



First Aid Kit

Please note that, if required, there is a First Aid Kit located in the toilet/utility area above the sink!

SERVICES AFTER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

Services include: Sundays at 8.00am & 9.30am and Wednesdays at 10.00am

Please note there is NO Sunday 5.15pm service; & Meditation, Healing and Morning Prayer services during the week.

CHOIR PRACTICE

The Choir is in recess during January; the first practice for 2016 is on Thursday, 4th February at 7.30pm!

Coming Events/Festivals

Saturday, 6th February – ‘Saturday Club’
Planning for the year’s activities!

Sunday, 7th February - Start-up Sunday, including our first CAFS for 2016, followed by a Parish Feast for all parishioners and families!!



We acknowledge the Wathaurong people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the lands on which Christ Church and its buildings now stand.



The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Geelong



“A community of faith in service to others”

www.christchurchgeelong.com.au

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Vicar: | The Reverend Russell Trickey | M: 0433 933738 |
| | Email: trickeyrussell13@gmail.com | |
| Associate Priest: | The Reverend John St Q Howells | 5244 0649 |
| Organist: | Mr Winton Barry | |
| Office: | Email: chchurch@noble.net.au | 5221 8055 |
| Office Administrator: | Mrs Patricia Cowling | |

Mission Statement

Christ Church seeks to be a centre for the worship of Almighty God, providing strength and assistance for all who enter, and enabling God’s love in Christ to reach out to the community and world in which we live.

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

3rd January 2016

Liturgical Colour: White

Holy Eucharist: 8.00am; 9.30am

Sentence

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

Prayer of the Day *

*Everlasting God,
who brought the nations to your light
and kings to the brightness of your rising:
fill the world with your glory,
and show yourself to all the nations;
through him who is the true light
and the bright morning star,
Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end. Amen.*



* You are invited to join in this Prayer immediately before today’s readings

Hymns: 9.30am: 274; 291; 301; 314 5.15pm: No service
Postlude: ‘Grand Choeur’ – Theo Salome (1834-96)

(Music reproduced under Copyright License 246395/246396)

The Vicar Writes



Epiphany is a very important day of the year. It is the twelfth day of Christmas and marks the day the wise men came to bring gifts for the Christ child. This event is very significant because the wise men were able to recognise that the incarnation of the Son of God had taken place although they were far off in another country. In the gospel of Matthew the wise men were said to be from the East and are referred to as Magi. Because of this many people have assumed them to be from Persia, it is more likely however that Magi simply means wise men and evidence suggests they came from India not Persia.

Evidence for this includes an ancient Christian text called Opus Imperfectum in Mattheum that declares Saint Thomas, the Apostle, preached in India, the land of the Magi. Saint Jerome was also of the understanding that the Magi came from India as was the modern mystic Saint Therese Neumann of Konnersreuth who would enter a deep ecstatic trance each week on Friday and witness the entire passion and resurrection of Christ. In 1932 Bishop Alexander Chulaparambil from Kottayam India visited Therese to view her in her entranced state. The Saint took hold of the Bishops hand and said this is a high pastor from the land whence the kings came to worship the Christ child. Other evidence includes the fact that it is an ancient tradition of India, not Persia to offer gifts of frankincense, gold and myrrh to a newborn child and its mother. Also, Portugese explorer and historian Vasco Da Gama arrived in Goa India in 1498 to find there an ancient temple dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The temple was established by an Emperor named Chery Perimale (who also founded the city of Calcutta) and was purported by local tradition going back to the time of the Apostle Thomas to be one of the three wise men.

The extraordinary thing is that whoever the Wise Men were, they had the spiritual intuition and divine guidance from the Holy Spirit to know who Jesus was and where he would take birth. The season of Epiphany is characterised by the revelation of various people that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God. A great many of the stories in Epiphany deal with people who recognise Jesus despite their not being Jewish or being somehow outcaste from mainstream Hebrew society. Epiphany therefore points to the mission of Jesus to the Gentiles. It is during Epiphany that we reflect on the universal nature of Christ's life and teachings. Jesus did not come to deliver a small section of society; his saving grace is extended to all humanity without exception. The Magi are in fact the first people after Mary, Joseph and the shepherds to acknowledge and recognise Jesus to be the Saviour of the World. As Isaiah writes, The Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn (Isa 60:2,3). Saint Paul also tells us, the mystery revealed to the Holy Apostles of God is that through the Gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together as one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus (Eph 3:6). So let us rejoice together in the love of God and celebrate forever. The glad tidings of Christmas that we have heard from the Virgin Mary, the Magi, John the Baptist and the Apostles can give us all confidence to progress spiritually in the mercy and love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord be with you, Fr Russell

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

THE WORLD: Peace and stability in the world; those suffering the aftermath of natural disasters, especially our own land.

THE CHURCH: Anglican Church of Aotearoa, NZ & Polynesia; Diocese of NW Australia; Lay Ministry; Parish of St John's Healesville w. St Paul's Yarra Glen.

THE COMMUNITY: Continued care and safety on our roads during the holiday season.

THOSE IN SPECIAL NEED: Those on our prayer list and in our hearts.

THE DEPARTED: Our own dear departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time (Karen Rowlands; Dorothy Devlin).

The Week Ahead

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------------|
| Wednesday, 6 th Jan | 10.00am | Holy Eucharist |
| Sunday, 10 th Jan | 8.00am | Holy Eucharist |
| | 9.30am | Holy Eucharist |

NEXT SUNDAY: 10TH JANUARY -THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Readings: Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-22

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Over the last few months a committee comprising of people from Wesley, St Mary's, Christ Church and UnitingCare in Grovedale have been working towards creating a 'drop in centre' for homeless and isolated people, at 202 Myer Street, Geelong, which is the Governor's Residence at the old Geelong Gaol. It will be known as 'The Lazarus Community Drop In Centre', and we will be operating from **Monday, 1st February**. We will have available for clients, showering and clothes washing facilities, as well as a light lunch and other activities, including gardening and playing pool. Initially, it will operate on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 9.00am and 4.00pm, expanding to other days in accordance with need. We are requiring volunteers to help us run the centre and each shift will be for four (4) hours. A volunteer training day has been arranged for 9.30am on Friday, 22nd January at Wesley Church, 100 Yarra Street, Geelong. More details can be obtained from Wendy Leigh on 52224101 from 4th January!

THE CHRONICLE: The first edition for 2016 is due in early March – contributions are welcome now! If you have any details of items and forthcoming events, etc, please send to Phillip Swain by email to: spswain@westnet.com.au.

REMINDER - APPEAL FOR REFUGEES AT NORTH GEELONG SECONDARY COLLEGE



Goods required are pencil case packs or separate pencil cases and pencils, pens, rubbers, etc. to make up packs; 5-subject exercise books; A3 art sketch books (6 only); white polo shirts; thick black tights and money (used towards the cost of uniforms). There is a clothes basket in the coffee area – Thank you, Barbara Peek.