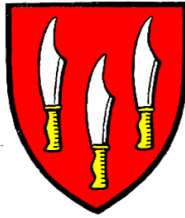


Anglican Church
of Australia



Diocese
of Melbourne

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

PARISH OF BURNLEY

CHRISTMAS EVE



CAROLS AND SUNG MASS

24 December 2024 – 8:00 pm & 8.30 pm

Order of the Mass and Parish News



TONIGHT'S CELEBRATION

*Welcome to this celebration of the Mass. Thank you for being here.
Today's News, Information and Mass Times – see p.2-4 & p.31ff*

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

- RUBRICS** These are instructions or descriptions of what is happening, and they are printed in *italics*.
These also provide prompts and guides for posture and gesture.
- OUR PART** The congregational (people's) parts are printed in **bold**.

THE LITURGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The liturgical colour for Christmas through to Epiphany is white. It is the colour used for solemnities of Jesus the Christ. As these are the most joyous days of celebration in the church's year white signifies celebration and joy.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES TODAY

24 DECEMBER 2024 – CHRISTMASS EVE

Year B in the Three-Year Lectionary Cycle

Priest Celebrant	Fr Stuart Soley SMMS	
Homilist	Fr Stuart Soley SMMS	
Concelebrating Priests	Professor Fr Russell Goulbourne	
Director of Music	Daniel Brace	
Cantor	Prue Borthwick	
Mass Setting	Marty Haughen – Mass of Creation	
First Reading	Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7	Kim Ricketts
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 96	Prue Borthwick
Second Reading	Titus 2:11-14	Cynthia Nyholm
Gospel	Luke 2:1-16++	
Prayers of the Faithful		Prue Borthwick
Eucharistic Assistant		Neil Nyholm Helen McDonald

Facilities including disabled and baby change room are located in the front entrance of the main hall. Enter via the main door of the hall. For all able access see welcomer.



The Carols begin on page 5 and the Order of Mass on page 16

AT CHRISTMAS:

The Gentle Beating Heart of Faith, Hope and Love!

May you, and those you love, experience the blessings of Christmas today and throughout 2025.

We are glad you have come to Saint Bart's to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

About five days ago we learnt of the death of the Melbourne poet and seer, Michael Leunig. One of the ingredients in his ability to see the world with whimsy, kindness, and sometimes confronting and confusing directness, was his background being raised in the Anglican Church in the western suburbs. It is hard to think of any one poem or insight that he conceived because each speaks to another part of our souls.

As we celebrate God making his home with us in Jesus Christ – ponder the words of Michael Leunig here which a friend shared. It reminds us of ways to deepen our lives.

Christmas at its best teaches us about deep love. Life is very tough financially. Then, for over a year we have seen the carnage and genocide in the land of the Holy One, Jesus. The Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem left their nativity scene up all year. It is known as Christ in the Rubble because if we wonder where Christ is – he is in the rubble with the tens of thousands who are displaced, murdered, and at their wits end and with all people who are stretched to their limits. May peace come to all and may our hearts be quickened by the Word made Flesh dwelling amongst us. God bless you all.



The Path to Your Door

The path to your door
Is the path within;
Is made by animals,
Is lined by flowers,
Is lined by thorns,
Is stained by wine,
Is lit by the lamp of sorrowful dreams:
Is washed with joy,
Is swept by grief,
Is blessed by the lonely traffic of aft:
Is known by heart,
Is known by prayer,
Is lost and found,
Is always strange,
The path to your door.



LOOKING FORWARD!

SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER—THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10.00 am Sung Mass

Come to pray for God's blessing on the new year

SUNDAY 5 JANUARY—THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

10.00 am Sung Mass

At this Mass the Proclamation of the Date of Easter will be sung and Chalk will be Blessed for the Annual Blessing of Homes

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY—THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE

10.00 am Sung Mass and Candlelight Procession

We celebrate the end of the Christmas Season, 40 days after Christmas, with a Candlelight Procession. Bring candles you use in your prayer at home for blessing on this Sunday

