

Mass of Christmas Day

25 December 2023

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.

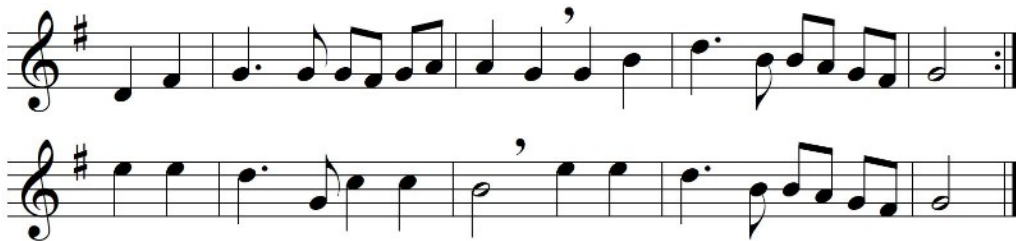
When the bell rings, all stand and sing the hymn

Processional Hymn

IRBY

Let us proceed in peace.

✠ **In the name of Christ. Amen.**



Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

- 2 He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 And through all his wondrous childhood
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

Station at the Crib

Let us pray.

Holy Jesus,
to deliver us from the power of darkness
you humbled yourself to be born among us and laid in a manger.
Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
and bring us at last to the joyful vision of your beauty;
for you are now alive and reign in the splendour of uncreated light,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The presider censes the crib, then the hymn resumes.

- 4 **And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.**
- 5 **Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall we see him: but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
Where like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.**

Cecil Frances Alexander 1818-95

Entrance Antiphon

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,
and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Invocation and Greeting

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Penitential Act

The choir sings

Missa O magnum mysterium (Victoria)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.

Silence

Let us bring our weaknesses and infirmities to the Lord,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

The musical score is written on ten staves. The first staff is labeled 'Priest or Cantor' and the second staff is labeled 'All'. The music is in a single melodic line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi - rit, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.'

Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
who gave your only-begotten Son
to take our human nature
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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52.7–10

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, and has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD's holy arm has been bared before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

Chant: After Charles Wood 1866-1926

- 1 O sing to the Lord a new song:
for he has done marvellous things;
- 2 His right hand and his holy arm:
they have got him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation:
he has revealed his just deliverance in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel:
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth:
break into singing and make melody.
- 6 Make melody to the Lord upon the harp:
upon the harp and with the sounds of praise.
- 7 With trumpets and with horns:
cry out in triumph before the Lord, the king.
- 8 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
the good earth and those who live upon it.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands:
and let the mountains ring out together before the Lord;
- 10 For he comes to judge the earth:
he shall judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

The beginning of the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.'

Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia.

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.

Come you nations, worship the Lord,

for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

John 1.1–14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The beginning of the Holy Gospel according to John.

✠ **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith

All stand. On this day, it is customary to kneel at the reference to Christ's birth.

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 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

All stand to sing the Offertory Hymn, during which a Collection will be received.

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM



Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega;
He the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore!

2 O that birth for ever blessed,
when a virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Saviour of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

3 This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected:
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore!

4 In the heights of heaven adore him,
angel hosts, his praises sing,
all dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice together sing
evermore and evermore!

4th C trans J.M. Neale 1818-66 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 of peace,
our Saviour Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you.
May all we offer you today
renew us as members of your household.
We ask this in the name of Jesus 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.

