

Parish Priest

Fr Neil Fernando Mobile: 0478 085 894
E-mail: frneilfdo@gmail.com

Parish Hall Bookings

Lynn Fisher : Mobile: 0407 186 174

Pew Sheet

All notices/information for pew sheet to Parish Office **no later than** 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 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; Very Rev. David Price (Dean) (Lesley);
Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

and in the Limestone Coast

Fr Neil (Nalini); Fr Wayne Corker; Fr Lyndon Sulzberger, Bishop Michael Hough

Parish Counsellors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith, Lynn Fisher, Dick Hamson, Graham Savage, Sandy Coulson

If you wish to make a bequest to the church, please follow the instructions on the Regulation for Bequests form which is available from the back of the church.

The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier (Berrin)

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier (Berrin)**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank (Parreen)**

**Christmas Day
25th December 2022**



Jesus brings good tidings



As a Christian community, we acknowledge and pay respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands on which we gather and meet.

We pay our respects to the Elders—past, present and emerging.

***Wearing of face masks is no longer mandatory.
However, you may—as a matter of personal choice—choose to wear one
when attending any services, the Bell Tower Op Shop
or meetings at the church.
Hand sanitizing is still strongly recommended.***

From Fr Neill

JESUS BRINGS GOOD TIDINGS

Finally, it's Christmas! This is the most awaited feast that we Christians celebrate. We consider Christmas as the encounter, the great encounter, the historical encounter, the decisive encounter, between God and mankind. All the prophecies of old found their fulfilment in the birth of Jesus. He is the long-expected saviour. At Christmas we reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation, the coming of the Son of God into the world in the likeness of a human being. It is a mystery beyond all telling, and a recap of God's wonderful act of creation. At creation he made humanity in his own image and likeness, for salvation of human beings, he took the likeness of us.

We gather, because Christ has gathered us together by His birth. This was His mission for coming, to bring us together and reunite us with God (Eph 1:7-20). He became one of us in order to enter deeply into the fullness of our being to redeem us from the very root of sin that disconnected us from God the father. His birth has a purpose just as your and my birth has a purpose. He has a mission to accomplish. It was obedience to the will of His father that saw him through on that mission. So if we are to succeed in life, we too must be obedient to His commands. His birth was a gift to us. A gift borne out of selfless and unconditional love for man. He became a gift to men and women that we, in turn, shall be a gift to others. It was a selfless gift to men, to teach us that it is only in selfless service that we accomplish God's designs and fulfilment of our mission here on earth.

There is abundance of colour, merriment and joy all around. Yet despite all these exciting events and gatherings, we cannot fail to notice the superficiality and even the emptiness of the celebration for many people. The reason is simple. Like the people of Bethlehem, many of us respond with the same attitude and disposition: "There is no room in our inn". Yes, we have room for almost everything associated with Christmas – parties, carolling, dancing, shows, decorations, and many things besides. They fill up not only our calendars but also our minds and hearts during these days, that we have no more room for the newborn Saviour. He knocks at the door of our hearts, wanting to enter and be part of our life. Unfortunately, we are already too occupied with the superficial and material concerns and activities.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the one who brings glad tidings" (Is. 52:7). The Christmas celebrations involve a lot of travelling. In most Christian cultures, people travel to visit family, friends and loved ones. Some of those visits are out of nostalgia, some, out of compulsion. Some people are full of anticipation as they anticipate these visits, while others full of trepidation. Some families use this period to broker peace, while some others fall apart after their

SATURDAY, 24th December 2022 : Christmas Eve 6.00pm—Eucharist @ St Luke's, Mt Schank / 8.00pm— Eucharist @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier			
Isaiah 9. 2-7	Ps 96	Titus 2. 11-14	Luke 2. `1-14
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Jeff Bowman / Fran Laslett		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound desk	Richard Mills		
SUNDAY, 25th December 2022 : Christmas Day 9.00am—Eucharist @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier <i>(this is the only service in the parish today)</i>			
Isaiah 52. 7-10	Ps 98	Hebrews 1. 1-12	John 1. 1-14
Server	Rick Fisher		
Readers	Lynn and Rick Fisher		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound desk	Trudy-Anne Doyle		
Flowers	Jan Hunt		
SUNDAY, 1st January 2023 : 8.00am — Eucharist 9.30am—Eucharist @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier			
Numbers 6. 22-27	Ps 8	Gal 4. 4-7	Luke 2. 15-21
Server	Darren Schunke		
Readers	Brian Smith / Raylene Milligan		
Intercessions	Anne Ashworth		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Flowers	Roma Driscoll		

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Friday, 23rd December 2022

11.0am Eucharist at Christ Church, Mt Gambier

Saturday, 24th December 2022

6.00pm Eucharist at St Luke's, Mount Schank

8.00pm Eucharist at Christ Church, Mt Gambier

Sunday, 25th December 2022

9.00am Eucharist at Christ Church, Mt Gambier

(N.B. This is the only service in the parish on Christmas Day)

A couple of photos from the Family Fun Day held last Sunday.

