

**Welcome to worship at Holy Trinity  
17<sup>th</sup> December, 2017  
Third Sunday of Advent**



**7.30am - Sung Eucharist – *Presiding & Preaching – Fr Mark Watson*  
**Organist – *Chris Sillince*****

**9.30am - Holy Eucharist -*Presiding & Preaching – Fr Mark Watson*  
**Organist – *Libby Harvey*****

**11:00am Holy Baptism**

**3.30pm-5.30pm – Messy Christmas**

[All hymns are from Together in Song unless otherwise specified.]

Prayer and anointing for healing are available at each Eucharist. If you would like prayer and anointing, please move in front of the step, at the left side of the altar, after receiving communion and a priest will come and minister to you.

**This morning at 11:00am we welcome  
Knox Robert Mumford into the Body of Christ through the  
Sacrament of Baptism. We pray God's blessings upon him  
and welcome parents Calum and Peta Mumford along  
with their family and friends as they share in this  
celebration of God's gift of new life.**



**FUNERAL FOR KEITH WATSON**

Will be held Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am.

If you are able to assist with bringing a plate for refreshments after the service it would be appreciated

## LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

REJOICING IN GOD, OUR SAVIOUR. Christmas is a feast of joy and light. We celebrate God who comes to dwell among us and save us. With the prophet Isaiah, we exult for joy in the Lord. With Mary, our spirits rejoice in God our saviour. We do not deny the pain and evil that exist in the world, but we rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus.

We have lit the candles of *hope* and *peace*. Today we light the candle of *love*. John the Baptist preached in the wilderness, denying his own comforts, and being prepared to die for his faith in the Coming One. John taught us to share what we have with others, treat all people kindly, and show God's love to all. He called the people to repent and receive God's forgiveness.

Love is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the love of God shown in Christ.

*The third candle is lit.*

Let us pray.

**Lord God, your witness John the Baptist grew up strong in spirit and prepared the way for the coming of the Messiah. He loved your people and baptised them in the river Jordan to wash away their sins. Give us the same love to help us to witness to your Son and so spread the good news of your love. Make us ready to welcome him. Amen.**

**A reading from the book of Isaiah**  
**Chapter 61: verses 1-4, 8-11.**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **Psalm 126**

When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:  
then were we like those restored to life.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter:  
and our tongue with singing.**

Then said they among the heathen:

'The Lord has done great things for them.'

**Truly the Lord has done great things for us:  
and therefore we rejoiced.**

Turn again our fortunes, O Lord:  
as the streams return to the dry south.

**Those who sow in tears:  
shall reap with songs of joy.**

They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:  
shall come again in gladness,  
bringing their sheaves with them.

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**A reading from the First letter to the Thessalonians  
Chapter 5: verses 12-28.**

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Beloved, pray for us.

Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

**Alleluia!**

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John 1: verses 6–8, 19–28.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" ', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus**

## **Please pray for**

Barbara Matthews, Denise King, Maureen H., Marie Partier, David,  
Heather Milne, Vern Tucker, Sue Maxwell, Barry Stokes,  
Nick Williamson, Alison Gates, Peter & Robin, Dianne,  
Sarah, Peter, Daisy-mena and Bleu Proud

## **We prayerfully remember**

**Keith Watson who died Monday last and pray for Revd Ann and  
members of Keith's family who mourn his passing.**

## **SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS 2017**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**3.30 - 5.30pm - Messy Church Christmas**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

There will one Eucharist at **8.30am** for the  
Fourth Sunday of Advent 24th December.

**Christmas Eve**

**5.00pm – Holy Eucharist for Children and Families**

**11.00pm – Midnight Mass**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Day**

**7.30am – Sung Eucharist**

**9.30am - Holy Eucharist**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December

**7.30am – Sung Eucharist**

**9.30am – Holy Eucharist**

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2018**

**Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> – Australia Day Luncheon**

## THE UPHEAVAL OF ADVENT

During Advent and Christmas, we work hard to sentimentalise the season, to make it cute and comfortable. By contrast, in church we hear words from prophets like Isaiah and John the Baptist and Mary whose words are anything but sentimental or sweet. Rather than cute sentimentality, in Advent we hear revolutionary speech. Mary in her hymn the *Magnificat*, speaks of the rich being sent away empty and the mighty being thrown down from their thrones and the lowly being lifted up. This is revolutionary language, very different from “*I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas*”!

Isaiah prophesied after the return of Israel from Babylonian exile. The defeat of Israel was a huge disaster. The nation was shattered, because not only was this a political defeat but God’s place on earth, the Temple, was destroyed. How could the Creator and Lord of all the earth be defeated? When Israel returned, Isaiah saw it as proof that God is mightier than the king of Babylon after all. After their return, they were conquered again, first by the Greeks then by the Romans. The cry goes up to God “How long O Lord?”