LENT AND EASTER—THE GREAT 100 DAYS

The Sunday Before Lent (Pondering the Transfiguration), 2 March

10.00 am – Sung Mass

Shrove Tuesday, 4 March, 6.30 pm

Ash Wednesday, 5 March, 6.30 pm

Palm Sunday, 13 April, 10.00 am

EASTER TRIDUUM – 17 – 20 APRIL

Maundy Thursday: 6.30 pm – Good Friday: 3.00 pm

Holy Saturday: 8.30 pm – First Sunday of Easter: 10.00 am

Pentecost Sunday – 8 June

The Fiftieth Day of Easter and the 100th Day of the Great 100 Days

SATURDAY IN MID-MAY

Dame Nellie Melba Concert

Come to this twilight concert to celebrate Richmond-born Dame Nellie Melba!

Look out on our website for more details in the new year.

– Check our website and Facebook page for updates and publicity –

THE PROCLAMATION OF CHRISTMAS AND ENTRY TO THE CHURCH

*Just prior to the Mass the church bell will be rung
thirty-three times marking the years of the Lord's life.*

THE PROCLAMATION OF CHRISTMAS

*The 'Proclamation of Christmas' is an ancient custom that formally
proclaims the birth of Christ prior to the Mass on Christmas Eve*

*It draws upon Sacred Scripture and begins with creation
and relates the birth of the Lord to major events and people
in sacred and secular history.*

The birth of Christ is then situated in the context of salvation history.



ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY – SUNG BY ALL

1 Once in royal David's city,
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2 He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor and mean and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3 And through all his wondrous childhood
day by day like us by grew,
he was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew:
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.

4 And our eyes at last shall see him
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above:
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

5 Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him: but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high,
where like stars his children crowned,
all in white shall wait around.

WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander 1818-1895

MUSIC: IRBY Henry John Gauntlett 1805-1876

harmonised by Arthur Henry Mann 1850-1929 (AM 81)

CAROLS BEFORE TWILIGHT MASS

The church bell is rung.

Fr Stuart introduces the meditative time

WELCOME

In the tender mercy of God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
bringing light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Come Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people, who trust in your love.**

CAROL SUNG BY THE CANTOR

The Angel Gabriel

1 The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.'

Gloria!

1 The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as 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 Emmanuel, 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, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
In Behtelehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughtout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady.'

Gloria!

WORDS: *Birjina gaztetto bat zegoen* (Basque Carol)
paraphrased by SABINE BARING-GOULD 1834-1924

MUSIC: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE
Basque traditional carol by Charles Edgar Pettman 1866-1943 (AM 85)

READING

FIRST COMING

A poem by Madeliene L'Engle

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY – SUNG BY ALL

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang 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.*

3 Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of Nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

*Come and worship
Christ the new-born King,
come and worship,
worship Christ the new-born King.*

2 Shepherds in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your 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.*

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.*

WORDS: JAMES MONTGOMERY 1771-1854 from *Iris*, 1816 and *The Christmas Box*, 1825

MUSIC: IRIS French traditional carol harmonised by Martin Shaw 1875-1958 (AM 59)

READING

CHRISTMAS

A poem by Michael Leunig

Dear God,
it is timely that we give thanks for the lives of all
the prophets, teachers, healers, and revolutionaries, living and dead,
acclaimed or obscure, who have rebelled,
worked and suffered for the cause of love and joy.
We also celebrate that part of us,
that part within ourselves,
which has rebelled, worked and suffered
for the cause of love and joy.
We give thanks and celebrate.
Amen.

ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT ALL CHRISTIANS SING – SUNG BY ALL

- 1** On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring;
on Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring;
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.
- 2** Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad?
then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?
- 3** When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place;
heaven and earth with joy may sing,
all for to see the new-born King.
- 4** And so from darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
and so from darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
'Glory to God and peace descend
now and for evermore. Amen.'

WORDS: Traditional English Carol

MUSIC: SUSSEX CAROL

English traditional melody *harm.* Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

READING

BC – AD

A poem by U. A. Fanthorpe

This was the moment when Before
Turned into After, and the future's
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing
Happened. Only dull peace
Sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans
Could find nothing better to do
Than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect

Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.

