



# The Anglican Parish of Glenelg

*a vibrant, welcoming and inclusive community  
growing in faith and love.*



## **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023 WORSHIP THEME: ADVENT JOY**

*If you are visiting today, please see the welcome section on the back of this pew sheet*

### **Associate Priest's Message**

#### **Ronald Rolhieser Reflection – Mary's Birthing Story & our Response.**

When we look at how Mary gave birth to Jesus, we see that there are four moments in the process: Impregnation by the Holy Spirit; conception of God within one's body and soul; the agony of giving birth; and the nurturing of an infant into adulthood.

#### ***Impregnation by the Holy Spirit:***

Mary, we are told, became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Mary let the seed of God's spirit (charity, joy, peace, patience, goodness, long-suffering, fidelity, mildness, faith, and chastity) take root in her that it began to grow into actual flesh.

#### ***Conception of God within one's body:***

Pregnancy is not followed immediately by childbirth. There is a long, slow process which has to occur. Changes in body, waiting, anxiety, anticipation, first kicks. Mary's flesh gave physical sustenance to the life of God.

#### ***The agony of giving birth:***

Only with much groaning and stretching of the flesh can a child emerge into this world.

It is always excruciatingly painful to birth

Mary, despite all the over-pious treatises that would make Jesus' birth something unnatural, experienced the normal birth-pains common to all mothers.

#### ***Nurturing an infant into adulthood:***

Mary gave birth to the baby, Jesus, but what she ultimately gave the world was the adult, Christ. Like all mothers she had to spend years nursing, cajoling, teaching, and nurturing an infant into adulthood. In looking at how Mary gave birth to Christ, we are given a blueprint that invites imitation not admiration. Mary is the model of faith. What Mary did, each one of us is also called upon to do, namely, to give birth to God in our lives.

Realisation that we give birth to our God in the same manner that Mary did when we are:

- Open to the Holy Spirit.
- Aware of the internal and external changes that take place in us as we grow and connect with God.
- Acceptance that there will be painful moments in life.
- A commitment to nurturing and growing in our faith.



## Worship Resources for Advent 3

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. **Matt 11.11**

We light the candle of joy.  
Joy to the world, the Lord is come.  
And we come to share in that joy,  
and to share with each other the joy  
that can fill us completely.  
As we wait in this season of Advent,  
may situations of pain and hurt,  
be transformed by your deep joy.



We sing  
*Advent, advent, a candle burns*  
*Advent, advent, a candle burns*  
*First one, then two, then three, then four*  
*Then stands the Christ-child at the door.*

Let us pray  
**God of joy,**  
**Thank you for joy of new birth and the birth of Jesus**  
**Thank you that like Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and wise men,**  
**we can all know your joy bursting into our lives.**  
**We pray that this Christmas,**  
**Your joy will permeate our world. Amen.**

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness

Heavenly Father, you call us to prepare for the coming  
of your Son: forgive us our unreadiness to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you were proclaimed by John the Baptist:  
help us also to prepare your way.  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, you speak through the prophets:  
make us attentive to hear your word.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the day**

Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his rule of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **First Reading**

**Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

#### **A reading from the book of Isaiah**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm - Song of Mary

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My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:  
from this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me:  
and holy is his name.

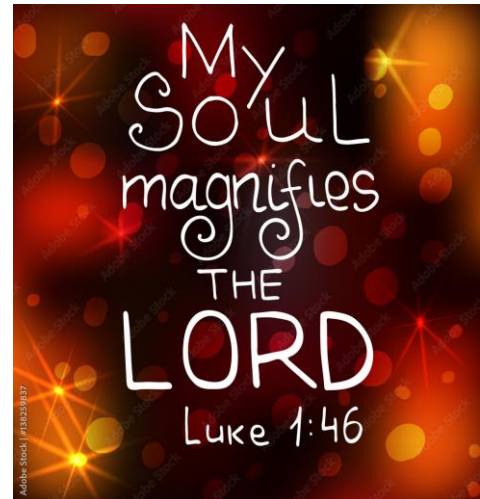
God has mercy on those who fear him:  
from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones:  
and lifting up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things:  
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:  
to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:  
to Abraham and his children for ever.



## Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians

My brothers and sisters, rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

✠ The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**



There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" ', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

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### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Theme: Advent Love**

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16 Psalm 89:1–4, 19–27 Romans 16:25–27 Luke 1:26–38

**Christmas Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7 John 1:1-16 (canticle) Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:1-20**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM AND FOR OUR PARISH** Prayer requests for Sunday intercessions can be given to the clergy or Parish Office. Confidential prayers can also be offered by the clergy and a small prayer group.



Kingsley Oakley, Rosalie and Phil Brown, Pat Donnelly, Melanie Lyons, Samuel, Di Besson, Peta, Pam Court, Cath, Pam Forder, Geoff, Kay Mably.

