

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
13th December 2020**



**9.00am – Holy Eucharist with Reception into
Communicant Membership of Matisse Bakewell**

Presiding and Preaching – Bishop Charlie Murry

Organist – Chris Sillince

Hymns: TIS 275, 272, 269 and 265

(All Hymns are from Together in Song unless otherwise specified.)

WELCOME TO BISHOP CHARLIE MURRY who will be presiding and preaching at this morning's Liturgy. Bishop Charlie will also meet with Parish Council afterwards.

Welcome too, to Matisse Bakewell who will be received into communicant membership of the Anglican Church today.

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 *joy*. In today's Epistle St Paul exhorts the Philippians to "rejoice always". The Latin for "rejoice" is *Gaudete*, so the Third Sunday in Advent has been called Gaudete Sunday. We rejoice not because things are always going well, but because the Lord has come, the Lord is coming, and the Lord will come. Knowing that the Lord is near eliminates worry and fear.

Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

The third candle is lit.

Thank you, God, for the joy you give us. As we await the fulfillment of your promise, keep our joy alive. Help us today and every day, to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with others. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sentence

Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God.

Isaiah 61.1-2

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God,
you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way for the coming of your Son:
grant us wisdom to see your purpose
and openness to hear your will,
that we too may prepare the way for Christ
who is coming in power and glory
to establish his rule of peace and justice;
through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from Isaiah Chapter 61 verses 1-4 and 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.

Psalm 126

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

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

3 Then said they among the heathen:
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

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

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

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

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

A reading from the first letter of Paul 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 God is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Chapter 1 verses 6-8 and 19-28

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Father Roy writes: While I have watched and listened to the events of the pandemic in Australia during the past fortnight two events have stuck in my mind. The first was the case of two overseas travellers who took a flight from Sydney to Melbourne without having hotel quarantined in Sydney. Secondly, and more recently, the opening of state borders to travellers without having to quarantine on arrival. In the first incident the travellers knew what should have been done but when they were excepted from Sydney went looking to quarantine in Melbourne.

The second incident meant freedom of movement within Australia.

What are these two incidents saying to the Churches? Many people know how to behave ethically and to live a "good life" but from time-to-time mistakes are made, temptation becomes too great and then the person seeks some kind of redemption to put things right again.

Redemption is the backbone of the Churches. Redemption is found in our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love is such that God gave his only-begotten Son to live and die an earthly life for the redemption of all people. This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ which we, the Church in this place, proclaim to people who will listen. PRAY for our evangelistic endeavours with people in our lives.

The second incident is about freedom for people within the Churches. Freedom comes when we have God at the centre of our lives. "Thy will be done" becomes very real in our lives and is our constant prayer. We are aware of God's continued love for us "warts and all" and we respond to that love by our love for God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, our love for others and for ourselves as God loves.

Come Holy Spirit, come and touch the lives of your people.
Open our lips, Lord, that our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Our help is in the Name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.
May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.

Amen.

Keep well, keep safe and the blessing of God be upon you and on all who you love and may your days and nights be holy, good and peaceful.

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

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

Funeral Announcement

Our prayers, love and condolences to Desmond Matthews and his family on the passing of Barbara on Thursday, 10th December. Her funeral will be held on Wednesday, 16th December, 2020 at 9.30am here at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Terrigal.

'Whispers of Love' Meditation

Meditation 'Whispers of Love' will meet for the last time in 2020 on Monday 14th December at 10am. We will resume on Monday 1st February, 2021 at 10am.

Reflection:

As we receive the Eucharist, we need to look beyond the bread we eat look beyond the cup we drink. How obvious the gift is.

Throughout history, souls have been nourished and mellowed by simply being in the presence of the Eucharistic Christ. We to are asked to understand how we can become Eucharistic people; allowing ourselves to be taken by Jesus, blessed, broken, and distributed to others for their nourishment, passing on the gift, the wonder, and the grace of Christ.

Prayerfully Reverend Ann

Direct Debit details of account:

ASDF Account
Parish of Terrigal
BSB: 705-077
Account number: 00040934

Op Shop

The Op Shop will be having 50% off marked prices on all items from 10th December through to 23rd December, 2020.

Let all your friends and family know so they can take advantage of great bargains.

Plant Stall

The next plant stall will be on:

Saturday 19th December from 9am to 12 noon.

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.

Thank you.

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.

Prayer of the week

Almighty God,
you have made us and all things to serve you:
come quickly to save us,
so that wars and violence shall end
and your children may live in peace,
honouring one another with justice and love;
through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord,
who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Advent 3

– Sunday 13 December 2020

- Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11; *Either* Psalm 126 or The Song of Mary;
1 Thessalonians 5.12-28; John 1.6-8, 19-28

In this week's Gospel we have part of John's stunning Prologue. We also have John's introduction of John the Baptist. The one who sets the scene for the coming Messiah. John's appearance is prophesied. In fact, he is the last of the Old Testament style of prophets, coming out of the wilderness and preaching judgement and repentance. John makes it very clear that he is not the Messiah and points to the one to come. Jesus will turn up soon enough.