CAROL SUNG BY THE CANTOR

Jesus was a stranger

- 1** Jesus was a stranger and a refugee,
forced to leave his country, with his family;
sent away from home by government decree,
Jesus was a stranger and a refugee.
- 2** Jesus sought asylum in a far country;
from a murd'rous tyrant he was forced to flee;
wandering down to Egypt, holy family,
looking for a place of hospitality.
- 3** I see you, Lord Jesus, in this homeless band;
yours the eyes of migrants forced to flee their land;
you're the mother grieving in the desert sand;
yours the supplication in her outstretched hand.
- 4** Give to me the grace, God, not to turn away,
nor to turn a blind eye, when I bow to pray;
open up our hearts, Lord, free your church to say,
you are welcome, stranger, join us in God's name.

WORDS: Rod Horsfield

MUSIC: AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE

French traditional melody *arr.* Paul Bateman 1954- (TIS 236)

READING

REFUGEE

A poem by Malcolm Guite

We think of him as safe beneath the steeple,
Or cosy in a crib beside the font,
But he is with a million displaced people
On the long road of weariness and want.
For even as we sing our final carol
His family is up and on that road,
Fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,
Glancing behind and shouldering their load.
Whilst Herod rages still from his dark tower
Christ clings to Mary, fingers tightly curled,
The lambs are slaughtered by the men of power,
And death squads spread their curse across the world.
But every Herod dies, and comes alone
To stand before the Lamb upon the throne.



GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL, REJOICE – SUNG BY ALL

1 Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say,
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today;
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss,
Jesus Christ was born for this:
he has opened heaven's door,
and we are blessed for evermore!
Christ was born for this;
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save:
come at his most gracious call
to find salvation, one and all!
Christ was born to save;
Christ was born to save!

WORDS: *In dulci júbilo* Latin and German, 14th century
Adapted by John Mason Neale 1818-1866

MUSIC: IN DULCI JUBILO
Later form of 14th century German melody adapted by John Stainer 1840-1901
based on arrangement by Rober Lucas de Pearsall 1795-1856 (AM 65)

INVOCATION

We wait for your loving kindness, O God,
in the midst of your temple.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM – SUNG BY ALL

- 1** O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by,
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee to-night.
- 2** O morning stars, together
proclaim thy holy birth
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
- 3** How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.
- 4** O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

WORDS: Phillip Brooks. 1835-93

MUSIC: FOREST GREEN. English Traditional Melody.

TWILIGHT SUNG MASS

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

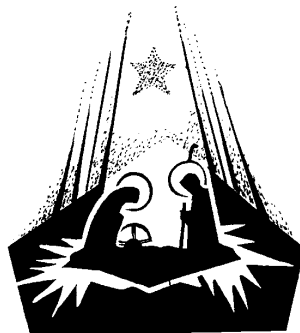
The bell is rung and the congregation stand.

The hymn is sung during which the Blessing of the Crib takes place.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN AND BLESSING OF THE CRIB

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him
born the King of Angels:
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

2 God of God,
Light of Light,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten, not created:
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*



3 See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

4 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
in the highest:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

WORDS: Latin, 18th century, trans. Frederick Oakeley 1802-80 and others
MUSIC: ADESTE FIDELES. Melody by J.F. Wade 1711-86

*After the blessing of the Crib, the hymn continues and
the altar, which symbolises Christ, is revered and censed.*

✦ In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

From the One who is, and who was, and who is to come,
grace, mercy, and peace be with you.

and also with you.

The Priest acknowledges country and then introduces the Mass.

THE LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE ON THE ADVENT WREATH

*A member of the congregation lights the Christ candle on the Advent Wreath.
Fr Stuart leads the congregation in prayer.*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, King of peace:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

The new light of your Incarnate Word
gives gladness in our sorrow,
and a presence in our isolation.

Fill our lives with your light,
until they overflow with gladness and praise.

Blessed be God for ever!

Blessed be God for ever!



KYRIE CONFESSION

The Kyrie Confession is introduced and then Fr Stuart intones invocations which describe the saving work of Christ to which we respond with the Kyries.

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:

Presider or Cantor, then All



(Invocation) Kyr-i - e, e - le - i - son.

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:

Presider or Cantor, then All



(Invocation) Chris - te, e - le - i - son.

