

Welcome to
CHRIST CHURCH
The Anglican Parish of St Kilda



Second Sunday of Advent

10 December 2023

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Setting: Dudman

*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.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WORKING BEES

Saturday 16 and 23 December 9-11am

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

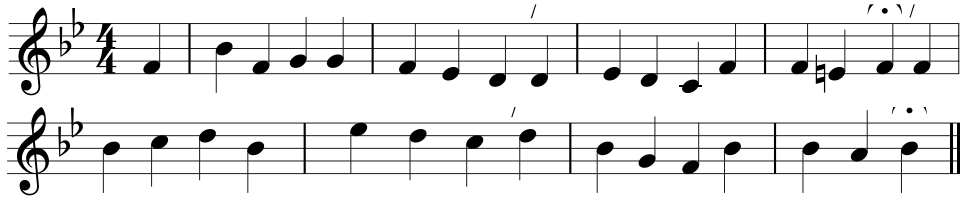
Sunday 17 December	4pm	Service of Lessons and Carols
Sunday 24 December	10.30pm	“Midnight Mass”
Monday 25 December	9.30am	Christmas Day Eucharist

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off

© 1995 The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation, material from the text of *A Prayer Book for Australia* published under the imprint of Broughton Books. All rights reserved.
Unless otherwise stated, words and music for hymns are from *Together in Song: The Australian Hymn Book II*.
When hymns are not public domain, they are reprinted with permission: CCLI License 133938.
Scripture quotations are taken from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible (Anglicised edition)*, ©1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches in the USA. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

All stand when the entrance bell is rung



**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
come then and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every heart from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For you are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out your hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let your light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**To him who left the throne of heaven
to free us all, let praise be given;
and praise be to the Father done,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One.**

Charles Coffin 1676–1749 tr. John Chandler 1806–76 alt. TiS 270

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Words of welcome

Remain standing for the lighting of the Advent wreath

People of God: be glad! Your God delights in you, giving you joy for sadness and turning the dark to light. Be strong in hope therefore; for your God comes to save.

You are God's children.

Lord, make us one in the love of Christ today and for ever.

Amen

As God's children, let us call to mind our sins.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord, and remember not our sins for ever. Your holy cities have become a desert, Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation; our holy and beautiful house, where our ancestors praised you.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean; we have all withered like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our iniquities.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver; what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Comfort my people, comfort them; my salvation shall not be delayed. I have swept your offences away like a cloud; fear not, for I will save you. I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your redeemer.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The celebrant reads the prayer of the day

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All sit

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 85

Repeat the response after the cantor and as indicated



Lord, let us see your kind-ness, and grant us your sal-va-tion

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people and his friends and those who turn to him in their hearts. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **Response**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **Response**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

Response

tr. The Grail. Words by permission A. P. Watt, London. Music © K. Boschetti. TIS 42

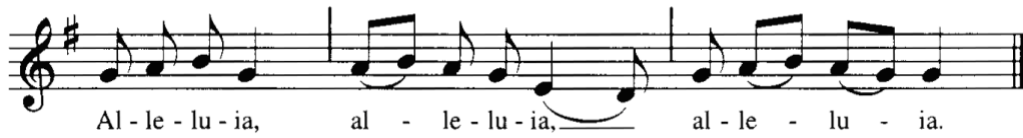
A reading from the second letter of Peter

3.8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

All stand. Repeat the response after the cantor, and then as indicated



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

All people shall see the salvation of God

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

1.1-8

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’, John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

All sit

Sermon – Fr Craig D’Alton

All stand

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 of the world to come. Amen.

All kneel or sit

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

After each prayer

...**hear our prayer**

After thanksgiving for those who have died

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord;

and let light perpetual shine upon them.

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.**

All stand

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The altar is prepared and a collection is taken as all sing:



**Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to let the captive free,
and take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**He comes with help and mercy
to those who suffer wrong,
to raise the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls condemned and dying
were precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go,
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.**

**O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
that name to us is love.**

James Montgomery 1771–1854 alt. TiS 275

The response to the Offertory Prayers is:
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving continues.... praising you and singing:

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.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving continues...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is
 ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving continues... never-ending praise:

Bles - sing and hon - our and glo - ry and power are yours for
 e - ver and e - ver. A - - - - men.

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

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION

We who are many are one body:
For we all share in the one bread.



Je-sus, Lamb of God, have mer-cy on us. Je - sus, bearer of our
sins, have mer-cy on us. Je-sus, re-deem-er of the world: grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
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.

Communicant members of any church are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest. Communion is offered in both kinds. Please queue to receive the host (bread) first, and then the wine if you wish. All are welcome to receive the wine, but none must, as the sacrament is fully present in both species. PLEASE DO NOT INTINCT (DIP) THE HOST IN THE WINE as studies suggest this may be less hygienic than drinking from the common cup.

*During communion, the cantor will sing
"Robe thyself my soul"*

After communion all stand

God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful that we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming, through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE



**The voice of God goes out to all the world;
his glory speaks across the universe.
The great King's herald cries from star to star:
'With power, with justice, he will walk his way.'**

**The Lord has said, 'Receive my messenger,
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
a lamp to every nation, light from light':
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.**

**The broken reed he will not trample down,
nor set his heel upon the dying flame.
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.**

**Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
to show the face of justice to the poor:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.**

**His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held,
the lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,
and prisoners laugh in light and liberty:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.**

Luke Connaughton 1917-79
Words by permission McCrimmon Publishing, UK
Music © C. Brumby
Words: additional permission required. Available from CCLI & Word of Life. TIS 282

Announcements are made

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love.

**Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

*All are welcome for Morning Tea in the Community Centre
following the service.*

ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Date	1st	2nd	Intercessions	Euch Assistant	Offertory
10 th Dec	Lindy	Bob	Geoffrey	Geoffrey	Valerie
17 th Dec 9.30am	Geoffrey	Valerie	Fr Craig	Charles	Geoffrey
Carols 17 th Dec 4pm	TBA 9 Lessons		Fr Craig	n/a	?
24 th Dec 9.30am	Fr Ken	Lindy	Fr Ken	Elisabeth	Valerie
24 th Dec 10.30p m	Valerie	Bob	Fr Craig	Charles	Elisabeth Valerie
25 th Dec 9.30am	Sandra	Helen	Fr Ken	Valerie	Elisabeth Valerie
31 st Dec	Geoffrey	Lindy	Fr Craig	Geoffrey	Valerie

From the Vicar

Dear parishioners and friends,

“Let there be light!”

This week we began the first of a small series of minor infrastructure renewal projects designed to improve our worship and ministry. The halogen spotlights which provide most of the church interior lighting have all been replaced with LED spotlights of a much higher brightness. This will have three benefits. First, and most obviously, there is more light in the building, which will assist greatly with basics such as reading the pew sheet. Second, the new globes use much less electricity, providing a cost saving and having an environmental benefit. And third, they are much longer-lasting, which will provide a further saving by not having to pay for electrician call-outs.

Stay tuned for other low-cost improvements in coming months!

On Sunday 17 December at 4pm we will be holding a Service of Lessons and Carols. All of the carols will be “old favourites” and sung by the congregation, providing a great opportunity to sing your heart out. I warmly encourage you both to attend, and to spread the word far and wide. It promises to be one of the highlights of the year!

Blessings,

Fr Craig.

NOTICES

ADVENT STUDIES – INTRODUCTION TO MARK’S GOSPEL

On Sundays 3, 10 and 17 December there will be an opportunity to gather after Morning Tea for a short study group introducing the Gospel according to Mark, which is the gospel we will be reading in the liturgy through 2024. Each session will last thirty minutes. Today: How Mark describes Jesus. All are welcome.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS IN THE CHANCEL

Two windows have been removed for restoration behind the High Altar and were expected back earlier than now. They are subject to scrutiny by Heritage Victoria who impose many regulations. Our architect and glass restorer have been slowed down by these regulations and cannot proceed until permission is given. The wardens ask for patience as we look forward to their return... in the fullness of Heritage Victoria time.

WORKING BEES

There will be two working bees, on Saturdays 16 and 23 December, to prepare the church for Christmas services. Each starts at 9am. Stay as long as you can! Please bring cleaning equipment such as polishing cloths, Brasso etc, if you have them.

BOOK BOXES

A number of boxes of unsaleable books are in the North Transept. If you can take a box or two to put in your recycling bin that would be a great help. We need to dispose of all of them before Christmas.

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

Morning Prayer is said as a public service in the church at 9.30am Monday-Thursday each week. The service takes 15-20 minutes, and on major feast days (as advertised) there will be a short celebration of the Eucharist instead of Morning Prayer. On Thursdays there will be a more extended time of prayer for the parish and community, lasting until 10am. You are warmly invited to “help the vicar says his prayers”, and for coffee afterwards at Black Box Café (at Theatre Works).

A background image of a colorful stained glass window depicting a religious scene, likely the Nativity, with figures in various colors and a central figure in a white robe.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday 17 December

4pm – Carols Service

*A family-friendly service with all your
favourite traditional carols*

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24 December

10.30pm – Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Monday 25 December

9.30am – Festival Eucharist



ANNUAL COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
2023

It's that time of the year and we are looking forward to the

Annual Community Christmas Tree Festival

The Festival will be at Holy Trinity Church from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th December.

Viewing times to see the church filled with your beautiful Christmas Trees:

Friday 10:30am to 6pm,

Saturday 10:30am to 4pm and

Sunday from midday to 4pm

Entry by donation, children under 15 free.

There will be a wonderful programme of song!

1. Elwood Community Choir Concert on **Friday night at 7pm**
2. Carols around the Trees on **Sunday at 4pm.**

INTERCESSIONS

For the World:

For an end to political and military violence in the more than thirty countries currently in conflict; praying for the people of Palestine and Israel, Nagorno-Karabakh, Ukraine, Russia and South Sudan.

For the Church:

In the world-wide Community of Faith, we pray for the Church of Pakistan (United) - Bishop Azad Marshall. In Australia we pray for the Diocesan Provincial Council; In this diocese we pray for the Parish of the Holy Name of Jesus, Vermont South (Victor Fan, Changying Wang); Church Schools & Church Kindergartens

For the Community:

For the economically deprived and the homeless.

For the anxious, the isolated, and those overcome by fear.

For Christ Church Mission and the Community Centre staff and volunteers.

For the Sick: John, Joe, Charles, Aaron, Danny Allan, Byron, Elizabeth, Jo, Hugh, Mary & Brian and their carers, Helen, Danni, Fr Andrew, Evan, Ruth, Patty Dowd, Judy, Lee, Robyn, Dalton, Fran & for those we name in our hearts.

For the Departed:

those who have died recently and those whose Year's Mind occurs this week.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord & let light perpetual shine upon them.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar: Fr Craig D'Alton Ph. 0407 443 909

cdalton@melbourneanglican.org.au

Churchwardens: Charles Baird, Robyn Foy, Gary Israel

Website: www.christchurchstkilda.org.au

Facebook Page: facebook.com/christchurchstkilda

Postal Address: PO Box 1221 St Kilda South 3182

Are you new to Christ Church?

Please provide us with your phone number and/or email address so that we can get in touch and get to know you better. Tear off this form and hand it to the vicar or one of the welcomers.

.....

<i>Name(s):</i>	
<i>Phone:</i>	
<i>Email:</i>	