



The Anglican Parish of Glenelg

A vibrant, welcoming and inclusive community
growing in faith and love

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2020

Christmas Greetings

Dear Friends

This has been a challenging year for our parish as well as our nation and our world. We pray with hopeful hearts for a successful roll-out of the promising COVID-19 vaccines particularly to the poorest nations of the world. In the midst of all this uncertainty we celebrate the birth of the Christ child.



Jesus was born into a vulnerable situation. His parents were away from their home, displaced within their country and soon to be refugees. They had nowhere to stay and the threat of a despotic ruler was threatening their safety further. The incarnation of Christ in such circumstances reassures Christians that God is born into the actual difficulties of our human existence and is to be encountered especially at such times as well as in the joyful blessings of life.

I pray that this somewhat different Christmas, may be for you and your loved ones wherever they are, touched with the hope, peace, joy and love of the Christ-child.

Blessings from Fr Andrew and the ministry team at the Anglican Parish of Glenelg

Christmas Service Times at St Peter's, Glenelg

Christmas Eve – Thursday 24th December

- 10am – simple Christmas service with Carols
- 5:00pm – Nativity Service 1
- 6:30pm – Nativity Service 2
- 10:30pm – Midnight Mass with Carols



Christmas Day – Friday 25th December

- 9:00am – Christmas Communion with carols

Sunday 27th December (one service)

- 9:00am – Sunday After Christmas with carols.

Christmas at St Martin's Glenelg South

Christmas Day Fri 25th Dec

- 8:45am Christmas Service
with Carols

Sunday after Christmas 27th Dec

- 8:45am – Holy Communion
and Carols



Some highlights from the past six months

Despite the ever-changing restrictions we have still had some wonderful community moments and here are just a few from the second half of the year.

The salt damp was fixed and the organ pipes reinstated at St Peter's.



A beautiful and prayerful service was held for All Souls Day



St Martin's Day was a quieter affair but the cake was delicious



We paused singing for a while then came back physically distanced in good voice



A new Gospel book was donated for St Peter's



All our parish groups managed to have Christmas break-ups. Here the Men's group are enjoying Trent's history of beer... with samples!



A wonderful collection of toys and food for Anglicare Hampers



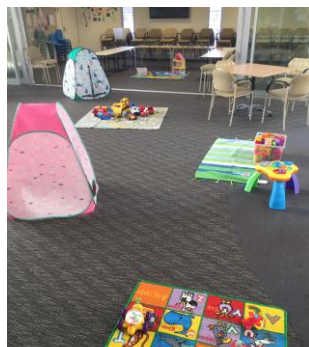
55 Shoeboxes of love were sent off with all the costs covered by a generous donation.



94 Graduation bibles were donated as gifts for Year 6 & 7 students at SPW



Play Group stopped, started, stopped again, started again and still added new members.



Baptisms (and weddings) put off through the year were finally held. All smiles.



The Youth Group were treated to a great sunset at our break-up. Thanks Michele!





Office Opening Hours over Christmas and New Year

Please note the Parish office will not be open to the public during its regular hours between Friday 25th December to Monday 11th January.

Parishioners who need access can do so by arrangement on

Thursday 31st December 9:30am-12:30pm or

Friday 8th January 9:30am-12:30pm when there will be Clergy present.

We re-open for normal hours (9:30am-2:30pm) from Tuesday 12th January.

If you need a priest in an emergency please contact them direct on their mobile phones. Please Note Andrew will be on Holidays following Christmas until Tuesday 19th January.

Thursday Services

The final Thursday service for the year will be on 24th December. Following that there will be NO Thursday 10am service on Thursday 31st December or Thursday 7th January. Our midweek Thursday service at St Peter's will **resume on 14th January**.

Poem – Mary's Song

By Luci Shaw (b.1928)

Blue homespun and the bend of my breast
keep warm this small hot naked star
fallen to my arms. (Rest...
you who have had so far
to come.) Now nearness satisfies
the body of God sweetly. Quiet he lies
whose vigor hurled
a universe. He sleeps
whose eyelids have not closed before.
His breath (so slight it seems
no breath at all) once ruffled the dark deeps
to sprout a world.
Charmed by dove's voices, the whisper of straw,
he dreams,
hearing no music from his other spheres.
Breath, mouth, ears, eyes
he is curtailed
who overflowed all skies,
all years.
Older than eternity, now he
is new. Now native to earth as I am, nailed
to my poor planet, caught that I might be free,
blind in my womb to know my darkness ended,
brought to this birth
for me to be new-born,
and for him to see me mended
I must see him torn.



*May Christ our infant saviour
give you the joy
of the Bethlehem shepherds,
the awe of the worshipping sages
and the humility and love
of the Holy Family.
May God's blessing be with you all.*



Delayed Events

It has been a year of constantly changing plans. Unfortunately we had to cancel events like our Christmas Tree Festival, Centenary of the War Memorial Chapel of St Michael and any Markets or Book Sales. We hope as the situation changes next year that we may be able to re-schedule these and other community events.

Thank you to all volunteers

We would love to hold an event to thank all our wonderful parish volunteers. This was not able to be held this year. But thank you to everyone who contributed to the life of our parish. Thank you to all who do up-front jobs or behind the scenes tasks. Our parish life cannot exist without us all chipping in. Your efforts are appreciated.

Parish Finances Update

Thankfully we will finish the year in reasonable shape because of the Job-keeper allowance. We expect this will cease from the start of 2021 and we also expect that investment income will decrease too. We should have a better picture of the future by the time we reach the renewal of our Planned Giving Programme at the end of 2021. Thank you for the generosity of all parishioners who fund the ministry of the parish. Thank you too for all those who moved to Direct Debit giving during the year.

Regular planned giving can be directed to

Parish of Glenelg (AFSA) BSB 705-077 Account Number 00041211

(please use your surname and initial SMITHJ PGP).

One off/occasional donations that are not part of regular PGP can be made to

Anglican Parish of Glenelg BSB 705-077 Account No.00000033

HERITAGE CONSERVATION FUND

We hope to continue conservation works in 2021 and online donations can be made at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/donate-sa> and please make sure you select "St Peters Anglican Church Glenelg Appeal" in the field that asks where you would like your donation to be directed. Alternatively cheques can be posted directly to:

**National Trust Anglican Parish of Glenelg Heritage Conservation Fund Appeal,
The National Trust of South Australia, Beaumont House,
631 Glynburn Road, Beaumont, SA 5066**

Parish Contact Details

Parish Priest - The Ven. Andrew Mintern, e: andrewmintern@yahoo.com m: 0481 796 638

Assoc. Priest & SPW Chaplain The Rev'd Michele Yuen e: michele1y@yahoo.com.au m: 0419 218 241

Associate Priest The Reverend Dr Margaret Annells m: 0488 921 905

Parish Office (Tue-Fri 9:30-2:30) : Hewina Jackson (Admin Officer) e: glenang@bigpond.net.au p: 8295 2382



Parish Office Opening Hours
Tuesday – Friday : 9:30am – 2:30pm

www.glenelganglican.org.au