

PARISH DIRECTORY

Until 18 November, to contact the Acting Vicar
please ring the landline, **9534 3892** and leave
a message with your contact number.
The answering machine will be checked each evening.

Church Wardens: Gary Israel, Charles Baird, Robyn Foy
Parish Council: Robert Breakwell, Geoffrey Court,
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 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.*

CHRIST CHURCH ST KILDA

Acland St, St Kilda
Newsletter

27th November, 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**

Gift of Wonder

Let us enjoy, on Advent Sunday, this reflection by Fr. Alfred McBride on the significance of the Season which we enter today:

Each year, God asks us to shed one more dream state and come alive to the vision of God's plan for each of us and the world at large.

The older we get, the harder this is to do. As children we had a sense of wonder. Our eyes were wide open and drinking in the fascinating gifts we beheld... Our thirsty souls could not have enough of the wonders of creation.

Then, somehow, we grew too old to dream. We tired of the abundance of the world, or at least grew weary of keeping up with the feast of life, and stepped away from the banquet of life. The natural gift of wonder God gave us as children was meant to be kept alive.... Instead we let wonder go to sleep. We entered the typical dream state of most humans.

Why else does Jesus tell us today, 'Stay awake!'... Advent says, 'Wake up and realise the gifts of love you have received.'

Psychology says, 'Let go'. Spirituality says, "Wake up". In both cases, there is a withdrawal from the busyness of daily life (our dream state) and a waking up to the subconscious and spiritual depths of ourselves.

Fr. Ken

FROM THE WARDENS

PARISH FINANCES: Report on Offertory Collections

October 2022			Year to date		
Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	Actual	Var
5,962	5,995	33	5,962	5,995	33

The Wardens thank everyone for continuing to give generously toward the life of the Parish.

CHRISTMAS WORKING BEE

In order to have the church sparkling for our Christmas services we are holding a Working Bee on Saturday, 10th December

We need all hands on deck, so would you please spare a couple of hours to ensure that all is bright in Christ Church for the coming festive season? If you are able to bring cleaning rags (Cedar wood polish or Brasso if you can & depending on the job you choose) that would be wonderful.

We start at 9am and aim to finish by 12 noon.

We have jobs for all tastes - vacuuming, sweeping, cleaning window ledges, polishing pews, altars and other church furniture, polishing the big brass floor lectern and the balustrade & pulpit lectern, wall plaques, the list goes on, so please come and help. Pick a job that suits you and let's get rid of the dust! Many hands make light work.

Speak to Gary, Charles or Robyn to book a spot & a job.

PLEASE PRAY FOR A NEW VICAR

Please include in your prayers a prayer for a new Vicar for Christ Church. Here's a prayer from our Prayer Book which you could use:

*Lord God, you are our eternal shepherd and guide.
In your mercy grant Christ Church a shepherd after your own heart
who will walk in your ways
and with loving care watch over your people,
that your name may be glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH

The Parish Prayer Group continues to meet **every Thursday at 9.30am** to pray for the Parish. Now that restrictions have eased, they meet in the Memorial Garden when the weather is good, otherwise they meet in the St Michael Chapel (enter by side door). Everyone is welcome to join the Group whenever you are able. Geoffrey Court is the facilitator.

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? You can call Fr Ken on 0428 671 789 or email him at kletts@mac.com, or contact Valerie Lion or Geoffrey Court. We know prayer works.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are looking for additional stalls to join us on the first Saturday of each month. Our final Book Stall for 2022 is next Saturday 3 December. This event encourages visitors into the church each time it is held. If you know someone who would like to have a stall on a regular, or one-off basis, please give them Robyn's number: 0408 536 241.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2022

Christ Church's Christmas Tree has a theme! Please help Robyn! She now needs help with the dressing of the tree.

The tree will be placed in Holy Trinity Balaclava Church Hall for viewing from Thursday December 8th to Sunday 11th together with all the other community trees.

The Elwood Community Choir will perform in a concert on Friday 9th December at 7pm and the Glen Eira City Choir will sing on Sunday 11th from 2-4pm with Carols Around the Christmas Tree from 4pm on that day.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

18 December, 4pm – Service of Nine Lessons & Carols *
(Light refreshments to follow. Please encourage family, neighbours and friends to come along to swell our numbers. We have a guest choir and they would love some more singers for this service.)

24 December, 9pm, Christmas Eve – Midnight Mass

25 December, 9am, Christmas Morning Eucharist

***At the Service of Nine Lessons & Carols we are to have a guest choir** to sing and would like **more singers to participate**. If you would like to be a part of this ad hoc choir please contact Tim Clarke (choirmaster) on tim@timclarke.net

There will be only one rehearsal which will take place on 18 December at 1.45pm. **Please consider joining in**

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

Our community centre doesn't just support Humans, we love their pets visiting as well. At the end of a bad day a walk or play with your dog, or a cuddle with your cat can help to take your mind off your troubles.



The companionship and therapeutic value of pets is immeasurable. They can assist with mental health and self-esteem which can only have a positive flow on effect in the long run. Pets also aid with community engagement. They inspire conversation and help the broader community understand that people who are homeless are not less deserving of love and care than anyone else.

Christ Church Mission Community Centre

Manager: Elizabeth Rooney : 9534 9250

0402 358269

communitycentre@christchurchstkilda.org.au

Website - www.ccm.org.au

.CALENDAR OF SUNDAY WORSHIP

November 2022

27 November 2022: Advent Sunday, (1st Sunday of the New Liturgical Year)

9am Eucharist - Fr Ken Letts

30 November 2022 -St Andrew's Day

Followed by a celebration in the Community Centre to mark the 50th anniversary of Fr Ken's ordination to priesthood

December 2022

4 December 2022 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

9am Eucharist - Fr Ken Letts

11 December 2022 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

9am Eucharist - Fr Ken Letts

18 December 2022 - 4th Sunday of Advent

4pm - Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

24 December 2022 - Christmas Eve

9pm - Midnight Mass

25 December - Christmas Day

9am Eucharist

THE SUNDAY 11AM INFORMAL GATHERING
HAS BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE

