

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
DIOCESE OF BALLARAT
ST PAUL'S - BAKERY HILL



"If God is for us, who is against us?" (Rom 8:31)

Fourth Sunday of Advent–23rd December 2018
Living our Faith and Witnessing to Christ's Love

Welcome to St Paul's Church! We acknowledge the Wathaurung people, the traditional custodians of this land. Visitors are asked to make themselves known to the Welcomers. You are invited to wear a St Paul's name tag. Communicant members of all Christian traditions are invited to receive communion; anyone is welcome to receive a blessing. Please join us for refreshments after the Parish Eucharist.



8am Holy Eucharist 10am Parish Eucharist

Welcome to our Eucharist.

INTROIT HYMN: The angel Gabriel from heaven came: **TIS: 302**
"Gabriel's message"

Sabine Baring- Gould 1834-1924

In the name of God: Father, + Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE: Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. Luke 1.45

Advent Wreath Liturgy

Advent 4 – Love

Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ, the candle of Peace, remembering God's dream of a peaceful world, and the candle of Joy, remembering the Spirit within us who brings joy. (Light Candles). Today we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of Love.

Scripture tells us "There is no fear in love, for perfect love casts out fear." (1 John 4:18). God created this world in love and this world will end in the love of God. God's love pervades all aspects of this life. From birth to death, pain to delight, strangers to lovers, God's love is there.

We light this candle in Love. (Light Candle)

On this day, we remember God is Love.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open,

all desires known,

and from whom no secrets are hidden:

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you,

and worthily magnify your holy name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Penitential Rite

The Kyrie is sung:

Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy.

The celebrant introduces the Prayer of General Confession:

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:**

we have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;

we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.

Father, forgive us.

Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The celebrant says the Prayer of Absolution:

COLLECT OF THE DAY: *(pause for silent prayer)* Gracious God, you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son: as we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word, and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works. We ask this through 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**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Micah 5.2–5a

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The LORD says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

This is the Word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

PSALM The Song of Mary (*We respond with the **bold** verses*).

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

**For you, Lord, have looked with favour on your lowly servant: From
this day all generations will call me blessed.**

You, the Almighty, have done great things for me: and holy is your
name.

**You have mercy on those who fear you: from generation to
generation.**

You have shown strength with your arm: and scattered the proud in
their conceit,

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

You have filled the hungry with good things: and sent the rich away
empty.

**You have come to the aid of your servant Israel: to remember the
promise of mercy,**

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING Hebrews 10.5–10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings
you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in
burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I
said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll
of the book, it is written of me).' When Christ said, 'You have neither
desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt
offerings and sin offerings' (these are offered according to the
law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He
abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's
will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body
of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the Word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

GRADUAL HYMN: Come down, O Love divine: **TIS 398**

Richard Frederick Littledale 1833-90

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Luke 1.38 **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Luke 1.39–55

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

+ Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE SERMON: Fr Graham

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church: [stand]

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became
truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and
his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who
has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the world and the Church...

After the prayers:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The following Prayer of Humble Access may follow here:

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE *All stand.*

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you**

OFFERTORY HYMN: Earth has many a noble city: **TIS 291** "Stuttgart"
Edward Caswall 1814-78

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The celebrant begins the Eucharistic Prayer (remain standing throughout)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The preface continues...forever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Eucharistic prayer continues...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer concludes with ...in songs of never ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and
forever. Amen**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body in Christ,
for we all share in the one bread.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us;**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your
peace.**

This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word, and I
shall be healed.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: For the bread and for the wine: **TIS 518**

Horatius Bonar 1808-89

Father **we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your spirit, to live and
work to your praise and glory, Amen.**

Parish Notices...

