

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

Second Sunday of Advent – 5 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.



Malachi 3:1-4; Song of Zechariah; Philippians 1:1-11; Luke 3:1-6.

THE SENTENCE

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Luke 1:78–79

On the Second Sunday of Advent the prophet Malachi tells us that even when we are in the hottest of fires, there is a presence who can make us better, who can refine and purify. John the Baptist tells us that the road home is always under construction, mountains levelled, and valleys filled in, to make smooth the path that leads us to our true destination, where we can live in peace and unity with all.

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

Merciful God,
who sent your messenger John the Baptist
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:
give us grace to heed his warning and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

LECTIONARY COMMENTARY

Luke 3:1-6

Luke 3:1-6 sets the stage for John the Baptist's prophetic call by introducing an A-list of Earthly Powers: an emperor, a governor, three tetrarchs, and two high priests. Together they represent rulers of the known world, the regional lands, and the religious, political, and economic complex that stands at the heart of Jerusalem. Collectively they hold all the authority and might that wealth, military prowess, or ancestry can command.

Indeed, the world to which God sends the Messiah is a world held captive to earthly forms of domination and influence, represented in Luke's Gospel by men like Tiberius, Pilate, Herod (Antipas), Philip, Lysanias, Annas, and Caiaphas. But, for Luke, the word of God does not come to any of those influential men of power, nor to the political territories over which they have command. It comes instead to a lone man out in the wilderness: John, son of Zechariah.

John hails from priestly ancestry on both sides of the family (Luke 1:5-6). His father, Zechariah, is a priest whose rotation of duties includes service in the Jerusalem Temple. Elizabeth, his mother, descends from the line of priests originating with Aaron. If John were following the family business, he would be engaged in work associated with the Temple, the holy place in Jerusalem where God is said to dwell.

However, filled with the Holy Spirit before his birth (Luke 1:15), John was born to be a prophet (Luke 1:76). Instead of serving near the Israelites' holiest place on earth—and now having grown and become strong in spirit (Luke 1:80)—he is out in the wilderness, the region around the Jordan (Luke 3:3), at the liminal edge of the Promised Land.

Far from the centres of worldly power, whether political or religious, John fulfils his calling to “go before” the Lord (Luke 1:17, 76) “to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins” (Luke 1:77).

The purpose of John’s prophetic calling is not only to prepare the way of the Lord (Luke 3:4), but to prepare the people to receive the Lord (Luke 1:16-17) through repentance for the forgiveness of sin. The Gospel reading for next week has much more to say about John’s message of repentance, while the current text, particularly the quotation from Isaiah 40 that concludes the passage, sharpens the focus on preparation.

In its original context, Isaiah 40:3-5 (quoted in Luke 3:4-6) refers to the return from Exile in Babylon. The physical road (or way) of that journey is a rough one, requiring travel over a long distance and a difficult topography. The metaphorical road is a challenge as well. The Israelites had been changed by the experience of exile, and now they were returning to a home that was also changed. Through Isaiah’s prophecy God promises to prepare them for the journey, to “smooth the way” for their return to life in the Promised Land.

Not only do raised-up valleys and flattened mountains lead to smooth passages, but they also represent radical transformation. The language of reversal, common in Luke, evokes words from Mary’s song, “He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly” (Luke 1:52; see also Luke 4:18).

Nothing looks the same; everything is changed. This is a world set right by being turned on its head—not by the top-down power that is so often prized by humans, but by the upside down power of God.

Today, having experienced the wilderness-level trauma of a global pandemic for nearly two years, many people long for certainty about the road ahead. Some hope for a new life, others ache to return to the way things were, and still others have little energy to look beyond the struggles of the current day.

Very little is certain about the post-pandemic world, except for the promise represented by John’s proclamation in the wilderness: God enters this time and this space in this period of history, so that “all flesh shall see the salvation of God” (Luke 3:6).

Prepare the way of the Lord. Fr Michael - December 2021

KEY POINTS FROM NOVEMBER’S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- Councillors reviewed several areas of Parish life and related progress, to consider their direction over the next 2-5 years’ time frame; and how each might fit into the Mission Action Plan currently being developed.
- Previously, all worship centres in our Parish, had nominated persons to whom children could report sexual abuse. Under the new Diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children in Ministry, Parish Council accepted Kay Turner as our nominated Safeguarder, a person appointed to receive and respond to information regarding a child being harmed or sexually abused.
- An EFTPOS machine, on trial from ANFIN, will be available during December and January as another option for offering regular contributions.
- Parish Council recognised and supported the following motion adopted at the recent Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane -

“This Synod recognises the establishment of the Equitable Participation Working Group, according to the request of Synod 2018 per the Disability Access and Action motion.”

