St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham

Pew Sheet 21 December 2025
Advent IV

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sat 20th	8:00am	Meditation
Sun 21st	8:00am & 10:00am	Advent IV
Sun 21st	11:30am	Children's service play rehearsal
Mon 22nd	1:00pm	Monday Circle
Wed 24th Christmas Eve	5:00pm 9.45pm 11:00pm	Children's Christmas Service Christmas Carols Midnight Mass
Thur 25th	9:30am	Christmas Day—All Age Eucharist
Sun 28th	10:00am	First Sunday after Christmas (One service only)

Parish Office Christmas closure

The Parish office will be open next week Monday and Tuesday. Then closed for the Christmas / New Year break, and re-open on Monday 19th January 2026.

For any queries during this time please contact communications@stmargaretseltham.org.au , Rev Yvette or the Wardens.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St Margaret's Anglican Parish Eltham acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship. We commit to working for reconciliation and justice for First Peoples. Diversity and inclusivity are important to us at St Margaret's. Everyone is welcome here, regardless of race, gender, sexuality, or ability.

Prayer of the Week

O Lord,
raise up your power and come among us,
and with great might succour us,
that, whereas through our sins and wickedness
we are sore let and hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hearing Loop

A Hearing Loop is installed in the Church please use the T switch on your hearing aid.

Address: 79-81 Pitt Street Eltham Vic 3095
Email: parishoffice@stmargaretseltham.org.au, Tel: 9439 9238
Vicar: Revd. Yvette Daniel revdyvette@stmargaretseltham.org.au, Tel. 0439 035 741 (day off Thur)
Revd. Prashant Bhonsle revdprashant@stmargaretseltham.org.au, Tel 0457 876 622
(works Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday)

Worship 21December - Advent IV

Sentence

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us. *Matthew 1.23*

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God,
you chose the virgin Mary, by your grace,
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour:
so fill us with your grace,
that with her we may rejoice in your salvation,
and in all things embrace your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 7.10-16

Today's Psalm

Psalm 80.1-7, 17-19

Second Reading

Romans 1.1-7

Gospel

Matthew 1. 18-25

Today's Music

Welcome Hymn: O Come, o come, Emmanuel—TiS 265 (8.00am)

Lighting of Advent Candle 4 'O Child of Promise, Come'

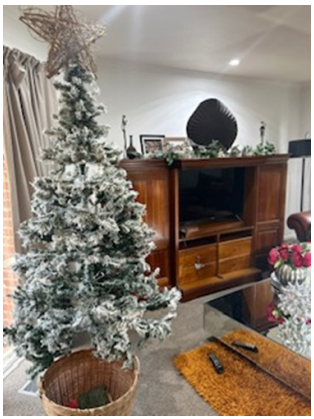
Offertory: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus—TiS 272

Communion Hymn: Wait for the Lord—Taize 2

Mission Hymn: The Angel Gabriel from heaven came—TiS 302

YouTube Link - Sunday 10:00 am Service
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU8zWevMdRsIRq70IA6MUIg/live

Vicars Christmas Message



My Christmas tree at home – is covered in snow – each branch ladened – so that they droop downwards onto the branches below - and I am so surprised that even in this Melbourne scorching hot weather the snow has not melted!

Assembling my tree this year I was able to reflect on Christmas's past with joy and laughter whilst still feeling excited about the Christmas to come.

However, I know for many of us this year for whatever reasons this Christmas will not be easy. It may not be one filled with joy and laughter and the frivolity this season can often bring.

So how do we hold that juxtaposition as we hear again the good news of a God who tells us not to be afraid or live in fear, a God that longs for us to live in peace – along with the Christmas Carols that speak of joy, love and hope.

I suppose it is about us knowing and truly believing that we are never alone or forgotten as we celebrate God's love for us by sending Jesus as a vulnerable baby to live amongst us as Emmanuel, **God with us.**

I Pray Gods love, peace and blessing to be upon everyone who calls St Margarets Church their spiritual home

