

## WELCOME

We are glad you can join us today.

Activities for children to do during the service are provided in the foyer.

A Hearing Loop is installed in the church; please use your T switch.

An offering will be received during the service, to support the ongoing work of the church. Other ways of giving are included on the next page.

If you are visiting with us today, we encourage all who are baptised to receive communion. If you do not wish to receive communion, please still come forward for a blessing.

Please join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.

Worship & Parish events will be automatically cancelled during a code red day.

A copy of this weeks sermon will be available on the website.

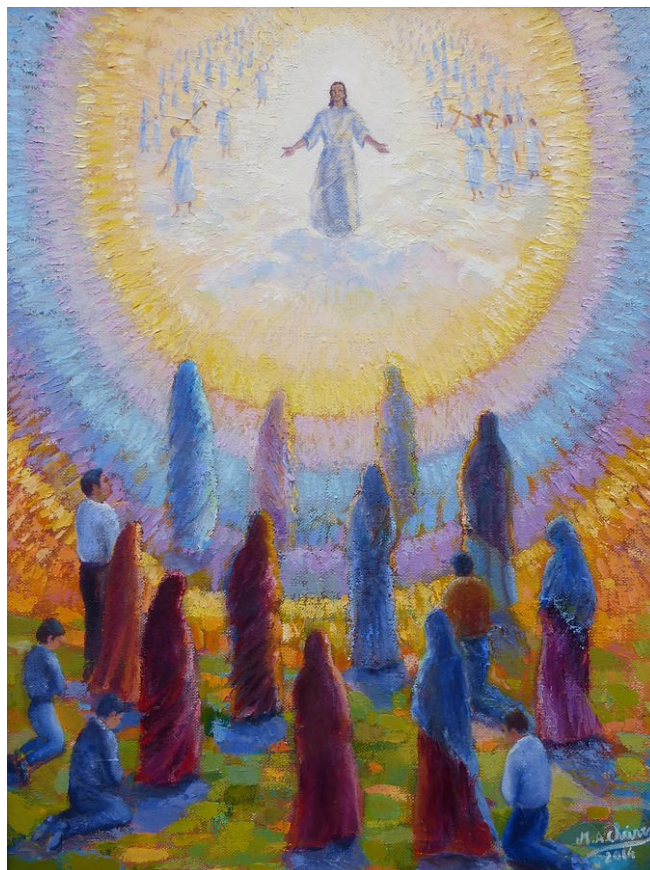
## PEW SHEET

3rd December 2017

First Sunday of Advent

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation who are the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, and we pay our respects to their elders past and present.



## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sun 3rd	8:00am	Eucharist
	10:00am	Eucharist
Mon 4th	8:30am	Morning Prayer
	1:00pm	Monday Circle
Wed 6th	9:30am	Meditation
	10:30am	Eucharist
Thu 7th	8:00am	Morning Prayer
	1:00pm	Pastoral Care Team
Sat 9th	8:00am	Meditation
	10:00am	Parish Council Induction Day
	10:00am	Do Justice meeting
Sun 10th	8:00am	Eucharist
	10:00am	Eucharist




**Call for Volunteers for Christmas Services** Sides People 9am, 5pm, 10.30 pm on 24th, 9am 25th, CAs, Intercessors, Readers and LAs all except 5 pm. Please advise coordinators if you are available. Thanks, Harry.

## Parish Council Induction Day

Saturday 9th December 10:00am to 1:00pm

## PARISH OFFICE

Our Parish office is inside Dendy House at the rear of the church. Office hours are 10am—2pm Monday to Friday. Please leave us a message or email us if the office is unattended.

79-81 Pitt St, Eltham, 3095. 9439 9238	parishoffice@stmargaretselftham.org.au
vicar@stmargaretselftham.org.au	communications@stmargaretselftham.org.au
ABN 19 171 109 073	www.stmargaretselftham.org.au 

## CLERGY

### VICAR

The Reverend Keren Terpstra  
9439 9238 and 0438 220 878  
vicar@stmargaretselftham.org.au  
Day off Tuesday

### HONORARY ASSOCIATE CLERGY

The Reverend Robert Street  
9439 9238 and 0423 514 570

### HONORARY ASSISTANT CURATE

The Reverend Kirsten Winkett

The clergy are available for emergencies at all hours.

## PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets once a month and these dates are published in the calendar.

Your councillors are Robin Wembridge; Mandy Stevens; Sandra Brown-Holt; David Pryor and David Tuke.

If you have anything to raise at Parish Council, either contact a councillor or fill in the feedback form in the foyer and place it in the box. If you are hoping to host an event, complete an Event Planning Sheet from the office first to speed up the process.

Parish Matters is a newsletter produced regularly, and copies are maintained on the website. Please contact Harry Watson or Sally Petty if you have a contribution to make.

