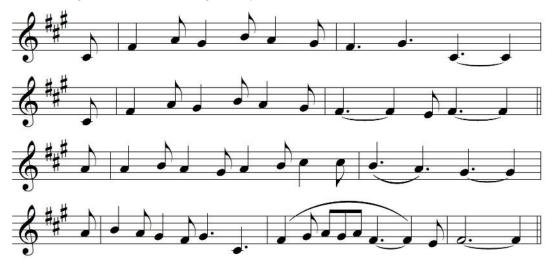
# St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church Moore Street, Adelaide The 4th Sunday in Advent 18 December 2022

Acknowledgement of Country. As a community, we recognise that the church is built and our worship is offered on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people, and close to Tarntanyangga/Victoria Square, which is still an important meeting place for the Kaurna 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.

GABRIELS MESSAGE



The angel Gabriel from Heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

2 "For know a blessèd mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honour thee, Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

# Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle: the Candle of Love

Give us life and call us to yourself, and we will call upon your name.

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Restore us, O God,
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Let your face shine, that we might be saved.

Shine on us this day, O God,

We come to praise and worship you: God coming to be with us!

The Candle is lit.

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

This fourth flame is for God's compassion, on and in our hearts.

# This is the candle of Love.

# Let us honour the Light!

The hymn resumes.

- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
  "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
  "My soul shall laud and magnify His holy Name."
  Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
  In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
  And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say–
  "Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

Basque carol; trans. Sabine Baring Gould 1834-1924

Isaiah 45.8

# **Entrance Antiphon**

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

# Greeting

 $\bigstar$  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**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

For the word of the Lord,

# thanks be to God.

#### Psalm

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that lead Joseph like a sheep: shine out in glory, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh: stir up your strength, and come and help us.
- 3 Restore us again, O God of hosts: show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Psalm 80.1-6, 16-18

Isaiah 7.10–16

- 4 O Lord God of hosts: how long will you be angry with your people's prayer?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears: you have given them plentiful tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the victim of our neighbours: and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand: the one whom you made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we not turn back from you: give us life, and we shall call upon your name.
- 18 Restore us again, O Lord God of hosts: show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

# **Second Reading**

The beginning of the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

# **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!** The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son

and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

# Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

# Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.

When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1.18-25

Romans 1.1-7

Matthew 1.23

All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

#### Homily

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.

Fr Steven Ogden

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**

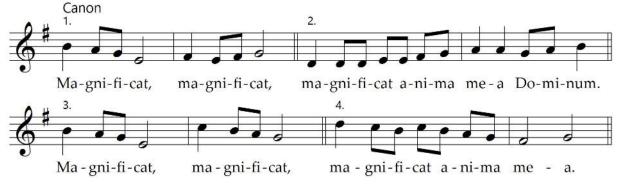
We are the body of Christ. God's Spirit is with us.

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 chant 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.



Jacques Berthier 1923-94

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

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.** 

# The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

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

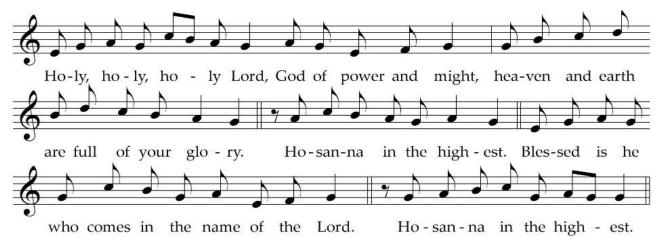
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

# It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. You set us in this world to love and serve you, and to live in peace with all that you have made.

When we turned from you, you did not turn from us. When we were captives in slavery, you delivered us to freedom, and made covenant to be our sovereign God. When we were stubborn and stiff-necked, you spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over all the earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:



You are holy, O God of majesty,

and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

You sent him into this world

to satisfy the longings of your people for a Saviour,

to bring freedom to the captives of sin,

and to establish justice for the oppressed.

He came among us as one of us, taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering. We rejoice that in his death and rising again, you set before us the sure promise of new life, the certain hope of a heavenly home where we will sit at table with Christ our host.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come a - gain.

Gracious God,

pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us,

send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Strengthen us, O God, in the power of your Spirit to bring good news to the poor and lift blind eyes to sight, to loose the chains that bind and claim your blessing for all people. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# COMMUNION RITE

# The Lord's Prayer

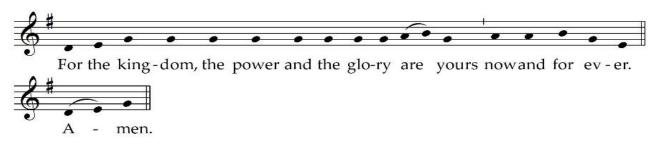
As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:



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



# The Breaking of the Bread

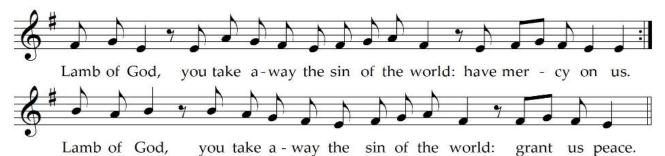
The priest breaks the bread, saying

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.



#### **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.

During Communion the choir sings

Antiphon Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

- 1 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity forever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. [Ant.]
- 2 We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away: thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. [Ant.]
- 3 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know me and believe me:I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. [Ant.]

4 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee: For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. [Ant.]

#### **Communion Antiphon**

The choir sings

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

# **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Faithful God,

in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.

May we, like the Virgin Mary,

be obedient to your will.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

All stand to sing the hymn.

 Image: Sav-iour of all, the ho - ly one.

Heavenly message, brought by an angel Coming to lift the hopes of the earth; Bringing to Mary humble and lowly, God's invitation to give the Christ birth.

