

The 3rd Sunday in Advent

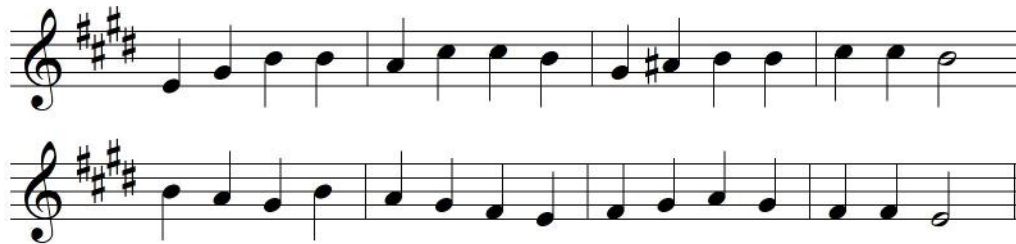
11 December 2022

Acknowledgement of Country. As a community, we recognise that the church is built and our worship is offered on the traditional lands of the Kurna people, and close to Tarntanyangga/Victoria Square, which is still an important meeting place for the Kurna people today. We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land; our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing; and our hope that we may walk together in harmony, in the spirit of Reconciliation.

A ministry of prayer for healing and wholeness will be offered in the Holy Innocents Chapel during the Communion of the People. If you would like to make a note of prayer points or special intentions for prayer, please use the card which is available at the rear of the church.

When the bell rings, all stand and sing the hymn.

MELTON



**Hark! A herald voice is calling:
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!"**

**2 Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.**

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle: the Candle of Joy

The blossoms of spring tell of rejoicing.
Creation breaks forth into joy.

Desert sands ripple and vast oceans
cast waves onto shore.
Creation dances in joy.

In places of flood and places of drought,
we ask that again:
Creation may flow with joy.

We are called to worship God with rejoicing:
**Strengthen and sustain us,
that we may sing and dance before the Lord!**

The Candle is lit.

Anew we tell the ancient tale,
as we prepare to receive the light of the world.

This third flame is to bring delight and rejoicing.

This is the candle of Joy.
Let us honour the Light!

The hymn resumes.

- 3 **Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;**
- 4 **So when next he comes in glory,
And earth's final hour draws near,
May he then as our defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.**
- 5 **Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
While unending ages run.**

Edward Caswall 1814-78

Entrance Antiphon

Philippians 4.4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace and peace of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Penitential Act

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness,
and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Silence.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Then all say

**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 priest says:

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness
to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon ✕ you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect

Let us pray.

Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love
on our journey to meet the One who is coming:
strengthen our weak hands,
make firm our feeble knees,
and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom,
so that our hearts may rejoice
as we behold the majesty of our God.
We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 35.1–10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

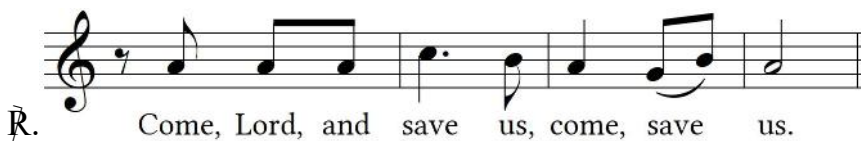
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 146



- 1 Blessed are they whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God—
the God who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
the God who keeps faith for ever,
who gives justice to those who are oppressed. R.
- 2 The Lord gives food to the hungry,
and sets the captives free.
The Lord gives sight to the blind,
and lifts up those who are bowed down. R.
- 3 The Lord loves the righteous,
and cares for the stranger;
The Lord sustains the widow and the orphan,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
The Lord shall reign for ever:
your God, O Zion, shall reign through all generations.
Praise the Lord. R.

Second Reading

James 5.7–10

A reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 61.1 (Luke 4.18)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 11.2–11

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Fr Steven Ogden

Silence may be kept.

Profession of Faith

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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 for the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The priest may say

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

The prayers may conclude

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.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

God's Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

During the preparation of the gifts, the hymn is sung. Please note that there will be no Collection taken up: offerings of money can be left in the Collection plates at the front and rear of the pews.

