

**PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH 11AM**  
**NEXT SUNDAY DECEMBER THE 10TH**

Please join us for a relaxed bring and share Christmas lunch in the Maheno Room. Let's enjoy community, celebrate all that has been this year, raise a glass to the efforts of many and get in the festive spirit for the birth of Jesus. Please indicate what you can bring on the sheet at the back of the



**3rd December 2023**

**ADVENT 1 YEAR B**

**7.30AM - EUCHARIST**

**9.00AM - FAMILY EUCHARIST**

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



**ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON THE LAWN - 6PM NEXT SUNDAY 10TH DEC.**

Please join us for the fun and frivolity of Christmas carols on the lawn. Howard and the St John's Angelic Choir will serenade us with some of the Christmas carol classics. Bring a picnic rug and cushions for the authentic carols experience or seats will be provided for the less adventurous. Be there or be square!



### GIVING TREE FOR GOODNA

This year we are collecting gifts for Goodna on our Giving tree. There will be two phases; the first will be tags for gifts for children and adults (unwrapped) to be delivered no later than Sunday 10th December for distribution by Goodna on Tuesday 12th December; the second will be for gift cards for fuel or groceries

which Rev Bronwyn Pagram can hand out while the Welfare Mission is closed until the middle of January, to ease post-Christmas financial need. Please take a tag and bring back your chosen gift to put under the tree this Sunday and next Sunday.



### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - REFLECTION BY MARY COLOE PBVM

The vestments change, the Gospel changes as the Church moves into a new cycle recalling and celebrating God's coming to our world in Jesus. This year we will hear the earliest written Gospel, that of Mark, written around the year 70 CE. These were years of conflict for the early Christians. The Emperor Nero had

begun to persecute Christians in the year 64 and they were considered to be practising a new and superstitious cult. In Palestine things were no better for there had been a Jewish uprising against Rome in 66 that led to the destruction of Jerusalem. Mark's community was under threat and beside all these external factors, Jesus had not returned to them as they were expecting. For forty years they had kept faith but as time passed the waiting became harder.

The Gospel speaks into this situation. Be alert. Stay awake. The Master will return. Mark uses popular images associated with the end of time according to first century Jewish imagination. There was an expectation that the Messiah would return before the end; that the Messiah would lead a war against the Kingdom of evil; this moral struggle would be felt by the whole cosmos with earthquakes and famine. Mark also points to the reality that Christians were experiencing; no longer welcome within Judaism because they were saying the Messiah had come in Jesus; being brought to trial before Roman courts for not worshipping Caesar. This was the life and death struggle for Mark's community.

Living now, so many centuries distant from the Gospel events, Mark's words take on a special urgency. Complacency and routine can replace alertness and watchfulness. After such a long time perhaps we run the risk of failing to recognise the Master. Last week's Gospel revealed this difficulty. 'When did we see you hungry and thirsty, sick or naked?' We might say in response, 'Of course we would have welcomed you — but we didn't know it was you.' This is the alertness that we are called to; to recognise God's coming in the most unlikely ways. As the carols ring out around the shopping centres, watch out, be alert.

You never know the time when God will come to you.

As we draw near to Christmas, and are beginning to think about the gifts we want to give, and perhaps the ones we want to receive, it might be a good time to consider the deeper gifts we have, the gifts within our lives and how we are allowing these to flourish and to put them to use for others, our family, our communities, our co-workers. I had a poster once that said something like: who we are is God's gift to us; what we make of ourselves is our gift to God. Source: mn.catholic.org.au

To arrange direct debit for your regular giving,  
please use the account details:  
BSB 704 901 Account number 00014573.  
Account name Bulimba Anglican Parish

### THIS COMING WEEK IN THE PARISH

<b>TUESDAY</b>	5th	10.30am 12noon	Hoy followed by Light lunch
<b>FRIDAY</b>	8th	10.00am	Eucharist
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10th</b>	7.30am	Eucharist
		9.00am	Eucharist and Children's Church
		11.00am	Christmas Brunch in Maheno Room
		6.00pm	Carols on the lawn

<b>ROSTERED DUTIES 10/12</b>	<b>7.30AM</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>
<b>L.A.'s</b>	Roslyn/Tony	Howard/Roland
<b>MUSIC</b>	Wendy	Wendy
<b>READERS</b>	Felicity/Tony	Michael S/Sarah
<b>INTERCESSOR</b>	Allan T	Roland
<b>CHRISTMAS BRUNCH</b>	Christmas Brunch in the Maheno Room	
<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Felicity/Allan T	Chris & Linda P
<b>AUDIO VISUAL</b>	Roslyn	Michael
<b>FLOWERS</b>	No Flowers during Advent	<b>CHURCH CLEANING</b> Sue/Kym

### Locum

Reverend Lindsay Howie Mobile 0490 950 893  
Email: howiejenlin@hotmail.com

### Associate Clergy

Reverend Karen Jansson Mobile 0459 475 332  
Reverend Quinn Humphreys Mobile 0403 531 538

### Church Contact

**Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am to 1.30 pm**  
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### READINGS AND PRAYERS FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, 'but my words will not pass away.'  
*Mark 13.31*

#### THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths: renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love; to whom be glory for ever.  
**Amen.**

#### FIRST READING: ISAIAH 64.1–9

JUNE PARKER LINDA BROOK

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

#### PSALM 80.1–7, 80.17–19

- Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock:  
you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine out in glory;
- Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh:**  
***stir up your power, and come to save us.***
- Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:  
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- O Lord God of hosts:**  
***how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?***
- You have fed them with the bread of tears:  
and given them tears to drink in good measure.
- You have made us the victim of our neighbours:**  
***and our enemies laugh us to scorn.***

## Parish Prayers

### The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

#### In The World: -

- ◇ The Church of North India (United)
- ◇ The Diocese of Armidale: †Rod Chiswell; Clergy and People

#### In The Diocese:

- ◇ The Parish New Farm: Olaf Anderson, Ian Mundy, Timothy Booth, Andrew Cooper
- ◇ Queensland Children's Hospital: Alex Chuc
- ◇ Cannon Hill Anglican College, Cannon Hill: Principal - Gary O'Brien; Chaplain - Br Nathan James; Chair of College Council – Bruce Moy; members of College Council; staff & students

#### Pray for those in need:

Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Kerrie, Douglas, Helena, Roy, Williamson Family, Helen, Lisa, Rev Paul Bland, Joan, Pam, Dorothy, Gary, Rev Karen, Samantha, Ian, Brian, Karen S, Roy F.

