

ANGLICAN PARISH OF CALOUNDRA & GLASSHOUSE COUNTRY

St Andrew's, 46 Upper Gay Terrace, Caloundra
St Thomas', 31 Bray Road, Mooloolah
The Mary MacKillop Centre, 160 Peachester Road, Beerwah



PEW BULLETIN

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 19 December 2021

PARISH VISION: Our Parish seeks to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God.

MISSION STATEMENT: To share our Christian faith and values in love with one another; connecting the love of God with our community.



MICAH 5:2-5a; SONG OF MARY; HEBREWS 10:5-10; LUKE 1:39-45.

THE SENTENCE

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

Luke 1:45

Christmas is on the horizon, and today's scriptures may be lost amid the merriment as well as the Christmas pageants and so forth, often scheduled the week before Christmas. There is hope on the horizon and this hope is especially powerful among those who are oppressed, grieving, or living in uncertainty as they look toward the future.

The Coming One may not resolve all our problems, but God's coming is an image of hope.

HOUSEKEEPING

Important information when attending church this Sunday:

- ✓ QR codes are to be used
- ✓ Social distancing is to be maintained
- ✓ Please note the markings on the pews for social distancing for seating
- ✓ Thank you for your ongoing support protecting yourself & others

ZOOM MEETINGS

Sunday Zoom services ON SUNDAY: Zoom ID: Email the office for details.

Morning Prayer: Zoom ID: Email the office for details.

COLLECT

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.

LECTIONARY COMMENTARY

Micah speaks of a coming ruler who will restore peace to the world. Emerging from unlikely Bethlehem, this leader will walk in the ways of peace and bring true security to the people. There is a global as well as local feel to this passage. We are people in search of peace and even in relatively tranquil Australia, there is anxiety and tentativeness as we look at the global scene. Can the prophetic dream calm our spirits and mobilise us to move from fearful reaction to hopeful action in facing the moral and political dilemmas of our time? Only a heart open to God and our brothers and sisters can bring healing to us and our world.

In a time of darkness, the people cry out for divine light. They have experienced divine absence and now plead for divine presence. In a similar fashion, in the northern hemisphere, on the verge of the winter solstice, the ancients feared that the darkness would swallow the light, and the world would be plunged into eternal darkness. How they rejoiced as the days grew longer! While the Psalmist's community might not have anticipated Jesus the Christ, they are yearning for God's presence. They need light to cast out fear and guide their way. Over twenty five hundred years later, the hope of Christmas is for light that heals and illumines. We have been in metaphorical darkness too long. Fear has ruled us and we are in need of light to find our way. Let the light of your countenance shine upon us, God, so that we might find peace and hope in the future.

The Letter to the Hebrews proclaims Christ's all-sufficient sacrifice. The coming of Christ changes everything. Though Hebrews says nothing about Jesus' birth or the metaphysics of incarnation, it proclaims that we need God's presence in our midst. Human efforts, even the Jewish sacrificial system, cannot bring salvation. Instead, God's grace embodied in a human being brings healing to us. We are saved by grace, not human achievements, including religious achievements. This passage can be cited as an early form of substitutionary atonement, dispute over which is one of the things that currently divides the Australian Anglican communion. The "Doctrine of Substitutionary Atonement" is the belief that God sends Jesus to die for our sins and that salvation comes through the cross above all else. (Another element of this doctrine is that God was so angry with humankind, that the death of God's son was the only course of events that could placate God). This should not, however, necessitate the belief that the cross was foreordained or that God required Jesus' death to save us from our sin. A foreordained cross robs Jesus of any initiative and agency, he is merely a divinely programmed robot. Christ's sacrifice must involve his claiming of his destiny and not living out a preprogrammed script. Jesus had other options, as his prayer at Gethsemane indicates. Despite his desire to avoid the cross, Jesus chooses to remain in Jerusalem, confront the powers of evil, suffer on the cross, and transform the world. Incarnation is more than a pretty story; it is God in our midst, traveling our path, and bringing healing that is beyond our reach, left to our own efforts.

Mary's Magnificat, described in Luke's gospel, provides an image of hope for the vulnerable and oppressed. Mary's hymn speaks of a world turned upside down. The poor will become affluent, and the affluent will lose their fortunes, the powerful will be dethroned and ordinary people will take the reins of power. This is an impossible dream, as the wealthy gain more and more power and largesse even in today's society. Yet, it is a dream that tells us that our current situation fails the test of divine affirmation. Homelessness, underemployment, and economic instability must provoke an uneasy conscience, especially among the powerful, whose largesse is often built upon the poverty of others.

The days were growing shorter for the ancients. In Australia we don't experience or "get" this other Northern Hemisphere interpretation of Christmas; ours is a metaphorical descent into darkness. Is there hope of illumination? Can we dream of a new era for humankind? These are the hopes of Advent and Christmas, something is being born that will mobilise our hopes and hands to change the world that God loves. May it be so!

