

# Advent 4 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023



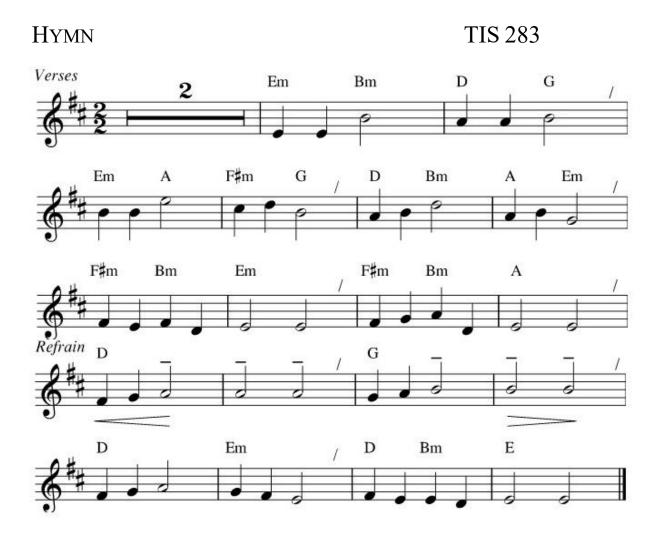
10am Presiding: Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra10am Preaching: Rev'd Robyn Boyd

### Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne. Thank you for joining us in worship.

Please join in saying the text marked in **bold** and singing the musical responses and hymns.

### Introduction

Mary did not arrive easily at her commitment to the Word of God. Yet in the end she was willing to put all her trust in God. Her acceptance was complete. May we be willing to put aside our own petty fears and imitate Mary in her unconditional response to the mysterious ways of God who shows us his love in the gift of his Son.



1. Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new,
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing! When he comes, when he comes. who will make him welcome?

- 2. God in time, God in man, this is God's timeless plan: he will come, as a man, born himself of woman, God divinely human. Refrain
- 3. Mary, hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed. In her womb God is laid: till the time expected, nurtured and protected. *Refrain*
- 4. Journey ends: where afar Bethlem shines, like a star, stable door stands ajar. Unborn Son of Mary, Saviour, do not tarry.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes,
Jesus comes:
we will make him welcome.

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Peace be with you. And also with you.

Remain standing for the lighting of the Advent wreath

We have this ADVENT WREATH to remind us of the coming of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world.

As we light the fourth candle let us say together:

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

We light the First candle to remind us of all God's people who, in every age, watch for his coming.

We light the Second candle to remind us of the great promise made by God and told to us by the prophets.

We light the Third candle to remind us of John the Baptist, who told us to prepare for the coming of the Messiah.

A young person asks: Why do we light the fourth candle?

A parent replies: "We light the fourth candle to remind us of Mary who was obedient to God's command; and gave birth to the Messiah."

"The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a woman engaged to a man called Joseph. "Mary, do not be afraid", he said, "You have won God's favour. Listen. You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus.

Luke 1:26-33

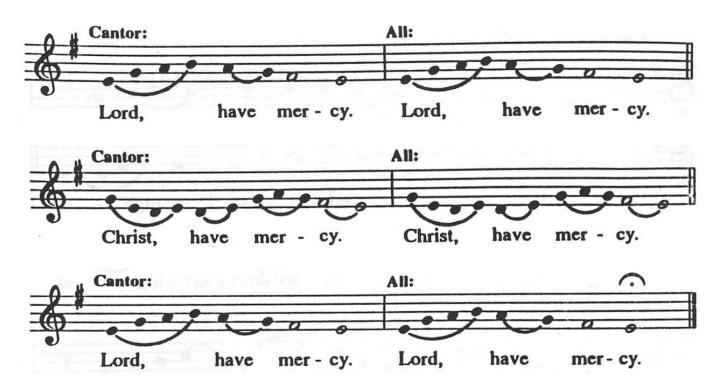
For the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us say together:

Our Father who is in heaven we need the light of peace and love to shine in our world. Help us to prepare our lives and homes to receive the Messiah. Come Lord Jesus come. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. In the light we confess our sins.

Merciful God, our Maker and our Judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### THE COLLECT

Gracious God, whose eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will: prepare our hearts for his coming again and keep us steadfast in hope, that we may be ready for the coming of his kingdom; for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the reading

## A reading from the book of the prophet Samuel:

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.'

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and

have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16

For the word of the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.

