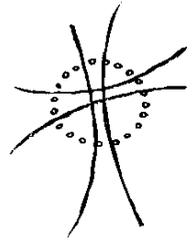




St John's

Anglican Church
Coffs Harbour

www.coffsharbouranglicanchurch.org
16th December 2018



Third Sunday of Advent



John the Baptist gives us the image of Jesus with a winnowing fork in hand, ready to “gather the wheat into his barn” and burn the chaff “with unquenchable fire”.

Advent can be seen as a time to clear away the chaff in our own lives.

Out of love for God and for our neighbour we can ask, what are the things that separate us from experiencing God in our daily lives?

Where have we failed to live out the Good News with joy and love? As Christmas draws closer let's intensify our prayer for Jesus to send the fire of his love to purify our hearts and minds anew.

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today.
If you are here with us for the first time and would like to join us regularly, please fill in an information card on the back table, and hand it to the staff or sides person.

Sentence: Do not fear. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love. Zephaniah 3.16–17

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, you sent your Son into a world where the wheat must be winnowed from the chaff and evil clings even to what is good: let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all corruption, so that, purified, we may wait eagerly for him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Dates for your Diary

23 Dec	Rehearsal Christmas Eve Service 3.30pm
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Family Service 5.30pm
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Carol singing 10.30 pm
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Eucharist 11.00 pm
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service 8.00am
13 Jan	Bishop Murray Harvey Visit

MISSION OF THE MONTH – DECEMBER:

The Christmas Bowl appeal is an invitation to Australian Christians to stand by men, women and children living through conflict and displacement. Sadly, more important than ever. For the first time in history, there are nearly 60 million displaced people in the world who need our help.

It is a way of forging a loving connection between the Christian community here in Australia and people around the world who are experiencing dreadful hardship and suffering.

Please give generously.



Please Pray:

- ◆ We remember all those who are sick and need prayers:
- ◆ We pray for Doreen Brewin, Dan Octigan, Lesley Lee, Brian Armstrong, Rose Marie Beston.

We continue to pray for Pat Grimshaw, Enid Waites, John & Nancy Tigwell, Hattersley & Laurel Smith-Cameron, Tony Fookes, Sylvia Broadhurst, Rosemary Majoor, Sue Brewin, Barbara Williams, Ken & Val Grant, Annette Lane, Elsie Tillott, Marion Murray, Cody Cook, Margaret Fisher, Rae Rediger, Val Furniss, Lillian Robertson, and Theresa.

- ◆ We pray for those who are mourning the loss of loved ones, especially Collin and Sue McEntyre and family.
- ◆ We give thanks for and pray for the ministry of Archdeacon Gail Hagon and pray for Gail and Mark in this time of transition.
- ◆ We pray for our families and all whom we love and share our lives. As we journey through Advent set our hearts on fire with your love for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS FOR 23rd DECEMBER 2018

Micah 5.2-5a
Song of Mary
Hebrews 10.5-10
Luke 1.39-45



Preaching & Presiding:

6pm *Rev'd Bruce McAteer*
7 & 9am *Rev'd Bruce McAteer*
LLM: *Alan Reko*

Services in the Orara Valley:

Glenreagh and Nana Glen: Rev'd Anne Goode
Coramba: LLM

known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke , Chapter 3 beginning at verse 7
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹ In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹² Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³ He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

c. The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible with Apocrypha

Coming Events & Notices

(see also back page)

EfM: The EfM group has completed their studies for 2018. EfM stands for “Education for Ministry” or the alternate title is “Exploring Faith Matters” offered by the University of the South (USA). As December and January are very busy months we are asking for “expressions of interest” now, to explore the possibility of continuing the group in 2019. We will be starting at the beginning of February but, if you are interested (no firm decision is needed – just an expression of interest), please speak with either Norma Anderson (66536010) or Rev Anne.

BISHOP’S VISIT: Bishop Murray will be sharing in worship at St. John’s on the 13th January 2019. Further details to come.

