

CHRIST CHURCH ST KILDA

Acland St, St Kilda

Newsletter
Christmastide
16 January 2022

A lighthouse atop Green Knoll
A lighthouse shining in the dark
A lighthouse beaming the light
of life
of love
of hope
of Christ



A vision for
Christ Church St Kilda

*Christ Church St Kilda Parish acknowledges the
Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung with deep respect.
We give thanks to God for their Elders, both past and present,
and their continuing relationship to this land.*



The wedding at Cana

Epiphany at Cana

Here's an epiphany to have and hold,
A truth that you can taste upon the tongue,
No distant shrines and canopies of gold
Or ladders to be clambered rung by rung,
But here and now, amidst your daily living,
Where you can taste and touch and feel and see,
The spring of love, the fount of all forgiving,
Flows when you need it, rich, abundant, free.

Better than waters of some outer weeping,
That leave you still with all your hidden sin,
Here is a vintage richer for the keeping
That works its transformation from within.
'What price?' you ask me, as we raise the glass,
'It cost our Saviour everything he has.'

Poem by Malcolm Guite

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/tag/wedding-at-cana/>

Christ Church Parish Vision

A worshipping Christian community

- humbly loving God and each other;
- proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed; and
- creating an environment in which all people feel welcomed and accepted.

Christ Church Parish Mission

We take as our Christian Mission the practice of Pastoral Care for our community and the wider community; Worship that welcomes all; Nurturing all peoples; Social Justice; and Caring for God's Creation

Child Safety Policy

Our commitment to child safety

Christ Church St Kilda has adopted the policy on Child Safety as set down by the Archbishop in Council of the Diocese, the governing body of the Diocese. This Parish is committed to complying with the requirements of Diocesan and Victorian legislation. The Policy states:

The Anglican Church of Australia within the Diocese of Melbourne, including its Cathedral Church of St Paul and each parish or congregation or faith community within the diocese (the Church) is committed to child safe practice. The care, the safety and the welfare of children are embedded in policies and practices which are intended to reflect a commitment to zero tolerance of child abuse.

From the Vicar's Desk

I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and New Year period. I pray that 2022 will be a year where you are safe and well and that the level of anxiety that COVID-19, with all its variations, brought upon us in 2020 and 2021 may be eased as the vaccinations, boosters, and people's own natural immunisation systems get on top of them. I think people have had enough of the stress that has enveloped us for just over 2 years now.

Dianne and I didn't go away during our holiday but stayed put. We looked at going to Gippsland or Tasmania but found that accommodation was in high demand and the cost for us would be too much. We are grateful that we were able to have a time of rest. We did go out for day trips. Australia has so much to give thanks to God for in the beauty of its land and coast, and for its people.

CALENDAR OF SERVICES

23 January 2022: 3rd Sunday After Epiphany (OT 3)

9am Eucharist – Fr Turi

11am Gathering for Fellowship – Fr Turi

30 January 2022: 4th Sunday After Epiphany (OT 4)

9am Eucharist – Fr Turi

11am Gathering for Fellowship – Fr Turi

6 February 2022: 5th Sunday After Epiphany (OT 5)

9am Eucharist – Fr Turi

11am Gathering for Fellowship – Fr Turi

PRAYER REQUESTS

It's important for us to keep our prayers going for those on the Parish prayer list. How do you let the Parish know you have a prayer request to add to the Parish prayer list? You can call Fr Turi on **0413 395 621** or email him at vicar@christchurchstkilda.org.au. You can also contact Valerie Lion or Geoffrey Court. We know prayer works.

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH

The Parish Prayer Group continues to meet **every Thursday at 9.30am** to pray for the Parish. During the lockdown they met by phone. Now that the restrictions are easing they will meet in the Memorial Garden when the weather is good otherwise they will meet in the St Michael Chapel. Everyone is welcome to join the Group whenever you are able. Geoffrey Court is the facilitator.

MORNING DAILY SERVICES

The Morning Prayer services held online Monday to Thursday mornings at 8am resumed on Monday 10 January. You can join Fr Turi on Zoom. **The Zoom ID No. is: 944 101 4887**

FROM OUR COVID SAFE OFFICER

Living With Covid-19

The Service Victoria QR code system is mandatory for anyone in church facilities. People without smartphones will need to be checked in by someone and only in exceptional circumstances can a non-electronic recording system be used for them. If you have a smartphone/mobile but you haven't done it yet, **please download the Service Victoria QR Code system onto your smartphone/mobile.**

As you may be aware, the State government is requiring people to provide evidence of whether or not they have been vaccinated. The Diocese has asked all Clergy and Lay Ministers to provide their regional bishop with this evidence and that all Parishes request this information from all officeholders, staff and volunteers.

From 22 October 2021 onward everyone attending services in the church and on church grounds are asked to provide evidence of their vaccination before they are permitted to participate. A smart phone/mobile can be set up to provide this evidence. For those who do not have a phone/mobile, they are to provide a paper copy of their vaccination certificate or present their COVID passport (when it is available).

For those who regularly attend worship at Christ Church Fr Turi and our COVID Safety Officer, Robyn Foy, would be helped if you were to provide them with a copy of your certificate that the Parish might hold in the Parish Office. However, this is completely voluntary.

