

What's on in January!

Sunday Services

- One Service ONLY 8.30am 1st, 8th and 15th January
- 7.30 and 9.00 Services resume Sunday 22nd January

Friday Services

- No 10am Service Friday 30th December
- 10am Service resumes Friday 6th January

Office

- Closed from Friday 23rd December 3.00pm.
- Reopens Wednesday 18th January



PIC Leave

Rev Andrew is on leave from Monday 26th December until Wednesday 18th January except for the weekend of 7th/8th January.

Reverend Karen will be available for pastoral needs while Rev Andrew is away - Mobile 0459 475 332



Christmas decorations along Star Street in central Bethlehem and Checkpoint 300 which separates it from the city of Jerusalem.

Christmas in Bethlehem

The community in Bethlehem comes together to celebrate Christmas. All of Manger Square fills to the brim with folk in early December as they light the star at the top of the Christmas tree outside the Church of the Nativity, and Palestinians rejoice together across traditions. As heartfelt and festive as Christmas season may be, the reality for Palestine today remains one of life under occupation. Christmas in the past meant Palestinians can get 'holiday season' permits to visit Jerusalem as part of their celebrations but this hasn't happened since the arrival of COVID-19 in early 2020.

The World Council of Churches asks us all to pray for the people of Palestine this Christmas.

First published on the World Council of Churches website on 8/12/2022.

CHRISTMAS 2022

The Birth of Jesus

11.30 PM MIDNIGHT MASS

7.30 AM PARISH EUCHARIST

9.00 AM FAMILY EUCHARIST

ST JOHN

THE BAPTIST

EST. 1888

ANGLICAN CHURCH

IN THE HEART OF BULIMBA



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:10-11

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

FRIDAY	30th		No Service
SUNDAY ONE SERVICE ONLY	1st	8.30am	Eucharist

ROSTERED DUTIES 01/1	8.30AM
L.A.'s	Roslyn & Roland
MUSIC	
READERS	Linda M, June, Tony or Roland
INTERCESSOR	Allan or Tony
MORNING TEA	
WELCOMERS	
AUDIO VISUAL	Paul or Donovan
FLOWERS TBA	CHURCH CLEANING Sue & Kym

COVID: MASKS ARE OPTIONAL. PLEASE OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, CONTINUE HAND SANITISING AND MINIMISE ANY PERSONAL CONTACT.

Priest-in-Charge

Reverend Andrew Cooper. Mobile phone: 0447 409 188
Email: andrew.cooper@anglicanchurchsq.org.au
 (From 26 December to 17 January contact
 Rev Karen Jansson **0459 475 332** for pastoral care enquiries)
Office Hours: Closed until 18 January 2023
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 **Follow us on Facebook**

READINGS AND PRAYERS FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS

SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Luke 2.10-11

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

Almighty God, who gave your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of the virgin Mary: grant that we being born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, ever one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7 *ALLAN THOMSON MICHAEL SMIT*

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

PSALM 97.

- The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
2. Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
- Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side.
4. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.
- The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
6. The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.
- All worshippers of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him.
8. Zion hears and is glad, and the towns of Judah rejoice, because of your judgements, O God.
- For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10. The Lord loves those who hate evil; he guards the lives of his faithful; he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**
- Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.
12. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

Parish Prayers

SECOND READING: TITUS 3.4-8A

ANN WINFIELD MICHAEL SMIT

But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone.

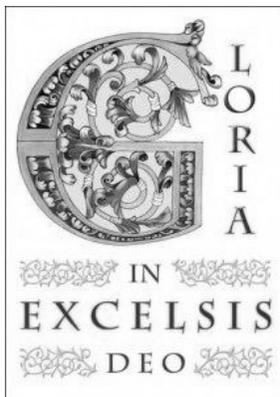
GOSPEL: LUKE 2.1-20

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, *'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.'*



And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, *'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, *'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'*

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

In The World: -

- ◇ The Anglican Church of Melanesia
- ◇ The Diocese of The Murray: †Keith Dalby; Clergy and People

In The Diocese:

- ◇ The Parish of Caloundra with Glasshouse Country: Paul Fletcher, Jeanette Jamieson-Foard, Anthony Halstead, David Curry, Clarrie White, Ray Barraclough, Ian Marshall
- ◇ Symes Thorpe Residential Aged Care - Toowoomba
- ◇ All Anglican Schools Business Managers/Bursars and Senior Leaders

Locally:

We pray for...

