**.

Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of **LOVE**.

Jesus demonstrated self-giving love in his ministry as the Good Shepherd. Advent is a time for kindness, thinking of others, and sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us his most precious gift. As God is love, let us be love also.

In the Book of Deuteronomy we find these words:

"For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

-- Deuteronomy 10:17-19a

From the Gospel of John we hear:

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

-- John 13:34-35

Let us pray:

Teach us to love, O Lord. May we always remember to put you first as we follow Christ's footsteps, that we may know your love and show it in our lives. As we prepare for our celebration of Jesus' birth, also fill our hearts with love for the world, that all may know your love and the one whom you have sent, your son, our Saviour. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

Gracious God, whose eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will: prepare our hearts for his coming again and keep us steadfast in hope, that we may be ready for the coming of his kingdom; for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

1ST READING: 2 SAMUEL 7.1-11, 7.16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.' But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord : Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

PSALM: SONG OF MARY

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant: from this day all generations will call me blessed;

The Almighty has done great things for me: and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him: from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm: and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones: and lifting up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things: and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel: to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears: to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 16.25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

GOSPEL: LUKE 1. 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Christmas Services

Thursday 24th December, 6.00 pm Christingle Service (church and lawn—registration required—
attendance limits)

Thursday 24th December, 11.30 pm Midnight Mass . Registration required.

Friday 25th December, Christmas Day Eucharist 7.30am. Registration required

Friday 25th December Christmas Day Eucharist 9.30am (note changed time), Registration required.

Sunday 27th December 8.30am First Sunday after Christmas . Father Terry's last service at Bulimba.

Sunday 3rd January 2021, 8.30am. Sunday Eucharist (registration required) celebrant to be advised)

Sunday 10th January 2021 8.30am Epiphany Eucharist (registration required), celebrant to be advised.

Friday 15th January 10.00am, Friday Eucharist return (no registration needed)

THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

IN THE WORLD: -

- ◇ **Pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world**
- ◇ **The Diocese of Perth:** †Kay Goldsworthy; Assistant Bishops - †Kate Wilmot, †Jeremy James; Clergy and People

IN THE DIOCESE: -

- ◇ **The Parish of Redcliffe:** Graheme Baldock, Richard James, Anne Bottomley, Philip Stewart, Michael O'Brien, Chris Whittall
- ◇ **Christ Church Caring Ministries, Bundaberg**
- ◇ **West Moreton Anglican College, Karrabin:** Principal - Geoff McLay; Chaplaincy team - Louise Orpe, Brenda Davis & Juliana Bate; Chair of College Council - Ian Lupton; members of School Council; staff & students

LOCALLY: WE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE TRAVELLING AT CHRISTMAS, FOR ALL WHO ARE WORKING IN OUR HOSPITALS, EMERGENCY SERVICES AND UTILITIES TO KEEP US WELL AND SAFE.

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Kerrie, Roselee, Steph and Chris, Kerry, Gloria, Joseph, Linda, Bernie, Don, Andrea, Graham, Pat, Peter.

IN MEMORY, DECEMBER 20—DECEMBER 30

BERTHA WEIR ROBINSON (2011)

MAVIS ELSIE MCCORMACK (2005)