

**Welcome to worship at
Holy Trinity, Terrigal**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
6th December 2020**



9.00am – Holy Eucharist

Presiding and Preaching - Fr Mark Watson

Organist – Sharon Sandstrom

11.00am – Holy Baptism

We welcome Billy Dean King into the Body of Christ through the Holy Sacrament of Baptism at 11am today. Welcome to parents, Kylie and Boyd, and to Godparents and family members and friends as they celebrate this new beginning in Billy's life.

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD. Engulfed by many chores in the lead-up to Christmas, we can fail to hear a voice that cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord. Let us resolve to include some time to pray, to reflect on the Gospel stories of Jesus' birth, and to seek reconciliation with God and others, in our Christmas preparations.

The first candle reminded us of our *hope* in Christ. Today we light the candle of peace. The prophet Isaiah called Christ the 'Prince of Peace' and foretold that through him all nations would live in peace and justice. Jesus taught his followers to be peacemakers, and that those who make peace will be called the children of God. Christ brings peace into our lives and will bring everlasting peace when he comes to reign in glory.

Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the peace we have in Jesus Christ.

The second candle is lit.

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people from their sins. Give peace in our hearts as we await your coming. Help us in this season to discern your presence among us, to hear your word, and to share your peace with others. For your love's sake. Amen.

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

Prayer of the Day

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 Chapter 40 verses 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.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13

1 O Lord, you were gracious to your land:
you restored 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 together:
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 before him:
and tread the path before his feet.

A reading from the second letter of Peter Chapter 3 verses 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.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Chapter 1 verses 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.

A DANGEROUS JOURNEY

Why did crowds of people make the arduous and dangerous journey into the wilderness to hear John the Baptist?

Certainly, the desert has its own unique and stark beauty. The Bible has much to say about deserts. Moses and the people of Israel wandered for forty years in the desert. Elijah went into the

wilderness to escape the clutches of Ahab and Jezebel. Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights in the wilderness. The early monks lived in caves in the desert and were consequently known as the "desert fathers".

What is the attraction? For one thing, deserts are places of simplicity and poverty. Everything is stripped down to the basics. There are no attachments and distractions out there. Only when they are gone can we hear the voice of God. Blaise Pascal spoke of *divertissements*. Only when they are set aside do the really great questions emerge. What is God saying? What does God want? We have to go into a place of silence where the distractions and attachments are set aside. That is why spiritual people have an instinct for the desert.

Lent and Advent are desert times. Our whole culture distracts us, draws us away from the desert, away from silence, away from listening to the voice of God. Think of the run-up to Christmas. It's a time of enormous distraction. John calls us away from attachments to wealth and power. He calls us to reform our lives. That is called repentance. It's never too late to change. No one is ever beyond the reach of God's grace. If we go to the desert, we find that voice welling up inside. Change your way of thinking and of seeing the world. Stop seeing your life as your project. All distractions and attachments are about me and my satisfaction. The Greek word for repentance is *metanoia* – change your life, turn around, go beyond the mind that you have. It's about a whole new attitude. My life is not about me, it's about God. Let go what is trivial. Change your attitude.

The whole centre of Jewish life was the temple. Wandering out into the wilderness, people were going away from the temple. They were being lured away from the place of encounter, but not to a place of trivial diversion. They were being drawn toward a new place of encounter which had arrived. All that they had found in the Temple – forgiveness, reconciliation, instruction from God – all of that was now fully expressed in a Person, a Someone who was coming, Someone whom John was announcing. John pointed to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

He will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire. This new cleansing replaced the bath or laver where the priests washed themselves before offering sacrifice. This new One would be the new High Priest. He would be more than a prophet. He is the life of God. You can be baptised in the Holy Spirit with the very love of God. He will fill you up with the divine life. Divine life will be restored in Christ. All that the people had sought in the temple they would now find in Christ. All that is opposed to the divine life must go out. The axe would be taken to the root of the trees to cut, divide and judge. Hatred and self-absorption, pettiness, egotism, violence, intolerance, all have to be cut down.

As we journey through these days of Advent, may our encounter with the living Christ be one that is life-changing, renewing and life-giving.

