

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)**

**31st December 2023 — (Christmas 1)
1st January 2024 — New Year's Day**



Lord, bless my family and make it holy



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.

From Fr Neil

Lord, bless my family and make it holy

On this first Sunday after Christmas, the Liturgy invites us to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Indeed, every nativity scene shows us Jesus together with Our Lady and St Joseph in the grotto of Bethlehem. God wanted to be born into a human family, he wanted to have a mother and father like us.

And today the Gospel presents the Holy Family to us on the sorrowful road of exile, seeking refuge in Egypt. Joseph, Mary and Jesus experienced the tragic fate of refugees, which is marked by fear, uncertainty and unease (cf. Mt 2:13-15; 19-23). Unfortunately, in our own time, millions of families can identify with this sad reality. Almost every day the television and papers carry news of refugees fleeing from hunger, war and other grave dangers, in search of security and a dignified life for themselves and for their families.

The message that comes from the Holy Family is first of all a message of faith. In the family life of Mary and Joseph, God is truly at the centre, and He is so in the Person of Jesus. This is why the Family of Nazareth is holy. Why? Because it is centred on Jesus. When parents and children together breathe in this climate of faith, they have an energy that allows them to face even difficult trials, as the experience of the Holy Family shows, for example, in the dramatic event of their flight to Egypt: a difficult ordeal.

Jesus wanted to belong to a family who experienced these hardships, so that no one would feel excluded from the loving closeness of God. The flight into Egypt caused by Herod's threat shows us that God is present where man is in danger, where man is suffering, where he is fleeing, where he experiences rejection and abandonment; but God is also present where man dreams, where he hopes to return in freedom to his homeland and plans and chooses life for his family and dignity for himself and his loved ones.

How important it is for our families to journey together towards a single goal! We know that we have a road to travel together; a road along which we encounter difficulties but also enjoy moments of joy and consolation. And on this pilgrimage of life we also share in moments of prayer. What can be more beautiful than for a father and mother to

SUNDAY, 31st December 2023 : Christmas 1 8.00am—Communion : 9.30am—Communion			
Sir 3. 2-14	Ps 128	Col 3. 12-21	Matthew 2. 13-23
Server	Julienne Feast		
Welcomer	Jeff Bowman		
Readers	Raylene Milligan / Brian Smith		
Intercessions	Richard Mills		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Morning Tea	The Men		
Flowers	Elizabeth Hodges / Olna Green		
MONDAY, 1st January 2024 : The Naming and Circumcision of Our Lord 10.00am—Communion (1 service only today)			
Num 6. 22-27	Ps 67	Gal 4. 4-7	Luke 2. 15-21
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Helen Douglass / Denise McDonald		
Intercessions	To be advised		
Sound	Richard Mills		
SUNDAY, 7th January 2025 : Epiphany 1/Ordinary Sunday 1			
Isa 60. 1-6	Ps 72 1.11	Eph 3. 1-6	Matthew 2. 1-12
SUNDAY, 14th January 2025 : Epiphany 2/Ordinary Sunday 2			
1 Sam 3. 2-19	Ps 40. 8-13	1 Cor 6. 12-20	John 1. 35-42
SUNDAY, 21st January 2025 : Epiphany 3/Ordinary Sunday 3			
Jonah 3. 1-10	Ps 25. 1-9	1 Cor 7. 29-31	Mark 1. 14-20
SUNDAY, 28th January 2025 : Septuagesima/Ordinary Sunday 4			
Deut 18. 15-20	Ps 95	1 Cor 8. 1-13	Mark 1. 21-28
Server	Julienne Feast		
Welcomer	Trudy-Anne Doyle		
Readers	Jeff Bowman / Fran Laslett		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound	Rick Fisher		

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; Lynn Fisher

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.

