

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; Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

and in the Limestone Coast

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

Parish Councillors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Brian Smith, Lynn Fisher,
Dick Hamson, Graham Savage; David Glover; Rick Fisher

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)**

**10th December 2023
Advent 2**



Prepare a way for the Lord



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.

Prepare a way for the Lord.

In the first reading from Isaiah God promises comfort and forgiveness to Jerusalem, declaring an end to her trials. A path is made for the Lord's glory, as He comes with power and tenderness, like a caring shepherd. Isaiah prophesied a messenger, John the Baptist, who emerged in the wilderness calling for repentance and baptism for sin forgiveness. He foretold of one greater than himself, unworthy even to untie His sandals, who would baptize with the Holy Spirit, not just water.

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead, Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert.

On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

- **Humility of John the Baptist:** John's declaration that he is not worthy to untie the sandals of the one coming after him illustrates his humility. It sets an example for the proper attitude of a servant of God, acknowledging one's own unworthiness in comparison to Christ.
- **Baptism as a Symbol of Repentance:** The act of baptism in the Jordan River by John symbolizes purification and repentance. This ritual act points to the inner transformation that is required for a renewed relationship with God.
- **Anticipation of the Holy Spirit:** John distinguishes his baptism with water from the coming baptism with the Holy Spirit by Jesus. This theme introduces the Holy Spirit's significant role in Christian life and points to the deeper, transformative work that Jesus will accomplish.

Transition from Old to New Covenant: John's ministry marks the transition from the prophetic tradition of the Old Testament to the new era inaugurated by Jesus. This theme reflects the shift from the law and prophets to the grace and truth brought by Christ.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent.

We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are.

Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus. Cf. Internet

SUNDAY, 10th December 2023 : Advent 2 8.00am—Communion : 9.30am—Pathways Service 11.30am—St Luke’s, Mt Schank BCA—John Warner			
Isa 40. 1-11	Ps 85. 8-13	2 Peter 3. 8-14	Mark 1. 1-8
Server	Julienne Feast		
Welcomer	Denise McDonald		
Readers	Margaret Boardman / Rita Johnston		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound desk	Rick Fisher		
Morning Tea	Raylene Milligan / Beryl Heard / Jenny Tilby		
Flowers	Robyn Sweetnam		
SUNDAY, 17th December 2023 : Advent 3 8.00am—Communion : 9.30am—Communion			
Isa 61. 1-7	The Magnificat	1 Thess 5. 16-24	John 1. 6-8, 19-28
Server	Julienne Feast		
Welcomer	Helen Douglass		
Readers	David Clarkson / Anne Ashworth		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound	Trevor Christopher		
Morning Tea	Dianne Burton / Virginia Kuhl		
Flowers	Jan Hunt		

ROSTERS FOR	DECEMBER
GARDENING 	Fran Laslett
 MOWING ROSTER	Volunteer required
FOOD and FREEZER MINISTRY	When preparing meals for the freezer, please remember to list all ingredients in the meal, and the date on which it was prepared. Pre-prepared goods such as frozen packaged foods and meals are acceptable.

Pray for those people who are unwell and for each other

Sue Ongley; Maree Lynch; Joe Maier; Shirley Stacpoole; Sandy Coulson; Anne Barry (Glen Solomons' godmother); Betty and Max Wright

Please pray for the family and friends of Vera Wolfenden who died this week.



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

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



DECEMBER

8th	Irene	26th	Dean Searcy
16th	Sathyanga	29th	Jennie McDonald
19th	Dick Hamson	30th	Simon & Jon Hawkes

We wish all of them 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.

SHED SALE – GOLD COIN DONATION

Our shed needs to be cleaned out before the end of the month. Part of this process is to have a **CLEARANCE SALE** for a gold coin donation. This will happen on Monday morning from 10am – 12 noon. Any stock left in the shed after that will be taken to the Waste Station.

Our biggest task is to get the stock out of the shed onto trestles before the crowd arrives!!

