

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews

Fr. David's easy quiz

What are you reminding yourself of when you cross yourself with holy water when you enter the church?

1. Tears shed by Jesus
2. The flood
3. Your baptism
4. Jesus is the water of life

Fr. David's hard quiz

What religious order did Martin Luther belong to before he broke from the church?

1. Franciscan
2. Dominican
3. Jesuit
4. Augustinian

The answer from last weeks quiz was

Easy quiz (b) Advent

Hard quiz (b) 3 months



Christmas Carol Service:
Sunday, 20th December @ 7.00pm
 Come along and join us in welcoming Christmas. All Welcome.

Giving Envelopes

They've arrived! Your new shiny giving envelopes have been brought to you by the early shift of Christmass elves. They have been left near the font at Christchurch Hamilton. Watch out for yours.

Much Thankyou

Thankyou to all those who have kindly put their names down to read etc for the Christmass services. the roster is now full. We appreciate your cheerful willingness.

Christmas Service Times

Carol service at Christchurch Hamilton Sunday 20th of December 7:00pm
 Tuesday 22nd of December 7:00pm Penshurst. No service on Sunday 27th of December
 Thursday 24th of December 5:00pm Children's Eucharist at Hamilton
 Thursday 24th of December 6:30pm Dunkeld
 Thursday 24th of December 8:00pm Cavendish
 Thursday 24th of December 10:30pm Hamilton
 Friday 25th of December 8am Glenthompson
 Friday 25th of December 9:30am Hamilton

More deliciousness

Further easing of COVID restrictions means you no longer have to book to come to Church. Just sign in when you arrive and sit in a designated spot. Full details in your shiny new dNews.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Morning and Evening Prayer daily		Christ Church Hamilton
Wednesday 9th December	Eucharist 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday 12th December	Vigil 6.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday 13th December	Eucharist 9.00am Eucharist 10.30am	St Peter's Glenthompson Christ Church Hamilton

13th December 2020	Third Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11 1 Thessalonians 5.12-28	Song of Mary John 1.6-8, 19-28
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Anglican Parish of Hamilton

Second Sunday of Advent—6th December 2020

Catch all the action live online at
<https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton>

Sunday 10.30am Eucharist.
 Wednesday: 10.00am Eucharist
 The 10:30am Eucharist is live streamed to a waiting world.
 If you have privacy concerns please speak to Fr. David.

Sentence: Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Collect:

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Parish Directory

Parish Website: www.hamiltonanglican.org.au
Parish Facebook: [facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton](https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton)
Diocesan Website: ballaratanglican.org.au

PARISH PRIEST	Fr David Oulton	03 5571 1317 (Rectory & Office) Email: droulton72@gmail.com PH: 0423 671 692 39 Griffin Street Duo, Facetime, Messenger, Skype
While it is true that Fr. David has Monday as his day off he is always available in case of emergency.		
PARISH OFFICE	9.00am-12.00pm Thursdays and Fridays	03 5571 1317 (Office & Rectory) office@hamiltonanglican.org.au
CHURCH WARDENS	Stewart Otton Claire Hilsdon Peter Walscott	0429 724 545 0488 529 303 0427 490 606

If you would like to give to the parish by the direct debit option, the parish bank details are as follows:- NAB. BSB:083-663 the account No.: 51580-7866.

Even if you miss coming you are still giving. This also helps with budgeting for our future.

Christ Church Hamilton

St Mary's
Dunkeld

St Peter's
Glenthompson

St Mark's
Cavendish

All Saints'
Penshurst

1st Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 85.1-2, 85.8-13

1. O Lord, you were gracious to your land: you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
2. **You forgave the iniquity of your people: and covered all their sin.**
8. I will hear what the Lord God will speak: for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.
9. **Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him: and his glory shall dwell in our land.**

2

10. Mercy and truth are met together: righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
11. **Truth shall flourish out of the earth: and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
12. The Lord will also give us all that is good: and our land shall yield its plenty.
13. **For righteousness shall go before him: and tread the path before his feet.**

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3.8-15a

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
R. **Alleluia.**

7

I reckon that the magi knew all of this on a conscious or at least subconscious level. They probably burnt incense themselves. Frankincense was a great gift to bring the Christ-child.

Heavenly Father, the Magi came on bended knee to adore your Son and offer their gifts. Implant deep within us that same sense of mystery and awe for all your generous gifts to us. So fill our hearts with your love, that we may come one day and see what they saw, the face of your beloved son, even Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Ambrose

This article was written about Fr. Ian Herring after he had visited the tomb of St. Ambrose. It speaks poignantly to me. I hope that you might find it helpful.

In 1992, the year before Father Ian died, he and Roberta went overseas. They visited holy places in Britain and Europe. These words Father Ian wrote about their time in Milan and their visit to the body of St Ambrose were reprinted on the back of the service booklet for his Funeral Mass at Christ Church, Essendon:

I have always loved the name Ambrose. St Ambrose is my patron saint. Roberta and I were married on his day, and we gave our son Nigel the second name of Ambrose. Why? I had read of St Ambrose as a youth. He fired my imagination. A holy man, a fighter, a theologian, a Christian statesman, a poet and a musician. Ambrose had died in 397AD, aged 57. You can imagine my excitement when, about 10 years ago, I learnt that he was still buried in Milan. Could I see his grave?

