

**SAINT JOHN'S**



**ANGLICAN CHURCH**

## PEW SHEET

### First Sunday after Christmas 27<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Welcome to Saint John's! Public worship has recommenced in accordance with government restrictions and with cleaning and safety protocols in place. In line with government restrictions, all services are at the moment restricted to 115 persons indoors. Please ensure you have signed in for contact tracing purposes.

You can find out more about us as well as resources for Worship at Home at [www.saintjohns.org.au](http://www.saintjohns.org.au).

#### **The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes**

5-7 Finch Street East Malvern VIC 3145

Phone: 03 9571 6616

Email: [secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au)

#### **SERVICES**

##### **Sunday**

8:00am – Said Eucharist (St John's)

9:30am – Choral Eucharist (St John's)

9:30am – Sung Eucharist (St Agnes')

##### **Weekday Eucharist**

9:00am - Tuesday (St. Agnes')

10:00am – Thursday (St John's)

#### **Vicar**

Fr. Alex Ross

0431 308 703

[vicar@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:vicar@saintjohns.org.au)

(Day-Off: Monday)

#### **Associate Clergy**

Fr. Ken Hewlett - 0427 772 003

Fr. Gary Bouma - 0409 234 960

#### **Churchwardens**

Susan Haycox - 9569 8714

Robin Richards – 0412 545 002

David Arden – 0408 174 028

#### **Director of Music**

Lachlan McDonald - 0488 278 139

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*Text marked with  is sung at 9:30am. Please stand when the bells are rung.*

## OPENING HYMN

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
let earth receive its king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns;  
let us our songs employ;  
while fields and streams, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

*Isaac Watts 1674-1748 alt.  
Based on Psalm 98  
TIS 268*

✠ In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ Jesus said ‘This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God’s forgiveness.

**Merciful God,  
our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:  
we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you  
in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

<b>♪ Lord, have mercy.</b>	<b>Lord, have mercy.</b>
Christ, have mercy.	<b>Christ, have mercy.</b>
Lord, have mercy.	<b>Lord, have mercy.</b>

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:  
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

♪ Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.

## THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the light of your incarnate Word: may this light, kindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

*Before the Liturgy of the Word all children and their parents are invited to come forward to receive a prayer and blessing before proceeding to the Belltower for children's activities.*

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

[62.10-62.3]

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.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 148

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord from heaven:  
O praise him in the heights.

**Praise him, all his angels:**

**O praise him, all his host.**

Praise him, sun and moon:  
praise him, all you stars of light.

**Praise him, you highest heaven:  
and you waters that are above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord:  
for he commanded and they were made.

**He established them for ever and ever:  
he made an ordinance which shall not pass away.**

O praise the Lord from the earth:  
praise him, you sea-monsters and all deeps;

**Fire and hail, mist and snow:  
and storm-wind fulfilling his command;**

Mountains and all hills:  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**Beasts of the wild, and all cattle:  
creeping things and winged birds;**

Kings of the earth, and all peoples:  
princes, and all rulers of the world;

**Young men and maidens:  
old folk and children together.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord:  
for his name alone is exalted.

**His glory is above earth and heaven:  
and he has lifted high the horn of his people.**

Therefore he is the praise of all his servants:

of the children of Israel, a people that is near him. Praise the Lord.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end.**

**Amen.**

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians

[4:4-7]

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.

**Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

[2.22-40]

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,

according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will

be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

*The Sermon is followed by a period of reflection*

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Let us together stand to affirm the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary**

and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*Please kneel*

Lord, we rejoice that we are created in your image, that we are called to be your sons and daughters. May the church at all times reveal your glory and lead many to the glorious liberty that is for the children of God. Encourage and equip all who teach the faith and who are called to share the faith. Gather in all who are seekers, all who long for you and for a glimpse of your glory.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord, guide all people in their search for truth and meaning that they will not be led astray or directed in wrong paths. Look with compassion particularly on all young people, for those whose patterns of mind are still forming and who are easily influenced. May they be guided in your truth and surrounded by positive and healthy role models.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord, we give thanks for our own homes and loved ones, those who have sought us out when we have gone astray, those who accept us even when we reject them. Bring your healing love to all families where there is tension and lack of trust, estrangement and division. Comfort all who are anxious about those they love. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord, bring back those who are far from you and bring healing to those who are sick or suffering at this time. From our own community we pray particularly for: Marg, Ali, Patricia, Christine, Phil, Greg, Warwick, Andrew and Tom. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord, we rejoice that you will bring us home to your eternal kingdom where sorrow and pain are no more. We commend to you friends and loved ones now departed, and particularly those who have died recently, Dorothy Thomas, and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: George William Masson, Reginald Arthur Frederick Wallace, Margaret Lorna King, Viola Goldney Coventry, Eileen Violetta Barnard, Danielle Isabella Dessau, Beryl Noble Graham, John William Kilborn, Clive Cox, and Frederick Guy Tuddenham. May they rest in peace: **and rise in glory.**