Any help particularly between 9.30 – 10am would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to assist please contact Jeff B on 0487486260 or just turn up on the morning.

Dear friends,

What a terrific night and a joyful celebration of carols and culture we had yesterday. It was a great team effort and together we shared the true spirit of Christmas with the community.

I sincerely want to thank you for your participation, generosity, valuable time, goodwill and enormous help.

Thanks to all the kids for your valiant effort and great acts.

Thanks to Wesley, Catherine Allen, for directing the story of salvation and Kaylene, Nalini for preparing the costumes.

Thanks to all the parents of the children

A very big thanks to all the choirs for your incredible performance.

Phoenix, Lutheran Church choir, The Last Choir, St Martin's College, African, South African, Indian, Srilankan communities, Christ Church choir, CMG.

Kindly extend my thanks and blessings to each and every member of your group

Sincere thanks to Mayor Lynette and MP Tony

Heartfelt thanks to all our wonderful readers representing different churches and backgrounds

I also wish to say thank you

To the clergy; Rev Murray, Pas. Tim, Fr. Peter

To the advertising team Sandy and Peter Coulson

To the live streaming team David Hill, Richard Mills, sound desk Robyn Ashby and power point Sue Christopher

To the MC Rick Fisher, the Sacristan Julienne, Event coordinator Jeff

To Glen for lighting up the garden

To all the ladies who prepared tea and coffee.

Thank you for your amazing contribution once again and bringing the festival of Carols and Culture to the community this year.

God blesses a cheerful giver.

May Jesus the Prince of Peace fill you and your families with His grace, peace and joy at this Christmas.

Thanks and may God richly bless you.
Fr. Neil Fernando

Thank you

Forthcoming Parish Events

MO NTH	DAY	DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	ORGAN- ISED BY
DEC	Sun	10 th	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	Communion—BCA : John Warner Pathways—BCA : John Warner St Luke's, Mt Schank—BCA : John Warner	CMG
	Tues	12 th	3.15pm	Fundraising Committee meeting in Ashworth Room	
	Wed	13 th	12.00 noon	Solos and Pairs lunch @ Park Hotel (see note below)	
	Thurs	14 th	9.30am	Men Do Coffee @ Limestone Coast Pantry	
	Sun	17 th	8.00am 9.30am	Communion Communion	Choir
	Wed	20 th	4.00pm	Parish Council meeting in Ashworth Room	
	Sun Christmas Eve	24 th	9.00am 3.00pm 7.00pm	Carol Service— (1 service only) Children's Service St Luke's, Mt Schank	CMG
	Mon Christmas Day	25 th	9.00am	Communion— (1 service only)	
	Sun New Year's Eve	31 st	8.00am 9.30am	Communion Communion	Choir
JAN	Mon New Year's Day	1 st	10.00am	Communion— (1 service only)	

HELP : The Food Ministry cupboard is almost bare again!!

Donations of tinned foods, dry packaged goods (cereals, 2 minute noodles etc.) and long life milk would be appreciated.

If donating bread, these loaves can be frozen.

Donations of frozen goods (pizzas, small packs of sausages etc.) are also most welcome.

SOLOS AND PAIRS

Unanimously agreed (all three of us), that because we had such a good time, the next S & P will be again held at the Park Hotel at 12.00pm lunchtime on Wednesday, 13th December.

Great special \$20 for a main dish and dessert. Other dishes also available.

All welcome.
RSVP Robyn 0498 968 394.

Services in the Mt Gambier Parish

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

Friday 11.00am
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am

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

***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 recommended.***

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
Mondays and Thursdays	5.15-6.30pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room
1st & 3rd Fridays		Boandik Service
1st Tuesday of month		St Mary's
1st Friday of month		Healing service
2nd Thursday of month		The Oaks
2nd Tuesday of month		Resthaven

The Bell Tower Op Shop

Opening hours are:

Monday to Friday
10.00am to 3.00pm

Saturday
9.30am to 12.30pm