NB: Masks are to be worn at all times when inside the church including when singing. Only those leading the service may remove their masks.

FROM THE WARDENS

Around Church Square

The Vicar's Board near the Church main entrance (as you come in) has finally been updated following the departure of Fr Jim Minchin. Fr Turi Hollis is now the Vicar and the board adds him to the distinguished list of former Vicars going right back to 1857. It is not easy to find sign writers who will actually visit the site and work up a ladder.

The St. Michael Memorial in the chapel has received a grant from Federal Veterans' Affairs for refurbishment. It will be cleaned, paintwork made fresh and the tiles surrounding the canvas will also be cleaned and have cracks professionally filled. The names listed will be easier to read and gold letter work will also be restored. Work is planned to start in February so don't be surprised to see scaffolding erected in the chapel during this period. Our submission for the grant required us to alert the public to this activity and so a board will be placed in Acland Street providing information and inviting visitors to view the work. School children will have the opportunity to visit and learn about the memorial and its restoration.

Exterior paint work Old Vicarage. Recently some of the exterior woodwork of the Old Vicarage has been undercoated to avoid further deterioration of the wood. This has been paid for by donation and repairs will be covered by St. Luke's. There is still much to be done to the exterior but funds need to be available.

The noticeboard on Acland Street is rather small and allows only two A4 notices. We are obtaining ideas and quotations to renovate and enlarge the existing board. It will allow us to promote activities and services more readily while providing a fresh and attractive face to the public. Council member Helen Kelsall is coordinating this development.

Financial Position Of The Parish

At the Annual Meeting it was made clear that the Parish faces a major shortfall of funds for the 2021-2022 year. Giving has been down due to COVID, costs are rising and Boon Wurrung has been unable to meet its rental. We are estimating a shortfall of \$72,000 and, as a result, the Parish Council has had to take cost cutting measures.

The measures we have taken will not solve the problem but greatly reduce it and if we can find a new tenant for the upper storey of the Community Centre, the problem will reduce still further. **If anyone knows of possible tenants for the upstairs space of the Community Centre please speak to the Wardens.**

Can you help by examining your weekly giving and ensuring that when you miss Church, that weekly amount is included with your next attendance at Church? We have new giving envelopes available so please take a set if you don't already have one. Please make sure you put aside

something each week. You can have the money taken out through the ADF so that you don't have to remember and we will have the card machine available at the back of the Church if you don't carry cash. Feel free to talk to a Council member!

"WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!"

Restoration Collection

As we approach the end of the calendar year it is very pleasing to note that the \$10,000 target for our Church plate restoration appeal has been achieved. This is in addition to the funds in the National Trust Christ Church Restoration Appeal Account. Thank you to those who have supported the special collection plate at the rear of the Church as our repair and restoration costs remain high. This year alone over \$350,000 has been expended on these areas and involves using up Parish reserve funds, donations and the money from St. Luke's for the Old Vicarage. The new Church year started on 1 October and we have now set a target of \$10,000 for the rest of 2021 and 2022. Please help!

Making A Bequest To Christ Church

Parishioners may like to consider leaving a bequest to the Church in their wills. If you are interested in this way of helping to keep our beautiful Church continuing into the future please consult the Church website in the "giving" area. Alternatively you are most welcome to speak to one of the wardens confidentially for advice on how to proceed. A proforma can be made available to guide you. If you are making a bequest, it is essential that the ABN number of the Church is stated in your instructions.

FROM THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

In December 2022 we provided more than 1,700 meals to people including families. An increase of more than 50% compared to the same time last year with the number continuing to rise. As COVID19 case numbers increase so do the needs of those it impacts particularly people and families who have not previously sought support or assistance from services such as ours.

Fortunately, despite these difficult times the Centre continues to provide support because of the positive work undertaken by staff, help of at least fifty volunteers and the support and generosity of individuals, partner

groups, organisations, grants and donations. If you could help meet this rising need and assist us to expand into 2022, please make a donation now.

(Extracts from the latest Newsletter of the *St Kilda Little Mission*)

PARISH OFFERTORY

December 2021			Year to date		
Budget	Actual	Var ⁿ	Budget	Actual	Var ⁿ
4,831	6,799	1968	15,550	16,412	862

The Wardens and Fr Turi thank everyone for continuing to give generously toward the life of the Parish during this difficult time.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar: The Reverend Dr. J.T. Hollis (Father Turi)

9534 3892 / 0413 395621

vicar@christchurchstkilda.org.au

Church Wardens: Gary Israel, Charles Baird, Robyn Foy
Parish Council: Robert Breakwell, Geoffrey Court, Corinne Griffiths, Bob Hall, Helen Kelsall

Zoom ID No: 944 101 4887

Website: www.christchurchstkilda.org.au

Facebook Page: facebook.com/christchurchstkilda

Postal Address: PO Box 1221 St Kilda South 3182

Christ Church Mission Community Centre

Manager: Elizabeth Rooney

9534 9250/0402 358269

communitycentre@christchurchstkilda.org.au

Website - www.ccm.org.au

Facebook Page:

facebook.com/ChristChurchCommunityCentreStKilda