## GIVING

St Margaret's encourages the exercise of our discipleship by generous giving to God's work and mission here. If you don't want to contribute through the open plate, there are direct debit forms in the foyer to be able to give anonymously through the Anglican Development Fund. If you wish to make a bequest, there is information in the foyer on how to do so.

## PASTORAL CARE

The pastoral care team members are available to provide a telephone call or visit people in need in their home, hospital, rehabilitation, aged or palliative care facility. These contacts seek to enable people to share their needs and concerns in order to discern appropriate channels for them to receive spiritual, emotional and/or practical support as desired. A member of the Pastoral Care team may be contacted at any time (24/7) on **0455 610 692**.

## WARDENS

Our Church Wardens are:

John Winkett 9439 1793

Shirley Nash 9432 9510

Melissa Laidlay 0427 370 431

## COMMUNICATIONS

If you have any information you would like to share with the Parish, contact the office for assistance. Consider asking to use the pew sheet; the website; social media; group text messages; or advertising material.

Please submit all material for the pew sheet no later than 11am on the preceding Wednesday.

## KEY PARISH CONTACTS

Do Justice Group:	Jenny Disney
Faith Formation Network:	Annette Street
Property & Maintenance Committee:	John Winkett
Pastoral Care Team:	Adrienne Watson
Discovering Spirituality:	Shirley Nash
Finance Committee:	John Humann
Communications Committee	Mary Lynton-Moll

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday 8am:** Reflective service of Holy Communion followed by morning tea.

**Sunday 10am:** Family service of Holy Communion with music, children's activities, morning tea

**Wednesday 10:30am:** Holy Communion, morning tea. Meditation prior to this service.

**Saturday 5pm:** Short evening prayer service to prepare for worship the next day.

**Monday, Thursday, Friday 8:30am:** Morning prayer

# WORSHIP

## SENTENCE OF THE DAY

'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, 'but my words will not pass away.'  
*Mark 13.31*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God,  
through long generations you prepared a way  
for the coming of your Son,  
and by your Spirit  
you still bring light to illumine our paths:  
renew us in faith and hope  
that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts  
and claim our love;  
to whom be glory for ever. **Amen.**

## TODAY'S HYMNS

O come, o come Emmanuel - TiS265  
Lighting of Advent Candle I (verse 1 only) - TiS289  
The heavens shall declare - TiS746  
Come down o love divine - TiS398  
Wait for the Lord (Taize) - CH276  
Lo he comes with clouds descending - TiS273

## TODAY'S PSALM

Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19

## TODAY'S GOSPEL

Mark 13: 24-37



## ABM PEW REFLECTIONS

**Sunday 3rd December 2017**

### First Sunday of Advent

We start this Advent with an apocalyptic vision from Mark 13. The vision is a catastrophic one where the whole creation surrounding us is folding itself into itself. The created order is shaken violently, including the sun, the moon and the stars. We are called to note that even though the whole world might pass away, the words of Jesus will not pass away.

Pray that we might hear the words of Jesus – to distinguish between things that are important and things that are passing away. Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Australia, and the National Council of Churches in Australia.



**ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION**  
*Working for Love, Hope & Justice*

## Prayer Chain

For urgent prayer requests

Glenys Collis

**0407 398 948**

# NOTICES

## Working Bee

**Wednesday 6th December at 4:30pm**

Please come and help tidy up the Labyrinth if you are able. BYO tools.



## Sunday Services Breakfast

**From 9.15am, 10 December**

Do come to our combined Sunday services breakfast from 9.15am on 10th December! I will be making scones, and I will greatly appreciate assistance with croissants and fruit. Contact Mitzi 0438 017963.



## Parish Matters

Next edition of Parish Matters will be available Sunday 10th December. Lots of events have occurred recently and good times to be had leading up to Christmas. Would anybody like to provide articles, pics, news from groups, maybe a prayer. Please email to me by Wednesday 6th December. Many thanks, Sally Petty.  
[rpetty01@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rpetty01@bigpond.net.au)

## Morning Prayer Recess

Morning Prayer has concluded for 2017 and will recommence on February 14th 2018 (Ash Wednesday).



## Mary & Chris - Message from the UK

Dear friends, thank you all for your prayers, thoughts and messages. They are much appreciated. I am coming along quite well given the movement limitations. The crutches are easier as time goes on and the fibreglass cast is much lighter now than the plaster. We have been in Devon now for a month & as I do not need to return to the hospital until December 18th we are going up to Ludlow to be nearer the family in Birmingham. Thankfully they cater for disabled people reasonably well in the UK & I am enjoying the motorised scooters in many stores and towns. Easier for Chris too than having to push me everywhere. We hope and pray we will be home by Christmas Day.