Love

Revd. Yvette x

NOTICES

What's Coming Up

Sun 28th	10:00am	First Sunday after Christmas (One service only)
Wed 31st	9:30am 10:30am	Morning Prayer Wednesday Service
Saturday 3rd January	8:00am 8:30am	Meditation Men's Breakfast
Sun 4th	8:00am & 10:00am	The Epiphany of our Lord
Sun 4th	12:00pm	Pub Lunch
Wed 7th	9:30am 10:30am	Morning Prayer Wednesday Service
Sun 11th	8:00am & 10:00am	Baptism of our Lord (includes Baptism at the 10.00am service)
Tue 13th	1:30pm	Memory Care Café
Wed 14th	9:30am 10:30am	Morning Prayer Wednesday Service
Wed 14th	1:00pm	Pastoral Care Team meeting (TBC)
Sun 18th	8:00am & 10:00am	Epiphany II
Mon 19th	10:30am 7:30pm	Marketing & Communication Parish Council informal gathering
Wed 21st	9:30am 10:30am	Morning Prayer Wednesday Service
Sun 25th	8:00am & 10:00am	Epiphany III (Aboriginal Sunday)
Sun 25th	5:30pm 6:30pm	Taize meal Taize prayers

A Big Thank you and Christmas Wishes!

Dear All,

I thank you all for receiving me in Christ Jesus to journey with you. I thank you, for your love, warmth, care and understanding.

For your perseverance, faithfulness and discipline in Prayer, I give thanks to the Lord our God.

I praise God for what you do as a Parish; for God's Mission for all those in need.

Above all I give thanks for what we have come about to become in our mutual sharing and learnings.

I thank God for the inspiration received from you that I was able to articulate God's word already living and working in you.

Be assured of my prayers for the Church just as I am assured of yours for me.

Our collect for this Christmas, I feel, aptly reflects our journey together:

Give us, O God, such love and wonder
that, with shepherds and pilgrims unknown,
we may come to adore the holy Child, the promised King,
and with our gifts worship him,
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

I wish you all a Blessed Christmas!

Rev. Prashant S Bhonsle

ROSTER	21 December 2025 Advent IV 8:00am	21 December 2025 Advent IV 10:00am	24 December Wednesday 10:30am
Celebrant	Rev Prashant Bhonsle	Rev Prashant Bhonsle	No Service
Preacher **Gospel**	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 1. 18-25*	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 1. 18-25*	
Sacristan **Assistant**	Robert Brazenor	Jan Gack	
Liturgical **Assistant**	Robert Brazenor	Geoff Sandy	
Communion **Assistants**	Neil Andrewartha	Tony Michaelson Harry Watson	
Greeters & **Sides People**	Marg Duncan	Roger Alcock	
First **Reading**	David Greenfield *Isaiah 7. 10-16*	David Pryor *Isaiah 7. 10-16*	
Second **Reading**	Sally Warner *Romans 1. 1-7*	Harry Watson *Romans 1. 1-7*	
Psalm	*Psalm 80. 1-7, 17-19*	*Psalm 80. 1-7, 17-19*	
Intercessor	Felicity Wiltshire	Linda Mackenzie	
Morning Tea	Helen Coutts	Veronica & Michael Dobson	
Banking	Rob Mackenzie		
Music	Helen Coutts	Cecilia Spicer	
Zoom/Ppt **Cameras**	Sally Warner	Sandra Brown-Holt John Humann	
Flowers	Advent		

ROSTER	24 December 2025 Christmas Eve 11.00pm	25 December 2025 Christmas Day 9:30am
Celebrant	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel
Preacher Gospel	Rev Yvette Daniel *Luke 2.1-14*	Re Prashant Bhonsle *Luke 2.8-20*
Sacristan Assistant	Barbara Speed	Diana Warrell
Liturgical Assistant	Adrienne Watson	David Pryor
Communion Assistants	David Pryor Sandra Brown-Holt	
Greeters & Sides People	Harry Watson	Marg Duncan Diana Warrell
First Reading	Mary Lynton-Moll *Isaiah 9.2-7*	Tim Beattie *Isaiah 62. 6-12*
Second Reading	*Titus 2.11-14*	Marg Duncan *Titus 3.4-8a*
Psalm	*Psalm 96*	*Palm 97*
Intercessor		Lyn Beattie
Morning Tea	N/A	N/A
Banking		
Music	Cecilia Spicer	Cecilia Spicer
Zoom/Ppt Cameras	John Humann Liz Pryor	Rob Mackenzie Val Tucker
Flowers	Angela Langan	

Revd. Prashant

Hello Church!

Just to remind everyone that Revd. Prashant's last Sunday with us is December 21st and his last service will be on Christmas Day.

So please make some time to say goodbye before he leaves us

Every blessing

Revd. Yvette

Wednesday Services

Please note that there will be no Morning Pray and no Eucharist service on **Wednesday 24th December.**

However, the Wednesday services will still take place on New Years Eve and throughout the month of January

Every blessing

Revd. Yvette

MARY AND JOSEPH NEEDED

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO BE MARY OR JOSPEH IN OUR CHILDREN'S SERVICE ON

CHRISTMAS EVE?