# My soul re - joi - ces in God my Sav - iour, My spi-rit finds its iov in God, the liv - ing God.

My soul proclaims your mighty deeds
My spirit sings the greatness of your name. *Response* 

Your mercy flows throughout the land and every generation knows your love. *Response* 

You cast the mighty from their thrones and raise the poor and lowly to new life. *Response* 

You fill the hungry with good things. With empty hands you send the rich away. *Response* 

Just as you promised Abraham, you come to free your people, Israel. *Response* 

### SECOND READING:

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans:

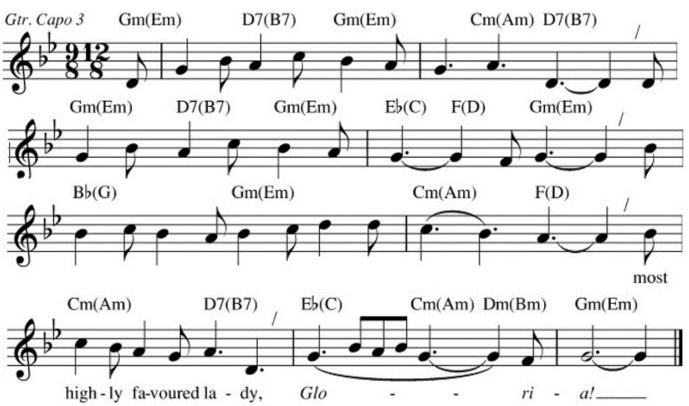
Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Romans 16.25-27

For the word of the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.

HYMN TIS 302



1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; 'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favoured lady, *Gloria!* 

- 2. 'for known a blessèd Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honour thee, thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold; most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!*
- 3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, 'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said, 'my soul shall laud and magnify his holy name': 'most highly favoured lady'. Gloria!
- 4. of her, Immanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say most highly favoured lady, *Gloria!*

Basque Carol, paraphrased by Sabine Baring-Gould 1834–1924

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, **Alleluia**I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. **Alleluia** 

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke:

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in

your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1.26-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**SERMON** 

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the

prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each section:

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

And at the end:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PEACE

We are the body of Christ:

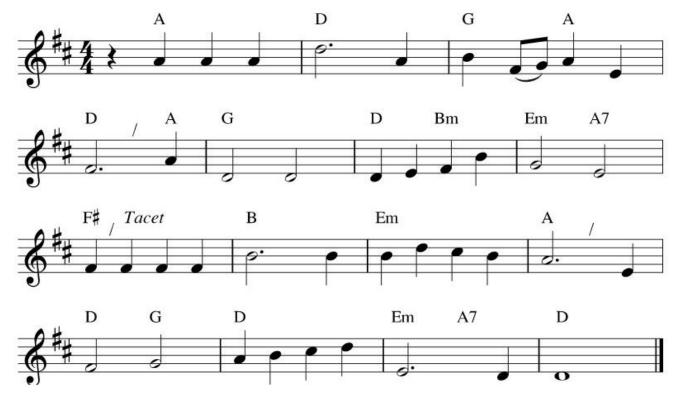
His spirit is with us.

The peace of Christ be always with you:

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN TIS 161



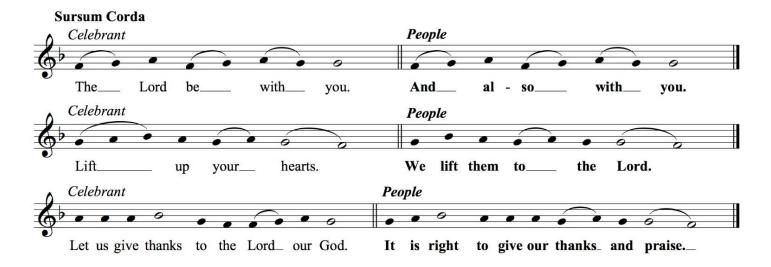
- 1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
- 2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
  Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
  his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
  his holy name the Lord, the Mighty One.
- 3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
  Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
  Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
- 4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
  Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
  Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

### THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life. **Blessèd be God for ever.** 

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become for us the cup of salvation. **Blessèd be God for ever.** 

### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**



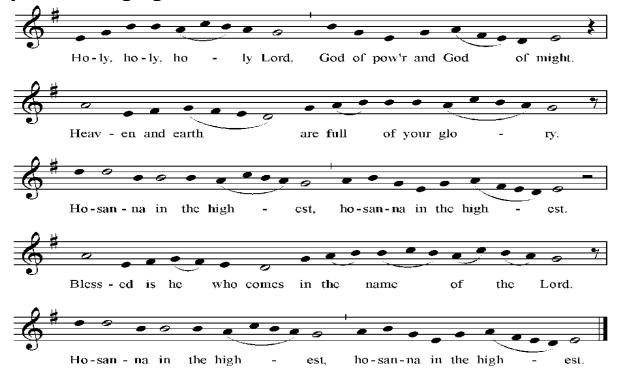
All glory and honour, thanks and praise be given to you at all times and in all places, Lord, holy Father, true and living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is your eternal Word through whom you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In him the day of our deliverance has dawned. We rejoice that through him you make all things new and we look for his coming in power and majesty to judge the world. In your great love you gave him to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will your Son our Saviour offered himself as a perfect sacrifice, and died upon the cross for our redemption. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest whom you raised from death and exalted to your right hand on high where he ever lives to intercede for us. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit and made us a royal priesthood called to serve you for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name, for every praising you and singing:



Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

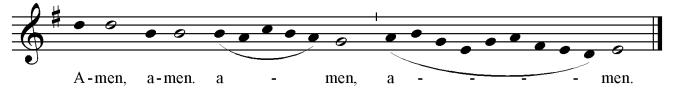
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

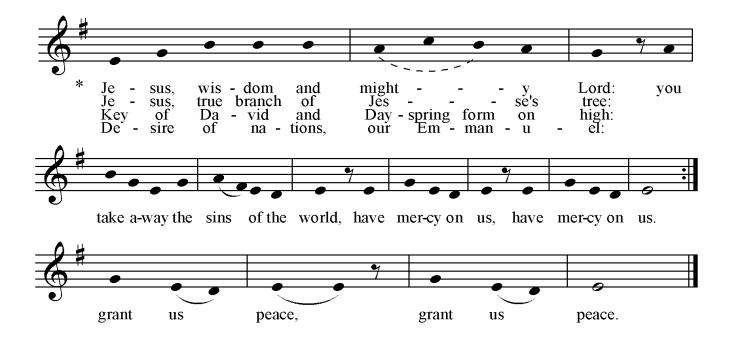
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

### **AGNUS DEI**



### THE INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace you holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love.

Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of the Spirit.

THE BLESSING

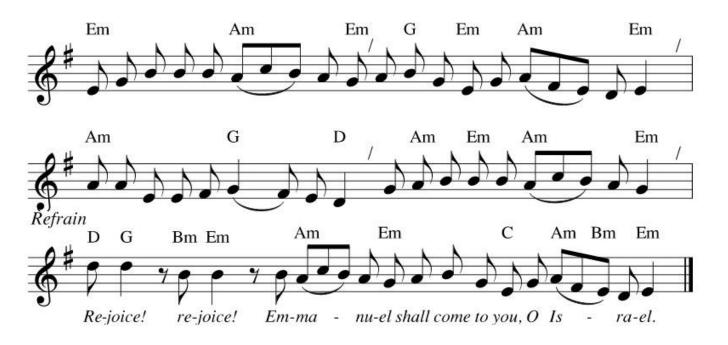
Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen** 

**DISMISSAL** 

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN TIS 265



1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Sung unaccompanied:

- 2. O come, O come, great Lord of might who to the tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. Rejoice! rejoice! ...
- 3. O come, O key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high and close the path to misery. *Rejoice! rejoice!* ...

- 4. O come, O branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell your people save and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! rejoice! ...
- 5. O come, O dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Rejoice! rejoice!* ...

Anon., Latin, 18th cent. or earlier based on Antiphons from 9th cent. or earlier tr. John Mason Neale 1818–66 alt.

### **PRAYERS**

Please pray for those in need: Lucy and Joel, Susan and Greg, Peter and Juneanne, Jenny Langmead, Mavis and Martin, Brandi and family.

Also, those whose anniversaries of death fall this week, including: Bruce Ford.