VENI EMMANUEL



Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-ma - nu-el shall come to thee, O Is - ra-el.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

- 2 **O come, O come, great Lord of might
who to the tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.**
- 3 **O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.**
- 4 **O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.**
- 5 **O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

T.A. Lacey, H. S. Coffin and others

When all is prepared, the priest says,

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

God our strength,
we are nothing without you.
Receive all we offer you this day
as you sustain us with your mercy;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

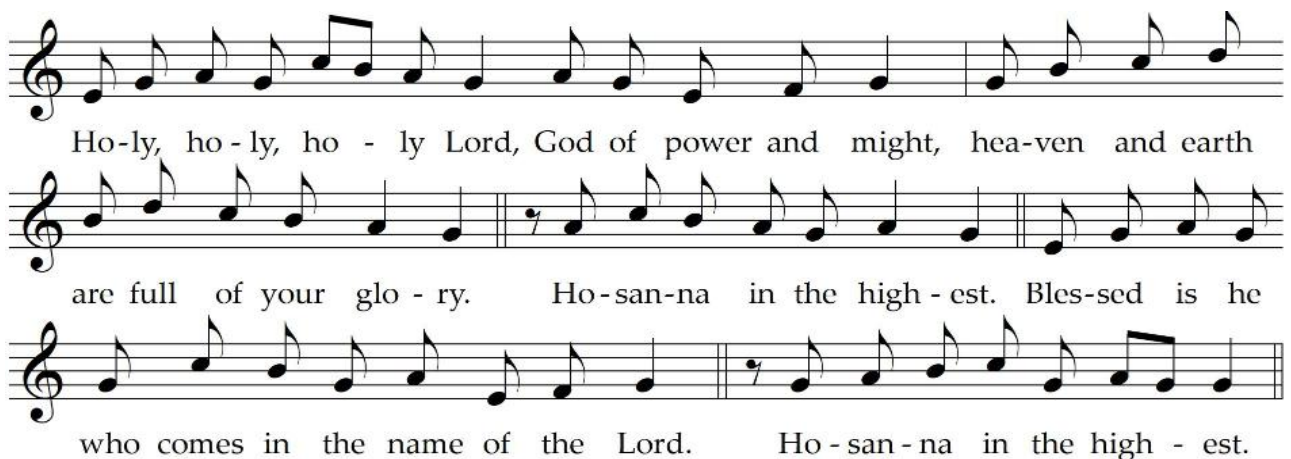
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.
Out of nothing, you called all worlds to be,
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.
Dawn and evening celebrate your glory
till time shall be no more.

In Christ your Son
the life of heaven and earth were joined,
sealing the promise of a new creation,
given, yet still to come.

Taught by your Spirit,
we who bear your threefold likeness
look for the City of Peace
in whose light we are transfigured
and the earth transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose
who await the coming of your Son,
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea-ven and earth
are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Bles-sed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father.

In Jesus you showed us yourself.
Our hope is built on him,
the first, the last, the living one.
Obedient, even to accepting death,
He opened the gate of glory
and calls us now to share the life of heaven.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
alight with the vision of a feast
that heralded a kingdom yet to come,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
"Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

