



The Anglican Parish of Glenelg

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

Christmas Newsletter 2023

Parish Priest's Welcome

Mary, Joseph and Jesus were IDP's – Internally Displaced Persons – forced by the Roman Governor to leave their homes to travel to Bethlehem for a census. Shortly afterwards they became refugees in Egypt due to the persecution of Herod's soldiers. All of us, no doubt, enjoy the cosy picture of the nativity at Christmas, but we should never get too comfortable with the image. Like many in our world at present, Jesus' start to life was precarious and surrounded by danger. This was the way God chose to be revealed to humanity. The incarnation is a crazy concept and yet it is divinely true and eternally relevant. Many in the world are worried about war in Ukraine and Gaza, worried about climate change, worried about the cost of living and any number of justice issues. We may feel that Christmas is a trivial distraction. This is certainly not the case for Christians. Christmas reveals to us that it is in the very midst of those challenging issues facing the world that God comes among us. Christ as Emmanuel (God with us) is in the midst of all our fears, worries and tragedies bringing hope, peace, joy and love. That is the message and miracle of Christmas.

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone who is part of our parish community for your faithfulness, your prayers and your Christian service throughout 2023. I wish you a blessed and holy Christmas and pray that 2024 will bring us new opportunities for growing in faith and love. Peace to you all. *Andrew.*

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2023

Advent 4 (morning of Sunday 24th Dec.)

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

Christmas Eve (Sunday 24th)

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

10:30pm Midnight Mass at St Peter's



Christmas Day (Monday 25th)

8:45am Christmas Communion at St Martin's

9:00am Christmas Communion at St Peter's

No Thursday services on 28th December or 4th January

Parish Office closure

Last open day Friday 22nd December re-opening on Tuesday 9th January.

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

Regular Sunday Services continue in January – 7:45am & 10am at St Peter's 8:45am at St Martin's



St Martin's Day Celebrations



Rev. Russell Simmonds was the guest preacher at our St Martin's Patronal Festival on Sunday 12th November and had the honour of cutting the patronal cake. The congregation on the day enjoyed gathering for the service and for fellowship afterwards and to hear more stories from Russell.



Dorothy and John Popplewell

Congratulations to Dorothy and John who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with special prayers at St Martin's on Sunday 19th November. As you can see, Dorothy and John's family were put to work by Don Bull helping prepare for St Martin's Christmas Riddle Tree for the Christmas Tree Festival.



Glenelg Christmas Pageant

Once again, the Bay Area Churches combined for an entry in the Glenelg Christmas Pageant entitled "Nativity! Christmas Tree! Creativity!" It was a great chance to work together and show the meaning of Christmas. We also took the opportunity to promote our upcoming Christmas Tree Festival. Getting enough participants was tricky but we were grateful to have some families from Immanuel Primary school to fill out the numbers.



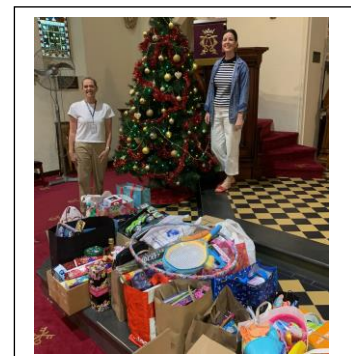
Mother's Union, Youth Group and Pigeon Poo Dinner!

This time of year always provides opportunities for our parish groups to enjoy end-of-year dinners and celebrations. It was a joy that Joan Richardson at 101 years (front left) was able to attend our Mothers Union lunch. Families gathered with the youth group for our end of year gathering and the much anticipated Pigeon Poo Dinner was held again at the Morphett Arms for all those who faithfully sweep up the Norfolk Pine Needles (and pigeon poo) every Saturday Morning.



Anglicare

Once again our parish has supported the drive for gifts and food for Anglicare Christmas Hampers. The generosity of parishioners and visitors to our Christmas Tree Festival was amazing and, along with the gifts from SPW, we were able to fill two whole Anglicare vans with food and gifts. This will all go toward nearly 2000 Anglicare hampers this Christmas. Thank you everyone. It was great to welcome back Rev. Ben Falcon on 10th December to share with us about Anglicare.





Highlights from our 2023 Christmas Tree Festival



The Sunday Kids' Paper Tree



A Child's Prayer from Westminster School



A great crowd on opening night



SPW Chapel Choir provided plenty of energy and joy.



Origami Christmas Tree Forest by Maria



Community Visitors Tree



Carol singers spreading cheer.