## PARISH CALENDAR



<b>Sun 17<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>7:45am Holy Communion at St Peter's</b> <b>8:45am Holy Communion at St Martin's</b> <b>10:00am Service at St Peter's</b> <b>7:30pm Kapelle Singers Concert</b>
<b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30pm Parish Council Meeting</b>
<b>Thu 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>10:00am Eucharist in St Michael's Chapel at St Peter's</b>
<b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Simple Advent 4 Communion at St Peter's</b> <i>No service at St Martin's.</i>
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	<b>6:30pm Children and Families Nativity Service at St Peter's</b> <b>10:30pm Christmas Midnight Mass at St Peter's</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>8:45am Christmas communion at St Martin's</b>
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Christmas Communion at St Peter's</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE</b>
<b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7:45am Holy Communion at St Peter's</b> <b>8:45am Holy Communion at St Martin's</b> <b>10:00am Service at St Peter's</b>

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2023

**Advent 4** (morning of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec.)

9:00am Simple Communion at St Peter's (no service at St Martin's)

**Christmas Eve (Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>)**

6:30pm Children and Families Nativity service at St Peter's

10:30pm Midnight Mass at St Peter's

**Christmas Day (Monday 25<sup>th</sup>)**

8:45am Christmas Communion at St Martin's

9:00am Christmas Communion at St Peter's



**No Thursday services on 28<sup>th</sup> December or 4<sup>th</sup> January**

**Parish Office closure**

**Last open day Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December re-opening on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.**

For church access during these times contact one of the clergy (Rev Andrew up to 2<sup>nd</sup> January and Rev. Tracey 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> January)



## PARISH NOTICES

### BISHOP JEREMY GREAVE'S INSTALLATION

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December Bishop Jeremy Greave's Installation as Archbishop of Brisbane will be live streamed at 10:30am (Brisbane time) from St. John's Anglican Cathedral- Brisbane. The stream will be live from around 9:45am. Jeremy was a member of the parish here in his youth. We give thanks for his family's ongoing connection with the parish and Rev'd Andrew and a number of parishioners will be representing his home parish at the installation. The link for the livestream is here. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNK4UfKhyzHdskN-s\\_Q9e4Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNK4UfKhyzHdskN-s_Q9e4Q)

### ANGLICARE HAMPER GIFTS

A huge **Thank you** to everyone who donated a gift to the Anglicare Toy/Food drive. The appeal was particularly successful across both SPW school and the parish and together we filled two vans with food and toys. The gifts were gratefully received and your generosity was noted by the Anglicare workers.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETS THIS WEEK

Parish Council meets this week on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7:30pm at the Rectory for Christmas drinks and a review of the year.

### KAPELLE SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm Kapelle Singers** will be conducting at Christmas concert here at St. Peters playing Christmas Carols from around the world. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$20 for concessions. You can book tickets via <https://www.trybooking.com/CNHRB> Flyers available at church.

### ROBIN WILSON INTERMENT

Public trustee has released Robin's ashes to Rev. Andrew for interment here. If you are interested in being present for the interment please let Andrew know. We are planning for an interment after the 10am service on 31<sup>st</sup> December.

### LAST THURSDAY SERVICE FOR 2023 THIS WEEK

This Thursday communion service at 10am will be our last one for the year. We will incorporate some carols and have a festive morning tea. Any extra parishioners who wish to attend would be welcome. There will be no services on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December or Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January and they will resume on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

### THE PRAYER TREE AND MEMORY TREE

The Prayer tree and Memory tree will stay up in the chapel for the Christmas season for people who would like to offer prayers or remember loved ones.

### CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL ENVELOPES

Appeal envelopes for the Christmas Bowl appeal are available at church. You can donate online or use the envelope to donate through the collection plate.

## WELCOME MESSAGE TO VISITORS TO ST PETER'S AND ST MARTIN'S

We aspire to be a *vibrant, welcoming and inclusive community growing in faith and love.*

**By growing in discipleship and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ; Building strong community connections within and beyond our church; Advocating and working together for Gospel-based justice; and Caring for creation and for each other.**

**7:45am at St Peter's** you will be greeted with this news Sheet. A green prayerbook is found in the pews (p.119).

**8:45am at St Martin's** you will be greeted with a news sheet, prayerbook (p.119) and hymnbook to use.

**10am at St Peter's** you will be greeted with a news sheet and the service can be followed on the powerpoint screen.

Feel free to **sit anywhere** - there are no specially reserved seats.

**Toilets** are located, at St Peter's, along the passageway, under the projector screen. At St Martin's, they are in the annex adjacent the worship space.

**Please join in** with all aspects of worship as you feel comfortable. Be assured that visitors are **warmly welcome to receive communion** with us.

We love to meet new people so you are **very welcome to stay for a cuppa** after the service, but don't feel bad if you need to get away - there's always next time.

***We hope you find inspiration and blessing in your time spent here.***



## HOW TO DONATE TO OUR PARISH MINISTRY

**Regular Planned Giving** can be directed to Parish of Glenelg (AFSA) BSB 705-077 Account Number 00041211 (please use your surname and initial e.g. SMITHJ PGP).

**One off/occasional donations**, that are separate to regular PGP, can be made to Anglican Parish of Glenelg BSB 705-077 Account No.00000033

**Heritage Conservation Fund** (tax deductible): Ensure the donation is designated for *The Anglican Parish of St Peters Glenelg*. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/donate-sa>

### THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF GLENELG

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**OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

9.30am – 2.30pm Tuesday to Friday

**SCHOOL AFFILIATION**

**ST PETER'S WOODLANDS GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

39 Partridge Street, Glenelg SA 5045



*The Anglican Parish of Glenelg acknowledges that we are meeting on the traditional country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.*

[www.glenelganglican.org.au](http://www.glenelganglican.org.au)