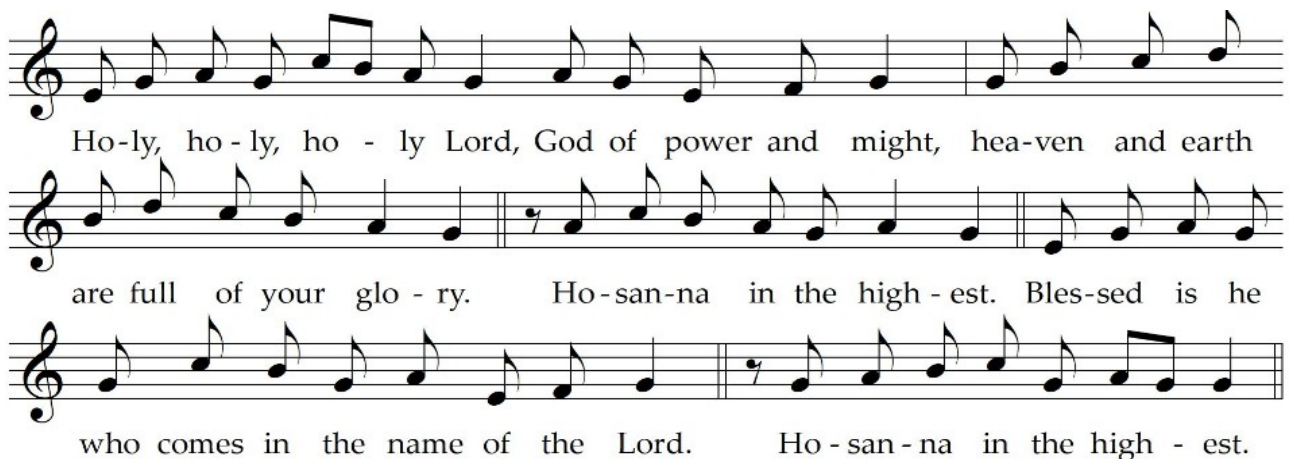
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

In Christ, your Word became flesh,
and on this day was born of the Virgin Mary.
He emptied himself, taking our human form,
That through his incarnation and passion
we might come to share in his divine nature.

Filled with the Spirit,
who at the first Creation
moved over the face of the waters,
and overshadowed the blessed Virgin at Nazareth,
we await with joy the fulfilment of your new Creation.

As children of your redeeming purpose
who celebrate the birth 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.

Merciful God, you are blessed indeed,
and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.

As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
and there found no room,
so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem
and was despised and rejected.

As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born,
so, by the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

As your Word became flesh,
born of woman on that night so long ago so,
on the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
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'.

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me'.

And so, in remembrance of his birth,
his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and exaltation,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice.

United to God and one in love, we proclaim the mystery of faith:



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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and our celebration:
may these gifts of bread and wine be for us
the body and blood of Christ.

Make us one with Christ and with each other,
and one in service to all the world,
until the day of final glory comes
and we feast at his heavenly banquet
with all your saints for ever.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:



Bles-sing and hon-our and glo-ry and power are yours for ev-er and ev-er. A - men.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Four lines of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and consists of quarter notes, with some phrases having a slight melisma. Each line of music is aligned with its corresponding lyrics.

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.

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.

Two lines of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and consists of quarter notes, ending with a double bar line.

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 celebrant 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

The celebrant says

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.**

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us,
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All receive Holy Communion. Communicants should approach in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning via 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.

During Communion, the choir sings carols.

Communion Antiphon

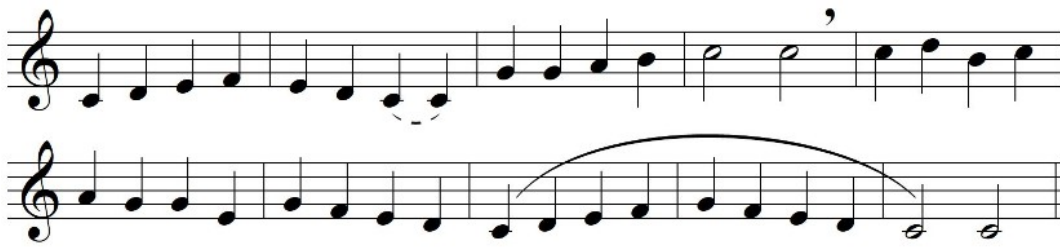
Psalm 98.4

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of God.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of heaven, dwelling among us,
we thank you for feeding us with this holy food.
By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh
that as the body of Christ in the world
we may bring your presence to all people.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Unto us a boy is born!
King of all creation,
Came he to a world forlorn,
The Lord of every nation.