Liz and Julian providing beautiful carols



The Parish Dog Tree

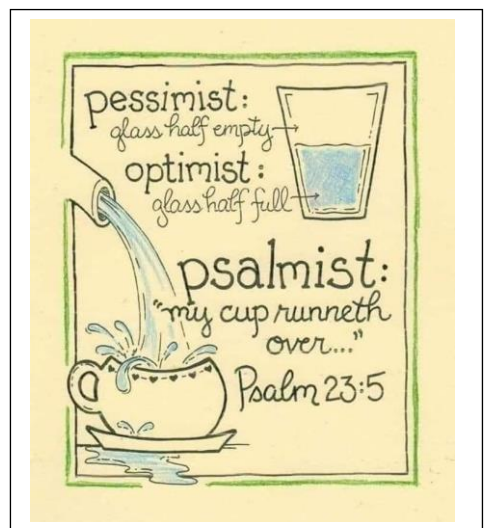
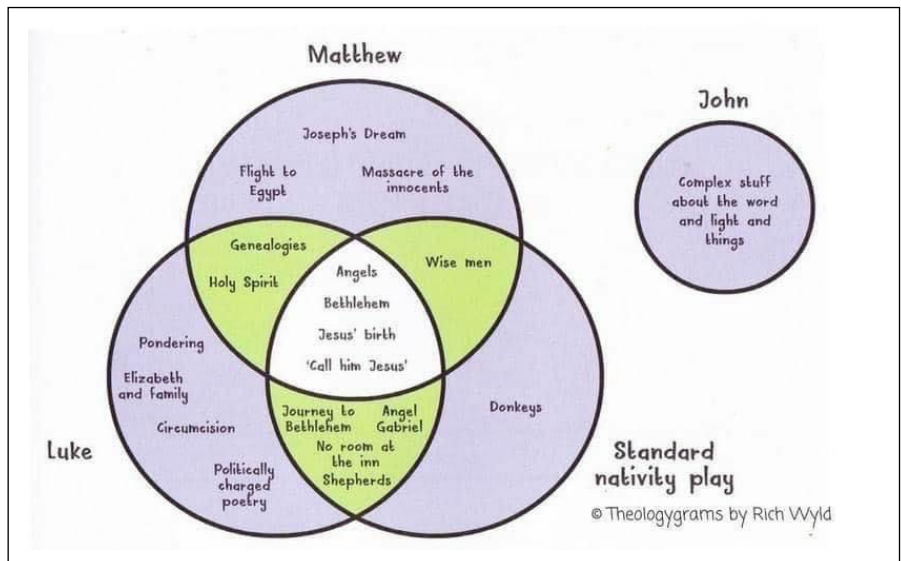
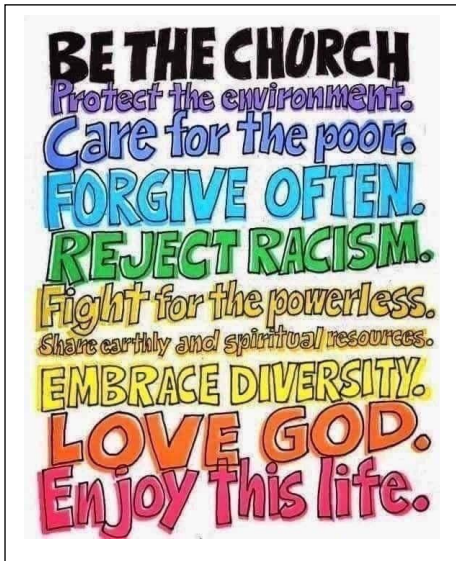


Mini Popstick tree by the Donaldson's

Group convenors feel free to pass on photos of your activities to Jade for future newsletters.



Memes of the Month!



Heritage Update – December 2023

We have accepted a quote for painting the porch at St Peter’s church and the external doors. This work will be done early in 2024. We have also accepted a quote to repair some of the deteriorating stonework on the southern side of St Peter’s church and this should be completed some time in the first half of 2024. Unfortunately we were not successful in obtaining an HeritageSA grant for replacing the rusted window protection on the Southern side of St Peter’s. We still hope to gradually move to polycarbonate protection for all of these windows (as we have for the windows at the Western end) however that work is on hold for the time being.

Online tax-deductible donations for heritage works on our properties can always 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 Glyburn 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 Tracey Gracey e: tracey.gracey15@gmail.com m: 0417 899 603
- Assisting Priest** - The Reverend Dr Margaret Annells m: 0488 921 905
- Parish Office** – Jade Black (Admin Officer) e: Parish.Office@glenelganglican.org.au p: 8295 2382

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