Then about five-hundred years after the exile, John the Baptist came crying in the wilderness, “Prepare the way of the Lord.” The decisive victory is about to happen. “The kingdom of God is at hand.” It turns out that in Jesus, the Lamb of God, God is decisively, and victoriously coming as King, coming to rule the world, to supplant the kings of the world, to replace the kingdoms of this world with the kingdom of heaven.

The Gospels show us the many ways God’s kingdom is here. We receive a glimpse of what the world looks like when God, in Jesus, is king. He eats and drinks with everyone, not just the chosen ones, the insiders, the respectable, but the unacceptable, the sick, the weak, the poor, the sinners. God’s is gathering in new tribes. His kingdom is open to all.

Also, he forgives sins. He conquers the power that has us in its grip. Peace and nonviolence predominate when Jesus is King. By contrast, the kingdoms of this world are marked by violence and hatred and oppression. So they come after this

new King. They lynch him by nailing him to a cross. But God raised him from the dead. He is the King because he has defeated the greatest enemy of all - death. When we say, "Jesus is Lord" we must not spiritualise it. His hearers would have understood it to mean Jesus was the new David, the king who is to rule the world.

Paul preached to the Roman world and said Jesus, not Caesar, is Lord. Our Gospel for this liturgical Year B is Mark. He wrote about 70AD. We heard the beginning of his Gospel last Sunday: "The beginning of the good news Jesus Christ, the Son of God." The revolutionary nature of these words is lost on us. For Mark's hearers, it would have been understood to be revolutionary and quite provocative. The words translated "good news" are *evangelion* in Greek. When the Roman Emperor won a victory, his heralds carried the good news or *evangelion* throughout the streets. Mark is saying of Jesus, "here is the one who brings victory."

Finally, for Mark to call Jesus the Son of God was also very provocative. The emperor was considered the son of God. Julius Caesar claimed to be *divus*, a god, then his adopted son Augustus was called the son of god. Mark said No, Jesus is the son of God, supplanting the Roman Emperor. He is the one to whom final allegiance is due.

Advent is not a cosy, sentimental time. It's a reminder that in our world which falls constantly into hatred, violence, oppression and domination, the crucified Lord calls us to repent, to change and live under his Lordship. Then we live as citizens of this new kingdom of peace and nonviolence.

Fr Mark

### **ANGLICAN WOMEN LENT RETREATS**

To be held on 16-22<sup>nd</sup> February with a number of retreats available at Catalina Conference Centre at Rathmines on beautiful Lake Macquarie.

Cost of Full retreat is \$280.00. For more details please visit

[www.anglicanwomennewcastle.org.au](http://www.anglicanwomennewcastle.org.au) or speak to Irene Neville

Retreat Conductor is Fr Melbourne Nelson.

Mission Report 17th December 2017

## **ABM Advent Appeal**



### **Community Development Program**

#### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Program in Vanuatu**

The program assists with the installation of water tanks, Ventilation Improved Pit (VIP) toilets, and repairs to established gravity-fed water systems. Running water is currently non-existent in many communities and the water is often collected from miles away. The only toilets available are open pits, which pose the constant threat of disease and injury, especially to young children.

With the help of the Anglican Church of Melanesia in Vanuatu's (ACOMV) volunteers, ABM will continue to support this work and the staff members to help increase access to clean water and sanitation facilities. Hygiene awareness, skills development training for youth and safe hygiene practices training will be provided in 8 communities.

Please support this project to help thousands of people gain access to clean water and hygiene facilities (tax-deductible).

#### **Prayer points**

- Pray for a discerning spirit for each other and for the church; and faith and courage to follow God who prepares the way.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, the Anglican Church in Hong Kong.
- Pray for rural congregations, parishes and dioceses as they prepare for the celebration of the Nativity.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of South India.

*Coralie Taylor - Mission Secretary*

#### **CAN YOU HELP?**

A lady is looking for a LARGE print bible. The lady is unwell and finding it difficult to read fine print. She has found great joy in reading the bible and would like to continue.

If you can help please speak to Audree Dash 4384 2907

## This Week

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

**8.00am** – Morning Prayer

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**8.00am** – Morning Prayer

**11.00am** – **Funeral for Keith Watson**

**5.00pm** – Holy Eucharist [*Fr. Roy*]

**5.30pm** – Sacred Reading [*Fr. Roy*]

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> - Thomas, Apostle and Martyr**

**8.00am** – Morning Prayer

**8.30am** – Holy Eucharist

**10.30am** – Eucharist at The Pod [Aurum] [*Fr. Mark*]

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**8.00am** – Morning Prayer

**10.30am** - **Holy Eucharist** [*Fr Mark*] and morning tea

**Readings** – 1 Samuel 1. 24-28. Song of Hannah (*APBA p.429*); Luke 1. 46-56

**11.45am** – Friday Bible Study

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**Next Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2017**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8.30am** – **Sung Eucharist** - *Presiding & Preaching – Fr Mark Watson*