### Prayer for our new Archbishop Elect Jeremy Greaves

Almighty God, by your Son Jesus Christ you gave many excellent gifts to your apostles, and commanded them to feed your flock. Bless Jeremy now called to be our next Archbishop. So fill him with your truth, and clothe him with holiness, that as a pastor of your Church he may diligently preach your word, and rightly teach your people, to the glory of your name, and the benefit of your Church. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### Prayer for our new Rector Elect Paul Mitchell

Gracious God, giver of all that is good, by your Holy Spirit you have appointed various orders of ministry in your Church. Bless Fr Paul now called to be our next Rector. So fill him with your truth, and clothe him with holiness, that he may faithfully minister here among us, to the glory of your name and the benefit of your Church. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, until the ages of ages. Amen.

## CHRISTMAS CAKE STALL

An amazing result this year. The Christmas Cake Stall raised **\$1,802.50** for our Parish. Thank you to all who contributed cakes and preserves and other goodies and for those who purchased so generously. Our next Stall will be in February 2024

7. Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:  
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**17. Let your power rest on the man at your right hand:**

***on that son of man whom you made so strong for yourself.***

18. And so we shall not turn back from you:

give us life, and we will call upon your name.

**19. Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:**

***show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.***

### SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1.1–9 LINDA MITCHELL MEL HUMPHREYS

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### GOSPEL: Mark 13.24–37 Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### In Memory

**4th December—10th December**

*John Pomeroy Tredwen (2005),; Stanley Blair Siebuhr (2014)*





### ADVENT STUDY 1 MYSTAGOGICAL REFLECTION - DWELLING WITH GOD IN AN ARTWORK

*Let's be still and know God more deeply as we encounter him present with us in art.*

- 1. Reflection:** Encounter with Christ in the beauty of art...
- 2. Recollection:** What do you see? *An invitation to focus on the work and notice the detail. What story is the work telling? What elements have been used to create the work, co/our, line, shapes, tones, textures? What symbols or gestures might there be within the elements? What is happening?*
- 3. Reflection:** What captured your attention? What moved your heart? What is God revealing to you? How does this relate to your life? *An invitation to be attentive to Christ present in the encounter and to share what you notice.*
- 4. Faith sharing:** How is this work leading us into the Mystery and teaching us about God, Christ, Church, liturgy, and Christian life? *An invitation to connect your experience and the meaning you have found in the artwork, with what Christ is revealing in the living tradition of our Anglican faith.*
- 5. Connection:** Why does what Christ is revealing in the work matter to us now? What's happening in our world and neighbourhood right now? *An invitation to consider how the work can encourage us in our faith.*
- 6. Conversion:** How is your encounter with Christ in the work inviting you to change, to live the mystery?

*What is dying? What is being raised up?*

*Contemplate — rest in the presence of God. Conclude your gathering with the blessing.*

**Blessing:** We are looking for God in our world. May we see what God wants us to see. We are looking for God in our lives. May we be who God wants us to be. And may God our Shepherd, Protector, Awakener, and Holy Spirit, bless us through these Advent days. Amen.

Source: mn.catholic.org.au

### MYSTAGOGICAL REFLECTION - DWELLING WITH GOD IN THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

*The person guiding the group invites people into the process based on the following invitation.*

Listen to God say to you ... Be still and know that / am God (Ps 46:10)

Moved by the Holy Spirit in response we pray... Open my/our ears to the Word of God... Open my/our heart(s) to the love of God... Open my/our mind(s) to the wisdom of God...

Let us listen for the words of everlasting life...

*Each step finishes in silence before the guide invites the group into the next step ...*

**1. Encounter** with Christ in the Word proclaimed ... Listen (Gospel: Mark 13:33-37)

*Proclaimed without the liturgical dialogue that usually introduces and concludes it.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

**2. Recollection:** What happened? *An Invitation to recall what happened in the text. The detail is important — characters, scenery, actions. No interpretation, just what happened.*

**3. Reflection:** What word or phrase captures your attention? What did you experience/feel? What is God revealing to you? How is this relevant to your life? *An invitation to be attentive to Christ present in the encounter and to share what you notice.*

**4. Faith sharing:** How is the meaning found in your encounter with Christ in the scripture connecting with the season of Advent? *An invitation to connect your experience and the meaning you have found in it, with what Christ is revealing in the living tradition of our Anglican faith.*

**5. Connection:** Why does what Christ is revealing matter to us now? What's happening in our world and neighbourhood right now? *An invitation to explore the essential connection between liturgy, faith and life.*

**6. Conversion:** How is your encounter with Christ inviting you to change — to become more and more Christ like? *What is dying? What is being raised up?*

*Contemplate — rest in the presence of God. Conclude your gathering with the blessing*

**Blessing:** We are looking for God in our world. May we see what God wants us to see. We are looking for God in our lives. May we be who God wants us to be. And may God our Shepherd, Protector, Awakener, and Holy Spirit, bless us through these Advent days. Amen.

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