



**Dinner and Planning Gathering**  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Maheno Room 6pm**

A chance for our LAs to catch up, review how things are going, fix Andrew's aberrations and get ready for Advent and Christmas.

Bring a plate of something to share!

**RSVP Andrew or Parish Office**

**A visitor from Zimbabwe**

Our 10am Friday service folk have really welcomed **Ruth Gwisai** visiting from Zimbabwe (*here pictured at post service coffee with Guild member Nita*). Ruth is an active and passionate member of St Mary Magdalen Anglican Church in Avondale, Zimbabwe. She was pleased to share pictures and stories of her energetic **Anglican Mothers Union** group who do so much to strengthen community, build faith and reach out in loving service in the fairly tough times in Zimbabwe. Ruth is visiting her son who lives close by in Bulimba for a few weeks and loved our church and worshipping with us.



Welcome Ruth! We hope you enjoy your stay !



**Children's Church**  
**Sunday 9am**

**This Sunday in church we will be talking about how Jesus welcomes little children just as much as the Adults and how we need to share the gifts God gives us with others.**



**23rd October 2022**

**7.30 AM PARISH EUCHARIST**

**9.00 AM FAMILY EUCHARIST**

**ST JOHN**  
THE BAPTIST  
EST. 1888  
ANGLICAN CHURCH  
IN THE HEART OF BULIMBA

**On Children**

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said,  
Speak to us of Children. And he said:

*Your children are not your children.*

*They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.*

*They come through you but not from you,*

*And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.*

You may give them your love but not your thoughts,

For they have their own thoughts.

*You may house their bodies but not their souls,*

*For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,*

*which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.*

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

*You are the bows from which your children  
as living arrows are sent forth.*

*The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,  
and He ends you with His might*

*that His arrows may go swift and far.*

Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;

For even as He loves the arrow that flies,

so He loves also the bow that is stable.

Kahlil Gibran - 1883-1931 From The Prophet (Knopf, 1923).

*Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to  
such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Luke 18:16*



## Let the little children come to me...

The Gospel this week inspires me to revisit thinking about our Family Service, what that means and how we connect with our children. I try to include two intentional children focussed moments in our 9am service to build on our great Children's Church ministry... a conversation and prayer at the beginning and a child friendly song as a recessional... which is not everyone's cup of tea. But why do I do it?



The website [Sacraparental: Social justice & spirituality for parents & kids](#) suggests these 6 of 12 reasons... I'll share the other 6 next week.

**Reason 1. KIDS ARE PEOPLE TOO:** When we welcome kids in church, we acknowledge that they are important humans in the present, not just the future

**Reason 2. ALL ARE MADE WELCOME:** When we welcome kids, we are making their carers feel welcome too

**Reason 3. KIDS LEARN BY PARTICIPATING:** When we welcome kids, we invite them to experience God in community with us

**Reason 4. KIDS CAN HANDLE SERMONS:** When we involve kids in church, we expose them to deep, important ideas

**Reason 5. IT'S GOOD FOR EVERYONE:** When we include kids in church, we all get to practise being generous to each other

**Reason 6. IT MAKES SERVICES BETTER:** When we plan for kids to be involved, we plan better, richer services

[12 Reasons to Welcome Kids in Church + Tips for Actually Doing It - Sacraparental](#)

What do you think? I'd love a chat.

Andrew

### Audio Visual Operators.



Our new AV system seems to be de-bugged and up and running. Its great and easy to use from the planning and presiding side of things but will work best with a [rostered clicker](#) each service.

Its easy but needs concentration. Could you assist as part of a team? If we get enough volunteers , it should only be once a month or so. [Sign up sheet indicating your preferred service](#)

and availability at the back of the church or by emailing Sarah at the parish office.

## Advent and Christmas Preparation

It seems too soon, but its time to start preparing for our Advent and Christmas events. How about putting these dates in your diary now.

**Sunday 27th November** "Light up Bulimba" Christmas Carols and Lights.

Starts 6.30 at Bulimba Uniting Church and onto St John's at 7.20 until 8pm

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December CHRISTMAS UP LATE**

Organised by the Oxford Street Business Association, 5-8pm

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December Regis Christmas Service**

With Bulimba Churches Together time TBC

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve**

Family Christmas Service 6pm,  
Midnight Christmas Service 11.30 pm

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

7.30 Traditional Christmas Eucharist  
9.00am Family Christmas Eucharist



Details and call for volunteers and eager participants will unfold over the next few weeks.

**We will need to start putting up the lights but the church needs a wash first. Anyone with a pressure cleaner and a few hours?**

## INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October

9am -12pm

A morning of learning and practice drawing on mindfulness techniques from both East and West led by Rev Andrew.

Many people struggle with finding the place of peace and calm in this complicated world. This 3 hour introduction hopes to share some techniques, practices and principles in an open, friendly space. Meditation, mindfulness, contemplation, deep listening, soul talk, spirituality, being present...

To register or find out more

Contact Rev Andrew

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