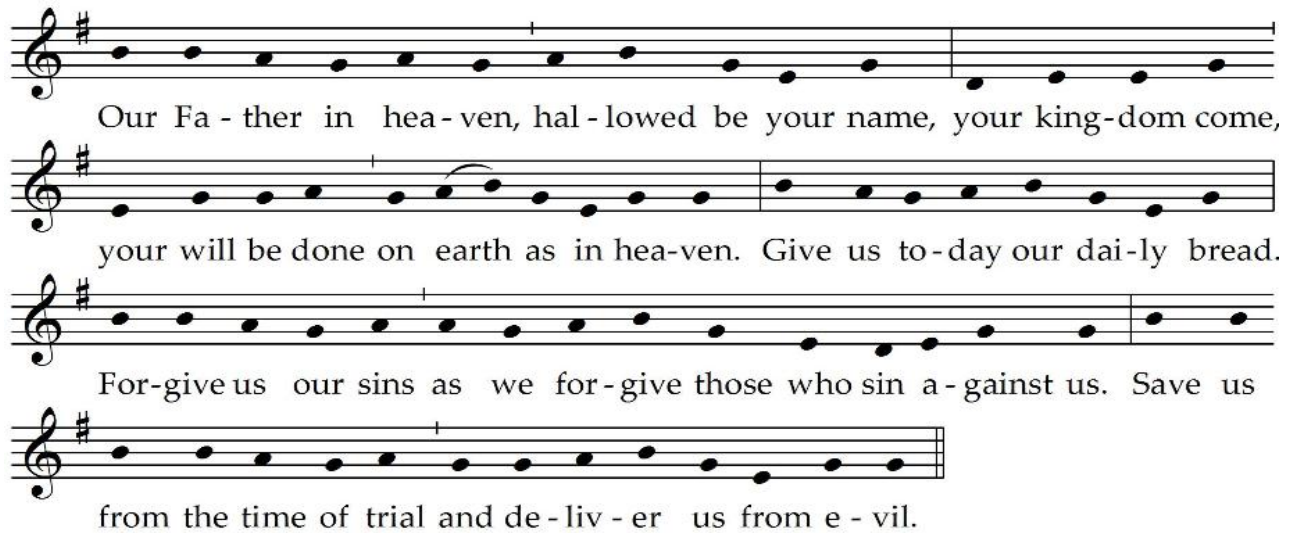
Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end. **Amen.**

COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

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

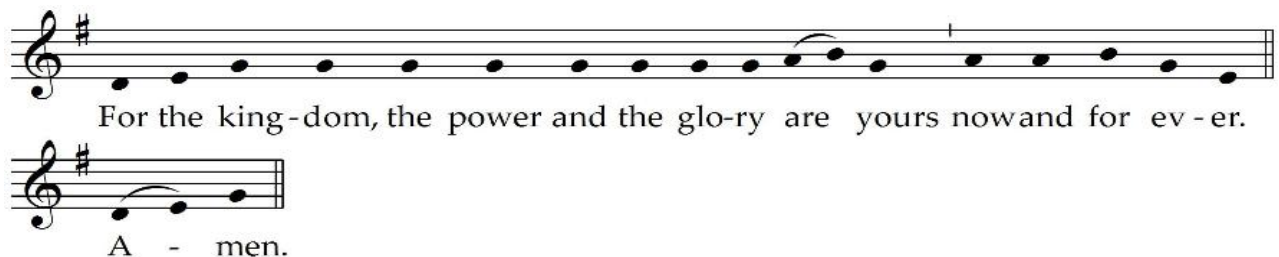


Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come,
your will be done on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us
from the time of trial and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

The Priest continues alone

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And all make the prayer their own, singing



For the king - dom, the power and the glo - ry are yours now and for ev - er.
A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the bread, saying

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

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

All receive Holy Communion. Communion will be administered in one kind only. Communicants are asked to approach in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning by the side aisles.

Those who are not to receive the Blessed Sacrament are invited to unite themselves with Jesus by making a Spiritual Communion.

Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Healing ministry will be offered in the Holy Innocents chapel. Please enter the chapel one at a time. You may wish to record prayer points or remembrances on a piece of paper prior to Mass.

Communion Antiphon

cf. Isaiah 35.4

The choir sings

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Faithful God,
we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.
Help us always to hear the prophet's call
to turn our hearts to you;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1. **Lift up your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!**
See how the King of glory waits, Alleluia!
The Lord of hosts is drawing near,
the Saviour of the world is here,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. **God's matchless and majestic strength, Alleluia!**
in all its height, depth, breadth, and length, Alleluia!
now is revealed, its pow'r to prove,
by Christ proclaiming, "God is love!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. **Redeemer, come, with us abide; Alleluia!**
our hearts to you we open wide; Alleluia!
let us your inner presence feel;
your grace and love in us reveal.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. **Your Holy Spirit lead us on, Alleluia**
until our glorious goal is won; Alleluia!
eternal praise, eternal fame
be offered, Saviour, to your name!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

George Weisel 1590-1635
trans. Catherine Winkworth 1827-78,
adapt John Bell b.1949

Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

FROM FR STEVEN – ANTICIPATING RE-CREATION

The climate crisis is daunting? Where do we begin? What can I do? To begin, I suggest we embrace the season of Advent, and allow ourselves to be inspired and transformed.