The Anglican Church of Southern Qld pledged to broaden its inclusive environment where equitable participation in a full range of church activities is the basic right of all community members.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNNYKIDS EMPTY CHRISTMAS TREE: Calling for gifts to fill the Empty Christmas Tree. Items requested include NEW clothing, toiletries or household items for women and toys for children of all ages up to 17 years. Please mark the clothing size and whether the gift is for a boy or girl on the outside of the bag or parcel. Items for a Christmas Hamper would be gratefully accepted. Please note second-hand items are not accepted. Gifts will go to the SunnyKids Women's Shelter Sunshine Coast. Gifts need to be delivered on December 13, 2021, therefore we need the items prior to this date. Your support at Christmas is valued.

THANKS: On behalf of our parish, I wish to thank Cathy, Judy and Helene for making our 2021 St Andrew's Day luncheon such an enjoyable time. It was wonderful. Fr Michael, Fr Stephen and Wendy were able to attend along with a happy gathering of our parishioners. Anne Bowyer

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.

ADVENT STUDIES: Advent Studies are via Zoom Thursday afternoons, commencing at 5pm. The Zoom ID: 818 8786 2874, Password: 4551 or in person at Mary MacKillop Centre on Friday mornings commencing at 10am. For further details please phone Fr Michael on 0424 344 273.

HEALING SERVICE: There will be a Healing Service today at St Andrew's, commencing at 5.30pm. All are welcome. Thank you, Jean Ward

TAIZE SERVICE: Everyone is welcome to attend the Taize Service on the 11th of December 2021 at 6pm, St Andrew's Church for half an hour of peaceful contemplation and beautiful music.

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

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. Thank you from the Wardens.

GLASSHOUSE COMMUNITY CAROLS: Come along and enjoy the traditional style Christmas carols at the Glasshouse Community Hall, Coonowrin Rd, Saturday, 11 December 6.30pm – 8pm.

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.

TEAR FUND: It's TEAR time again. TEAR is a Christian organisation which works in partnership with churches overseas as well as with indigenous communities in Australia. Afghanistan, Burma, Uganda, PNG and Ethiopia are a few of the countries where they have projects. I have received the useful gift cards and catalogues which I will put at the back of the church if you would like to look or take one home. Goal: purchase a gift like a chicken, safe water, teacher training or a goat to give or post to your relatives or friends as their Christmas card or gift. Prices range from \$5 for a chicken to \$50 for a goat. Money spent on these purchases are tax deductible. I, with the help of Mary Bottomer, Kay Turner and Wendy O'Brien, am running a stall where you can purchase these cards from November 14 till the Sunday before Christmas. If you have any questions, I'll be at the table outside the front door of the church from the 14th or phone me on 0408 986243. If you are unable to come to church, please phone me with your order and one of us will deliver the cards to you. Many thanks on behalf of TEAR. Jean Ward

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.

ST ANDREW'S CARE: St Andrew's Care have moved office to Shop 12, 51-55 Bulcock Street. All contact details remain the same. Phone number 5492 6515. Thank you

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: 0407767695 to help you select one. I hope everyone has a very happy Christmas. Keep stitching. Blessings Heather

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.

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

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 Anglican Church of Burundi The Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of Ballarat: †Garry Weatherill; Clergy and People Our Diocese: The Parish of Fortitude Valley: Rodney Wolff, Thomas Brown, Stephen Redhead, Colin Roberts Maryborough Correctional Centre: Rimaati Skyner, William Skyner & Melissa Marshall Coomera Anglican College, Coomera: Principal - Mark Sly; Chaplain – Vacant; Chair of School Council - Stephen Knott; members of College 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	Ken Mewburn Ian & June Gillespie 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>5 December: Gloria Tapper; Lisa Bradfield; 6 December: Denis Lofthouse; George Wightman; Clare Steel; 7 December: John Cameron; Phyllis Patterson-Pierce (Joan Pierce); 8 December: Kenneth Ramsay; Charles Ball; 10 December: John Rea; 11 December: Frances Warren; Charles Wrench; Elvera Armstrong.</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		
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
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SERVICES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	LOCATION	TIME	OFFICIATING PRIEST
5 Dec	St Andrew's Caloundra	8am	Fr Michael Faragher
5 Dec	Mary MacKillop Centre	9am	Fr Tony Halstead
8 Dec	St Thomas' Mooloolah	9am	Fr Michael Faragher