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:

Presider or Cantor, then All



(Invocation) Kyr-i - e, e - le - i - son.

THE ABSOLUTION

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

*The refrain for the Gloria is sung here
and then after the verses which are sung by the cantor.*

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth
peace to peo - ple of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give thanks for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

Refrain

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.

Refrain

THE OPENING PRAYER

The priest sings the opening prayer and we respond:

A - men.

We sit for the readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

The response at the end of the reading is:

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The cantor sings the psalm, and the congregation repeats the response and then joins in the response throughout the psalm.

Response

Christmas: To - day is born a Sa - viour, Christ the Lord;

Christmas: to - day is born a Sa - viour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless the Lord's name.

R

Proclaim God's mercy day by day.
Tell the Lord's glory among the nations,
and wonders among the peoples.

R

Let heaven and earth rejoice and be glad,
the sea and its creatures thunder praise,
the land and its fruit show forth their joy.

R

Let trees and forests shout for joy
at the presence of God, for the Lord is come,
at the presence of God who rules the earth.

R

SECOND READING

The response at the end of the reading is:

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

We stand to welcome the gospel.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We repeat the acclamation after the cantor and again after the sentence reflecting the theme of the gospel:



Good news and great joy to all the world:
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

THE GOSPEL

- ✚ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the end of the Gospel, the reader says:

The Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

We sit for the homily.

THE HOMILY

THE CREED

We stand for the creed which is said by all.

**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.**

*] all may
] bow*

**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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We remain standing.

The response to the petitions are:

Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

The response after the prayers for the departed is:

✚ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

and concludes with this prayer:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers

grant that what we have asked in faith

we may by your grace receive,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The priest introduces the Greeting of Peace and then says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AND THE CENSING

During the offertory hymn, the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the sanctuary and the altar is prepared. The altar and the priest are censed.

The thurifer comes into the nave to cense the whole assembly

1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

2 'Fear not', said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
'glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.

3 'To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

4 'the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.'

5 Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

6 'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to earth
begin and never cease.'

WORDS: Nahum Tate, 1652-1715 based on Luke 2:1-20

MUSIC: WINCHESTER OLD. Ascribed to George Kirbye c.1565-1634

in Thomas Este's *The whole booke of psalmes*, 1592. Possibly derived from Christopher Tye's *The Actes of the Apostles*, 1553. (AM 89i)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

The priest recites the prayer over the gifts, and we respond:

Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

We stand throughout the prayer.

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *All* And al - so with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *All* We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

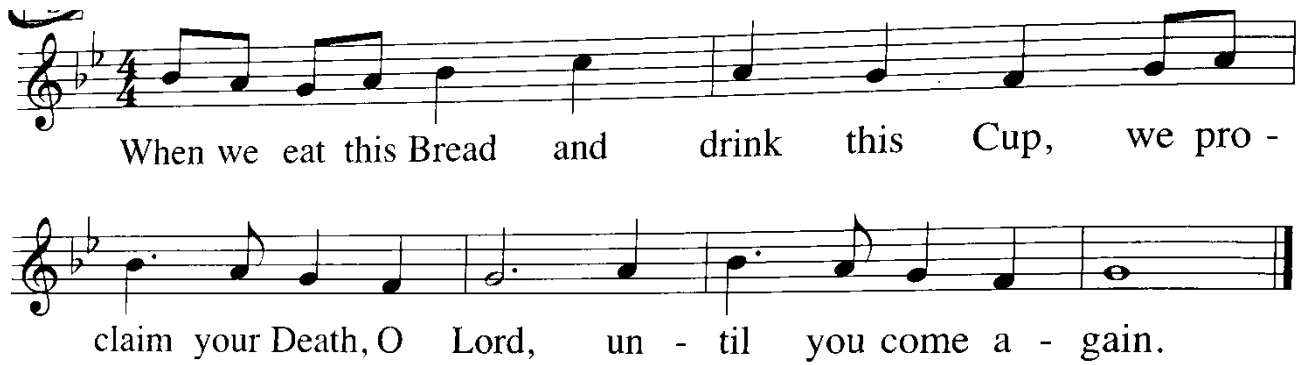
The Prayer continues to the Sanctus and Benedictus is sung by all to the setting below.