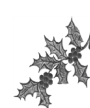


N.B. The Parish Office and church will be closed from Friday, 30th December 2022 and the church will re-open on Tuesday, 17th January 2023. However, Fr Neil will still be available—just give him a call.

ROSTERS FOR	DECEMBER
GARDENING 	Fran Laslett
 MOWING ROSTER	Graham Savage
FOOD and FREEZER MINISTRY	N.B. Due to COVID restrictions, we are unable to hand out home cooked goods to people presenting for Emergency Relief. However, pre-prepared goods such as frozen packaged foods are acceptable.

meeting. It all depends on the beauty or ugliness of the feet of the ones who visit or are visited! Those who truly welcome Christ are agents of Peace. They give him a space in their hearts to be incarnate in them, and whether they visit other people or are visited, they have peace to offer. Some others do not truly welcome Christ, the Prince of Peace. As the Prince of Peace comes into our world with perfect humility, to give value to our frighten world, with his feet beautiful and glorious, bearing glad tidings, we are all invited to emulate him, to add value to the lives of those we meet, to ensure our presence brings peace and harmony.

cf.internet



May Christ the Immanuel be incarnate in your life, in your families and in your endeavours. Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

We Pray for Peace in the World

God of peace and Justice, we pray for people in places where there is war, violence and civil unrest.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those in power — that wisdom, discernment and compassion guide their decisions. Help them hear the cries of their people.

Above all we pray for the people of the Ukraine, Russia and Sri Lanka—at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them and provide for their needs.

Amen.

A Tour to Sri Lanka and A Pilgrimage To The Holy Land

Pilgrims from Australia and Sri Lanka could join the Pilgrimage under the spiritual guidance of Fr. Neil Fernando, Parish priest, Christ Church, Mount Gambier, South Australia.

5th July to 25th July 2023

If you are interested in joining this tour, please speak to Fr Neil

THANK YOU



A big 'thank you' to the Op Shop volunteers and all the volunteers who have worked tirelessly during the year in their respective roles. Without these volunteers, the church could not run as smoothly as it does.

The Bell Tower Op Shop opening hours are:



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

Wearing of face masks is no longer mandatory. However, you may—as a matter of personal choice—choose to wear one when attending any services, the Bell Tower Op Shop or meetings at the church. Hand sanitizing is still strongly recommended.

The Op Shop will close on Wednesday, 21st December and re-open again on MONDAY, 9th January 2023

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

8th	Irene	26th	Dean Searcy
16th	Sathyanga	28th	Don Currie
19th	Dick Hamson	29th	Jennie McDonald
30th	Simon and Jon Hawkes		



We wish them all a very happy birthday!!



If you would like your name on the birthday list, please contact the Parish Office so that your details can be included. Thank you

Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Val Linder; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Shirley Stacpoole; Terry Wilson; Anne Barry (Glen Solomons' godmother); Sandy Coulson; Betty and Max Wright; Glenys Smith

Pray for the repose of the souls of those near and dear to each one of us and for those whose yearly remembrance occurs 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—preferably 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.



Fr Neil, the Parish Council and the parishioners of the Parish of Mount Gambier wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Services and events in the Parish

There are 4 services conducted weekly at Christ Church as follows:

Friday 11.00am
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am
10.45am in hall (commencing in the New Year)

And 1 service at St Luke's, Mount Schank on the 2nd Sunday of each month @ 11.30am

(N.B. There will be no services at Mt Schank during January 2023)

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2nd & 4th Thurs	4.00-5.00pm	Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison
3rd Thurs	7.00pm	Pro Life meetings
Wednesdays	8.00am 1.00-3.00pm	Ministers' prayer and Association meeting Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room (Craft will resume on Wednesday, 1st February 2023)
Mondays	5.15-6.30pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room
Thurs 2nd— to Sun 5th Feb 2023	2.00pm Thurs— to 12.00pm Sun	Future Vision Workshop @ Seven Hills, Clare (see letter from the Bishop)
5th—15th July 2023 16th—25th July 2023		Tour to Sri Lanka Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

URGENT : Volunteer Needed: to administer the records of the Memorial Garden for the Parish.

This involves:

Keeping records of all names, dates and interment and location of ashes in the Garden.

Liaising with Parishioners in regard to engraving and ordering of plaques. Working with Finance volunteers to ensure payments are received and recorded.

Answering queries in regard to the Memorial Garden records.

This role has been efficiently managed by Maree Lynch over the years and is now vacant.

If you are interested in this position and/or have any questions, please contact Robyn Ashby or Lynn Fisher.