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



DECEMBER

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

JANUARY

6th	Peter Searcy	17th	David Clarkson
8th	Robyn Ashby	27th	Lorraine Sims
13th	Neil Geddes		

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.
Thank you

ROSTERS FOR		JANUARY
GARDENING		Helen Douglass
MOWING ROSTER		Richard Strickland

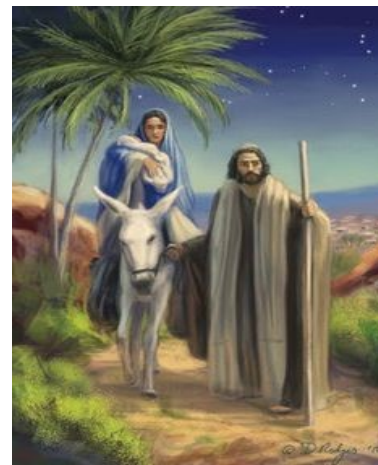


bless their children at the beginning and end of each day, to trace on their forehead the sign of the cross, as they did on the day of their baptism? Is this not the simplest prayer which parents can offer for their children? To bless them, that is, to entrust them to the Lord, just like Elkanah and Anna, Joseph and Mary, so that he can be their protection and support throughout the day. In the same way, it is important for families to join in a brief prayer before meals, in order to thank the Lord for these gifts and to learn how to share what we have received with those in greater need. These are all little gestures, yet they point to the great formative role played by the family in the pilgrimage of every day life.

Today our gaze on the Holy Family lets us also be drawn into the simplicity of the life they led in Nazareth. It is an example that does our families great good, helping them increasingly to become communities of love and reconciliation, in which tenderness, mutual help, and mutual forgiveness is experienced. Let us remember the three key words for living in peace and joy in the family: “[may I](#)”, “[thank you](#)” and “[sorry](#)”.

Let us not lose confidence in the family! It is beautiful when we can always open our hearts to one another, and hide nothing. Where there is love, there is also understanding and forgiveness. May the Lord richly bless your family and fill it with his peace, joy and healing.

cf.internet



Fr Neil will be away from the parish from Tuesday, 9th January 2024 until Tuesday, 16th January inclusive.

If you require the services of a priest, please contact Julianne Feast (8726 8019) who will then contact the appropriate person.

Forthcoming Parish Events

MON TH	DAY	DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	ORGAN-ISED BY
DEC	Fri	29 th		No Service	
	Sun New Year's Eve	31 st	8.00am 9.30am	Communion Communion	Choir
JAN 2024	Mon New Year's Day	1 st	10.00am	Communion—(1 service only)	
	Fri	5 th		No Service	
	Sun	7 th	8.00am 9.30am	Communion Communion	Choir
	Fri	12 th	11.00am	Morning Prayer	
	Sun	14 th	8.00am 9.30am	Communion Communion	Choir
	Fri	19 th	11.00am	Communion	
	Sun	21 st	8.00am 9.30am	Communion Communion	Choir
	Wed	24 th	12.00pm	Solos and Pairs lunch at the Park Hotel	
	Fri	26 th		No Service Greek Orthodox Community using church to celebrate their Christmas	
	Sun	28 th	8.00am 9.30am 6.30pm	Communion Communion City Wide service @ Liberty Church	CMG

A BIG thank you to all those people who have recently donated food items to the Food and Freezer Ministry.

With the very generous donations, both the freezer and cupboard are now very well stocked.

PLEASE NOTE

The pew sheet will not be produced again until the last weekend of January.

For details on the rosters in the interim, please refer to the January 2024 roster sent out by Richard Mills on 20th December.

There is also a copy of the roster on the notice board in the Vestry.

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 Craft Group is in recess until the New Year.

The resume date to be advised.

The Bell Tower Op Shop

Trading hours are:

Monday to Friday
10.00am to 3.00pm

Saturday
9.30am to 12.30pm

Closed on Public Holidays



Solos and Pairs for 2024

The first lunch of the year will be held at the Park Hotel on 24th January 2024 at 12.00pm.

All welcome.