IF YOU DO, PLEASE SPEAK WITH ADRIENNE AND HARRY WATSON OR CONTACT THE OFFICE

Reminder

Just a reminder that the rehearsal for the Children's Christmas Service will be on Sunday 21st December at 11.30

No 8am service on Sunday 28th December

I have been informed that many of the Sunday 8am congregation will not be at church on **Sunday 28th December** and therefore I have decided that there will be no 8am Service – however the 10am service will continue as normal.

I pray that this does not disappoint or inconvenience you all too much.

Peace and all good

Roger Heath

A long time ago parishioner recently died. His funeral is at St. John's Croydon at 2.00pm on Monday 22 December. A number of parishioners will remember both Roger and Jenny and their children Andrew, Wendy and Richard. The family were a vital part of St. Margaret's.

The service will be live streamed at https:roger.heaths.net

ROSTER	28 December 2025 First Sunday after Christmas 10:00am	31 December Wednesday 10:30am
Celebrant	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel
Preacher Gospel	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 2.13-23*	Rev Yvette *John 1.1-18*
Sacristan Assistant	Diana Warrell	N/A
Liturgical Assistant	Adrienne Watson	N/A
Communion Assistants	Angela Langan Anna Mott	N/A
Greeters & Sides People	Kevin Gillett Diana Warrell	Jennifer Constantine
First Reading	Harry Watson *Isaiah 63. 7-9*	Michael Tucker *1 John 2.18-21*
Second Reading	Roger Alock *Hebrews 2.10-18*	
Psalm	*Psalm 148*	*Psalm 96.10-13*
Intercessor	Geoff Sandy	
Morning Tea	Tony & Christine Michaelson	Jennifer Constantine
Banking		
Music	Cecilia Spicer	
Zoom/Ppt Cameras	John Humann Rob Mackenzie	
Flowers	Angela Langan	

ROSTER	4 January 2026 Epiphany 8:00am	4 January 2026 Epiphany 10:00am	7 January Wednesday 10:30am
Celebrant	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel
Preacher **Gospel**	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 2.1-12*	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 2. 1-12*	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 4.12-17 and 23-25*
Sacristan Assistant	Barbara Speed	Geoff & Elizabeth Milgate	N/A
Liturgical Assistant	Robert Brazenor	David Pryor	N/A
Communion Assistants	Dave Greenfield	Adrienne Watson Mabs Jones	N/A
Greeters & Sides People	Catherine Pearson	Geoff & Elizabeth Milgate	Jenny Disney
First Reading	MaryAnn Wilkie *Isaiah 60. 1-6*	Geoff & Elizabeth Milgate *Isaiah 60. 1-6*	Barbara Alexander *1 John 3.22-4.6*
Second Reading	Clive Noble *Ephesians 3. 1-12*	*Ephesians 3. 1-12*	
Psalm	*Psalm 72. 1-7, 10-14*	*Psalm 72. 1-7, 10-14*	*Psalm 2. 6-11*
Intercessor	Clive Noble	Liz Pryor	
Morning Tea	Mary Lynton-Moll	Sheila Cheary	Margaret Charles
Banking	John Humann		
Music	Helen Coutts	Amelia Trinh	
Zoom/Ppt Cameras	Mary Lynton-Moll	Sandra Brown-Holt Val Tucker	
Flowers	Pot Plants		

ROSTER	11 January 2026 Baptism of our Lord 8:00am	11 January 2026 Baptism of our Lord 10:00am	14 January Wednesday 10:30am
Celebrant	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel
Preacher Gospel	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 3.13-17*	Rev Yvette Daniel *Matthew 3.13-17*	Rev Yvette Daniel *Mark 1.29-39*
Sacristan Assistant	Robert Brazenor	Mabs Jones	N/A
Liturgical Assistant	Robert Brazenor	David Pryor	N/A
Communion Assistants	Kathleen Toal	Sylvia Gilbert Sandra Brown-Holt	N/A
Greeters & Sides People	Mary Lynton-Moll	Roger Alcock Harry Watson	Jennifer Constantine
First Reading	Sally Petty *Isaiah 42.1-9*	Sandra Brooks *Isaiah 42.1-9*	Michael Tucker *1 Samuel 3.1-10, 19 -20*
Second Reading	Mary Lynton-Moll *Acts 10. 34-43*	Liz Pryor *Acts 10.34-43*	
Psalm	*Psalm 29*	*Psalm 29*	*Psalm 40.5-11*
Intercessor	Catherine Pearson	Sandra Brown-Holt	
Morning Tea	Mary Lynton-Moll	Anna Mott Sandra Brooks	Jenny Disney
Banking	David Pryor		
Music	Helen Coutts	Jason Zeng	
Zoom/Ppt Cameras	Felicity Wiltshire	John Humann Mandy Stevens	
Flowers	Pot Plants		