4
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
 hosts. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Prayer continues

After the elevation of the Host and the elevation of the Chalice, all may bow with the priest in adoration of real presence of Christ. . . . and all join in singing the Acclamation:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro -
claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

The Prayer continues

*The Prayer continues, ending with the celebrant singing:
. . . . in songs of never-ending praise:*



A - men, a - men, a - men.
A - men, a - men, a - men.

*After the Host and Chalice are placed back on the altar,
all may bow with the priest in adoration.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE 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.

Whilst the bread is broken, the Agnus Dei is sung by all to the setting below:

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). It is divided into three sections:

- Cantor:** The first section, starting with a 3/4 time signature, contains the lyrics "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the".
- Assembly:** The second section, starting with a 2/4 time signature, contains the lyrics "world, have mer - cy on us." and is marked "To Repeat".
- Last time:** The third section, starting with a 4/4 time signature, contains the lyrics "world, grant us peace." and is marked "Last time".

✦ Behold the Word made flesh,
the promised Saviour of whose fullness we have all received.
Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

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

Fr Stuart administers communion to the servers and Eucharistic Assistants.

Feel free to sit until the following invitation to communion.

Come!

Draw near with faith and receive the gifts of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

*Christ is the host at the altar here at Saint Bartholomew's and welcomes all,
especially those who are communicant members of other denominations.*

If today, you prefer to receive a blessing—please indicate this to the Priest.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We stand to pray. Fr Stuart prays and we respond:

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.
Amen.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

At Christmas we receive a Solemn Blessing with three prayers over the congregation.

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

At the end of the three prayers over the congregation, we respond:

Amen.

The Mass is ended.
Rejoicing in Emmanuel, God-is-with-us, go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Following the Dismissal, all in the sanctuary will gather at the nativity scene to pray.

All are invited to kneel, sit or stand in prayer.

After a time of silence we will sing the hymn, "Silent Night".

HYMN AT THE NATIVITY SCENE

- 1** Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2** Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glory streams from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing, 'Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!'
- 3** Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams thy holy face,
with the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

WORDS: *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht*; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1884
trans. John F. Young 1820-1885, alt

MUSIC: SILENT NIGHT; Franz Xaver Grüber 1787-1863

You are warmly invited to linger for a glass of champagne or

soft drink and mince pies directly after the Mass.

ICON OF THE NATIVITY

About the icon on the front of today's Mass Book



The main characters in the Christmas story – Jesus, the Virgin Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, the Angels, and the Wise Men – are all depicted in today's icon of the Nativity which gives us a distinct perspective on the Christmas story from those we often find in popular Christmas cards.

The icon shows the Christ child entering history as a new-born babe, and the impact of his birth on the natural life of the world. The background displays an inhospitable world. In the centre is Mary as a disproportionately large figure, who is shown resting with the Christ child who is *'wrapped in swaddling clothes'* (Luke 2:7). Around the icon we can see the various details of the Christmas story.

The little helpless figure represents the complete submission of Christ to the physical conditions that govern humanity. The earth provides him with a cave, *'although, as Ouspensky and Lossky (2003) believe, the Gospels say nothing of a cave; 'it is just tradition.'* The animals watch over the Christ child. Their place in the centre of the icon points to the importance given by the Church, that *'the ox knows his owner and the ass his master's crib'* (Isaiah 1:3). The manger looks like a coffin and his swaddling clothes look like grave clothes, thus symbolic of pre-empting his crucifixion.

Far from the Christmas-card image of being born in a sweet cosy stable, surrounded by cuddly animals and adoring fans, Christ is born here in a dark environment. The sharp rocks above form the shadow of the cross on which he will eventually die. Christ has come into a world of darkness and yet by his birth there is also a beautiful sense of lightness. Thus, while the nativity is a joyous event, it also carries a serious message.

Mary is right in the centre of the Christmas story which is why she is shown in the middle of the icon. It was her 'yes' spoken to the angel who told her she would give birth to Christ which set the entire story in motion. It was also her belief that God could do what he promised that made it all possible.

