

PSALM

For the Psalm: Song of Zechariah (Luke 1:68–79)

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel:

you have come to your people and set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour:

born of the house of your servant David.

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old:

to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,
to show mercy to our forebears:

and to remember your holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to worship you without fear:

holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:

for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

To give God's people knowledge of salvation:

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God:

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death:

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

A Prayer Book for Australia, Broughton Books, 1995

APPLECROSS ANGLICAN PARISH

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5 December 2021

**Applecross
Anglican Church**
Diocese of Perth



Reflection on Advent II

In Advent, we hear John the Baptist's message as an invitation to spiritual reflection. Just as we might clean our house in preparation for a special guest, so the Church asks us to take stock of our souls and to be at our best when the special day arrives.

Like John the Baptist, the author Joan Chittister points out all the ways of our lives

"We all tell ourselves that things are just too hectic, ... But, if we do nothing to change it, the schedule just gets worse and the noise gets more unrelenting and the fatigue goes deeper into the bone.

The fact is that it is our souls, not our bodies, that are tired."

Perhaps that's why we need to confront John the Baptist every Advent. If we are to prepare for the coming of the Lord, we need to spend some time examining our lives and trying to get things in order. The painful truth is that life feels out of balance for many of us today. The promise and the hope, however, is that we can do something about it. We can change, and we can find a rhythm of life that makes time for every facet of our lives. We can move to a greater sense of wholeness and harmony in our lives. Advent is a holy season set aside for this type of spiritual reflection. The really amazing news is that even as we engage in this process of seeking wholeness and balance in our lives, we are also preparing for the greatest of all spiritual gifts: the gift of God coming into our lives once again at Christmas.

Wendy

Ngaala kaaditj Noongar moort keyen kaadak nidja boodja.

We respectfully acknowledge Noongar People as the original custodians of this land, and their ongoing relationship with it.

PRAYERS Gracious God, we ask for your blessing and healing for all.

In the Diocese we pray for:

Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy, Bishop Jeremy James and Bishop Kate Wilmot and Bishop Christopher Ruto of our partnered Diocese of Eldoret
Our partnered parish St Stephens Aturei, priest Rev Josephat Bett and people

For those in need at this time:

Prayers of comfort, peace, and company for all we know and love who are in need of prayers of love and support. Prayers have been asked for Jill.

George Livesey (2008), Margaret Wainscoat (2009), Diane Heath, Priest (2011), Shirley Grainger (2011)

May their portion in paradise be rest and peace.

HYMNS

TIS 282 (to tune TIS 411)
TIS 264 or Gospel acclamation
TIS 647
TIS 276

READINGS

THIS WEEK

Malachi 3.1-14
Song of Zechariah
Philippians 1.1-11; Luke 3.1-6

NEXT WEEK

Zephaniah 3.14-20
A Song of Isaiah
Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Applecross Parish is inviting you to a scheduled ADVENT Zoom meeting.

Topic: Advent Study Group

Time: Dec 7, 2021 07:00 PM Perth Every week on Tue, until Dec 21, 2021

Dec 7, 2021 07:00 PM

Dec 14, 2021 07:00 PM

Dec 21, 2021 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85701209042?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85701209042?pwd=ZGdCRG9mSGc1OWU4aEs3N0twSG4zQT09)

[pwd=ZGdCRG9mSGc1OWU4aEs3N0twSG4zQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85701209042?pwd=ZGdCRG9mSGc1OWU4aEs3N0twSG4zQT09)

Meeting ID: 857 0120 9042 Passcode: 35083

Notices

ST BART'S Support for Perth's

Homeless at Christmas. Thank you to all who have contributed to this appeal including the Playgroup families. This appeal for our donations for St Bart's continues until **Sunday 12 December.**

ADVENT theme is prayer. Three sessions, Preparing, Waiting, Hoping will be held on differing ways of prayer. Lectio Divina, Ignatian Spirituality, and Meditation.
7 December 10.30am St David's and 7.00pm Zoom session.

14 December 10.30am St David's and 7.00pm Zoom session.

21 December 10.30am St David's and 7.00pm Zoom session.

We will say Compline after our Zoom meeting. All joining me on Zoom please ensure you have Study material for the study - available in printed form or via email next Sunday. ZOOM meeting details on page 2 of this Bulletin.

This Advent you are invited to slow down this season and discover the quiet moments of Advent hope.

An Advent Calendar with a daily reading and reflection is available or via email by request.

ADVENT



Our candle remains lit for all affected by the Covid pandemic.

Christmas Carol Evening under the stars at St George's, with face painting, balloon twisting, free pizza, live entertainment and singalongs. This event is sponsored by the Melville Shire at no cost for anyone. **From 6.00-9.30pm Friday 17 December.** Invite your friends, family and neighbours.
There will be no parking on the church grounds or verge. Applecross Primary School will open their parking for the night.

ANGEL TREE We have been allocated 7 children, who have a parent in prison, to deliver some Christmas cheer. Gifts to be between \$25-30. We need arts and crafts/puzzles for a 5 year old; Disney Princess or Pink Power Ranger for a 4 year old, and 5 gift vouchers from Kmart. Please see Ann or Wendy if interested in assisting.

CHISTMAS BOWL - There are envelopes at each church for anyone who would like to support the Christmas Bowl.

