

## PEW SHEET

### Epiphany of Our Lord (transferred)

4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Welcome to Saint John's Finch Street at the heart of the East Malvern community. This iconic sandstone church is home to a welcoming and hospitable community committed to the worship of God in beauty and holiness in the classical Anglican tradition as well as loving and joyful outreach as disciples of Jesus Christ.

You can find out more about us at [www.saintjohns.org.au](http://www.saintjohns.org.au)

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

5 Finch Street East Malvern VIC 3145  
03 9571 6616  
[secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au)

#### **SERVICES IN JANUARY**

##### **Sunday**

9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint John's)  
9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint Agnes')

*8am and 6pm Sunday services at Saint John's resume in February together with the return of our Parish Choir after their break in January.*

##### **Weekday Eucharists**

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes') Resumes Feb.  
10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

#### **Vicar**

Fr Alex Ross  
0431 308 703  
[vicar@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:vicar@saintjohns.org.au)  
(Day-Off: Monday)

#### **Associate Clergy**

Fr Marc Billimoria  
Fr Ken Hewlett  
Bp Brad Billings  
Fr Luke Hopkins

#### **Churchwardens**

John Hooper 0416 185 005  
Jane Fyfield 0412 543 545  
Robert Buckmaster 0437 014 090

#### **Director of Music**

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

*We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this place and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all and on which we worship the God of all Reconciliation and Hope*

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*The symbol ✠ indicates where the Sign of the Cross is customarily made. Text marked with ♪ is sung by the congregation to the Mass Setting by Michael Dudman. Please stand when the bells are rung.*

## OPENING HYMN

1. Earth has many a noble city -  
Bethlehem alone excels:  
from it came the Lord from heaven,  
came to rule his Israel.
2. Fairer than the sun at morning  
was the star that told his birth,  
to the world its God announcing,  
seen in human form on earth.
3. Eastern sages at his cradle  
make their offerings rich and rare;  
see them give in deep devotion  
gold and frankincense and myrrh:
4. sacred gifts of mystic meaning -  
frankincense God to disclose,  
gold the King of kings proclaiming,  
myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.
5. Jesus, whom the gentiles worshipped  
at your glad epiphany,  
now to you with God the Father  
and the Spirit glory be.

*Aurelius Clemens Prudentius 348-c.413  
tr. Edward Caswall 1814-78 alt  
TIS 291*

✠ 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.’

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations. Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**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.**

♪ Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

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, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
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:  
*Here it is customary to bow for the duration of the words 'receive our prayer'*  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High  
Jesus Christ, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.

## THE COLLECT

Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, 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*

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

[60:1-6]

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

[72:1-7, 10-14]

Give the king your judgement, O God:  
and your righteousness to the son of a king,

**That he may judge your people rightly:  
and the poor of the land with equity.**

Let the mountains be laden with peace  
because of his righteousness:

and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

**May he give justice to the poor among the people:  
and rescue the children of the needy,  
and crush the oppressor.**

May he live while the sun endures:  
and while the moon gives light,  
throughout all generations.

**May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:  
and as showers that water the earth.**

In his time shall righteousness flourish:  
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

**The kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
shall bring tribute:**

**the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.**

All kings shall fall down before him:  
and all nations do him service.

**He will deliver the needy when they cry:  
and the poor that have no helper.**

He will pity the helpless and the needy:  
and save the lives of the poor.

**He will redeem them from oppression and violence:  
and their blood shall be precious in his sight.**

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

[3:1-12]

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets

by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand and turn to face the Book of the Gospels.*

## GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. [2:1-12]

*Here it is customary to trace three small crosses on the forehead, lips and heart*

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be

born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

## **THE SERMON**

*The Sermon is followed by a time of reflection as the organist plays 'Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern' by J. C. Bach*

## **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, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
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,

*Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until '...became truly human'*  
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 *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
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*

As wise men from various nations were called to worship before the Christ child, open our ears to your call, and open our eyes to your glory. We offer you all that we are, ourselves, our souls, our bodies. We offer you all that we possess, for all things come from you. We offer you our joys and our sorrows. We pray for all seekers, for all who walk in the darkness and look for the light. We pray for all people, that they may ever be drawn to you.

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

Lord God, we pray that the rulers of this world may serve your kingdom, that the kingdoms of the world may become the kingdom of Christ our Lord. That the resources of the world may be used for the relief of those in need, and to your praise and glory. We pray for all who are suffering from tyranny and violence, and for leaders who are jealous for power.

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

We pray for all who work in our local communities, for a sharing of talents and awareness of needs. We thank you for the gifts you have given to us, and we seek to use them aright. May our homes be places where the Christ abides and is always welcomed. We remember all who have been driven out of their homes by poverty or war.