From the very beginning of the narrative in John's Gospel there is a tension with the Jewish leaders who want to know "who are you?" - first John and then Jesus himself. The rest of the Gospel is taken up with answering this question.

- We give thanks to God for John the evangelist and his Gospel of profound wisdom and witness.

- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of the Province of Central Africa

Text: The Very Rev Phillip Saunders,
Dean of Canberra and Goulburn
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Mission News – 13th December, 2020
The Christmas Bowl
Helping refugees rebuild with joy in Sri Lanka

Third Sunday of Advent

The joy of returning home

Today there are more than 60,000 Sri Lankan refugees in India. With the civil war over, many wish to return home to live in peace and freedom, and help rebuild their nation. Act for Peace's local partner, with your support, is helping returnees rebuild their lives by providing training and livelihood support to help families earn an income. **Please give today.**

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

Joy is that soaring feeling in your soul when Christ's gift first enters your life. But joy is hard to find when civil war forces you from your homeland for decades and then a pandemic threatens your resettlement. This Christmas, please help returned Sri Lankan refugees overcome their challenges and help them build a safe, happy future.

It's been 30 years since Rshan* and his wife Pamodi* fled conflict in Sri Lanka with their eight-year-old daughter. But he'll never forget their terrifying boat journey to India: "The boat was overloaded with people and so heavy it barely peeped out of water...We made our daughter lie on top of our luggage box. A boat ahead of us was damaged by gunfire. We were scared and doubtful if we would reach our destination."

The family found safety in India, but life was difficult. They spent 27 years in a refugee camp surviving on food rations. They longed to return home. After peace had settled in Sri Lanka, Rashan and Pamodi travelled back to reclaim her family land. But they were starting all over again – with no jobs, no money and nothing to prove their rights to their land.

People like Rashan and Pamodi were already struggling to rebuild in their homeland after decades of displacement. Now COVID-19 has made that task even harder. Through your gift to the Christmas Bowl, you will bring them the support they urgently need to build new homes, livelihoods and futures. Your kindness makes it possible for Act for Peace's partner, the Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation (OfERR), to support returned Sri Lankan refugees at this difficult time. With help from OfERR and caring Christians like you, Rashan and Pamodi were able to take back their land and build a temporary home to live in. OfERR also helped them to install a bore well and water pump, so they could grow and sell food. Today, their thriving farm even provides work to other families.

After decades of fear, hardship and uncertainty, Rashan and Pamodi have finally found joy again. They are reconnecting with long-lost relatives, and hope their daughter and her husband and children will join them soon from India.

Rashan summed up the difference you can this Christmas Bowl: "If I had stayed back in India, I wouldn't have found this kind of life. There, we had to depend on the government for food. Here we have our land, our farm. The joy we got when we escaped with our lives to get here was unimaginable."

*Names changed to protect identities as returned refugees.



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 Zambian communities, particularly those on the receiving end of gender-based violence (GBV), living life to the full is made possible by changing mindsets. It means spreading the word – to men and women alike – that violence is not the way to solve problems, and that girls have a right to complete their education, rather than being sent off into early marriages. It also means addressing the causes of poverty.

ABM's Integrated Gender project in Zambia empowers people to end gender-based violence through door-to-door sensitizations and community drama performances. It returns girls who have been forced into early marriages back to their families and schools, and offers economic empowerment to survivors of violence, assisting them also to become advocates for their own rights. The project provides counselling and further support to the survivors. It engages church, school and traditional leaders to work with families to bring an end to harmful cultural practices such as child marriage.

The project has also established "Savings with Education" groups to enable people living in poverty, and particularly women and GBV survivors, to develop small business enterprises so that school fees can be paid and people can look forward to a better life. Your donation can help train and grow networks of men's groups, like the one Peter (pictured) belongs to. Groups have been created in the churches to spread the word - acting as role models, and encouraging other men to say a firm 'NO' to gender-based violence.

ABM's Advent Study, Songs from a Strange Land is available at

<https://tinyurl.com/Songs-from-Steange-Land>

Mission Donations

The Christmas Bowl Appeal and ABM Advent and Christmas Appeals can also be paid directly into the Parish ASDF account (details in pew bulletin). Please note the Appeal for your donation.

Envelopes are also available for both the Christmas Bowl and ABM Appeals.

ABM also has a Digital Donation Card - scanning a secure QR code.

World Vision

New 2020 progress reports and photos of the parish World Vision sponsored children Aisha Ndagijimana and Mariane Habimana are on the notice board.

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