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Community Information

E-Mail Edition

*This file comes
in the two Word Office formats
as not everyone has the latest software*

22 November 2009

Advent Sunday

**When these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.**

Welcome to the E-mail Edition

Today we begin a new worshipping year with Advent Sunday. Technically we are in Year C of the three year cycle of worship. That cycle is about the set of readings we use and for that reason it is also known as the year of Luke as that is Gospel that predominates. By coming to church every Sunday in the three year cycle you would hear most of the four Gospels.

This Week's News Topics

Parish Council Meeting

***The Eastern Hills Anglicans & S John's Bulimba Joint Venture**

***Letter to the Archbishop about Norman Park**

THIS WEEK

Deacon Greg's Ordination as a Priest on Saturday

Parking Arrangements

NEXT SUNDAY Fr Greg's First Mass

8am one service only.

& Farewell to Fr John & Winifred Campbell

Details of the Christmas Services

Fr Martyn Teaching & Comments:

The Meaning of Advent – Behold, He is Coming!

We know about the seasons of nature; Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter We are familiar with each distinctive part of the year and incorporate them into our life-style. The Church too has seasons and each one has a distinctive characteristic which helps shape our spiritual life.

Today we begin the first season of the Church's worshipping year; Advent. Advent can be crowded out by the Christmas celebrations. Indeed in some parishes Christmas cribs and trees go up on this day!! This is a big mistake and takes away the added insights and depth that Advent enriches our Christmas celebrations.

"Behold, He is coming!" is the catch phrase to describe Advent. This scriptural passage refers to the Word of God coming to us as one of us. Yet it has a variety of meaning. We celebrate Him because He is coming to us **now**; in our Eucharist, in the proclaiming of the Gospel, in our prayer life and in the living of our Christian life. We commemorate Him because He came once **long ago** at Bethlehem. We anticipate Him because of His coming **again** in glory. These three aspects are used in the Book of Revelation when John hears the Lord proclaim his identity, "I Am the Alpha and Omega, who is and who was and who is to come." We often use a variation of this in the Eucharist; "Christ **has** died, Christ **is** risen, Christ will come **again**."

So Advent introduces this triple understanding of our Lord – he transcends time, yet he is with us always and always comes to meet us. We need this understanding so that, when we see the

image of Mary holding the Child of Bethlehem we the Mother who picks up the One who created her and saves her. So too with us – we hold out our hands to receive the bread of the Eucharist and behold, we take up *I Am the Alpha and Omega, who is and who was and who is to come*; the Babe of Bethlehem, the Lord of the Universe and my Saviour – today and forever.

PART 1: Community News & Announcements

Would you like to have the **pew sheet e-mailed** to you, with the Bible readings each week? Fill in the sheet on the entrance table.

Deacon Greg's Ordination

10 am Saturday 5 December

PARKING: The Cathedral Square parking station opposite the Cathedral will be open from 8.45am until 3.00pm. Entry fee is \$7.00 payable on entry. Entry & exit access is via Ann Street.

***PARTY IN THE HALL:** – Please RSVP in the folder provided.

***GREG'S FIRST MASS will 8am Sunday 6 December.**

There will be only one service that day.

Fr John & Winifred Campbell

Fr John and Winifred will be leaving us. They have sold their house and plan to move to Port Macquarie NSW to be close to their daughter and John's brother. Of course, they are crazy for going, but they have had to make wise decisions and live in a home that is easier to manage. We will miss these wise elders of our parish and for their quiet but solid contribution to our parish life.

Musical Notes:1. Christmas Choir

Each year members of the congregation join the choir for the Carols Service on 19 December. The rehearsals are: **6pm to 7pm Thursday evening: 26 November, 3, 10, 17 December**

2. Sing it yourself Messiah

Albert Street Uniting Church, 5pm Sunday 13 December.

Anyone is welcome to come along and sing. Come to the rehearsal at **5 pm. The performance** is at **7 pm**. Scores are available if you don't have one. Charge/donation) of **\$7.50** per singer. Refreshments available during a short break between rehearsal and performance. Solo parts will be sung by professionals and anyone so inclined can come and sit upstairs in the balcony for the performance.

Eastern Hills Anglicans & St John's Bulimba

On Thursday the Parish Council had its regular meeting. Our main task was to prepare the draft of the *Memorandum of Understanding* of how the two parishes should proceed to cooperate and support each other. Damien Colbert prepared the document and we debated it, clause by clause for over an hour, so that we had it clear in our mind what we are putting up our hand for. However, that is only half of the equation. This draft will go to the Bulimba parish and hopefully the Priests and Wardens of the two parishes will go through the same process and then have the agreement of the two Councils. This will not for another week as Fr John is away on a break. Nothing more can really be said until we get past this first step.

Letter to the Archbishop

The PC agreed to send a letter to the Archbishop to request to have a final service of closure at Norman Park. This process clears the way to sell that centre.

Available: Anglican Church Calendars

The new 2010 calendars will be on sale soon at \$12 each. Each purchase makes a small profit for the parish.

