

ADVENT 2 On-line, 6 DECEMBER 2020

WELCOME to St Peter's Church – whether you are a regular member of the church or if you have never been in person. If you are new to our church I pray you will visit us in-person at one of our services.

This service sheet is to accompany the video to be found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1IijXcNGCFieJLoEBv5vPg; on our Facebook page (St Peter's Anglican Church, Cremorne); or on our website (stpeterscremorne.org.au).

Our services have now resumed with COVID Safe practices in place. Our regular services are Sundays: 7am Eucharist; 9am Eucharist; and a 10:30am service with a children's program. We also have a Tuesday Eucharist service at 10am

Please continue to care for one another, telephone each other, and identify anyone with particular needs. Please let the rector, the pastoral care team, or the church office know if you yourself are sick or have particular needs.

You can contact the parish office on 9953 1050 or info@stpeterscremorne.org.au between 9am and midday on Tuesdays and Thursdays or contact me, the rector, Rev'd Tim St Quintin on 0401 289 919 or rector@stpeterscremorne.org.au.

With every blessing in Christ,

Rev'd Tim St Quintin, Rector

GREETING IN GOD'S NAME

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

HYMN

Tune Winchester

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; come then and hearken, for he brings glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every heart from sin; make straight the way for God within; prepare we in our hearts a home where such a mighty guest may come.

For you are our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward; without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out your hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth, and let you light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.

To him who left the throne of heaven to free us all, let praise be given; and praise be to the Father done, and Holy Spirit, Three in One.

THE CONFESSION

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have gone our own way,
not loving you as we should,
nor loving others as much as ourselves.
We have sinned against you

We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. Only you can save us. Father, forgive us.

Help us to love you and all people, and to live for your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In response to his call we acknowledge our sins. God pardons those who humbly repent and truly believe the gospel. Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COLLECT FOR ADVENT

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah 40:1-11

¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will 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 like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures for ever.'

⁹ You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd: he gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Hear the Word of the Lord, thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:1-2,8-13

- You, LORD, showed favour to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins.
- I will listen to what God the LORD says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants – but let them not turn to folly.
- Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

- Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven.
- The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.
- Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

SECOND READING

A reading from the second epistle of Peter 3:8-15a

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. ¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holv and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. ¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. ¹⁵ Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom that God gave him.

Hear the Word of the Lord, thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark 1:1-8 **★ Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way'–³ 'a voice of one calling in the

wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him."

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. Be baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.

SERMON

HYMN Tune Moscow

Lord, your almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight: hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.

Saviour, who came to give those who in darkness live healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind, now to all humankind let there be light,

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving holy dove, speed forth your flight; move on the waters' face, bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place, let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might,

boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride, through the earth far and wide, let there be light.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please use the prayers listed at the end of the service sheet, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

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 APOSTLES' CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

GOD'S BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you; 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.

The Prayers

A Prayer for St Peter's

Heavenly Father, pour down your Holy Spirit upon this parish family of St Peter. We give thanks that you have called us to a ministry of servanthood to all people and especially to each other. Help us, we pray, to discern your vision for us; teach us to use the gifts you have given us to build your kingdom in this place and to reach out to all those in our communities. We ask through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

An Advent Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ,

Who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Gracious and generous God, thank you for providing all our needs.

Make us truly grateful, Lord.

For families and friends, we give you thanks.

For enjoyment of all that is good, we give you thanks.

For the love of Jesus our Saviour, we give you thanks.

For his life poured out in sacrifice for us, we give you thanks.

Other thanksgivings may be added here.

Lord, keep us mindful of those in need, that as we pray for them, we may be generous to them, as you are to us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who alone gives us life eternal. Amen.

A Prayer For All People

God of love, make your way known to the people of our world, your saving power among all nations.
Guide and govern your church by your Holy Spirit, so that all who call themselves Christians may be led in the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

We commend to your fatherly goodness all who are afflicted or distressed

in body, mind or circumstances (especially ...).
Relieve them according to their needs,
giving them patience in their sufferings, and deliverance from their
afflictions. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

To request public or private prayer, please email prayer@stpeterscremorne.org.au

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

We pray for the Anglican Communion, for Justin of Canterbury, Geoffrey our Primate, Glenn our Archbishop, Chris our Bishop and the Northern Region. Pray for the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury).

ST PETER'S PARISH AND LOCAL CHURCHES

For our Rector Rev'd Tim St Quintin. For our Wardens and Treasurer. For Fr Philip Linder and the clergy and parishioners of the Catholic Parish of Sydney Harbour North.