Mary, we hail you, full of God's favour, Blessed are you, and blessed your Son; He will be called the child of the highest, Saviour of all, the holy one.

Mary replied to Gabriel's message, "I am the servant, maid of the Lord. Let it be done just as you have spoken. My soul rejoices in God's saving word." Isaiah 7.14

HEAVENLY MESSAGE

In the beginning, when God had spoken, Through God's own Word all things came to be; Now by that Word, embodied through Mary, God's glory blazes, that our eyes may see.

Paul Gibson b.1932

#### **Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord be with you.

#### And also with you.

May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again, sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing. **Amen.** 

As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in charity. **Amen.** 

So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty. **Amen.** 

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son,  $\bigstar$  and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.** 

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

# FR STEVEN WRITES ... IN THE WHIRLWIND

This is a hectic time of year. Yes, we are busy, too busy. There are also moments of joy. Surprisingly, painful memories can also surface at Christmas time. We may have to face difficult situations with family members. In the complexities of life, then, we have to talk about prayer. The story of Job tackles the big issues and forms a good back drop for exploring prayer.

The figure of Job is a remarkable creation. His story is crafted to show how a faithful person deals with unwarranted suffering. In the story, then, Job demands his day in court with God. He wants to sort it out with God, clearing his name, setting the record straight. God, however, does not work by our standards. In the end, Job encounters God in the whirlwind. His questions are not answered, but Job is different. In the whirlwind, Job is taken into the heart of God and transformed.

It is important to talk about the experience of unanswered prayer. Do we give up on prayer? Do we give up on God? These very human questions bring the nature of faith into bold relief. With this in mind, let me make some suggestions about prayer. These suggestions are premised on the belief that prayer requires the courage to be vulnerable. In other words, we have to be honest with God. Such honesty places us in a position of openness, enabling us to be drawn into the whirlwind.

First, prayer is not an incantation. It is an invocation from the depths of the heart. This is the key to understanding the prayer of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane.

Second, we need to consider prayer in the context of our understanding of spiritualty. The concept and practice of spiritualty is complex. There are many spiritualties. In this case, I am talking about Christian spiritualties. As we get older, we re-discover prayer in tandem with a revitalized spirituality.

Third, spirituality is a way of seeing and living, where we see life as sacred and live accordingly.

Fourth, we do not need the Church in order to be spiritual. But there are times when being with kindred spirits, yes, being with the congregation of the faithful, is both reassuring and empowering. In communion with others, we grow, we love, we share, and we pray.

Fifth, I am advocating a sacramental view of prayer, that is, life is underwritten by the incomprehensible mystery of God. Remember, Job's questions were not answered, but he had a life-transforming encounter in the whirlwind. Indeed, the whirlwind was a sacramental experience.

#### HOSPITALITY DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Our celebrations after Mass during the Christmas Season, that is, on Christmas Day and the two weeks following, will be times of rejoicing! In addition to the usual hospitality, there will be a glass of something reasonable, and those rostered for hospitality would be delighted to receive some additional delights to share during the festive season!

#### ADELAIDE FRINGE CONCERTS, 2023

The Parish has again registered as a venue in the 2023 Adelaide Fringe and will host three concerts on Sunday at 2.30 pm. These are **Sunday 26 February** ("Sonnet and Song" – theatre troupe Butterfly Theatre presents Shakespeare with accompanying music), **Sunday 5 March**. (Popular community choir Voices in the Wilderness) and **Sunday 12 March** (Singers from "St Mary Magdalene's and Friends" will present the "Song of Ascents", the fifteen Psalms 120–134, sung to classic Anglican chant by South Australian composers). Tickets \$23 (\$18 concession) are now on sale through Fringetix via adelaidefringe.com.au or 1300 621 255.



# THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF **ST MARY MAGDALENE** Moore Street, Adelaide | Founded 1886

# **CHRISTMAS 2022**

Saturday 24 December 11.30 pm Procession with 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

#### CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL 2022

# WEEK 5: THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

# **REPLACING FEAR WITH LOVE**

After more than 25 years of civil war and despite 10 years of reconstruction, Sri Lanka is currently experiencing economic instability. Many Sri Lankan refugees living in exile in India are finally ready to make the journey home to the country they love. But the current economic crisis and food shortages in Sri Lanka mean it's not safe for them to return, leaving many still needing continued support in the refugee camps.

Does the opening paragraph of Paul's letter to the Romans have anything to say to a refugee in India in urgent need of medical care? Yes, it does. But only if we believe that the good news Paul proclaims is good news for everyone. If we narrow down the good news so that it is only good news of personal salvation for true believers, then we won't care much about the plight of the refugee. But if in Paul's greeting we can glimpse the true meaning of 'grace and peace', then tending to the needs of others becomes very important.

Paul, let us remember, was a violent persecutor. He was an enforcer of rules and a lover of the law. But, transformed by Christ, he received a vision to transform the world. He wanted to recruit more and more members of a movement which would spread unconditional love and nonviolence throughout the most powerful political dominion in the world. The audacity is breathtaking. But his vision, God's vision, still continues.

With every act of kindness and every instance of compassion, the good news is infiltrating the world. We are called to be saints of this movement of grace and peace. Through the Christmas Bowl, we can help it spread.

#### 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 <u>https://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au/donate</u> 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.



#### SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

Wednesday 8 am Advent Reflection

Thursday 12 noon Angelus; 12.10 pm Mass (traditional rite)

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

Sunday 10 am Sung Mass with choir

After Christmas and during January, Mass is offered at St Peter's Cathedral on Wednesday and Friday at 7.30 am and on Wednesday at 10 am (BCP).

Inquiries about Baptisms and Weddings to Fr Steven Ogden.

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

#### **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*.