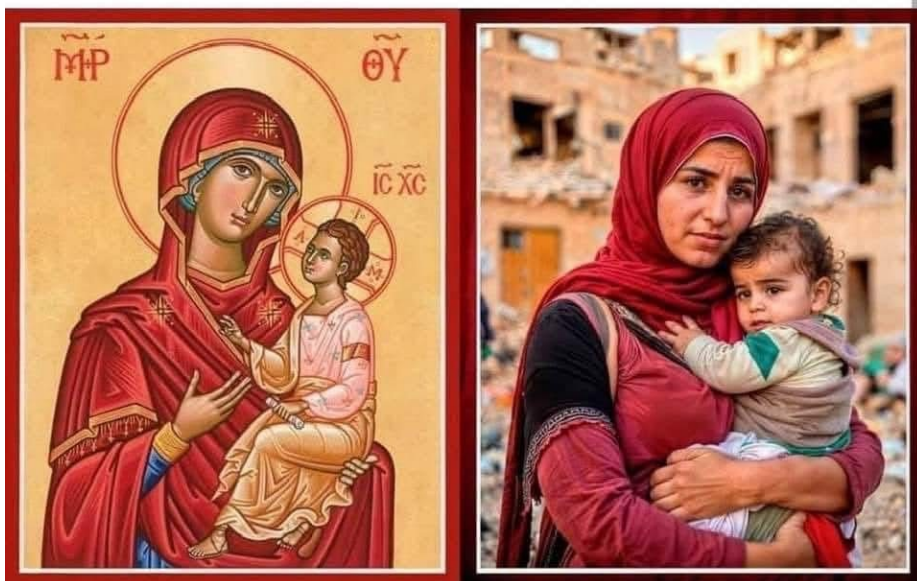
And it was she who gave birth and laid her tiny son in a feeding trough normally used for cattle, because she and Joseph were not able to find suitable accommodation in Bethlehem.

As we celebrate this wonderful season may we at St Bartholomew's gaze on this icon of the Christmas story as a season of light, and a season of joy that shines brightly so it brings hope and peace to us all.

Dr Alison Asquith

References: Leonid Ouspensky and Vladimir Lossky (2002, *The Meaning of Icons*, St Vladimir's Seminary Press, New York; *The Harper Collins Study Bible* (2006 revised edition), Harper Collins, San Francisco.

Inasmuch as you did it to the least of these, you did it to me.



ONE LAST THING ... OR TWO ...



FOR YOUR DIARY

MASSES

Thursday Masses	10.00 am	<i>Thursday Mass will resume on 2 January</i>
NEXT SUNDAY – 29 DECEMBER	10.00 am –	Sung Mass
SUNDAYS ALL YEAR	10.00 am –	Sung Mass

MEETINGS AND OTHER

Tuesday 21 January St Bart's Book Club Meets at 7.30 pm in the Guild Hall

ST BART'S BROTHERHOOD OP SHOP

10.00 am – 4.00 pm Tuesday to Saturday

PARISH MINISTRIES

- BELL RINGERS** Jonathon Harrison Captain
M: 0490 450 974 **E:** jmharrison 'at' iinet.net.au
- BOOK CLUB** Meets third Tuesday of the month
Coordinators: Kathy Kozlowski and Evan Costello
M: **E:**
- CLIMATE ACTION** Convenor: Kathy Kozlowski
E: kathykoz45 'at' yahoo.com.au
- SANCTUARY GUILD** Jonathon Harrison Warden of the Guild and Sacristan
M: 0490 450 974 **E:** jmharrison 'at' iinet.net.au
- ST BART'S CLOSE** Cottages in Canterbury Street behind the church
E: stbartsburnley 'at' gmail.com

HOW CAN I GIVE?

Direct Transfer is a great way to support the work of God's Church at Saint Bart's. It is automatic, saves us having to have cash on us and is simple. Here are the Parish's bank details.

Account Name: St Bartholomew's Anglican Church Burnley

BSB: 703 122

Account Number: 05009430

As a reference you can use your own name, or you can use 'Offering' & your name will remain anonymous with your personal details not appearing on the St Bart's bank statement.