Fr Mark

Prayer for those suffering severe illness (adapted from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, p. 692)

Healing Spirit,

we pray for those suffering from serious diseases and for those who are terminally ill, and those living with the COVID-19 virus. We pray for skill and patience for the doctors and nurses who care for them. We pray that their relatives and friends may be strengthened and comforted. May their faith not falter as they support each other through testing times. We pray for those engaged in research that by your inspiration and their skill the scourges of this generation may be overcome. Help us to live in your way and to seek health in body, mind and spirit. **Amen.**

Please pray for

Barb Matthews, Graeme Patterson, Ken Hope, Norm Williams, Emma Horton, Isobel Hargraves, Jean Jackson, Marian French, Aaron Lane, Pat Lindsay, Toby Lindsay, Gloria Townsend, Margaret Willard, Carolyn Gibbs, Kathy Oakes, Pat Stokes, Jill Ross, Tania Howlett, Ian Kidson, Maureen Hazlewood, Patricia Bailey and Carmen McGee.

Christmas Bowl Appeal

Our collection for donations to the Christmas Bowl Appeal continue through to Christmas. Donations can be left in the white bowl when leaving Church each week or you can ask for an envelope.

For the week beginning the 1st of December, all our takings from our Op Shop will go towards the Christmas Bowl appeal. Please encourage friends to drop in during that week to purchase goods.

Thank you.

Direct Debit details of account:

ASDF Account

Parish of Terrigal

BSB: 705-077

Account number: 00040934

'Whispers of Love' Meditation

Reflection:

Loving Lord, as we journey closer to the celebration of your birth come to us and let us personally encounter your presence so as to become more and more the living witness of joy to the world, for in our hearts we truly know-the Lord has come-and he has won. Amen.

Samaritans

Some donation requests, should you wish to bring to church to transfer to the Samaritans, are baby nappies, Christmas food items, toothpaste, soap, Christmas biscuits, lollies for children and long-life milk.

We will have our basket for food donations available for those wishing to bring items. Suggestions for donations for the basket are breakfast cereals, pasta, soup, sardines, baked beans, spaghetti in a tin, creamed corn, chips and long-life milk.

Thank you.

Women's Fellowship

On the **7th of December at 12 noon**, we are having lunch at Breakers Country Club. We would love to have other women in the parish join us for an enjoyable time there. Please contact Pam Flegg on 4384 5326 or Irene Neville on 0408 680 269 if you would like to have a lovely time at lunch with us. Thank you.

2021 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Training Programmes Equipping the Saints. Eph. 4:12

Two Foundational training programmes in Pastoral care will be offered on the Central Coast in 2021. There will be an online and a Face-to-Face option.

Starting in February students can train in Gosford Hospital and the training can be used towards formal chaplaincy qualifications with the Sydney College of Divinity.

What we offer is an excellent way to develop your pastoral ability and become equipped for ministry with a public or church setting. If you are interested in training or for further information, please contact:

Chaplain Frank Wortley on **02 4320 2253** or
Email: Francis.Wortley@health.nsw.gov.au

Dinner at Terrigal Bowling Club

Please join us for dinner **tonight** at the Terrigal Bowling Club at 'Bec's Kitchen' **from 6pm.**

If you are interested, please have your name added to the sign-up sheet upon exit today as there are only a couple of places left.

Plant Stall

The next plant stall will be on:
Saturday 19th December from 9am to 12 noon.

Prayer of the week

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.**



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Advent 2

– Sunday 6 December 2020

- Isaiah 40.1-11; Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13;
2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8

Scholars believe that Mark was the first Gospel written and as such he created the term Gospel meaning a written account concerning Jesus. The other Evangelists begin their narratives at various beginnings. Matthew and Luke with the birth of Christ, and John with the ultimate beginning even before the beginning mentioned in Genesis.

However, in Mark, Jesus the Messiah bursts onto the scene to be baptised and begin his mission. In fact, *immediately* is a favourite word of Mark's and indicates the urgency that the mission be begun and fulfilled.

- Give us grace to repent and hear the Good News afresh.

- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Kenya.

Text: The Very Rev Phillip Saunders,
Dean of Canberra and Goulburn
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Mission News – 6th December, 2020 Second Sunday of Advent

Second Sunday of Advent



Richard Wainwright/Act for Peace

Bringing peace to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

The coronavirus has reached the world's largest refugee camp and widespread misinformation about the virus is making it harder for doctors to contain the virus. Act for Peace's local partner is working with doctors, community workers and religious leaders to dispel myths and teach people how to stop the spread. Your Christmas Bowl gift will help give refugees around the world the long-term support they need. **Please give today.**



Christmas Bowl

CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

Helping Rohingya refugees shape peaceful futures

What does peace look like for the Rohingya people? After fleeing violence in Myanmar, they now face the threat of a deadly COVID-19 outbreak in Jamtoli refugee camp in Bangladesh. For Rohingya people living in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh, life was frightening enough before the coronavirus pandemic.

The refugees live in cramped conditions, in makeshift tents that can get swept away in the monsoon rains. Food is in short supply and a third of households don't have soap or regular access to water, so sickness is already rife.