CONFIRMATIONS: When Bishop Murray is with us there will be an opportunity for people to be confirmed. Please speak with Rev’d Bruce or Rev’d Anne if you are interested to find out more about this.

BCA BOXES: ARE NOW DUE TO BE RETURNED PLEASE.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE: There will be a rehearsal on Sunday the 23rd of December for all who are participating in the Nativity Story. Helpers are needed to dress the children and to make sure the service runs smoothly. Please let Anne know if you will be available to help in any way on the 24th December, and come if you can to the rehearsal

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Prayer
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Lord, our Saving Light who came to set us free, shine upon us in glory. May your light provide illumination for us to recognise all those who need our help, however much, however little. Keep us from straying into the works of darkness, wipe away our tears, and grant us your light and blessings. Amen.

9 LESSONS AND CAROLS: Tonight at 6pm 11th Hour Choir, led by Margaret England will be leading the annual 9 Lessons and Carols Service. Come, sing and enjoy. Everyone is most welcome.

FUNDRAISER: We have three beautiful baskets, two paintings, a doll in a cradle and a beauty voucher from 'Tranquillity' to be won in our fundraiser. You can have the opportunity to receive one of our Christmas giveaway prizes by purchasing tickets. \$2 each or 3 for \$5. All funds will be given in support of the Hospital Chaplaincy.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE.

HELPERS NEEDED: To fill the roster for Morning Tea after the 9am services.

FOOD ALLERGIES: Please do not bring cakes and biscuits that have nuts in them to parish events as we have some children with food allergies

ADVENT STUDIES: Copies are available on the back table.

THE 5.30PM FAMILY SERVICE: will be in recess until the first week of February. This service regularly runs during the school terms.

Prayer for a new Rector:

*Bountiful God, give to the people of St John's
a prayerful pastor, who will faithfully speak your word
and minister your sacraments; an encourager who will
equip and fill your people with enthusiasm for ministry in
this place; one who will enable everyone to fulfil their
calling.*

*Give to those who will choose Wisdom and Discernment.
May they be guided by your Holy Spirit.
and to us all, give warm and generous hearts,
for the sake of Jesus Christ and Your Glory. **Amen.***

Directory

Church Office

9am to 1pm Monday–Friday

PO Box 1928

2 McLean Street,
Coffs Harbour, 2450

Phone 6651 4700

E mail: stjohnscoffs@bigpond.com

www.coffsharbouranglicanchurch.org

Locum:

Rev Bruce McAteer 0417 229 296

Thursday to Sunday

Assistant Priest

& Hospital Chaplain

Rev Anne Goode 0417 833 026

Hospital office 6656 7152

E mail: annegoode@bigpond.com

Deacon—Pastoral Care

Rev Carol Ford

Mobile 0407 102 409

E mail: djcaford@gmail.com

Children and Family Lay Minister

Position Vacant

Aged Care Ministry Co-ordinator

Bob Walsh 6696 3399

Wardens

Lesley Miller 0429 772 164

Richard Dubois 0408 667 871

Stephen Campbell 6650 7019

Op Shop

6650 0433

Officiating Priests

Rev'd Jan McLeod

Rev'd David Morgan

Rev'd Dan Octigan

Rev'd Naomi Cooke

Next Week

Monday 17th December

8.30am Morning Prayer

4.00pm Band Practice

7.00pm Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 18th December

1.30pm Masonic Village

3.00pm St. Joseph's Aged
Care

Wednesday 19th December

10.00am Ingenia Gardens

11.00am Freedom Aged
Care

5.45 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 20th December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 21st December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday 22nd December

6.00pm Eucharist

Sunday 23rd December

7.00am Eucharist

9.00am Eucharist

3.30pm Rehearsal Christmas
Eve Service

Parish Bank Details for Direct Deposits

BSB: 705 077 A/c No:
00030032 Name: Coffs Harbour
Anglican Parish *Please include a
description e.g. 'offertory.'*