



*Welcome to  
Eastern Hills Anglicans  
18 December 2011  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Web Page Edition*

Mary said,  
"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
May it be done to me  
according to your word."

***Welcome***

We gather in the name of our Lord and Saviour and united in the power of the Spirit of God we call Holy. Today, we ask that this same Spirit who came upon Mary to make her be the mother of Jesus come upon us to help us imitate her faith and grow into the likeness of her Son.



***Celebrating Christmas 2011  
Saturday 17 December Children's Service***

4.00pm 'The Story of Christmas'

Help your children to know  
the true joy and meaning of Christmas

4.30pm Barbecue

***Christmas Eve 24 December***

6.00pm Family Mass, Camp Hill - PowerPoint Service

8.30pm Carols before

9pm Traditional Christmas Night Mass

***Christmas Day***

8.00am Christmas Family Mass, Camp Hill

*The Virgin is with child, and shall bear a Son,  
and she will call him Emmanuel.*

*Isaiah 7:14*

***Martyn's Mutterings – Teaching & Comments by Fr Martyn  
The Genealogy of Jesus***

I remember some wit saying about genealogical research that it takes five years to discover the family tree and then twenty-five to cover it up. That is probably true for most families, including our Lord's!

No doubt many of you had a resolution to read the Gospels and you started with Saint Matthew and the first thing you hit is the genealogy of Christ with a list of names you have never heard before and even less be able to pronounce. Now, obviously, it was not Matthew's intention to bore you to distraction with this list. He did it for a very definite purpose. It is a history of which Jesus becomes a part of, marked off with ordinary people but also scandals and notoriety - a mixture of goodness and vileness! What is interesting is the reference to four women. One is Rahab the Harlot of Jericho, who helped the Jewish spies take the town. There is the Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite, whom King David murdered to get hold of her. Then there is King David's grandmother, Ruth, who was not Jewish at all. Of course, the genealogy prepares for Mary who was betrothed and then found to be with child before the formal marriage to Joseph.

Some of the men are not much better – we have already mentioned David but neither Abraham, Isaac and Jacob fail to come out as shining lights. Others like Ahaz and Manasseh murdered innocent people and sat on thrones covered in blood. To sum up, quite a sorry saga of shabby failure and sin.

So what is Matthew's point? First: The incarnation of our Lord does not come about because of the excellence of human beings – that Christ is the logical end of a Darwinian process of selection and greatness. On the contrary, Incarnation means the humility and self-emptying of God to become one with us in our mess of mistakes and failings. Secondly, this demonstrates the love and compassion of God for his creation – to save, restore, transfigure and complete the human race. Thirdly, last of all, the mistakes and folly of the human race is not dispensed with by a waving of the hands – they are real and concrete and have to be dealt with at their origin – this is the sacrifice of his life that defeats death and sin. This is salvation Christ gives us and Jesus includes us all into his family tree.

## ***Readings for Sunday, 1 January***

### ***Feast of the Naming & Circumcision of the Lord***

*There are three different sets of readings for Christmas – depending on which service you turn up to! However, most of us have an idea what they are all about. Instead, I will introduce the readings for the Sunday after Christmas, 1 January. This is known as the octave day, or eighth day of a celebration of a major feast. In the Jewish tradition, the eighth day after a birth of a male child was the day of naming and circumcision.*

**Numbers 6:22-27.** The idea of a name was important to ancient people because it revealed the qualities and nature of a person. However, God's name for the Israelites was so sacred that it was not to be uttered. So as you look at the reading and it says The *Lord* bless you...the word 'Lord' is a substitute for God's name YAHWEH. the blessing was the one to be used by the priests and we still use it from time to time at the Eucharist.

**Galatians 4:4-7.** Paul points out the central fact of the Incarnation. If god is to become human – one with us – it means in a particular place, at a particular time, to a particular family and within a particular culture. however the purpose is universal to all people of all times.

**Luke 2:16-21.** The Gospel makes the same point as Paul's letter. If God becomes fully human in Jesus then he will be subject to the laws, customs and culture of a particular people. the Incarnation means God embraces all the joys and stupidities of human beings – their glory and their failings. In that process, God takes to himself the totality of humanity and heals and restores it through one person – Jesus. His name means "he will save his people".

