

Parish Priest

Fr Neil Fernando Mobile: 0478 085 894
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Parish Hall Bookings

Lynn Fisher : Mobile: 0407 186 174

Pew Sheet

All notices/information for pew sheet to Parish Office by 9.00am Thursday mornings please

Parish Office

Telephone: (08) 8723 1353 Email: churchan@bigpond.net.au
Postal Address: PO Box 1357, Mt Gambier, SA, 5290

Church Addresses: Christ Church, 26 Bay Road, Mount Gambier
St Thomas, Church Street, Port MacDonnell
St Luke's, Post Office Road, Mount Schank

Web site : www.anglicanmountgambier.org.au

Details for giving by Direct Debit : The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier
BSB : 105-002
A/c number : 041 398 740



We pray for the Diocese of The Murray and Parish Council Members

Bishop Keith Dalby (Alice) ; Very Rev. David Price (Dean) (Lesley);
Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

and in the Limestone Coast

Fr David Patterson; Fr Wayne Corker; Fr David Withers (Ann);
Fr Neil (Nalini), Fr Lyndon Sulzberger

Parish Counsellors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith,
Lisa Searcy, Graham Savage, Faye Hill, Lynn Fisher

Diocesan Prayer

Lord Jesus, you call us to be your disciples and friend; help us to journey with you on the way of life toward the Father. Enable us by the Spirit to discover not only the fullness of who you are, but also the fullness of life you offer to each one of us.

Amen

The Anglican Pastoral District of Mount Gambier

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas
Port MacDonnell**

Advent 3 : 13th December 2020



Rejoice and be glad



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our church

Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens



Two themes seem to predominate today. The theme of joy which is the liturgical mark of today as it is the traditional Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. The implication is that we Christians should be characterized as a 'joyful people'. John the Baptist demonstrates one clear route to joy when he admits that he is not the Christ. If there is a sure route to misery, it is in imagining that we are the Christ. Self-centeredness and pride can prevent us from hearing God. Any many of us make this mistake now and again, over-estimating our capabilities. However, it is the knowledge that we are to become "like Him" that gives joy and is the Good News. On the one hand, while we are not, on the other we are becoming! While imagining may be a route to misery, living the Christ-like life is the path to joy. After all, we are one with Christ, and He is one with us; that all may be one Father, as I in Thee and Thou in me.

Knowing and admitting who we are, and who we are not; for what we are responsible, and for what we are not responsible; and to what degree we are responsible, are central themes of today's celebration.

Prophecy is the second major theme. It comes through John the Baptist. What I like about John is his role as a "pointer". John appears to point to someone else—someone whom they might not even recognize. How is this applicable to our life today? During the course of our lives many important people point out various things to us in order to be helpful and to 'save' us. This starts early on with our parents, who point out simply, for example, that it is dangerous to play with matches. They tell us to look both ways before crossing the street. These little admonitions might sound mundane and trite but they save lives. They are the voices that cry out to us and make straight the crooked paths on our earthly journey. Then we attend school and our teachers guide us toward knowledge and open up the world to us.

Often it takes a lot of strength to be pointers. These persons who have our personal welfare in mind might say: "You smoke too much. If you don't stop, you will be in danger of getting lung cancer". "You drink too much and it is going to ruin your life, your family and your friendships". "You'd better clean up your language or it is going to get you in trouble at work". "Stop yelling at your kids! What kind of example are you showing them as a possible future parent?". "You have got to slow down; you are all stressed out. Why not spend some time with your family?". Any of these behaviours can ruin our relationship not only with other people, those whom we love, but it can seriously affect our relationship with God.

That is why we need John the Baptists in our lives: the pointers, the ones who prepare us to deepen our faith and trust in the One who can save us.

cf.internet

READINGS for Sunday, 13th December 2020—Advent 3			
Isa 61. 1-7	Ps Magnificat	1 Thess 5. 16-24	John 1. 6-8, 19-28
Readers		Jeff Bowman / Julienne Feast	
Intercessions		Sue Christopher	
Server		Darren Schunke	
Sound desk		Dick Hamson	
READINGS for Sunday, 20th December 2020—Advent 4			
2 Sam 7. 1-12	Ps 89. 19-29	Rom 16. 25-27	Luke 1. 26-38
Readers		Rick and Lynn Fisher	
Intercessions		Rick Fisher	
Server		Julienne Feast	
Sound desk		Robyn Ashby	



ROSTERS FOR	DECEMBER
GARDENING	Graham Savage
MOWING ROSTER	Rick Fisher
FREEZER MINISTRY	Julienne Feast
(Please remember to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container)	

Mothers' Union Christmas Luncheon

The Mothers' Union Christmas Luncheon will now be held in the Ashworth Room at 12.30pm on Tuesday, 15 December. It was decided not to exchange small Christmas gifts but to place a donation in an envelope for ac.care. If you need a reminder of what food was offered, please phone me and do remember that we always have plenty on the table. A warm welcome is extended to all women in our church family.



Elizabeth Hodges
President Mothers' Union
0419 595 653

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

For December

5th	Gloria Dack
8th	Irene
16th	Sathyanga
19th	Dick Hamson
24th	Jean Hawkes
26th	Dean Searcy
28th	Don Currie
29th	Jennie McDonald
30th	Simon & Jon Hawkes



We wish them all a very happy birthday!!



Please check to see if your name is on the list at the back of the church — and if not, and you would like to have it appear — please add your name to the listing.

Thank you

Please remember : Fr Neil and family will be away from the parish on a well earned holiday from 5th December to 19th December. We wish them happy holidays!

On behalf of the Fundraising Committee we would like to thank a volunteer from the Bell Tower Op Shop, who recently supported our BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday, 5 December.

Thank you

Our volunteer has great initiative and has a friendly outgoing nature, and mentioned to a staff member at the Woolworths store at Commercial Street, about our BBQ at Bunnings and that it was raising monies for ac.care. This staff member then made arrangements to support our community, with a generous donation of sausages, bread and soft drinks.

This was an unexpected donation and a pleasant surprise, and it contributed to the success of the BBQ and was greatly appreciated by all members of the Fundraising Committee.

Volunteers needed



We need some volunteers to help set up and decorate the Christmas tree in the church in readiness for Christmas. If you can help with this task, please speak to one of the Wardens or office staff as soon as possible. It would be good to have it displayed ready for next week.

Many thanks.

Your weekly giving via direct debit

Important

As from **1st January 2021**, this parish will be taking back the responsibility of our finances. This means that all donations, accounts and weekly giving should be processed through our BankSA account here in Mt Gambier.

However, some of you would have used the BSB and account number for BankSA (BSB 105-012, account number 122 896 040) some years ago when we joined the Integrated Accounting System put in place by the Diocese.

As this account is based in Murray Bridge, it is now important that if your giving is sent to those account details listed above, we ask that you *please* redirect it to the following bank details:

The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier
BSB : 105-002
A/c number : 041 398 740

Family Fun Day : Sunday, 20th December
(following the 9.30am service)

There is to be a Family Fun Day held on this date at the conclusion of the 9.30am service—and people are asked to bring their own food and drinks (and BYO chairs for sitting outside).

There will be fun and games for all to take part in, so please mark this date in your diary!



Services over Christmas period

Sunday, 20 Dec <i>Advent 4</i>	usual 8.00am and 9.30am services at Christ Church
Thursday, 24 Dec <i>Christmas Eve</i>	7.00pm @ St Luke's, Mt Schank 11.30pm @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier
Friday, 25 Dec <i>Christmas Day</i>	9.00am @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier (this will be the only service today)
Sunday, 27 Dec <i>Christmas 1</i>	9.30am @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier (this will be the only service today)

Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Bishop David McCall; Val Linder; Fr Peter Carlsson; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; Sally-Ann Geddes (daughter of Neil & Judy); June Willcourt; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Alice Gladigau; John & Phillis Beaven (brother & sister-in-law of Alice); Marion McDonald (Lynn's sister); Shirley Stacpoole; Esma Pratt (Donna's grandmother)

Pray for the repose of the souls of those near and dear to each one of us and for those whose yearly remembrance is this week.

If you wish for your name (or the name of someone you know) to be placed on the prayer list, please submit the request in writing—at present via email (including your name and the name of the person for whom prayers are required).

Forms for this purpose can also be found at the back of the church.



The Bell Tower Op Shop opening hours are:

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm

(unfortunately, the provision of tea/coffee etc. will not be allowed during this time of restrictions)

Please note : Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of the attendees at services and the Op Shop workers.

Bell Tower Op Shop Food Donation Bin

The Bell Tower Op Shop is in a monthly partnership with ac.care and with our very own Thursday Food Ministry, to collect non-perishable food items, with the December donations being donated to ac.care.

We are requesting that as you make your shopping list, you put on a few extra items to support our community in need. Bring these items into the Op Shop where our friendly volunteers will say thank you and we would love to say hello.

Suitable items are: tinned tuna or salmon, rice and noodles, cereals, tinned or packet soups and vegetables and casseroles, tinned fruits and long life full fat milk.

Many thanks for your small acts of kindness when you do your shopping, and know that it has real meaning to those individuals in need.

N.B. The Op Shop will be closed from Wednesday, 23rd December and will reopen on Monday, 11th January 2021. Donations cannot be accepted during this time.

Services and coming events in the Parish

Fr Neil is conducting 3 services weekly as follows:

Friday 11.00am
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am
Maximum of 66 attendees per service

Numbers attending weddings and funerals are limited within the body of the church due to social distancing requirements and square meterage available

Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of all attendees at services

2nd & 4th Thursdays	4.00-5.00pm	Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison
Mondays and Thursdays	5.15-6.30pm 5.00-6.00pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room Introductory course to Christian Meditation (<i>finishing on 10th December</i>)
Wednesdays	1.00-3.00pm	Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room
3rd Tuesday	2.00pm	Mothers' Union meet in Ashworth Room
2nd & 4th Thursday	3.00pm	Bible Study group @ Elizabeth Hodges'
2nd & 4th Saturdays	10.00am	Bible Study in church Vestry
Sun, 13 Dec	7.30pm	Blue Lake Carols—livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube
Tues, 15 Dec	12.30pm	Mothers' Union Christmas luncheon in Ashworth Room
Sun, 20 Dec		Family Fun Day following 9.30am service to be held in church grounds