Of course, many of the biblical texts used in Advent are difficult. Many of them are written in the apocalyptic genre, which is like a code written for the faithful living in a state of crisis. The roots of apocalyptic go back to the book of Daniel (11:32) culminating in the book of Revelation. As a people, these faith communities expected God to institute renewal. In this vein, Advent is about renewal. In Advent, we expect to experience divine re-creation.

The new creation is an earthy thing. The divine action is here and now on *terra firma*. What is more, our very renewal is linked to the renewal of the earth itself. The theme of re-creation is strong, for example, in the Gospel of John. John represents a radical and transparent alternative to the forerunners of Gnosticism. What exactly is Gnosticism?

After the time of Jesus, several religious groups emerged. They shared a pattern of belief. We refer to them under the banner of Gnosticism. Gnostic groups constituted a secretive *out-of-this-world* religion. The word *Gnostic* comes from the Greek word for knowledge (*gnosis*). This was a special (esoteric) knowledge, which could enable the soul to escape the body in order to return the divine realm.

One of the features of Gnosticism then was a contempt for the earth. For the Gnostics, there were two realms: the divine and the earthly. The divine realm was good. The earthly realm was evil. The material world was not to be trusted. This included the human body. So, the soul was a divine spark, which was captive to the body. In particular, in a Gnostic interpretation of Christianity, Christ could not participate (fully) in the material world.

In John 1:14, God embraces the world through the Word (as the Word became flesh and dwelt among us). So, unlike Gnosticism, the earth is embraced. In the name of Christ, then, we are called to love the earth. In the name of God, then, we are called to be stewards of the earth. Certainly, the climate crisis is daunting. But we anticipate our re-creation. In other words, Advent is the season of new beginnings.

A REMINDER that each Wednesday morning in Advent, prayers will be offered in the church at 8 am. This is intended to be a reflective, accessible celebration of the season, focussing on the themes of each week of this season of preparation: **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. The format of the service is simple – an introduction, a short reflection followed by a time for reflection, some prayers and song or hymn. A calm, gentle way to start the day. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

TODAY AFTER MASS morning tea will be provided by the Tuesday Art Group. This will be a great opportunity for the members of the art group to show what they have done during the year and meet members of the wider parish community.

TODAY IS ‘GAUDETE’ SUNDAY (taking its name from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon at Mass – “Gaudete” – “Rejoice”). “*Gaudete Sunday*” is marked with rose colours (both the vestments and the Advent candle itself) to represent that, as Christians, we believe that penance is not without purpose. Christ suffered and defeated death with his resurrection, and we, God’s faithful people, do not suffer apart from the passion *and* resurrection of Jesus. Thus, the church gives us special days during penitential seasons to remind us that our penances are for the express purpose of joining with Christ in his resurrection. May all who anticipate the coming of Christ in his incarnation remember this fact.



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE
MOORE STREET, ADELAIDE | FOUNDED 1886

CHRISTMAS 2022



Saturday 24 December
**11.30 pm Procession, Blessing of the Crib
and Midnight Mass**

Sunday 25 December
10 am Procession and Solemn Mass

Thursday 29 December
Thursday in the Octave of Christmas
12 noon Angelus, 12.10 pm Mass

Sunday 1 January 2023
The Feast of the Holy Family
10 am Procession and Solemn Mass

Thursday 5 January
The Epiphany of the Lord
12 noon Angelus, 12.10 pm Mass

Sunday 8 January
The Baptism of the Lord
10 am Solemn Mass

*LET US ALL REJOICE IN THE LORD, FOR OUR SAVIOUR HAS BEEN BORN IN THE WORLD.
TODAY TRUE PEACE HAS COME DOWN TO US FROM HEAVEN.*



stmarymagdalenes.weebly.com



stmarymagdalenesadelaide.org



St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church



StMMAdelaide.Parish@outlook.com

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL 2022

WEEK 4: THE 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

THE JOY OF AN ABUNDANT HARVEST

Yet again, as we make our way through Advent, there is a sense of urgency in the scripture readings. And maybe, yet again, we find ourselves wondering if God's kingdom will ever arrive. Will the day come when there is food enough for all, and no child goes hungry?