If there is a name that should be included please advise the Parish Office by email office@stmarys.org.au

The Roster					
	December 24th			December 25th	Sunday 31st
	Advent 4	Christmas Eve - 5pm Kids	Midnight Mass 11:30pm	Christmas Day 9am	
8:00am Reader	Rhondda Fahey				
10:00am Readers	Sarah Gador- Whyte Michael Golding		Susan Brennan Andrew Gador- Whyte	Susan Gribben Josie Snowden	Alice Christofi TBC
Serving Team	Andrew Murray Peter O'Donoghue	No serving team	Anne Sunderland Peter O'Donoghue	Peter O'Donoghue Andrew Murray	Anne Sunderland Alice Christofi
Subdeacon	Josie Snowdon		Andrew Murray	Josie Snowdon	Andrew Murray
Welcome	Michael Golding	Parish Council	Parish Council	Sam Miller	Parish Council
Introduction & Intercession	Sam Miller		(in pew sheet) Geoff Jenkins	(in pew sheet) Robert Gribben	(in pew sheet) Andrew Murray
Video/AV	Sam Miller		Adam Wing	Adam Wing	ТВС
Kids Corner & Sunday School					
Morning Tea	Marion Poynter Susan Gribben		Refreshments Hospitality Committee	Hospitality Committee - Susan Gribben?	Margaret Noble Michael Noble

### Acknowledgements:

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# Mary's Parish Notices

### **Upcoming Services over Christmas and January**

### December 24:

4th Sunday of Advent 10AM service only

Kids Christmas 5PM

Midnight Mass 11.30PM

**December 25:** FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE 9AM

**December 31:** First Sunday after Christmas

January 5: Epiphany Service 6pm. January 7: Baptism of Our Lord

January 14th: Second Sunday after Epiphany January 21st: Third Sunday after Epiphany January 28th: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany February 4th: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

### **Nativity Sets**

Many thanks to all who have contributed to make our Nativity Sets display so wonderful.

If you need your set(s) for your home for Christmas, please feel free to take home. Otherwise, we'll be leaving the sets there for all the Christmas services, which we trust will add a further blessing to those who visit our church at Christmas.

If any sets are still there after Christmas, and if we haven't packed them up for you, we'll keep them on display for another week or two - and we'll make sure the wise men and camels have found Jesus!

The boxes etc in which you brought them are stored under the display tables.

### Celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany

Epiphany Eve, **Friday 5th January, 6pm** – The Eucharist will be followed by barbeque. Please bring what you would like to barbecue and to drink; we'll have salads and bread.

### **Thursday Midday Eucharist**

There is a midday Eucharist held on Thursdays.
All are Welcome!

### **Sharing with the Hungry**

There are three ways we can contribute food to those who cannot afford it.

- A financial donation to the Anglican Benevolent Society via the church office feeds the funds we use for a weekly purchase of meat for the kitchens at St Marks Fitzroy.
- A financial donation to either St Marks or Mission House via the church office gives them the money to buy what is needed for their food parcels.
- Food donations but no glass items can be left in the baptistery at St Mary's for either St Marks or Mission House.

### **Parish Councillors for 2024**

Here are our parish councillors for 2024. They are:

Sam Miller, Anne Sunderland, Adam Wing (Churchwardens), Andrew Barnard (treasurer), Helen McCallum, Alice Christofi (secretary), Andrew Gador-White, John Blanch, Rosie Moloney (Parish Councillors)

### Giving to Support St Mary's

We value your financial support. This helps us keep our doors open and fulfil our mission. You can donate by following this link or scanning the QR code:

http://st-marys-anglican-north-melbourne.square.site/



Or make a direct transfer to:

Account Name: St Marys Anglican Church North Melbourne

Bank: Westpac BSB: 033 132 Account Number: 264412

# **CONTACT ST MARYS**

Post: 430 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne 3051

Phone: 9328 2522

E-mail: office@stmarys.org.au

Web: www.stmarys.org.au, Facebook, YouTube.

Clergy: Rev'd Robyn Boyd (Associate Priest)

revrobyncb@gmail.com

Vicar: Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra

vicar@stmarys.org.au

Wardens: Anne Sunderland annes@jenkinsau.net

Adam Wing awwingman@gmail.com Sam Miller samcmiller92@msn.com Like

You Tube

Director of Music: Beverley Phillips bphillips@melbourneanglican.org.au

Parish Administrator: Darrell Pitt.

Office Hours: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, Mon-Fri.

KOOYOORA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

The Anglican Diocese is conjunction with St Mary's Anglican Church North Melbourne does not tolerate abuse, harassment or other misconduct within our communities. If any person has concerns about behaviour of a church worker, past

or present. The Diocese of Melbourne is committed to doing all that is possible to ensure that abuse does not occur. All complaints of abuse are taken very seriously, and we do all we can to lessen harm. We offer respect, pastoral care and ongoing long-term support to anyone who makes a complaint. St Mary's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is on our noticeboard and can be downloaded from our website www.stmarys.org.au.

PLEASE REPORT ABUSE CALL 1800 135 246