CHILD SAFETY COMMITMENT

Saint Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Burnley is part of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne (ADOM) and is committed to being a child safe community. It seeks to ensure the safety of all children who come to Saint Bartholomew's, Richmond, affirming that all children who come have a right to feel and be physically, emotionally, and culturally safe. Saint Bartholomew's actively works to listen to and empower all children within our community, commits to meeting all the child safe standards of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne and the Victorian State Government.

LITURGY ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Prayer Book for Australia © Broughton Publishing 1995. New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Hymns are reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #730500-A. All rights reserved.



PARISH PRIEST The Reverend Fr Stuart Soley SMMS
M: 0409 949 956 E: contactfrstuart 'at' gmail.com
Fr Stuart's Day Off : Tuesday

LAY MINISTERS Mr Daniel Brace Director of Music and Organist
M:
Mr Warren Collins Parish Office Assistant
M: 0408 020 446 E: stbartsburnley 'at' gmail.com

PARISH GOVERNANCE AND OFFICE HOLDERS

CHURCH WARDENS Jan Sheldrick | Jonathon Harrison | Kim Ricketts

PARISH COUNCIL *Membership | Meets on the second Thursday of the Month*
Parish Priest | Wardens | Craig Douglass | Andre Lim | Kathy Kozlowski | Martyn Smith (co-opted member)

HON SECRETARY Ms Kathy Kozlowski

M: E:

HON TREASURER Mr Andre Lim
E: parishtreasurer3121 'at' gmail.com

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION Daniel Brace Sarah Harrison

CHILD SAFE OFFICER TBA E: compliancestbarts 'at' gmail.com

O H & S TBA

PARISH NOMINATORS *Representatives if the Incumbency of the Parish Becomes Vacant*
(Wardens' Nominee) | Kathy Kozlowski | Kim Ricketts

SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES *Lay Representatives at the 54th Diocesan Synod*
Kathy Kozlowski | Vacant | Glenis Heath (Alternate)



We are an inner-city Anglican Church in the progressive catholic tradition welcoming people of any race, language, culture, age, ability, gender, or sexual orientation.

HISTORY

Saint Bartholomew's Anglican Church was opened on 27 October 1926, the foundation stone having been laid on 25 July. This church replaced the earlier Saint Bartholomew's Churches which were on the corner of Swan and Burnley Streets. There are three buildings on the site; the church, a hall in which the Op Shop runs, with the Guild Hall behind and the vicarage.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this Land, the Wurrundjeri people of the Kulin Nations. We pay our respects to their elders' past and present.

OUR VISION

To live as citizens of, and invite others into, God's Kingdom

OUR MISSION

The Mission of Saint Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Burnley, is to be a community who values the blessings and trust in the promises of God's Kingdom within the cultural and social context of Richmond, Melbourne:

- *To live humbly before God and with all people*
- *To show mercy and compassion toward others*
- *To be dependent on God's comfort*
- *To live with purity in motive and deed*
- *To be gentle with people and all Creation*
- *To be passionate for peace*
- *To hunger and thirst for the right ways of God*
- *To persevere in the face of opposition*

Based on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10) adopted by the 2015 Annual Meeting

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SAINT BART'S OP SHOP

300 Burnley Street, Burnley

A partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence to provide quality recycled goods to those in need

HOURS: Tuesday – Saturday : 9.30 am – 5.00 pm

MANAGER: Chevy

SAINT BART'S CAFÉ

300 Burnley Street, Burnley

Our café is presently closed awaiting a new model to run this valuable social enterprise.

RICHMOND CHURCHES FOOD CENTRE

MONDAYS 10 am – 12 noon at ST IGNATIUS' CHURCH, CHURCH ST, RICHMOND

Co-ordinator: Francis Flood 0493 104 144 rfoodcentre 'at' gmail.com

St Bartholomew's Representatives: Glenis Heath (Chair), Paula Howell

WHERE TO FIND US

www.stbartsburnley.org.au

Street Address: 300 Burnley Street Burnley

Office Email: stbartsburnley@gmail.com

SUNDAY SUNG MASS – Always at 10.00 am

Parish Priest: Fr Stuart Soley SMMS

M: 0409 949 956

E: contactfrstuart@gmail.com