



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA  
PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYS  
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT—DECEMBER 18TH 2022

Dear Parishioners,

It is with much pleasure we can announce that the Building Permit for the new Portable Office at St Michael's has been granted. What a relief this is especially to Sue Wheeler who has shepherded this project through some rocky places this last year. It won't be until at least February that we see the building in situ, but there will be works associated with it happening before then. Thankyou to everyone who offered prayers for this project to succeed. Continue to offer prayers that all will go smoothly to see it come to fruition.

**And thank you Sue Wheeler for sticking with it!**

~~~~~

**Please Note that midweek Eucharist this week  
is on Wednesday MORNING at 9.30am  
followed by Morning Tea in the Hall.**

*Fr. Neil Hicks*

T'was the night before Christmas  
and all through the town  
not a sign of Baby Jesus  
was anywhere to be found.

The people were all busy  
with Christmas time chores  
like decorating, and baking,  
and shopping in stores.

No one sang "Away in a manger,  
no crib for a bed".

Instead, they sang of Santa  
dressed-up in bright red.

Their lives were so busy  
with their Christmas time things

No time to remember  
Christ Jesus, the King.

There were presents to wrap  
and cookies to bake.

How could they stop and remember  
who died for their sake?

To pray to the Saviour...  
they had no time to stop.  
Because they needed more time  
to "Shop 'til they dropped!"

So instead of being busy,  
overworked, and uptight  
Let's put Christ back in  
Christmas and enjoy  
some good nights!

**Loaves and Fishes:** - Our basket has been full to overflowing the last few weeks, we are blessed with so many generous folk in our congregations.



**Anglican Board of Mission Advent and Christmas appeal—a message from ABM.**

A gentle reminder from ABM that it is not too late to promote this appeal in the parish. **Wontulip-Bi-Buya** and **Nungalinya Colleges** both train Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to become future leaders. If you cannot locate your ABM envelope, please use a parish giving envelope or one of your own and mark it ABM Advent/Christmas 2022.

**St Paul's Glenrowan—9 Lessons and Carols**— what an inspiring and lovely service this was on Wednesday evening—the singing of the carols was wonderful, Margaret Abblitt and her choir led us all very professionally, all the familiar readings—all of which we have missed out on in the last few years. A lovely supper and fellowship followed. Thank you Glenrowan folk for hosting this event, all agreed it was a really great night

**New Diocesan Health, Safety and Equality Considerations  
for Christmas Songs and Carols**

*Little Donkey*

***Little donkey, little donkey on the dusty road  
Got to keep on plodding onwards with your precious load***

Parishes are reminded that the RSPCA have strict guidelines with regard to how heavy a load that a donkey of small stature is permitted to carry. Also included in the guidelines is guidance regarding how often to feed the donkey and how many rest breaks are required over a four-hour plodding period. Please note that due to the increased risk of pollution from the dusty road, Mary and Joseph are required to wear face-masks to prevent inhalation of any airborne particles. The donkey has expressed his discomfort at being labelled 'little' and would prefer just to be simply referred to as Mr. Donkey. To comment upon his height or lack thereof may be considered an infringement of his equine rights

## WHAT'S ON & DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### Monday 19th December

Psalm 18. 1-31; Genesis 17. 15-22; Galatians 4. 8-20

**Tuesday 20th** Psalm 42; 43. Genesis 21. 1-21; Galatians 4. 21-5. 1

### Wednesday 21st **ST. THOMAS, Apostle & Martyr**

Psa 120; 121; Genesis 37. 2-11; Matthew 1. 1-17

9.30am Eucharist @ St Michael's

*Ephesians 2. 1-22. Psalm 117. John 20. 24-29*

**Thursday 22nd** Psalm 125; 126. Isaiah 33. 17-22; Rev. 22. 6-7, 18-20

**Friday 23rd** Psalm 123; 130. 2 Sam 7. 18, 23-29; Galatians 3. 6-14

### **Saturday 24th** *Christmass Eve*

Psa 19; Isaiah 28. 14-29; Galatians 3. 23--4.7

**7.00pm Christmass Eucharist at Glenrowan**

Isaiah 9. 2-7. Luke 2. 1-14

### **Sunday December 25th—CHRISTMASS DAY**

**8.00am Eucharist @ St. George's, Taminick**

Philippians 2. 1-5. Luke 2. 8-20

**9.30am Eucharist @St. Michael's, Wangaratta.**

Hebrews 1. 1-12. John 1. 1-14

### **Prayer of the week** *until Christmas Eve*

O Lord, raise up your power and come among us,  
and with great might succour us,  
that, whereas through our sins and wickedness  
we are sore let and hindered  
in running the race that is set before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy  
may speedily help and deliver us;  
through your Son our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Sunday 18th December—Fourth Sunday of Advent

- ◆ **The World:** P.R. China, Hong Kong, Macau.
- ◆ **Australia:** Those addicted to drugs – legal and illegal. Providers and vendors of illegal drugs. Those seeking to provide rehabilitation.
- ◆ **The Church in Australia:** The Syrian Orthodox Church in Australia.
- ◆ **Anglican Church of Australia:** The Diocese of North West Australia: Bishop-elect: Darrell Parker (*Elizabeth*). Administrator: Archdeacon Paul Spackman. The Clergy and People.
- ◆ **Our Diocese:** Bp Clarence Bester (*Michelle & family*). Retired Clergy; Clergy Spouses; Clergy Widows & Widowers. The Parish of Yarrawonga. Locum Priest: Michael Jones (*Janice*) Parish leaders and communities at: Yarrawonga and St James.
- ◆ **Our Parish.**
- ◆ **Those in Need:** Kate Jessup. Vi Bussell. Nina Colson. Bronwyn. Josef. Kaye McKenzie. Neliya Don Leonard. Nancy Backlund, Ross Backlund.
- ◆ **Year's Mind: 18th—24th December:**
  - [18/12] Denis Williams. Phyllis Smith.
  - [19/12] Walter Maddern. Dorrie Elliott. May Dunstan. Arthur Lucas. Mary Morgan.
  - [20/12] Russell Kneebone. Ethel Matthews.
  - [21/12] Leila Williams.
  - [23/12] Belle Heffernan.
  - [24/12] Frank McQuade.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.  
**And may light perpetual shine upon them.**

*On Christmas Eve during the day*

Almighty God,  
you make us glad with the yearly expectation  
of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer,  
so we may with sure confidence behold him  
when he shall come to be our Judge;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**