*Please stand*

## **GREETING OF PEACE**

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*A collection is taken to support the life and mission of the parish.*

*At 9:30am the Offertory Hymn is sung.*

## **OFFERTORY HYMN**

1

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes of flame;  
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favoured lady, *Gloria!***

2

'for known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold;  
most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!*

3

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,  
'my soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':  
most highly favoured lady, *Gloria!*

4

of her, Immanuel, the Christ was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say  
'most highly favoured lady'. *Gloria!*

*Basque Carol, paraphrased by  
Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)  
TIS 302*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The priest continues in thanksgiving...*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

♪ **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The priest continues with the prayer of consecration...*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

♪ **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues...*

... we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

♪ **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

*Said at 8:00am*

*Sung at 9:30am*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who  
trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body:

**For we all share in the one bread.**

♩ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us your peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*All baptised Christians who seek Christ in this sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion. It will be assumed during this time that you wish to receive the consecrated bread only. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.*

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*Notices may be given here.*

*The priest prays a post-communion prayer, followed by*

Father,  
**we offer ourselves to you  
as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

*The priest says this or another seasonal blessing:*

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord:  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**

*At 9.30am the Closing Hymn is sung.*

## CLOSING HYMN

1. As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright:  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore your glory see.

2. As with joyful steps they sped,  
Saviour, to your lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
one whom heaven and earth adore:  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek your mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare  
at your cradle rough and bare:  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

4. Holy Jesus, every day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed lives at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds your glory hide;

5. in the heavenly country bright  
need they no created light;  
you its light, its joy, its crown,  
you its sun which goes not down.  
There for ever may we sing  
hallelujahs to our King.

*William Catterton Dix (1837-98) alt.  
TIS 314*

*The organist plays the POSTLUDE*

# NEWS & NOTICES

---

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES THANK YOU

Thank you to all of those who helped us celebrate Christmas this last week – it was wonderful to see the church full again and to welcome a number of visitors and neighbours to rejoice together at the mystery of our Lord's incarnation. After what has been an extraordinary year it was a joy to be able to gather together with some degree of normality with confidence and hope.

---

## NEW YEAR'S EVE TWILIGHT DRINKS

I'm sure we're all keen to see out 2020 and welcome 2021! Please do join us for a very simple occasion on New Year's Eve at 5pm under the Rotunda where we'll gather with some light refreshments to see out the year that was and herald in the year to come. It is intended as something of an outreach to the neighbours too – so please do extend the invitation.

---

## VICAR ON LEAVE

The Vicar will be on leave from Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January until Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January inclusive. I'm very pleased that Fr Ken will be able to join us on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January while Fr Gary will be at St Agnes', and Bp Brad Billings – who lives in the parish and was able to join us for Midnight Mass too – will be at St John's at both services on the 10<sup>th</sup> January. Please contact Fr Ken for all urgent pastoral matters during that week and, for any other enquiry, contact either the Parish Office ([secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au)) or a Churchwarden.

---

## DOROTHY THOMAS FUNERAL

The funeral of beloved and very long-standing parishioner Dorothy Thomas will be held at St John's Finch Street on Wednesday January 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am with a reception following at the Gables. As the Vicar will be on leave, I'm delighted to welcome back to St John's Fr John Baldock who will officiate at the service. A service to inter Dorothy's ashes in the Memorial Garden will be held immediately following the 9:30am Choral Eucharist at a time probably in February 2021.

---

## CHOIR RECESS

We have been very fortunate to be able to hear some members of our choir again during Advent and over Christmas – it has been a particularly difficult year for them as they have been largely prohibited from singing and, even when not, there have been a number of restrictions. The choir is now in recess until the beginning of February when we shall welcome them back along with a number of returning and some new Choral Scholars to a more promising 2021!

---

<b>ROSTER</b>	<b>This Week 27<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>	<b>Next Week 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021</b>
<b>8.00am Eucharist</b>		
Welcomer & Cleaner	John Jobling	
Readers	Tim Roberts David Richards	
<b>9:30am Eucharist</b>		
Welcomer	Chris Martin	
Cleaner	Chris Martin	
Readers	Sue Lockey Brian Simpson	
Subdeacon	Sebastian Harvey	
Intercessor	David Arden	
Organist	Bruce Fethers	Yi-Shuen Chan
<b>Weekly Duties</b>		
Bins	Adrian & Sally Wallis	TBA <i>Including Recycling</i>



**The Anglican Parish of  
Saint John & Saint Agnes**

5-7 Finch Street Malvern East  
[www.saintjohns.org.au](http://www.saintjohns.org.au)  
 9571 6616