- 2 Cradled in a stall was he
With sleepy cows and asses;
But the very beasts could see
That he us all surpasses.
- 3 Now may Mary's Son, who came
So long ago to love us,
Lead us all with hearts aflame
Unto the joys above us.
- 4 Omega and Alpha he!
Let the organ thunder,
While the choir with peals of glee
Doth rend the air asunder.

Latin, 15th century
Trans. Percy Dearmer 1867-1936 alt.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

May the God of infinite goodness,
who by the incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world
and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy day,
drive far from you the darkness of vice
and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue. **Amen.**

And may God, who wills that the great joy
of his Son's saving Birth
be announced to shepherds by the Angel,
fill your minds with the gladness he gives
and make you heralds of his Gospel. **Amen.**

And may God, who by the Incarnation
brought together the earthly and heavenly realm,
fill you with the gift of his peace and favour
and make you sharers with the Church in heaven. **Amen.**

And the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the Son, ✠ 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.

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL 2023



Sharing God's love

Meh Reh fled Myanmar more than 29 years ago. Living in a refugee camp on the Thai-Burma border ever since, he hopes that one day it will be safe for he and his family to return home. Your gifts through the Christmas Bowl can help Act for Peace's local partners, like The Border Consortium on the Thai-Burma border, provide practical care so refugees and people who have been displaced can live in safety and dignity and know that they are loved and not forgotten. **Please give today.**



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

CHRISTMAS DAY

People of Luke's world listening to the Christmas story would know that it wasn't really celebrating a baby; it was celebrating who that baby became and is. Stories of great heroes often began with accounts of their wondrous birth coloured to evoke their later achievements. People of Luke's day would also have sensed that the story was subversive, especially if they were familiar with Rome's propaganda. For it hailed the Emperor as Son of God and made much of the Empire's achievements in enabling travel safe by eliminating bandits on land and pirates at sea. It had brought "peace on earth" and declared itself "good news" for all. Instead, Luke gives a very different version of good news. A baby, about to be just a statistic in a census, and put in an animals' feeder box, is Son of God. And angels declare to simple shepherds a new kind of "good news", touting the child as the one to bring "peace on earth". Luke was expanding upon what was already subversive and absurd, namely, that a man cursed, hanging on an execution cross, was truly the Son of God, wildly absurd! And Jews, steeped in ancient stories which gave the hope that one day a shepherd king like David might arise to crush Rome would also sense a challenge. Luke invites us to celebrate who Jesus is, bearer of God's Light for the world, shining love and hope to homeless people forced to camp far from home, like the huge number now in camps along the Thai-Burma border. Our challenge is to make that light visible by our giving.

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

Monday 10 am Procession and Solemn Mass
Thursday 12 noon Angelus; 12.10 pm Mass (traditional rite)
Sunday 10 am Sung Mass with children's ministry and choir

From Christmas to the end of January, Mass is offered at St Peter's Cathedral on Wednesday and Friday at 7.30 am, and on Wednesday at 10 am.

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: Anglican Funds SA
BSB 705-077 • account no 00000052 • Reference: Your name (Regular Giving)

The Magdalene Centre

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

Fr Steven's appointment is part-time. His days on duty are Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday.

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

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

Next Sunday, 31 December, at 10 am – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Readings: Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3 • Psalm 148 • Galatians 4.4-7 • Luke 2.22-40

For Your Prayers

Pray for responsible leadership among the nations; 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, John Edwards (priest), Peter Garland (priest), John Parkes (bishop), Stephan Clark (priest), Nance, Neil, Elaine, Hugh and Bart O'Donovan (priest).

Pray for those who have died: those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; those who have died recently, especially Neil Smith, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. † *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*