- ◇ Those travelling to be with family and friends, those who will host events and those who offer hospitality to others.
- ◇ For those spending Christmas alone or missing absent loved ones.
- ◇ For those working to provide services in our airports and travel networks and those in the hospitality industry.
- ◇ For police, paramedics, first responders and emergency services personnel. We give thanks for their dedication in keeping us safe.
- ◇ For health care staff in Emergency Departments, Hospitals and Aged Care Centers and all those they care for and their families.
- ◇ Those in our armed forces serving overseas or away from home.
- ◇ The forgotten or invisible ones and those unable to feel the joy of this holy day.

Pray for those in need:

Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Kerrie, Joseph, Douglas, Nancy, Kerry, Peter, Graham and Pat, Helena, Daniel, Michael, Ruth, Williamson Family, Rev Helen Phillips, Roy, Vince, Helen.

In Memory

December 26th—January 1st

Mavis Elsie McCormack (2005)



Some Christmas Thoughts...

Most families have special Christmas traditions. For years we teased my mum Joan that all we ever got for Christmas as kids was a pair of underpants. So every year my mother purchased and wrapped a pair of underpants for everybody... even brand new partners and visitors... just to keep them in the spirit. Any correlation between your actual size and the pair of undies you got was purely co-incidental. My mum and dad are resting God's arms now and someone else has to buy the Christmas underpants. I hope my brother enjoys his 4 pack of budget undies!

Like cheap underpants elastic, the Christmas story speaks to the uncertainty of this world. Our God did not choose to enter our world in a comfortable family home with airconditioning, carols playing on the telly and prawns for lunch with a few refreshing beverages and Auntie Beryl's sherry trifle.

God entered our world in the most precarious and fragile of circumstances... a homeless family of travellers who sought asylum from the dangers of the night in a back shed. God entered into our world at a time of political uncertainty, of competing world views and of a multitude of conflicting religious voices. God entered into our world in the same messy, painful, dangerous and uncertain labour pains of a woman that we all did... But all this begins a story of great hope and promise.

I think we need to hold on to all the ways and opportunities of telling the story of hope and promise we can. Let's claim the day for what it is. Let's remember with joy the blessings the year has given and hold before God the fears and fragilities of our lives. Let's remember the story of hope and joy that the coming of the Christ child signifies in a world still in great need of the transforming love of God.

Let's be grateful for the companionship of fellow faith filled travellers, the gift and blessing of family and friends ... and the gift of underpants. I know I am!

Andrew



Stationery Aid!
Renewed stationery items supporting education for all

Thank you for your generous donations of stationery items that are so gloriously arrayed under our Giving Tree. These will be taken to the Stationery Aid packing room to be sorted and distributed to families struggling to make ends meet in these tough times. Thank you to Tony Rigby for assisting organizing our offerings.



First Prize Daniel
Second Prize Graydon Clark
Third Prize Lisa Hooper
Thank you to all who bought tickets and donated items. We raised \$843.00!

Farewell to Daniel

Last Sunday was one of mixed emotions for our friend Daniel. Regulars will know him as the larger than life figure who loves giving a message in church, organising us all and showing his big generous heart raising money for others selling roses and busking outside the church.

There was a happy moment when Daniel learnt that he had won 2nd prize in our Christmas Raffle... something he had been anticipating and planning for! It was a pleasure to hand over the goodies!

The sad bit was praying for him on his last Sunday with us. Daniel is moving to supported accommodation in Morayfield. This will give him the care he needs particularly as he starts cancer treatment in the new year and will provide a comfortable and safe shared house. We sent him off with many prayers and good wishes.

We suspect we will see him every now and then but wish him every blessing in his new home.