Fr Michael - December 2021

EVENTS THIS WEEK

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH:

A reminder, these prayers continue at Jean Ward's home each Monday at 1.30pm. For more information contact Jean on 5492 4901.

FATHER MICHAEL'S FAREWELL: Dear Parishioners, you are invited to attend a farewell morning tea for Father Michael Faragher following the 8am St. Andrew's service on Sunday 19th December. To assist with catering, attendees are asked to bring a plate of food from the following suggestions please – sandwiches, scones & jam, or scones, jam & cream, small cakes or muffins, biscuits or bun or cake, slices, fruit. Please place your name on the catering sheets provided on the rear church table. A card is also on the table for signing. Thank you from the Wardens.

CAROLS & LESSONS:

Will be on the 19 December 2021 at St Andrew's commencing at 3pm. Afternoon tea will follow. Please come and enjoy this special time together as we gather to focus on the spiritual significance of the season singing carols and hearing the lessons. Carols & Lessons will also be on Zoom for those people who are unable to attend. Email the office for details.

PRAYER AND FASTING:

Love you to join us on zoom for the prayer and fasting service at 6pm every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month to support the search for a new Parish Priest. One does not need to fast but joining us for prayer would be wonderful. Every person participating with us and our prayers, is that extra assistance for the nominators with their difficult task.

Location: Online every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

Time: Sunday 6.00 pm.

Online:

Information: Please contact Anne on 0416 921 963

PRAYERS & SQUARES:

There will be no Prayers & Squares workshop in Heather's home for December. Hopefully, P&S will be able to resume meetings in 2022 in the Church. To our parish family, P&S have a large selection of completed quilts available for sponsoring. Please contact Heather on her mobile: 0407 767 695 to help you select one. I hope everyone has a very happy Christmas. Keep stitching. Blessings Heather

HEALING SERVICE:

The next Healing service would be January 2 which is a long weekend and New Year weekend. Because of this, we have decided to cancel the Healing Service on January 2. The next Healing Service will be February 6 at 5.30pm.

In the meantime, there will always be someone from the prayer team in the chapel after the 8am service, to pray for anyone who would like prayer. People can also phone me 0408 986 243 or send a message and we will pray for them on Monday afternoons.

PARISH ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE:

Reminding all people who report on parish group activities that have occurred or were suspended (due to COVID) throughout the year, reports are due as soon as possible. Your early attention to these reports will assist the office to prepare the Parish Annual Report for the AGM and meet Diocesan reporting requirements. The deadline for these reports is Friday 14 January, 2022. Thank you for your assistance – Office Administrator.

ST. ANDREW'S JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2022 ROSTERS:

To the parishioners who currently volunteer at the 8am Sunday service, please either list dates when you are unavailable to serve during these 2 months on sheets placed at each church entrance or contact Lorraine on 0431 752 686 or Judy on 54 933 823 with your information, by **Sunday December 19**, so that the new rosters can be emailed or delivered before Christmas. **Please note-** new volunteers or returning volunteers are most welcome to come onto the roster. Thank you from Lorraine & Judy.

LECTIONARY ORDERS – 2021-2022:

Lectionaries are now available from the parish office at the low price of \$12 each. There is a limited number of copies available. Please email the office at caloundra@anglicanchurchsq.org.au or write your name on the lectionary list situated at the back of the church. Please place payment in an envelope in the offertory bowl marked with your name, the amount and the number of lectionaries you are paying for. The office will be in touch to organise a convenient time to collect. The quickest way for people at Mary MacKillop Centre to receive a copy will be to email the parish office.

PEOPLE UNABLE TO ATTEND SUNDAY CHURCH:

The Sunday service on Zoom has improved in recent weeks and we encourage those who cannot attend on Sunday morning to watch it on Zoom. A step-by-step guide has been produced to assist you to connect. It is available from the Office caloundra@anglicanchurchsq.org.au.

NO SERVICE AT MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE ON SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER 2021

NO SERVICE AT ST THOMAS' ON WEDNESDAY 29TH DECEMBER 2021

Christmas Service Times 2021

Date	Time	Location	Service
24 December	5pm	St Andrew's Christmas	Eve Family Eucharist
24 December	7pm	St Thomas' Christmas	Eve Family Eucharist
24 December	10.30pm	St Andrew's Christmas	Carols
24 December	11pm	St Andrew's Christmas	Eve Midnight Eucharist
25 December	8am	St Andrew's	Christmas Day Eucharist
25 December	9am	Mary MacKillop Centre	Christmas Day Eucharist

Zoom will be available on Christmas Day 8am service only. The Zoom ID & Password is for the normal Sunday Service as noted above.

To see all upcoming events, please see "Mountain and Sea" or visit our website.