*Music – Trinity Band & Singers*

**Eucharistic Readings:**

2 Samuel 7. 1–11, 16; For the Psalm - Song of Mary; Romans 16.25-27

Luke 1. 26-38

The liturgical text we are using for this service is from *A Prayer Book for Australia* (Sydney: Broughton Books, ©1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Trusts Corporation, 1996 and used with permission – ePray licence No.230  
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**Today**

**3.30-5.30pm**

**Messy Christmas**



*Messy Church is a fun way to introduce people to the world wide church. It's values are about being Christ-centred for all ages, based on creativity, worship, prayer and hospitality.*

**PLEASE JOIN US**



**Do you know what happens to evacuees when there is a fire or flood on the Central Coast?**



**Would you like to help in these situations?**

For more information, talk to Bev Broadley 4367 6066 or 0423 655 723 about working with Samaritans to help in an Evacuation Centre.

Training for one day, once a year, is required and then you would be on call in the event of an emergency to assist those who have been evacuated.

**SAMARITANS THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who supplied Christmas items for the Wyoming Relief Centre. Your donations are gratefully accepted and will be used to help those in need this Christmas

*Margaret Maclachlan.*

**The Parish of Terrigal warmly welcomes you.**

We offer many opportunities for meeting together ...

**to worship and pray; to study Scripture and theology; to share fellowship, caring and support; and to celebrate real relationships which are divinely life-giving.**

These opportunities normally include ...

**Sunday Worship at Holy Trinity**

**7.30am - Sung Eucharist and 9.30am – Holy Eucharist**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month - Messy Church**

between 3.30pm and 5.30pm

**Weekly Worship at Holy Trinity**

**Tues to Friday - 8.00am - Morning Prayer**

**Friday at 10.30am - Eucharist**

**1st Tuesday at 2.00pm - Tarragal Glen Eucharist**

**2nd Wednesday at 10.00am - Tarragal House Eucharist/concert**

**3rd Thursday at 10.30am - Eucharist at The Pod [Aurrum]**

**4<sup>th</sup> Friday at 11.00am – Eucharist at Woodport Aged Care**

#### **VARIOUS PARISH MINISTRIES**

**‘Whispers of Love’ - a meditation (Monday at 10.00am); Women’s**

**Fellowship (2nd Monday at 1.00pm); Parish Council (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7.30pm);**

**Trinity Band (Rehearsal - Tuesday at 7.00pm) (Playing at the 9.30am Sunday - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays); Sacred Reading (Wednesday at 5.30pm); Pastoral Care**

**(2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 10.00am); Bible Study (Friday at 11.30am); Messy Church**

**Planning Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday at 10.00am) ; Gardening (2nd Saturday from 8.00am); Market Day (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday from 8.00am)**

*Parish contact - (02) 4365 1115 or mobile 0434 431 400*

**Holy Trinity Opportunity Shop ... contact (02) 4365 1280**

**Parish Website – [www.terrigalanglican.org.au](http://www.terrigalanglican.org.au)**

## **Parish Directory**

**The Church of the Holy Trinity – 92 Serpentine Rd, Terrigal, 2260**

**Parish Postal Address – P.O. Box 167, Terrigal, 2260**

**Office Telephone - 4365 1115.**

**Parish Email – [admin@terrigalanglican.org.au](mailto:admin@terrigalanglican.org.au)**

**Website - [www.terrigalanglican.org.au](http://www.terrigalanglican.org.au)**

**Rector – The Reverend Canon Mark Watson – 4365 1374 or 0434 431 400**

**Email - [cyprian7@bigpond.com](mailto:cyprian7@bigpond.com)**

### **Associate Priests**

**The Reverend Ann Watson –4365 1065 or 0427 135 771**

**The Reverend Roy Hazlewood - 4393 0114**

**The Reverend Dr Richard Harvey – 0422 109 262**

### **Parish Executive**

**Terry Rowe (4365 0430) - People's Warden**

**Kyara Newport (4384 3997) - People's Warden**

**Parish Secretary - Kyara Newport (4384 3997)**

**Parish Treasurer - Terry Rowe (4365 0430)**

### **Parish Ministries**

**Parish Organist - Chris Sillince - 0422 225 849**

**Sacristan and Mission Secretary - Coralie Taylor**

**Office Manager - Bev Broadley - 4367 6066**

**Messy Church Convenor - Rhonda Kiss – 4363 5001**

**Pastoral Care - contact - 4365 1115**

**Cursillo – Libby Harvey – 0431 315 085**

**Safety Officer - Mike Keaney**

**Copyright Compliance Officer – Terry Rowe**

**Parish Bookshop – Kyara Newport**

**Market Day Co-ordinator – George Jessup - 4368 2237**

### **Parish Opportunity Shop**

**Carolyn Shields / Christine De Gans - 4365 1280**

**The Op Shop is open Tuesday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.00pm**

**and each Saturday from 10.00am to 1.00pm**