ROSTER	18 January 2026 Epiphany II 8:00am	18 January 2026 Epiphany II 10:00am	21 January Wednesday 10:30am
Celebrant	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel	Rev Yvette Daniel
Preacher **Gospel**	Rev Yvette Daniel *John 1.29-42*	Rev Yvette Daniel *John 1.29-42*	Rev Yvette Daniel *Mark 3.1-6*
Sacristan **Assistant**	Robert Brazenor	Jan Gack	N/A
Liturgical **Assistant**	Robert Brazenor	Geoff Sandy	N/A
Communion **Assistants**	Neil Andrewartha	Tony Michaelson Harry Watson	N/A
Greeters & **Sides People**	Marg Duncan	Roger Alcock	Jill Rogers
First **Reading**	Robert Brazenor *Isaiah 49. 1-7*	Adrienne Watson *Isaiah 49. 1-7*	Lorna Howard *1 Samuel 17.32-51*
Second **Reading**	MaryAnn Wilkie *1 Corinthians 1.1-9*	Geoff Sandy *1 Corinthians 1.1-9*	
Psalm	*Psalm 40. 1-14*	*Psalm 40. 1-14*	*Psalm 144.3-10*
Intercessor	Felicity Wiltshire		
Morning Tea	Sally Warner	Veronica & Michael Dobson	Jill Rogers
Banking			
Music	Helen Coutts	Jason Zeng	
Zoom/Ppt **Cameras**	Sally Warner	John Humann Liz Pryor	
Flowers	Pot Plants		

Christmas Service/January Rosters

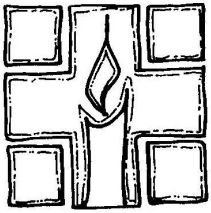
Thankyou to all those who have helped with filling the Christmas rosters at this busy time of year! A hard copy of the Christmas services and January roster is in the foyer, and also in this week's pew sheet. There are just a few spots left.

In particular needing

- Christmas Eve—Midnight Mass, 11.00pm—Intercessor
- Christmas Day, 9.30am—Communion Assistant & Banking
- Sunday 4th January, 10am—Second bible reading
- Sunday 18th January, 10am—Intercessor & Banking
- Sunday 25th January, 10am—First bible reading

Baptism

Please pray for Thomas McConnell, as his family prepared for his baptism. Thomas will be baptised during the 10.00am service on Sunday 11th January 2026.



welcome to

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

at

ST. MARGARET'S ELTHAM

Wednesday 24th December 2025

Christmas Eve

5.00pm Children's Christmas Service

Come and journey with the shepherds on their way to BethlehemTown to find the 'Gifts of Love'

9.45pm Christmas Carols

An atmospheric short service by candlelight. Let us sing familiar songs together (with mince pies and mulled wine) leading us into midnight mass

11.00pm Midnight Mass

Marking the first service of Christmas. Sung eucharist, candlelight and incense

Thursday 25th December 2025

Christmas Day

9.30am All Age Eucharist

A service for everyone. A lovely way to begin your Christmas celebrations

www.stmargaretseltham.org.au

St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham

Update from Finance Committee

Parish giving report

It is great to report that for the first two months of the financial year the parish is on target to achieve the annual budget for giving for the year of $80,000.

Giving for October and November was $13.045 Budget $13,333

Regular giving has enabled the Parish Council to approve the appointment of a Deacon commencing from February 2026 partially subsided out of Parish resources.

We should endeavour to recoup some of this outlay and try to reach an annual giving amount of at least $100.000 ($8.333 per month). Historically St Margarets has been able to achieve this figure

If you wish to amend your regular giving amount or undertake a new commitment there are a number of avenues available by

- Direct debit to the Parish bank account
- Anglican Development Funds
- Parish envelopes

Please contact either Kathleen Toal or David Pryor for further information.

A message from the Archbishop

Dear sisters and brothers,

I am writing to you with a heavy heart following the appalling act of violence at Bondi Beach on Sunday evening. That such an attack should take place during Hanukkah, a time marked by light, peace and hope, is deeply distressing. This was a senseless act of hatred that has no place in our society.

Our prayers are with the victims, those who have been injured, and the families who are grieving. We especially hold the Jewish community in prayer, and those who were targeted in this attack.

