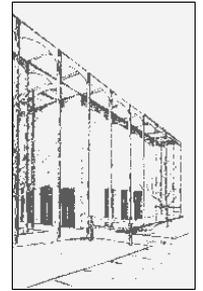




**ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
**WARNCLIFFE ROAD EAST IVANHOE**



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

**John the Baptist**

“Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.”

Mk 1: 6.



**SUNDAY**

8:00 am Said Eucharist

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY**

10:00 am Said Eucharist

**FRIDAY**

10:00 am Holy Communion – Dowell Court

**Locum**

The Reverend Canon Ray Cleary  
 ray@cleary.com.au

0419371613

Email

[parish@stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org](mailto:parish@stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org)

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0438455641

Church Website:

stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org

Sacristan:

Ann Farquhar; Associate: Anne Hill; Emeritus: Lila Sanders

Music Director

Roger Brown

0419390563

### **SERVICE ROSTER FOR TODAY**

Celebrant:	The Reverend Canon Ray Cleary
Organist:	Roger Brown
Servers:	Joan Skene, Neil Appleby, Chris Hayward
Eucharistic Assistants:	Server
Readers:	Marion White
Sidesperson:	Bob Hill, Ian James
Morning Tea:	Rosemary Cotter, Elizabeth Appleby
Flowers:	No flowers in Advent
Hall Cleaning:	Steve and Liz Howard

### **SERVICE ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Celebrant:	The Reverend Canon Ray Cleary
Organist:	Roger Brown
Servers:	Joan Skene, Sandra O'Grady, Chris Hayward
Eucharistic Assistants:	Coral Tudball
Readers:	Rosemary Cotter
Sidesperson:	Bob Hill, Rosemary Cotter
Morning Tea:	Denise and George Hall
Hall Cleaning:	Chris Hayward
Church Cleaning	Richard and Mary Hoy

### **ADVENT AND WILDERNESS.**

The presence of wilderness is present on many occasions throughout scripture. The wilderness experience runs deep with the people of God as scripture describes the journey of the people of Israel through the desert to the Promised Land. In Australia we are fighting to preserve what we describe as wilderness, both rugged mountain ranges with their rivers and foliage, and the vast open spaces of wilderness deserts. Today we increasingly recognize the importance of wilderness as spiritual space as well as a place of sustenance and renewal in our rapidly expanding urban environment. As I travel into the outback of this land I reflect on how for over 60000 years the indigenous people roamed and lived without all the modern comforts of today. At night sitting under the stars with a glass of Port in one hand, the majesty and awe of the Milky Way reminds me of the beauty of the creation stories in Genesis and the mystery of life itself.

In the wilderness we are able to take stock, reflect and refuel ourselves on many fronts. I find it restores my soul, cynicism and disillusionment with many aspects of contemporary society and restores my hope.

What place does wilderness have in your life? Are you able to find a wilderness time and space for your own reflection and preparations at this busy time of the year? Are you able to find the time to prepare the way of the

Lord? Yes we are all fragile and less than perfect but also have the capacity for others to see good in our lives and the possibility of the new heaven and earth. The wilderness can provide the space and the occasion for this experience.

Finally I have left a small Advent booklet from Anglican Overseas Aid that I encourage you to use this Advent for personal reflection and study.

Shalom  
Ray

### **ST GEORGE OP SHOP**

Assistant Manager

Manager

Volunteers needed for working in the St George's Op Shop

**9499 5166**

94992268

94590325

### **BUILDING MAINTENANCE EMERGENCY CONTACTS:**

Steve Howard 9499 6410 or 0400 890020, Alison Smart, Vince Cristiano, George Hall. Any person welcome to join, just ask anyone on the BMC. Please write NON urgent maintenance items on the Building Maintenance List found on the table in the church.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

All are welcome to follow the Way of the Cross at any time that the Church is open. A booklet is available as a guide to your meditation.

### **POSTER DISTRIBUTION**

I have a number of posters to be placed in local shops and other places for distribution. I hope parishioners will take one for their favorite local shop . They promote our Christmas services. Details have also been placed on the Church website.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** are for sale. See Nan at the back pew.

### **STUDIES DURING ADVENT**

Over the next few weeks at the Wednesday 10am Eucharist I will be leading a short 5-7 minute reflection on Mark's Gospel. Mark is our Gospel for Sunday's during the coming year and I will be using a little book on Mark written by the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams. Following the service we all go for coffee, a time of fellowship. Please think about joining us this Advent.