THE WIDER WORLD AND LOCAL COMMUNITY

For world peace and for all world leaders in their responsibility to those under their care. For our Governor General, our State Governor, Prime Minister and Premier, and all who have responsibility for government administration. For our local community to personify friendship, kindness, and compassion.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE

Kate

OUR PARISHIONERS

Bruce and Barbara, John, Neil and Hardie, Kurt, Elizabeth, Gordon, Thomas, Alessandra, Sophia and Eva, Jenny, Frank and Susan, Max, Diane, Michael and Anne, Suzanne, Marcy.

THE SICK

The immediate sick

Barbara, Peter, Max, Dan, Roger, Peter, Janne, Pamela, Peter, Maryanne.

Those requiring on-going prayer

Penelope, Margie and Rein, Liz, Caroline, Sharon, Bobbie Dee, Inga, Joy, Elizabeth, Vatche, Richard, Di, Noel, Tom Frame, Gigi, Frank, Judith, Jenny, Sally.

Those in residential care

Peter and Patricia; Glenyth; Ros; Jeremy.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We praise God for his faithful servants in every age. We pray that we, with all who have died in the faith of Christ, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of God's eternal kingdom. We remember the recently deceased and those whose anniversary occurs at this time, especially Amelia Turnell.

NOTICES

PRAYING FOR ST PETER'S

A monthly meeting is held to pray regularly for the ministry of St Peter's. The next meeting will be held in the **David Armstrong Room on Monday 7 December from 7:30-8:30pm**. All welcome – there is no expectation for everyone to pray aloud. Just add your "Amen" to the prayers of others. For more information, contact the Rector.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCE STALL

There will be a Christmas Produce Stall on Sunday 13th December in the David Armstrong Room between services. Proceeds to Missions. Mini cakes, biscuits and slices all for sale on the day. We are taking orders for Lemon Butter.



ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY



COVID restrictions mean that Christmas will be a little different at St Peter's this year. We hope you will able to celebrate Christ's birth by participating in one or more of our services. Our Nine Lessons and Carols service will be made available on-line. See separate notice on next page.

Our Christmas services – the **5.30pm Family Service and 11pm Solemn Eucharist on Christmas Eve**, as well as the **9am Christmas Service with Holy Communion on Christmas Day** – will be held in the church.

To comply with COVID restrictions, attendance in church will be limited to 80. It will be necessary to obtain a free ticket in order to attend. **If you do not have access to the internet** please contact the parish office as soon as possible and we will reserve a place for you. Otherwise you can book your ticket via the St Peter's website, www.stpeterscremorne.org.au and following the links.

These services will also be livestreamed with a downloadable service sheet and The St Peter's Singers (Karen Bruce, Warren Fisher, Susie Bishop and Timothy Nunn) will sing at the 11pm Solemn Eucharist, accompanied by Glenn Amer.

We look forward to seeing you at St Peter's over the Christmas period. If you have any queries about the services please do not hesitate to contact the Rector or the parish office.

TOYS 'N' TUCKER

This is the last week to donate to the Toys'n'Tucker appeal conducted by Anglicare. Donations may be in the form of food: Christmas cake or pudding, tinned ham, tinned salmon, tea, coffee, Milo, pasta, pasta sauce, long-life milk, tinned vegetables and jam are ideal. Anything that is non-perishable; or toys: age appropriate books, toys, board games, outdoor games, sporting equipment and toiletries in new condition would be welcomed. Sadly no chocolate as it is likely to melt. The last day for

drop-off is Sunday 13 December as goods are being collected on Monday 14 December. Goods can be left in the David Armstrong room on Sundays, Tuesdays or Thursdays between 9am and midday when the parish office will be open.

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



Due to the COVID restrictions on singing, our Nine Lessons and Carols service will be shared on-line this year. The service will be available from Monday 14 December via the St Peter's website: www.stpeterscremorne.org.au, or the St Peter's channel on You Tube. A service of Nine Lessons and Carols has nine Bible readings (or lessons) that tell the Christmas story, interspersed with Christmas carols.

The soloists will be Alison Claire Robertson and Susie Bishop, accompanied by Glenn Amer and the service will also include performances by students from SCECGS Redlands.

FRIDGE FREE TO GOOD HOME

Fisher and Paykel cabinet fridge freezer with freezer at bottom. Height 165 cms. Depth 65 cms. Width 64 cms. White. Free to good home but must be collected from Artarmon. Please call Joy 9953 8526.

NEXT SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7.00AM – EUCHARIST 9.00AM – EUCHARIST
10.30 AM – SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S PROGRAM 2.30PM BOUGAINVILLEA
CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: REV'D TIM ST QUINTIN

Banking details for direct donations:

Name of account - St Peter's Anglican Church Direct Donations BSB 032 197, Account No - 224230

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