Dr Mehidi Hassan and his medical teams see up to 1,500 people every day at the health clinics scattered across the camp. Dr Hassan said: "Without support from the outside world, it will be devastating here. People will die of lack of food and treatment."

Now COVID-19 has reached Jamtoli refugee camp. There is widespread misinformation about the virus that is making it

harder for doctors like Dr Hassan to stop a catastrophic outbreak.

Richard Wainwright/Act for Peace

This Christmas, vulnerable communities urgently need your care. Please help them keep families safe through this pandemic, and shape the just, peaceful lives they deserve.

Act for Peace's local partner, Christian Aid, has teamed up with doctors, community workers and Rohingya religious leaders to distribute vital health messages. They are teaching people how handwashing and physical distancing can help stop the virus' spread.

Christian Aid is also dispelling dangerous COVID-19 myths that might stop infected people from seeking medical care.

Together, we can help give refugees in different parts of the world the long-term support they need to build safe, peaceful futures. Christ tells us that peace is always possible. Please give to the Christmas Bowl and help bring the miracle of peace to refugee families.



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

2020 ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Christmas and Advent, ABM is asking you to help people in Australia, Zambia and Kenya to be empowered to live life to the full.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christians this means growing leaders with the faith, vision and skills to build up their people, their churches and their communities.

Wontulp-Bi-Buya and Nungalinya colleges provide courses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders which can enrich current and future leaders. Wontulp-Bi-Buya offers courses in Christian ministry, theology, suicide prevention, addictions management, community development, and more for students from all over Australia. The college does all this on a shoe-string budget, operating from a converted church hall in Cairns. As well as

attending intensive teaching blocks in Cairns, the College also supports students with home-based studies once they are back in their local communities.

Nungalinga College receives applications from more than 500 remote Indigenous students each year. The college provides foundation courses that begin by teaching literacy, language and numeracy through the scriptures, since so many students arrive at the college without these basic skills. Thus, students can grow in their faith and biblical knowledge while improving their foundational skills. The colleges use art, music and dance to explore how the Christian story can come alive within the students' particular cultural contexts.

This Advent and Christmas, please consider making a donation to tax-deductible projects, so that many more people may be able to live full and fruitful lives.

Donate

Online: 2020 Advent and Christmas Appeal

Mail: enclose a cheque/money order (made out to the Anglican Board of Mission - Australia. Please include campaign name *2020 Advent and Christmas Appeal*) and send it to:

Anglican Board of Mission – Australia
Locked Bag Q4005
Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230

Telephone: Sydney 02 9264 1021, Local Call 1300 302 663

Email: info@abmission.org.au

Coralie Taylor
Mission Secretary



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, TERRIGAL 2020

CHRISTMAS EVE Thursday 24th December 2020

5.00pm Eucharist for Children and Families

11.00pm Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY Friday 25th December 2020

8.00am Sung Eucharist

9.30am Holy Eucharist

Incense will be used at 11pm on Christmas Eve and 8.00am on Christmas Day.

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

Website - www.terrigalanglican.org.au

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

Email - cyprian7@bigpond.com

Associate Priests

The Reverend Ann Watson – 4365 1065 or 0427 135 771

The Reverend Roy Hazlewood – 0418 290 192

The Reverend Dr Richard Harvey – 0422 109 262

The Reverend Bruce McAteer - 0417 229 296

Parish Executive

Neil Ewer (0412 640 477) – Rector’s Warden

Terry Rowe (4365 0430) - People’s Warden

Kyara Newport (0400 994 779) - People’s Warden

Parish Secretary - Kyara Newport (0400 994 779)

Parish Treasurer - Terry Rowe (4365 0430)

Parish Ministries

Parish Organist - Chris Sillince - 0422 225 849

Sacristan and Mission Secretary - Coralie Taylor

Messy Church Convenor - Rhonda Kiss – 4363 5001

Pastoral Care - contact - 4365 1115

Trinity Band & Cursillo – Libby Harvey – 0431 315 085

Safety Officer - Mike Keaney

Copyright Compliance Officer – Terry Rowe

Parish Bookshop – Kyara Newport

Women’s Fellowship – Pam Flegg – 4384 5326

Market Day Co-ordinator – Ian Wolstenholme

Parish Opportunity Shop

Carolyn Shields / Christine De Gans - 4365 1280

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

Fridays open from 9.00am to 10.15am and from 11:15am to 4.00pm

(Please note Friday between 10.15am-11.15am the Op Shop is CLOSED)

Saturday open from 10.00am to 1.00pm