**The Order of Service for the Eucharist commences at Page 119 of the green 'A Prayer Book for Australia.' The readings and hymn numbers for today will be found in this pew bulletin.**

**Hymns:**

Processional	196	O sing a new song to the Lord
Gradual	211	Come O Jesus, Come O Lord
Offertory	202	The people that in darkness walked
Final	398	Holy Father, God of might

**Communion Motet:** Hymn 200

**Postlude:** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 661/2 - J.S. Bach

*Recordings of postludes played at St George's are posted in the Music section of the church website: [stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org](http://stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org)*

**Sentence**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

**Collect**

Merciful God,  
you sent your messengers the prophets  
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:  
give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,  
that we may greet with joy  
the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**A reading from Isaiah**

Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the Lord's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord ,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

and all people shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

A voice says, ‘Cry out!’

And I said, ‘What shall I cry?’

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;

surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;

but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

‘Here is your God!’

See, the Lord God comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead the mother sheep.

For the word of the Lord   **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 85:



- 1 O Lord you were gracious | to your | land:  
**you res | tored the | fortunes . of | Jacob.**
- 2 You forgave the iniquity | of your | people:  
**and | covered | all their | sin.**
- 8 I will hear what the Lord | God will | speak:  
**for he will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful ones whose | hearts are | turned to | him.**
- 9 Truly his salvation is near to | those that | fear him:  
**and his | glory . shall | dwell . in our | land.**
- 10 Mercy and truth are | met to | gether:  
**righteousness and | peace have | kissed each | other;**
- 11 Truth shall flourish | out of . the | earth:  
**and righteousness | shall look | down from | heaven.**
- 12 The Lord will also give us | all . that is | good:  
**and our | land shall | yield its | plenty.**
- 13 For righteousness shall | go bef | ore him:  
and tread the | path be | fore his feet.  
**and tread the path before his feet.**

## A reading from the second book of Peter

2 Peter 3.8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be

dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him,

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

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

**Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark**

Mark 1.1-8

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’,  
John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism  
of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of  
Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the  
river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around

his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

For the Gospel of the Lord            **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**Prayers for those in need: (list renewed monthly:** Brian Monteith, Leanne Barker, Lesley Tracey, Sarah Tracey, Paul Finch, Dino Fernando, and others known to you.

We pray for those who love and care for them.

### **Year's Mind**

Vera Clare	10th December	1980
Denys Bernard Ivor ROBERTS	12th December	1961
Elsie May GRAY	12th December	1978
Frederick William SUTTON	12th December	1980
Noel Alexander FERGUSON	12th December	1997
Henry James ATKINS	13th December	1975
Thomas Hamilton McMICKING	13th December	1987
Albert James JUDD	13th December	1969
Ethel Gwendoline TUTTON	15th December	1980
Lilian Amy BENNET	15th December	1989
Ella Muriel CRANE	15th December	2000
Joan Mary Elise ALMOND	15th December	1999

### **Readings for December 17<sup>th</sup> Advent 3**

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5.12-28; John 1.6-8;19-28

## COMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

10 <sup>th</sup> December	11.30am	Parish Consultation
17 <sup>th</sup> December	9pm	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.
24 <sup>th</sup> December	9am	Eucharist
24 <sup>th</sup> December	5pm	Children's Christmas Story
24 <sup>th</sup> December	11.30pm	Christmas Eve - Midnight Eucharist
25 <sup>th</sup> December	9am	Christmas Day      Christmas Eucharist
28 <sup>th</sup> January 2018		Sausage Sizzle after the 10.00am service
17 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	6.30pm	“Spit” with Meron for ABM or Overseas Aid

The December issue of *The Melbourne Anglican (TMA)* is now available in the foyer. This issue includes:

- A front cover painting ‘The Star of Bethlehem’ by Indigenous Anglican priest and artist Robyn Davis;
- The recent ordination of 21 priests, including interviews with two of them about their journey towards ordination;
- Anglican responses to the Same-Sex Marriage Postal Vote;
- Reactions to the passing of assisted dying legislation in the Victorian Parliament;
- Interviews with Archbishop-elect Kay Goldsworthy, and the retiring Bishop of Bendigo, Andrew Curnow;
- Professor of Gerontology Simon Biggs on the spiritual and missional opportunities of ageing;
- Beryl Rule reflects on that ‘mistress of irony and devastating moral insight’, Jane Austen, to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death which occurred this year.