SERVICES THIS WEEK:

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	OFFICIATING PRIEST
19 Dec	St Andrew's Caloundra	8am	Fr Michael Faragher
19 Dec	Mary MacKillop Centre	9am	Rev Ingrid Busk
22 Dec	St Thomas' Mooloolah	9am	Fr Michael Faragher

CHARITY OF THE MONTH



Mercy Ships began our mission to provide hope and healing to those in need in 1978. Each year we send hospital ships filled with volunteer professionals who selflessly provide life-changing surgeries to children and adults who otherwise would go without. Together we are saving lives.

OFFERING TO THE CHURCH

ANFIN online: ANFIN deducts your offering amount from your nominated bank account. The amount can be updated depending on your circumstances. Request a form from the Parish Office.

Internet Banking: Direct deposits can be made directly to the Caloundra-Glasshouse Country bank account. Description is: "offering" or "gift" or similar. The details for our Parish Account are as follows:

BSB: 704 901

A/C: 00000110

A/C Name: Caloundra Anglican Parish

BPoint Link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/?BillerCode=1729896>

Cheques: are an acceptable method of payment. They can be posted to:

The Anglican Parish of Caloundra-Glasshouse Country
PO Box 52 Caloundra Qld 4551

Or dropped off in the locked green box located in the Rectory Carport.

External Appeals-e.g. Charity of the Month: via internet banking, please name the charity in the description; alternatively, if posting a cheque, please make it payable to The Anglican Parish of Caloundra-Glasshouse Country and include a note highlighting the amount that you wish to go to the charity. The parish will arrange this payment.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

The World	Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.		
The Church	<p>Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of Central Africa The Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of North-West Australia: †Gary Nelson; Clergy and People Our Diocese: The Parish of Hervey Bay: Greg Loumeau, Vic Burgess, Lorraine Dawson, Michael Nixon Parish secretaries and volunteer staff in the Diocese Toowoomba Anglican School, Toowoomba: Head of School - Simon Lees; Chaplain - Vacant; Chair of School Council - Mac Drysdale; members of School Council; staff & students The Charity of the Month: Mercy Ships Our Parish: We pray for the parish's small groups. Thank God for the continuation of their ministry work.</p>		
Those in need: Caloundra	Shirley Barker Muriel Bates Raymond Bates Lois Campbell Jean Cliff Michael Conolly Ian Creighton Judy Dwyer Rosie Day	Ian & June Gillespie Joyce Kelly Margaret Macey Robert Macey Cameron MacFarlane Eileen Mann Odette Maskall Francis Nickelson Jacquie Nickelson	Kay Smith Val Phillips Randall family Rod Richards Kim Smith Beverly Stuart Bevan Thiele Deacon Diana Ware Hannah
Those in need: Glasshouse Country	Jim R Bronwyn A Maureen G Avis M Esma R Adam G Adel B Barbara B	Barbara & Lynda B Charlotte Cherry TW Col B Debbie D Ida & Ernest H John W Marguerite C Marj W	Nadine W Peter Y Phillippa B Rebecca Russell P Sandra W Sheila W Stephen S Terry D
Anniversary of Death	<p>21 December: Ernest Crambower; 22 December: William MacKenzie; Marion Dale; Derek Worthington; 23 December: Muriel Watts; 24 December: Albert Willmott; Doris Brook; 25 December: Irene Lawrence; Maria Blumenthal; Noel Housden; Judith Hawkins; 27 December: Ivy Williamson; Dorothy Sverdloff; 28 December: Cecilla (Jane) Ham; 29 December: George Lawrence; George Morris; Lorna Mack; 30 December: William Palmer; Jean Freeleagus.</p>		
<p>If you know someone who would like prayer, please speak with one of the clergy or add their name to the Prayer Book at Mary MacKillop or St Andrew's. Please keep us updated with news and requests for thanksgiving.</p>			

PARISH DIRECTORY

Title / Name	Email	Phone
Locum Priest		
Fr Michael Faragher	michael.faragher@gmail.com	0424 344 273 5491 1866
Office Administrator		
Rowena Rayner	caloundra@anglicanchurchsq.org.au	
Retired Clergy		
The Rev'd Dr Ray Barraclough		5499 6893
The Rev'd Tony Halstead		0455 554 930
The Rev'd Jeanette Jamieson		0429 073 262
The Rev'd Stephen Redhead		0415 911 492
The Rev'd Clarry White		
The Rev'd Diana Ware		
Church Wardens:		
Miriam Hargreave (5337 9408), John Turner (5492 2607) & Judy Sperling (5493 3823)		
Treasurer		
Ian Watson		0417 047 199
District Warden (Glasshouse Country)		
Peter Setch		
Building Advisory Committee		
John Horsburgh		0400 419 634
Safety Committee		
Kay Turner (Caloundra)		
Miriam Hargreave (Glasshouse Country)		
Social Committee		
Cathy Richards		
Connect with us		
	The Anglican Parish of Caloundra and Glasshouse Country	
Website	www.cgca.com.au	