## Safe Church Training



**Safe Church Training Agreement**

An initiative of the National Council of Churches in Australia  
[www.safechurches.org.au](http://www.safechurches.org.au)

For all parishioners with a Working With Children Check, you are required to undergo Safe Church training by the 1st February 2018. You are invited to attend a Safe Church training session at Eltham Montmorency Uniting Church on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1:00pm to 3.30pm. There will be another daytime session and an evening session offered in the second half of January for those who can't make it to the 14<sup>th</sup>.



<b>ROSTER</b>	<b>3rd December 8:00am Advent I</b>	<b>3rd December 10:00am Advent I</b>	<b>10th December 8:00am Advent II</b>	<b>10th December 10am Advent II</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	Wendy Pullin	Wendy Pullin	Keren Terpstra	Keren Terpstra
<b>Preacher</b>	Wendy Pullin	Wendy Pullin	Keren Terpstra	Keren Terpstra
<b>Sacristan Assistant</b>	Vacant	Geoff & Elizabeth Milgate	Robert Brazenor	Annette Street
<b>Liturgical Assistant</b>	Robert Brazenor	Adrienne Watson	Robert Brazenor	Adrienne Watson
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Mandy Stevens Barbara Talbot	Mark Laidlay Emmanuel Babalola	Jo Norman	Sylvia Gilbert Sandra Brown-Holt
<b>Greeters &amp; Sides People</b>	Catherine Pearson	Harry Watson Roger Alcock	Gwen Sharp Michael Tucker	Anne Bryant Lillian Lloyd
<b>First Reading</b>	Isaiah 64: 1-9 Chris Winkett	Isaiah 64: 1-9 Helen Robertson	Isaiah 40: 1-11 Glenys Collis	Isaiah 40: 1-11 Helen Symons
<b>Second Reading</b>	1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 Clive Noble	1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 Helen Symons	2 Peter 3: 8-15a Michael Tucker	2 Peter 3: 8-15a Margie Dahl
<b>Intercessor</b>	Catherine Pearson	Geoff Sandy	Graham & Coralie Carew	Sandra Brown-Holt
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Fay Gravenall	Elizabeth & Geoff Milgate	Elizabeth Ainsworth	Lyn
<b>Banking</b>	Melissa Laidlay	Vacant	David Pryor	Vacant
<b>Flowers</b>	Vacant		Vacant	
<b>Powerpoint</b>	Felicity Wiltshire	John Humann	Felicity Wiltshire	John Humann

## WHAT'S COMING UP

12/12/17	7:30pm	Book Club
14/12/17	9:30am	Finance Committee meeting
19/12/17	1:00pm	Embryonic Dabblers
21/12/17	7:30pm	Taize
24/12/17	9:00am 5:00pm 10:30pm 11:00pm	Combined Eucharist Children's service Christmas Carols Midnight Mass
25/12/17	9:00am	Combined Holy Eucharist

<b>Wednesday Roster</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Greeting</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Morning Tea</b>
29/11/17	Helen Costello	Daniel 5: 1-6, 13-17, 23-28 Gwen Sharp	Jennifer Constantine & Fay Gravenall
6/12/17	Jenny Disney	Isaiah 25: 6-10 Rae Kerr	Margaret A & Margaret C
13/12/17	Jennifer Constantine	Isaiah 40: 25-31 Gwen Sharp	Vacant
20/12/17	Helen Costello	Isaiah 7: 10-14 Gwen Sharp	Barbara Alexander & Jenny Disney

The Christmas Choir is looking for singers and musicians to join them for two performances in December:

### Eltham Twilight Market

Thursday December 14th - 7:30pm - 8:15pm

### St Vincent's Aged Care

Sunday December 17th - 2:30pm - 4:30pm

There will be rehearsals on Sundays December 3rd and 10th from 11:30am - 1:30pm.

Please give Bernadette Shade a call on 0408 008 751 if you would like to participate.