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

We pray for all who are in sorrow, pain or distress; for families where children are suffering, where children are ill. We pray for all from our own community who have asked for our prayers: Ali, Andrew, Warwick, Harriet, Diane, Niki and Greg.

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

Give hope and strength to all who mourn, and bring a new light into their darkness. May all who have died be brought into fullness of life in your kingdom. In your loving embrace receive those who have died recently, Katie Allen, as we remember in prayer also those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: William Staley, Peter Edward Forester. Margaret Lie Oleson, Thelma Ann Wallace, Lynette Shirley Wise, Albert Edward Loughlin.

Rest ☩ eternal grant to them, O Lord:  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*The prayers of intercession may conclude with a final prayer, after which all stand*

## **GREETING OF PEACE**

Arise, shine out, for your light is come.  
The glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*We greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

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

### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

1. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,  
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness  
bring, and adore him: the Lord is his name.
2. Low at his feet lay your burden of carefulness,  
high on his heart he will bear it for you,  
comfort your sorrows, and answer your prayerfulness,  
guiding your steps in the way best for you.
3. Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness,  
of the poor wealth you would reckon to own:  
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to bring to his throne.
5. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness  
bring, and adore him: the Lord is his name.

*John Samuel Bewley Monsell 1811-75 alt*  
*TIS 454*

# 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, *here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist*  
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...*

*It is customary when the bells ring at the elevation of the Sacrament to make the*  
✠ *Sign of the Cross*

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  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

**♪ 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.**

*The priest breaks the bread while the Agnus Dei is sung*

**♪ Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer 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.*

*Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.*

*Notices may be given here, after which please stand.*

*The priest prays the 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.

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*The priest pronounces this blessing:*

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you, that your lives may be a light to the world; *here it is customary to bow, or genuflect on the left knee* 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.**

## CLOSING HYMN

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
heralds of creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*come and worship Christ, the new-born King,  
come and worship, worship Christ,  
the new-born King.*

2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching over flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant Light:  
*come and worship Christ, the new-born King,  
come and worship, worship Christ,  
the new-born King.*

3. Wise men, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations,  
you have seen his natal star:  
*come and worship Christ, the new-born King,  
come and worship, worship Christ,  
the new-born King.*

4. Though an infant now we view him,  
he shall fill his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him:  
every knee shall then bow down:  
*come and worship Christ, the new-born King,  
come and worship, worship Christ,  
the new-born King.*

*James Montgomery 1771-1854 alt  
TIS 309*

*The organist plays the Postlude, 'Prelude sur l'Introit de l'Epiphanie' by Maurice Durufle*

*Please join us for Morning Tea.*

## NEWS & NOTICES

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### VICAR ON LEAVE DURING JANUARY

The Vicar will be on leave in January from Monday 5 to Monday 12 inclusive, including Sunday 11 January when Archdeacon Colleen O'Reilly will be at Saint John's and Fr Ken Hewlett at Saint Agnes'. Fr Marc will also be away during all of January, returning 6 February. Please direct pastoral requests during this time to [secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au) and for other needs contact the Churchwardens.

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### JOINT PARISH EUCHARIST JANUARY 18 2026

On January 18 2026 there will be no services at Saint John's Finch Street and instead the whole parish will gather at Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly at 9:30am for a Joint Parish Eucharist to mark our observance of Saint Agnes' Day. Please join us as we celebrate our shared life together as one parish!

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO GLEN EIRA CIS – BEST CHARITY AWARD**  
 Congratulations to our partner at Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly in delivering our Weekend Pantry – Glen Eira CIS – who have recently been recognised with an award for 'Best Charitable Program'. The citation for the award specifically mentions the Weekend Pantry which is run through Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly and contributes to the total reach of Glen Eira CIS supporting over 2,500 and distributing more than 3,300 food parcels in 2024-25. Congratulations to all in the parish who volunteer their time, effort and financially to enable this critical initiative and outreach!

ROSTER	4 January 2026	11 January 2026
<b>9:30am Eucharist</b>		
Welcomers	David Arden Robin Richards	Marg Garing Jim Morse
Sub-Deacon	Anne Kerin	Rick Burman
Crucifer		Tim Clarke
Acolytes	William and Manny	
Gospel Bearer	Bella Ross	
Thurifer	NA	NA
Readers	Chris Martin Joel Ringrose	David Reece Roxane Hislop
Intercessor	Tim Clarke	Anne Kerin
Organist	Yi-Shuen Chan	David Brennan
Post-Service Hospitality	Rosemary Wickett Gayle Arden	Anne Kerin Chris Martin
<b>Weekly Duties</b>		
Flowers (for the Sunday)	Robin Richards	Gayle Arden
Bins (for the week after Sunday)	Chris Martin <i>Garden &amp; Garbage</i>	David Richards <i>Recycling &amp; Garbage</i>



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