We can easily become despondent when we consider the world's injustice. But a farmer in drought-affected parts of Australia and the world knows that worrying will not make the crops grow. Whether for a field of wheat, or parsley in a pot, patience is required if we want to reap and eat. Just like the prophets of old, the fledgling church needed to be resilient.

It is tempting to grumble when things are not going how we would like, but in today's reading from the Letter of James we are reminded that Christ the benevolent judge is on the doorstep, about to enter. As we get closer to Christmas, and the carols and decorations become pervasive, will we actually invite Jesus off the verandah and into our homes?

Through the Christmas Bowl, and through our commitment to God's Dream, we can welcome in Jesus to our Advent, to our Christmas, and to our hearts.


HOW TO MAKE YOUR GIFT

Envelopes for giving by cash or cheque are available at the back of the church. If you wish to claim a tax deduction for this donation, please complete the relevant portions of the envelope.

You can also **give electronically** via <https://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au/donate> At the bottom of the page, please start typing "St Mary Magdalene" in the "Or donate through your church" box then select "Adelaide St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Parish". You will then be taken to pages where you can enter the amount of your donation and your details for your tax deductible receipt.

Or donate through your church

Search for your church here to have your donation add to the total from everyone else in your church.

Bardon St Mary Magdalene Catholic Parish	\$0
Adelaide St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Parish	\$0

SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

Wednesday 8 am Advent Reflection
Thursday 12 noon Angelus; 12.10 pm Mass (traditional rite)
Sunday 10 am Sung Mass with choir

Mass is offered at St Peter's Cathedral Monday to Friday at 7.30 am, and on Wednesday at 10 am.

Inquiries about Baptisms and Weddings to the Locum Priest.

Confessions or confidential personal time with a priest are always available on request.

Regular Giving and Donations

Financial support for our mission and ministry through electronic funds transfer (EFT) is an efficient way of making regular contributions to your congregation. Regular giving helps us plan for the future and ensures you continue offering support when you can't make it to Church.

Our Details: Bank: Bankwest • BSB 305 122 • account no 0324654 • Reference: Your name

The Magdalene Centre

*A partnership in mission between St Mary Magdalene's, St John's Halifax Street,
St Peter's Cathedral, and Anglicare SA*

82 Gilbert Street, Adelaide Tel (08) 8305 9389

Non-perishable food for those in need can be left in the baskets at the back of the church or delivered to the Magdalene Centre from 12 noon to 3 pm, Monday to Friday.

Donations of cash are welcome via <https://anglicaresa.com.au/cause/magdalene-centre/>.

The Collective of St Mary Magdalene (Mary Mags Dinner)

Pray for all those who receive the Collective's weekly support,
and who are seeking meals and companionship at other times during the week.

Directory

Parish Priest: The Revd Dr Steven Ogden

Email: stevengogden@gmail.com • 0408 817 147

Office Email: StMMAdelaide.Parish@outlook.com • Web: stmarymagdalenes.weebly.com •

Blog: stmarymagdalenesadelaide.org • Facebook: St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church

Next Sunday, 18 December, at 10 am – The 4th Sunday in Advent

Readings: Isaiah 7.10–16 • Psalm 80.1–7, 17–19 • Romans 1.1–7 • Matthew 1.18–25

For Your Prayers

Pray for responsible leadership among the nations as the COVID-19 pandemic continues; pray for an end to violence and oppression; pray for peace and justice, especially for refugees, asylum seekers, and those seeking places of safety and security.

Pray for all those who are troubled in body, mind or spirit, especially Paull, Sim, Jasmin, Henry, John Edwards (priest), Peter Garland (priest), Robert Whalley (priest), John Parkes (bishop), Stephan Clark (priest), Mark, Olivia, Nance, Neil, Elaine and Edward.

Pray for those who have died: those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; those who have died as a result of COVID-19 and in other tragic circumstances; those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. † *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*