THE BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your
hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his

Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ, **Thanks be to God!**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Tell out my soul: **TIS 161** "Woodlands"

Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926-

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Worship & Diary this week **(24th –29th December)**

Thurs – 10.30 am Holy Eucharist followed by Morning Tea

Readings for Christmas Day Isaiah 52.7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1.1-4 (5-12), John 1.1-14



For the Church in every time and place and especially for:

- Kubwa - (Abuja, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Duke Akamisoko
- All those involved in School Chaplaincy and Industrial Chaplaincy.
All Christian community schools and Church schools.
- Ballarat & Queens Anglican Grammar School:
Headmaster Adam Heath, Chaplain Eleanor O'Donnell,
Assistant Chaplains: Peter Treloar & Fiona Whitehouse
- Nambaiyufa
- Teachers and students

For those with Special Needs: among the sick Hazel, Heather, Eileen, Stephanie, Tamara, Andrew, Aaron, Emily, Ruth, Julie, Sue, Mylene, Vera, Bennita, Tamsin, Jenny, Jan, Fr Peter, Seth, Corey, Michele, Gillian, Pauline, Margaret. We pray for patients suffering from serious diseases and those who care for them.

For the departed: Ruby Kirsopp, Lynette Steele, Verrie Tunstall, William Holland (23) Urban Brawn, Alice Groves, William White, Ella Storey, John Holmes, Mrs Luarrel, Thomas Tuddenham, Enid Barnett, Ida Dwyer, Alice Evans (24) John Gilbert, Eva Bunting, William Jane, Michael McQuade, Roy Rowlands (25) Ivy Rattray, Harriett Luke, Florence Kydd, Ella Storey (26) Arthur Gramston, Michael McQuade, Jane Reynolds, Emily Whiting, Robert Kinnersly, George Fook, Llewellyn Rowlands (27) Freda Keating, William King, Reginald Coombes, Arch Drever (28) Eady Hart, Margaret Stevens, Katherine Phillips, Magnus Anderson (29)



Christmas

Sing all creation, made for his purposes,
Called by his providence to live and move:
None is unwanted, none insignificant,
Love needs a universe of folk to love.

Close friends and strangers, ethnic minorities,
Old folk and young folk and families too,
God on his birthday, and to eternity,

God took upon himself the need of you. Michael Hewlett TiS 281; AHB 214
And we have seen, and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. 1 John 4: 14-16

Let us thank Mary and Joseph for their faith and courage in bringing to birth our Blessed Saviour. May faith and courage be for all Mothers' Union members throughout the world the mark of their love and commitment to God incarnate in the Holy Child.

ST PAUL'S CALENDAR

Orders are now being taken for the 2019 parish calendar. If you wish to order one, please write your name on the list at the back of the church and place \$10.00 in a marked envelope in the collection plate.

Dates for
the Diary:

DECEMBER

Mon 24th – 6.00pm Christmas Eve family and children's service

Mon 24th- 11.00pm Midnight Mass at the Cathedral

Tues 25th – Christmas Day 7.00am Eucharist
9.00am Eucharist

Sun 30th – one service at 10.00am

JANUARY

Sun 6th – one service at 10.00am

Sun 13th – normal services resume



CHRISTMAS AT ST PAUL'S

Our family service will be held on Christmas Eve at 6.00pm
Christmas Day services will be at 7.00am and 9.00am.

JANUARY SERVICES

Fr Graham will be on leave from 28th December-11th January.

During this time services will be taken by Fr Geoffrey Tisdall and Fr Malcolm Thomas. On 30th December and 6th January there will be only one service at 10.00am. From 13th January services will return to normal at 8.00am and 10.00am. Thursday services will continue as usual.

For any emergencies please phone the parish mobile.

Parish Directory

Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd Garry Weatherill

Locum Priest Fr Graham Reynolds, 0407 107 165, or on the Parish Mobile 0455 371 379.

Email: graham_reynolds2@bigpond.com

Associate Clergy

The Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Tisdall

The Rev'd Malcolm Thomas

Parish Secretary:

Lisa Smith

Organist:

Ken Turner

Priest's Warden:

Julie Werner

Churchwarden:

Mark Stewart

People's Churchwarden:

Heather Clinton

Treasurer: (interim)

Julie Werner

Parish Council Secretary:

Lisa Smith

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Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am- 1pm