## Christmas Choir

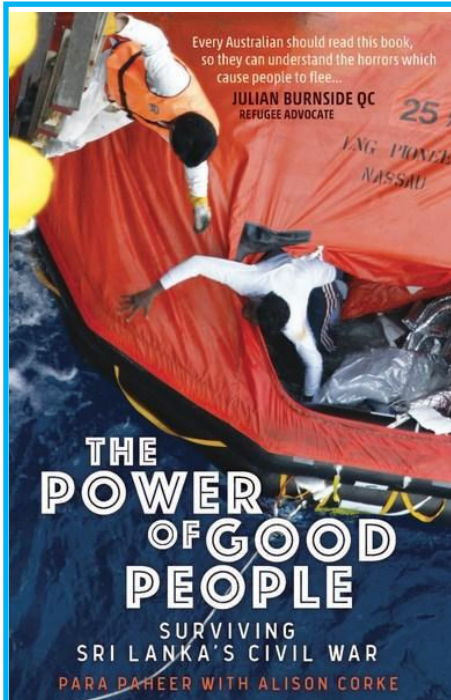


### LinC

Please could contributions to the (at least) 22 Christmas Hampers LinC prepares for distribution to families and others in need in Nillumbik and Banyule be placed in the LinC basket which will be in the foyer of the church from December 3rd. All donations are welcome so long as there are no perishable goods. Small toys are also welcome. We try to include tinned food with the Christmas goodies to help the recipients over the month following Christmas. LinC thanks you in anticipation - St. Margaret's people are always very generous.

### Funds Raised

The St Margaret's Day celebration weekend raised much needed funds for displaced Syrian people. \$315 was raised on Saturday evening, and \$140 on Sunday. Thank you all.



**ELTHAMbookshop**, Wild Dingo Press and Yarra Plenty Regional Library warmly invite you to join us in celebrating:

## The Power of Good People

**Date:** December 10th

**Time:** 2.30pm until 4.00pm

**Venue:** Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham

**Entry:** \$30.00 per couple includes a copy of the book or a \$20.00 gift voucher, an opportunity to hear the story from Para and Alison & Tamil afternoon tea

**10% of the sales will go to a collection of books for Tamil children-in-need.**

*The event is supported by Montmorency Asylum Seekers Support Group and Do Justice Group, St Margaret's Anglican Church*

**Prepaid bookings are essential:**

**ELTHAMbookshop**

(03) 9439 8700

970 Main Road, Eltham, 3095

elthambookshop@bigpond.com

*Attached to this week's Pew Sheet email is a review of this book written by Jenny Disney.*

If you do not receive the email and would like a copy of the review by Jenny, please contact Jen in the office.

### Christmas Donations



Parishioners for many years have been donating Christmas foods to be given to Anglicare families. There is a short donation period from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December for donations of foods for the Christmas period and socks for some of the homeless men and women. You may prefer to wait until we collect items for our "Educational packs" during the summer sales of January. Gifts are much appreciated.







## Christmas Bowl



# Restore us, oh God

## First Sunday of Advent

Psalm 80 is an expression of deep faith and hope, and it points towards a peaceful future; for the return of a life that once was.

As people living in Australia, it is often hard to relate to this experience of the Israelites. Most of us have never been in a position where danger has forced us to flee our homes and where we've had to endure harsh conditions in a foreign land with no end in sight.

Yet sadly, this is a very current and real experience for many people around the world today; people like Amba who lived with her husband and their two sons in the Congo.

**"I remember the day I left my home. Shooting and killing had come to my town. When the fighters came my husband, Lisembé, was shot in the leg. We fled straight away, taking whatever transport was available to move from town to town, seeking safety."**

Amba and her family now live as refugees, in Ethiopia. While life there is safe, they still face many hardships.

"We are restricted in what we can do. We can't find work and school fees are high, so it is hard to make ends meet and provide for our family. Lisembé was a taxi driver in the Congo, but he can't drive with his bad leg."

However, your gifts to the Christmas Bowl have given Amba and her family hope. Through Act for Peace's partner in Ethiopia, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC), Amba is currently taking a computer course

and learning skills that will help her to provide for her family. She told us:

**"The course is very helpful for me – both physically and mentally. When we arrived here, we knew no one, and it can be very isolating. Now I am meeting other women like me and we support each other. It is giving me something positive in my life."**

Sadly Amba's story is one of many. In fact, today more than 65 million people are displaced from their homes after escaping conflict or disasters. That's more people than at any time since WWII and in the history of the Christmas Bowl. Many refugees share the Israelites longing to be restored.

The Psalmists recurring plea "restore us" can be translated more literally as "cause us to return." This Hebrew word has been used throughout the Old Testament to describe God bringing people back from exile (1 Kings 8:34; Jer 27:22 and Daniel 9:25). Most refugees have the same cry – they, like the Israelites, simply want to return home.

Your support through the Christmas Bowl is one way of sharing the hope and love of God and of participating in God's work of bringing about peace in the world today. Your financial gifts and ongoing prayerful support of the staff, partners, and people who Act for Peace serves will help restore those who have lost everything. That is one of the most meaningful gifts we can give this Christmas.

## Training for refugees

Ethiopia currently hosts the fifth highest number of refugees in the world, with the latest UNHCR recorded figure showing close to 800,000.

Through courses such as computer and hair-dressing training, refugees have the opportunity to learn new skills, build their self-esteem and strengthen their financial independence.



## Training for life

\$180 can provide basic computer skills training for refugees in Ethiopia.

\$180