Readings for Next Week:

Sunday 29 November Second Sunday of Advent

Fr Greg's First Mass

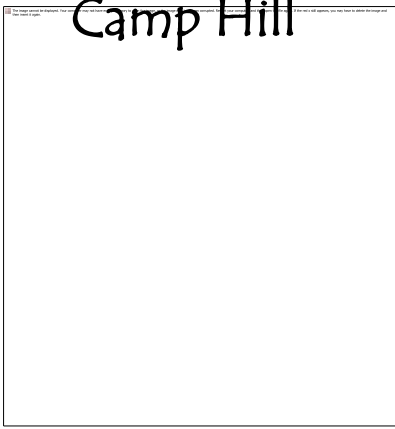
Only One Service

Baruch 5:1-9, Luke 3:1-6

Christmas

At Eastern Hills Anglicans

Camp Hill



6pm 24 December

Christmas Family Eucharist

A contemporary Power Point Service

8.30pm 24 December

Traditional Sung Mass of Christmas Night

--Followed by Christmas refreshments--

8am 25 December

Christmas Day Eucharist

Story of Christmas

At Eastern Hills Anglicans

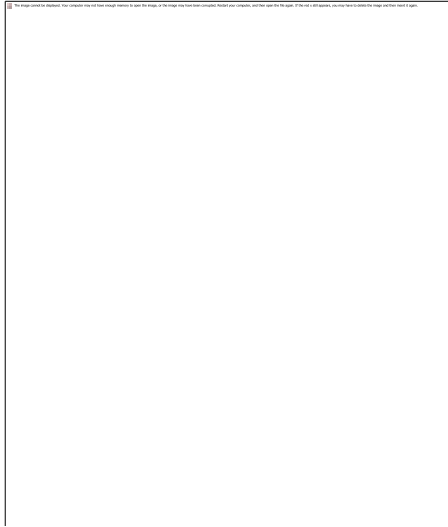
Camp Hill

For Toddlers & Little Kids

4pm Saturday 19 December

4.30pm Free barbeque

6pm Carols



PART 2: Sunday Readings

Reading I

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming, says the LORD,
when I will fulfil the promise
I made to the house of Israel and Judah.
In those days, in that time,
I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.
In those days Judah shall be safe

and Jerusalem shall dwell secure;
this is what they shall call her:
"The LORD our justice."

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

God's Fidelity

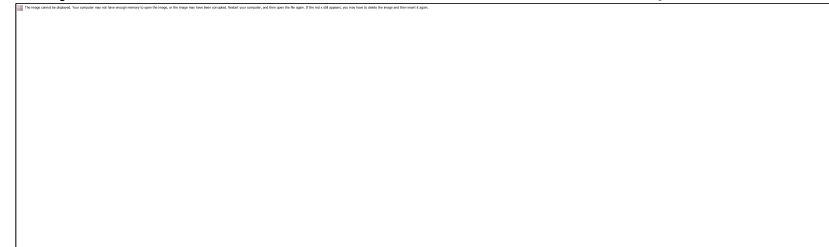
Today's first reading comes from a section in the Book of Jeremiah called, "The Book of Consolation" (chapters 30-33). The city of Jerusalem and its magnificent Temple have all been destroyed and the survivors have been taken into exile to Babylon. Jeremiah and the prophets of his time understood this disaster to be God's judgement on their breaking of the covenant-agreement. However, the same covenant promised blessings if they remained faithful. To Jeremiah this was the promise of a hope and a future for the people. For the Church, whilst respecting the context and integrity of the Old Testament, sees all prophecy ultimately pointing to Christ. Jeremiah's hope for a new beginning is found in King David's descendant; Christ the Messiah.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25

Response:

(Psalms for Sunday p13)



1 Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

- 2 The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.
- 3 His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

Reading II

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

A reading from first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

Brothers and sisters:
May the Lord make you increase and abound in love
for one another and for all,
just as we have for you,
so as to strengthen your hearts,
to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.
Amen.
Finally, brothers and sisters,
we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that,
as you received from us
how you should conduct yourselves to please God
--and as you are conducting yourselves--
you do so even more.
For you know what instructions we gave you through the

Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke
✠ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples:
"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars,
and on earth nations will be in dismay,
perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves.
People will die of fright
in anticipation of what is coming upon the world,
for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
And then they will see the Son of Man
coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.

"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy
from carousing and drunkenness
and the anxieties of daily life,
and that day catch you by surprise like a trap.
For that day will assault everyone
who lives on the face of the earth.
Be vigilant at all times

and pray that you have the strength
to escape the tribulations that are imminent
and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

*We shake at signs we see.
Anxieties bombard us,
and our hearts are
drowsy*

*Lord,
help us be vigilant and hold our heads high.
Make us an Advent people
with hope as our
stronghold.*

*Jesus,
you once came into our world with all its sorrows.
Keep us awake and alert to your presence
in the midst of our struggles now.
Tell us again that your
love will triumph.*



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Regular Sunday Services 8am Family Service, 9.30am Sung Eucharist

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Hall Bookings Go to our web page www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au
check the *Hall Bookings Calendar for availability* and then
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