

Please note there is a Hearing Loop installed in the Church that provides a wireless signal picked up by the hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil).

## **REMINDER – CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**Next Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 4-7pm**



### ***Sponsored by Tango Geelong***

Please support this event by:

- Coming to buy;
- Making to sell; or
- Assisting with setting-up

### **DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!!**

For further information, please contact Pam Jarvis on 0417 531 619

## **THE TWELVE TINS OF CHRISTMAS**

### ***Christmas Raffle***

Tickets are available **today**, Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November and the draw will be on **Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December**.

*The major prize this year is a Margaret Tembo Quilt!!*



**Please support this, our first fundraiser for the new Parish financial year.**

**Tickets: \$2 each; \$5 for 3; or \$10 or 7**



## **REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR**

Following the generous response to this appeal in 2019, we felt encouraged to have it again this year.

The idea is to bring a grocery item and place it in the box as you enter the church, as many times as you like during Advent;

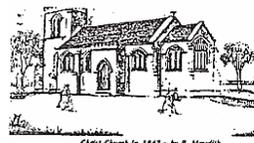
OR

you may prefer to have your own box at home and place items in it throughout Advent, then bring it to the church at Christmas.

The donated items will be given out to those in need who make use of our food cupboard over the holiday season

when so many other support groups close down while we remain open.

**Please see Jan or Ruth for more details!**



## *The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Geelong*



*"A community of faith in service to others"*

[www.christchurchgeelong.com.au](http://www.christchurchgeelong.com.au)

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### **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.

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**29<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Liturgical Colour: Purple**

**Holy Eucharist: 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.15pm**

### **Sentence**

'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord,  
'but my words will not pass away.'

### **Prayer of the Day \***

Eternal God,  
through long generations you prepared  
a way for the coming of your Son,  
and by the Spirit you still bring light  
to illumine our paths:  
renew us in faith and hope  
that we may welcome Christ  
to rule our thoughts and claim our love;  
to whom be glory for ever. Amen



*\* You are invited to join in this Prayer immediately before today's readings.*

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

## **The Vicar Writes**



Advent One brings us to year B where we read from the Gospel of Mark. Advent is like Lent, a time of preparation. Advent is a time to prepare our hearts so that Christ may manifest within us. Christ is in the heart of everyone so what does this mean? It means that the power of Christ's Holy Spirit will appear within us filling us with wisdom and love for God.

The ordinary person who has no awareness of the presence of God within them is living by God's existence potency that is they are sustained by the power of God that they may exist. They are governed by natural laws are influenced by the sun, moon and stars and are answerable to the powers of heaven (the heavenly host). As a soul grows in awareness and gradually love for God (as they must), the potencies of God's wisdom and love become more present in them and they naturally, organically become increasingly enlivened by the Lord. They come to depend on God directly rather than on nature or even heavenly powers alone.

In this way, a person awakening to divine consciousness and the love of God, no longer sees anything as separate from the Lord, rather they see the Lord personally taking care of their life and needs. This is what Jesus means when he says they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power, the sun will be darkened the moon will not give its light, the stars fall from heaven and the powers in heaven will be shaken.

The gathering up of the elect from the four winds refers to divine qualities within being gathered and strengthened amidst one's life forces (winds). Thus, the inner darkness of the human mind is overcome, the darkness that arises from ignorance of the presence of God within one's self, others and indeed everything. As Christ takes birth within a person's heart the influence of material consciousness subsides and the Holy Spirit takes over. Again, we are reminded of Revelations saying the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their guide and shall lead them to springs of living water.

These events of Christ adventing himself within us takes place with each of us personally as well as on a universal scale. Interestingly in Mark Jesus says these things will take place during his own time. This is evidence that what the Lord said in this regard was allegorical and referring especially to his manifesting his Holy Spirit in his disciples enabling them to achieve great things in God's service.

This advent we too may call for the Lord to appear within us. He is already there but we are often so concerned with day to day life that we forget him. So we must take time each day to be with the Lord, offer each day to him and allow his eternal presence to be felt. When we are still, don't dwell in the past or future and give attention to the present moment all we are left with is the Lord. Be still and know that the Lord is God, and that he is with you and in you. Don't waste time, use the gift of Advent to strengthen your relationship with the Lord that you too may see him in everything and see him coming on the clouds in great glory.

The Lord be with you, Fr Russell

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**REMINDER – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
AFTER THE 10.00AM SERVICE THIS MORNING**



## **CHURCH KEYS**

If anyone has any church keys that they no longer need, please return to either Jan or Fr Russell!

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### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**THE WORLD:** Peace and tolerance in the world as we begin the festive season!

**THE CHURCH:** The Lusitanian Church; Ministry to the Defence Force; St Luke's Sydenham; St Michael's Beaumaris; Archdeaconry of Dandenong; St Paul's East Kew (Confirmation); Church of the Epiphany Anglican Church; Diocesan Service at Williamstown.

**THE PARISH/COMMUNITY:** "Advent calls us again to consider the coming of Christ and Mark chapter 13 plunges us into its vision of the future. It reminds us that most of what we regard as permanent in our own lives is in fact temporary. Ultimately what we can rely on is Christ". (Source: ABM)

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

**THE DEPARTED:** Our own departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time (Reg Hastings; Colin Aldridge; Bill Retallach). We remember with thanks: Andrew, Apostle and Martyr (Monday); Frances Perry, founder of the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, d.1892 (Wednesday); Francis Xavier, priest and missionary, d.1552 (Thursday); Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, man of prayer, d.1637 (Friday).

### **The Week Ahead**

<b>Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>8.30am Morning Prayer in the Chapel</b> <b>7.00pm Meditation in the Chapel</b>
<b>Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>8.00am Meditation in the Chapel</b> <b>10.00am Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>8.30am Morning Prayer in the Chapel</b>
<b>Friday, 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4.00pm Christmas Market</b>

### **NEXT SUNDAY – 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

#### **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Readings: Isaiah 40.1-11; Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13;**

**2 Peter 3.8-15a;**

**Gospel: Mark 1.1-18**



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**WORKING BEE:** The next Working Bee is on **Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December**, commencing at 9.00am. A variety of tasks – no job too small. All welcome!



### **FLOWER ROSTER**

If anyone would like to join the flower roster or would like further information about it, please contact Jan as soon as possible!