### ***Saint of the Week: Eglantine Jebb, Social Reformer***

Eglantine Jebb is worth remembering at this time as we associate Christmas with children. Eglantine was born in England in 1876. After studying at Oxford, she became a teacher for a few years until ill-health led to her resignation. She then devoted her energies to charitable works and in 1913 went to Macedonia to help refugees in the Balkan wars. After the First World War, she and her sister Dorothy Buxton founded the Save the Children Fund, which aimed to help children who were suffering in the post-war famine in Europe and Russia, a charity that is now global in its

scope. Today, there are 29 national Save the Children organisations participating in the International Save the Children Alliance—a global network of non-profit organisations supporting local partners in over 120 countries around the world. Current campaigns include *Every One*, advocating for increased infant and child survival rates, and *Rewrite the Future*, focused on bringing quality education to conflict ridden areas.

Eglantine fought for the rights of children to be recognised and in 1924, the League of Nations passed her 'Children's Charter'. Save the Children continues to promote policy changes in order to gain more rights for young people especially by enforcing the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child. Alliance members coordinate emergency-relief efforts, helping to protect children from the effects of war and violence.

the foundation and inspiration of her great achievement came from her devout Christian faith. she was a committed Anglican and an example of holiness that can be achieved by any of the Baptised. She was greatly mourned on her death in Geneva, where she went for medical treatment, on the 17 December 1928. She is buried in the Anglican church of St George in Geneva.

**www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au**

101 Watson Street Camp Hill

**PO Box 3493 Norman Park QLD 4170**

**Regular Sunday Services.**

**8am PowerPoint Mass. 9.30am Sung Mass**

**Contact Details:** rector@easternhillsanglicans.com.au (07) 3398-5944, 0418 177 785

**Wardens:** Wayne Duncan: 0414 706 402

Wayne Elliott 0412 996 434 e-mail wayne@adefs.com.au

**Treasurer:** Allan Thomson: (07) 3399 6492. e-mail: aalthomson@optusnet.com.au

and from 1 Jan 2012 Robyn Elliott: 0412 996 434 e-mail robyn@adefs.com.au

**Parish Secretary:** Robyn Casey 3395-1757 e-mail b\_r\_casey@powerup.com.au

**Events & Promotions:** Janelle Read: 3899 0967, e-mail janelleread@yahoo.com.au

Wayne Elliott: *as above*, Robyn Casey, *as above*

**Safe Ministry Committee:** Robyn Casey, Wayne & Robyn Elliott (*see above*)

& Viv Cowie 3395-0087, e-mail viv.cowie@bigpond.com with Fr Martyn.

**Hall Bookings** Go to our web page [www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au](http://www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au)

check the *Hall Bookings Calendar* for availability and then

E-mail request to :Pat Bowman [patricia.bowman@bigpond.com](mailto:patricia.bowman@bigpond.com)

or rector@easternhillsanglicans.com.au

***COPYRIGHT DETAILS FOR: WORSHIP BOOKS & THE SUNDAY HYMNS & SONGS, READINGS FOR  
THE MASS & INFORMATION SHEET & POWERPOINT PRESENTATION***

**Any items reproduced are for the worship purposes of Eastern Hills Anglicans.**

**Not for sale or reproduced.**

**Worship Licenses:** CAL (Copyright Agency Limited) Worship Licence W 2143.

CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing International). Church Copyright Licence 204661/2012.

Broughton Publishing 1995 Worship Licence 2012/279.

The Hymns & Worship Songs of Canterbury Press Electronic Texts. License Number 1301

**Clip Art Publications:** Free clip art by Hermanaleon, Franciscanos de Cruz Blanca, Spain.

Purchased clip art: *Sundays & Solemnities* by Liturgy Training Publications, USA.

*Living Liturgy* by Order of Saint Benedict, Liturgical Press Collegeville [www.litpress.org](http://www.litpress.org)

**Additional copyright Details**