As Christians, we are called to name hatred clearly, to resist evil,, and to be people who stand for the protection of every person made in the image of God. And we want to come alongside all who are fearful and mourning in the aftermath of this attack. Our hope is that "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).

In Christ,

Archbishop Ric

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Reimagining the **future**
Enabling the **present**

The Most Reverend Dr Ric Thorpe | Archbishop

Anglican Diocese of Melbourne | 209 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000

+61 3 9653 4204 , archbishop@melbourneanglican.org.au

St Margaret's Church

24hr day of prayer – sign -up

Beginning on Wednesday 14th January at 6am – Thursday 15th Thursday at 5am.

The power of prayer is remarkable and full of mystery.

Whether we make set times for prayer as part of our daily devotional, pray as we walk in nature or even prayer through Lectio Divina and other spiritual practices – praying should be part of our daily discipleship journey.

For 24 hrs I would like us to pray for our church, her mission focus with and through the Holy Spirit, our parish and our church family.

Our 4 areas of focus for the next 5 years

- To grow the Church Younger
- To be a spiritual place for the lost, seeking and found
- To live as disciples of Jesus Christ
- To take the Church outdoors and take the church to the People (fresh expressions of church)

Aiming to achieve this through the lens of the 5 Marks of Mission

The Five Marks of Mission are an important statement on mission. They express the Anglican Communion's common commitment to, and understanding of, God's holistic and integral mission.
The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ.

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers

3. To respond to human need by loving service

4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

On Sunday 14th there will be a sign-up sheet – please write your name in the relevant time slot.

It is ok to have the same prayer slot as someone else.

The plan is for the church to be open from 6am-6pm for folk (if they wish) to come into church and pray in stillness and silence or with someone else.

Thank you all in advance

Revd. Yvette

More information to come …

Memory Café dates

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 1.30 to 3pm

Café closed during Christmas and New Year

JANUARY 2026

13 January café opens in 2026

27 January

'Life Matters' Series -- No. 1

A series of 4 presentations with discussion during 2026

'Proactive Financial Planning
Aged Care Information and Support'

Sunday 1 February 2026

Commencing at 11.30am –1.15pm*

at St Margaret's Church Hall

79-81 Pitt St Eltham 3095

Presenters:

Robyn Erskine, Financial Planner and Aged Care Specialist and

Stacie Synon, Aged Care Advocate

will share their insights on proactive financial planning, navigating aged care with clarity and accessing confidential, trustworthy information and support.

Light refreshments will be served and there will be time for questions during the session and privately with the presenters afterwards.

There is no charge.

Whether planning for yourself or supporting a loved one,

this session is not to be missed.

Pub Lunch delayed to accommodate

St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham

Tel: 03 9439 9238

You are invited

to join other Taizé members

at

St. Margaret's Anglican Church, Eltham

79 Pitt Street Eltham

On February 14th 2026 @ 2:30

For a Chorale afternoon

led by Brigid Murray

Our purpose is to learn and sing with confidence the songs and chants we know and love as well as some new pieces.

AND

Meet with other Taizé lovers

Looking forward to seeing you with us.

In Sri Lanka, Kurunagala Diocese is upgrading and extending an older building to become Kurunagala Bishop's College. The school plans to start classes in 2026, with the aim of providing education close to home for poorer families. © Stephen Daughtry/ABM AID

www.abmission.org/Advent2025

175 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1850 - 2025

Christmas Bowl

We encourage you to join us in celebrating the Christmas Bowl this year, to support people around the world who are forced to flee their homes due to conflicts and disasters.

Please find our giving envelopes located in the Church Foyer. The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Prayer Chain

For any prayer Requests

Mary Lynton-Moll

prayerchain@stmargaretseltham.org.au

or 0412 512 416

Preventing Violence Against Women

Love does no harm.

No one should live in fear of violence

St Margaret's Church is signed up to Preventing violence against women program(PVAW)

If you have any concerns related to any form of abuse or controlling behaviour exhibited towards yourself or , someone you know – in an emergency call **000**

24 hr information hotline 1800 Respect- **1800 737 732**

Orange door – our local family violence service – **1800 319 355**

You can also speak with Mandy Stevens who is our church family safety champion or Revd. Yvette Daniel

Remember – You are not alone

Mobile Phones during service

A gentle reminder to please remember to switch off mobile phones before services.

Thankyou.

The Five Marks of Mission

The Five Marks of Mission are an important statement on mission. They express the Anglican Communion's common commitment to, and understanding of, God's holistic and integral mission. The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ.

The Five Marks of Mission:

The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth