

Parish Priest

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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/Fax: (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 :

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**

Christmas Day : 25th December 2020



Testify to the Light of Christ



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our services this Christmas

Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens



TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Christ could be born a thousand times in Bethlehem – but all in vain until He is born in me. Christian Scriptures unlike other religions teach only one Incarnation, and its purpose is given in John 3:16: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life”*. We call “Good News” our celebration of the Incarnation of God in a Baby today because our Divine Saviour has been born. As our Saviour, Jesus liberated us from slavery to sin and atoned for our sins by his suffering, death and Resurrection. So, every Christmas reminds us that we need a Saviour every day, to free us from our evil addictions and unjust, impure and uncharitable tendencies. Christmas 2020 also challenges us to accept Jesus in the manger as our saving God and personal Saviour and to surrender our lives to him, allowing him to rule our hearts and lives every day in the New Year.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light” (Is 9:1). This prophecy of Isaiah never ceases to touch us, especially when we hear it proclaimed in the liturgy of Christmas Night. This is not simply an emotional or sentimental matter. It moves us because it states the deep reality of what we are: a people who walk, and all around us – and within us as well – there is darkness and light. In this night, as the spirit of darkness enfolds the world, there takes place anew the event which always amazes and surprises us: the people who walk see a great light. A light which makes us reflect on this mystery: the mystery of walking and seeing.

Walking. This verb makes us reflect on the course of history, that long journey which is the history of salvation, starting with Abraham, our father in faith, whom the Lord called one day to set out, to go forth from his country towards the land which he would show him. From that time on, our identity as believers has been that of a people making its pilgrim way towards the promised land. This history has always been accompanied by the Lord! He is ever faithful to his covenant and to his promises. “God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all” (1 Jn 1:5). Yet on the part of the people there are times of both light and darkness, fidelity and infidelity, obedience, and rebellion; times of being a pilgrim people and times of being a people adrift.

Christmas is the Feast of the Emmanuel (God living with us and within us):

Christmas is the feast of the Emmanuel because God in the New Testament is a God who continues to live with us in all the events of our lives as the “Emmanuel” announced by the angel to Mary. As Emmanuel, Jesus lives in the Sacraments (especially in the Holy Eucharist), in the Bible, in the praying community, and in each believer as the Holy Spirit, residing in us, makes us His “Temples.” Christmas reminds us that we are bearers of God with the missionary privilege and duty of conveying Jesus to those around us by loving them as Jesus did, through sacrificial, humble, committed service. Sharing with others Jesus, the Emmanuel living within us, is the best Christmas gift we can give, or receive, today.

May Jesus be reborn in your heart and life during Christmas 2020 and every day of the New Year 2021. May He radiate His presence from within you as sharing love, unconditional forgiveness, humble service, a compassionate heart and overflowing generosity. May the Holy Babe of Bethlehem bless you with health in body and soul and grant you a peaceful and blessed New Year.



**READINGS and ROSTER — Thursday, 24th December 2020
Christmas Eve**

Mount Schank : 7.00pm

Isa 9. 2-7	Psalm 96. 7-13	Titus 2. 11-14	Luke 2. 1-14
SIDESPERSONS		Mt Schank	
READERS		Mt Schank	

Christ Church, Mt Gambier : 11.30pm

Isa 9. 2-7	Psalm 96. 7-13	Titus 2. 11-14	Luke 2. 1-14
SERVER		Julienne Feast	
INTERCESSIONS		Julienne Feast	
READERS		Julienne Feast / Jeff Bowman	
SOUND DESK		Trevor Christopher	

**READINGS and ROSTER — Friday, 25th December 2020
Christmas Day**

Christ Church, Mt Gambier : 9.00am

Isa 52. 7-10	Psalm 98	Heb 1. 1-6	John 1. 1-18
SERVER		Sue Christopher	
INTERCESSIONS		Sue Christopher	
READERS		Trudy-Anne Doyle / Eleanor Hogg	
SOUND DESK		Andrew Hogg	

**READINGS and ROSTER—Sunday, 27th December : Christmas 1
One service only @ 9.30am at Christ Church**

Gen 15. 1-6	Ps 128	Col 3. 12-21	Luke 2. 22-40
SERVER		Faye Hill	
INTERCESSIONS		Rick Fisher	
READERS		David Glover / Anne Ashworth	
SOUND DESK		Robyn Ashby	

Please note: There will be a service at Christ Church at 9.30am on Wednesday, 1st January 2021



The Parish would like to extend their very best wishes to you all for a very happy and blessed Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace*



