



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA
PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYLS
NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS—JANUARY 1ST 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Today, 1st January is a complex date for us in our Church Calendar in that whilst it is the First Sunday After Christmass, it is also 8 days after the Birth of Jesus and is therefore the date of his Circumcision and Naming and because it is a Sunday it is always a Celebration of the Resurrection and of course it is also New Year's Day for our society.

Which Celebration do we pick to go with?

All of them in a way—The Eucharist is always a Celebration of the resurrection so that is easily covered, the Scripture Readings I have chosen to use are those for the Sunday after Christmas because they continue our focus on the 'Why did Jesus come' theme which of course is also in the Name of Jesus (he who saves his people and as we heard last Sunday—Emmanuel—God is with us) as well as giving us a bit of a hint of the Wise Men for Epiphany, near the end of this week. The prayers are for New Year's Day, new beginnings, starting over etc.

Whatever the emphasis you pick up from the Celebration in Worship this Sunday, may you be led to a fuller appreciation of the Wonder of God's Love shown to us in His Son Jesus. May that renewed appreciation of God's Love colour your year beautifully and well.

Fr. Neil Hicks

Please Note that our midweek Eucharist at St. Michael's has moved to **Thursdays at 9.30am**. For most of the year 2023 this will be the case.

Happy New Year!



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St. Michael's, Wangaratta. St Paul's, Glenrowan. St George's, Taminick.

Direct Debit: Parish of Wangaratta West & Warbys

A/c No. 126778711. BSB 633 108



Messages received in the past month via our Parish Facebook page:

From Lyn Gent: Good to see traditions of the party parish are still being upheld. Happy Christmas to all.

From Michelle Bester: Sending love to WWW.

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.

The early Roman calendar designated 1 March as the first day of the year. The calendar had just 10 months, beginning with March. That the new year once began with the month of March is still reflected in some of the names of the months. September through to December, the ninth through to the twelfth months of the Gregorian calendar, were originally positioned as the seventh through to the tenth months. (*Septem* is Latin for "seven"; *octo*, "eight"; *novem*, "nine"; and *decem*, "ten") Roman mythology usually credits their second king Numa with the establishment of the two new months of *Januarius* and *Februarius*. These were first placed at the end of the year, but at some point came to be considered the first two months instead.

At various times and in various places throughout mediaeval Christian Europe, the new year was celebrated on 25 December in honour of the birth of Jesus; 1 March in the old Roman style; 25 March in honour of Lady Day (the Feast of the Annunciation, the date of the conception of Jesus); and on the movable feast of Easter.

Except for Scotland which adopted 1 January as New Year's Day in 1600, until 1752, the Kingdom of Great Britain and its Empire at the time had retained 25 March as the official start of the year (though informal use of 1 January had become common.) With the Calendar (New Style) Act 1750, Britain and the Empire formally adopted 1 January as New Year's Day and, with the same Act, also discarded the Julian calendar. The Act came into effect "following the last said day of December 1751".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Year's_Day

Pangerang will re-commenced its programme in St Michael's Hall each Tuesday late in January. Pangerang have also negotiated to start a programme at St Paul's Glenrowan, commencing on Friday 3rd March, meeting each second Friday for the 1st term, and dates to be ascertained in the future.

What good news it is to have our church halls utilised for such a programme!

WHAT'S ON & DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday 2nd January *Public Holiday*

*Basil of Caesarea (d 379) and Gregory Nazianus (d 389)
bishops and teachers*

Eliza Hassall, pioneer of CMS (Australia) and missionary training (d 1917)

Psalm 20; Genesis 12. 1-7; Hebrews 11. 1-12

Tuesday 3rd Psalm 72; Genesis 28. 10-22; Hebrews 11. 13-22

Wednesday 4th Psalm 89. 1-4+19-38. Exodus 3. 1-5; Heb. 11. 23-31

Thursday 5th Psalm 61+101; Joshua 1. 1-9; Hebrews 11. 32-12. 2
9.30am, Eucharist @ St Michael's
1 John 3. 11-112. Psalm 100. John 1. 43-51.

Friday 6th **THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**
Isa 60.1-6. Ps 72. 1-7, 10-14. Eph. 3.1-12. Matt 2. 1-12

Saturday 7th Psalm 29; 1 Kings 10. 1-13; Ephesians 3. 14-21

Sunday January 8th 2023—Sunday After Epiphany

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

11.00am. Eucharist @St. Paul's, Glenrowan.

Isaiah 42. 1–9. Psalm 29. Acts 10. 34–43. Matthew 3. 13–17

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

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Whilst the gift of gold is still considered acceptable—as it may be redeemed at a later date through such organisations as ‘cash for gold’ etc, gifts of frankincense and myrrh are not appropriate due to the potential risk of oils and fragrances causing allergic reactions. A suggested gift alternative would be to make a donation to a worthy cause in the recipient’s name or perhaps give a gift voucher.

We would advise that the traversing kings do not rely on navigation by stars in order to reach their destinations and suggest the use of Tom Tom or other appropriate GPS navigation, which will provide the quickest route and advice regarding fuel consumption. Please note as per the guidelines from the RSPCA, the camels carrying the three kings of Orient will require regular food and rest breaks. Facemasks for the three kings are also advisable due to the likelihood of dust from the camels hooves.

Sunday 1st January 2023—Sunday after Christmass

- ◆ **The World:** Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine.
- ◆ **Australia:** Governor General—the Honourable David Hurley
The Prime Minister—Mr. Anthony Albanese
Leader of the Opposition—Mr. Peter Dutton.
- ◆ **The Worldwide Church:** The World Council of Churches
- ◆ **Anglican Church of Australia:** The Anglican Church in Australia.
Primate: Archbishop Geoffrey Smith (*Lynn*). Gen. Sec.: Anne Hywood
The General Synod and its Standing Committee.
Our General Synod representatives—Bishop Clarence, Ken Goodger,
Rachel Ellyard.
- ◆ **Our Diocese:** Bp Clarence Bester (*Michelle & family*).
The Bishop: Clarence Bester. The Vicar General: Neil Hicks
Diocesan Archdeacon: Neil Hicks. The Dean: Ken Goodger
The Registrar: Julie Torpey. The Diocesan Treasurer: Norm Kenny.
- ◆ Vocations to the ordained ministry & Vocations to the ordered religious life. Director of Vocations: Andre Du Plooy.
- ◆ **Our Parish.** Give thanks for those who maintain our Church grounds.
- ◆ **Those in Need:** Kate Jessup. Vi Bussell. Nina Colson. Bronwyn. Josef. Kaye McKenzie. Neliya Don Leonard. Nancy Backlund, Ross Backlund, Trent.
- ◆ **Year's Mind: 1st—7th January:**
[01/01] Verna Sullivan.
[02/01] 'Libby' Pearson. 'Ross' Smith. Jack Thomas. Thomas Rowan.
[03/01] 'Mac' McDonald. Gwen Hagger. 'Mick' Ramage.
[04/01] Barbara Turk. Andrei Filipenko.
[07/01] 'Bruce' Anderson. Evelyn Cryer.

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

Prayer of the week until Epiphany—pray daily

Almighty God,
by whom the world has been filled
with the light of your incarnate Word:
grant, we pray,
that as he kindles the flame of faith and love in our hearts
so his light may shine forth in our lives;
who now lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**