Last September we only had half a day in Milan. St Ambrose was buried in a 9th century Romanesque basilica, where his cathedral

had once stood. Roberta and I raced up to it breathlessly, just as a bell was ringing and the guide was ushering the tourist parties out. "Please", I puffed, "we've come from Australia to see St Ambrose". A smile broke over his features: "Saint Ambrogio?" And he beckoned to us, putting up five fingers to indicate five minutes. I ran towards the high altar. Our guide switched on the light, and left us for a moment.

There we were, on our knees, looking through the glass. There were three skeletons; two were dressed in red, and I knew they were the martyrs Gervase and Protase, whose relics had been discovered in Milan in 386 AD. Ambrose had asked to be buried between them. He was.

The centre skeleton was dressed in the white robes of a bishop. A small skeleton. I was shaking in sobs . . . Here was where Europe began. Here in front of me was the first Christian bishop to stand up to the Roman emperors - a story which reflects as much credit upon emperor Theodosius as it does upon Bishop Ambrose. What a little man to take on Rome! Here the Manichean heretics sent their brilliant recruit Augustine to listen to the saintly Bishop of Milan and trip him up. But the reverse happened. The young man was captivated by the Bishop, and asked for baptism. From the interaction of these two minds came St Augustine's monumental "City of God", the blueprint for Christendom. It happened here! And look at those hands: I have translated the Latin words they wrote! One day I shall walk the streets of gold with this little man. I shall talk with him and learn from him.

We knelt for what might have been an eternity. There was nothing larger than life; it was rather that larger than life deeds were performed by this ordinary, mortal little man. If he could do them, why can't I?

P.S. Fr. David was ordained priest on the St. Ambrose day.

Today's Homily



Wild Wise Wendy got caught in the wind. Here's what she read to calm her nerves.

During this advent season I'm offering a mini series of homilies entitled "Gifts for God" reflecting on the gifts the magi brought to Jesus.

Gold, Frankincense and myrrh. On the 4th Sunday of Advent, we will be pondering on the mystery of Mother Mary, because she gave her very self. Her whole being, Body and soul to God. That was her gift. Herself.

Today's homily is about frankincense or sweet incense. We use incense in Christian worship for three reasons.

First, as the visit of the magi gets closer we remind ourselves that incense was one of the three gifts that the wisemen brought to honour Jesus. In doing so the incense recognises the Christ child's divinity. So what the wise man is saying by offering his gift is "I recognise and honour this tiny squawking bundle of humanity as God. Nothing more... nothing less." And if it's good enough for the magi, it is certainly good enough for us as well.

So when we honour the altar, a coffin, the gifts and each other at the Eucharist, with incense we are in fact saying that we honour the God that is in you and the things around us.

The second reason that incense is used is to remind us of our prayers that ascend to God. Our prayers and those who pray for us and love us. This imagery is beautifully explained in the bible in the book of revelation.

"The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints". (Revelation 5:6-8).

In this passage, we are told that incense is identified with the prayers of the saints. So too with this verse.

"And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of

all the saints upon the golden altar before the throne; and the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God".

But in case you thought that incense was just a new Testament fad, I have to confess that we pinched this custom from our Jewish brothers and sisters.

Check out Exodus 30

"You shall make an altar to burn incense upon; of acacia wood shall you make it . . . And Aaron shall burn fragrant incense on it; every morning when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it, and when Aaron sets up the lamps in the evening, he shall burn it, a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations".

In fact there are 146 references to incense in the bible.

So when Jesus went to his local parish synagogue he would have been quite used to and expected to see incense used. He would have grown up with it.

The third reason Christians use incense has to do with the use of our physical senses. When we come to the eucharist we use all of our senses. We see the Church. We touch and taste the host, we hear the words and music and when incense is used we smell the incense. And so in a very special way, by using all our senses, we are totally immersed in the act of worship. Every part of us is worshipping God.

But there is something else about incense and the potency of the aromas. Smells as we all know bring back memories and affect our emotions.

Once I went to visit a house and the thing that really struck me was not the pristine garden, or the lovely drapes or the heated indoor swimming pool. No no no. The thing that I remember most vividly from this visit was the stench of cigarette smoke. Obviously this was a long time ago and thus in quite a different parish from this one.

It left me feeling sad somehow and a bit queasy. And it got me thinking that the use of smell is quite important to us. And just as a cigarette smell can bring back the memory of that visit, so too a pleasing perfume or after-shave can bring back all sorts of lovely memories. It does make a difference.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1.1-8

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

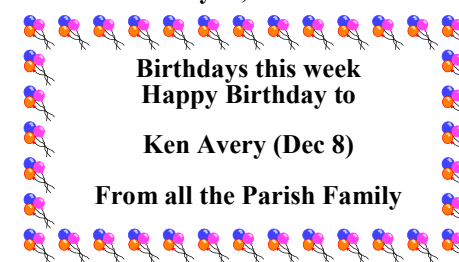
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to St Mark

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', ⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



**Birthdays this week
Happy Birthday to**

Ken Avery (Dec 8)

From all the Parish Family

Lunch with the Reverend Marjorie Keeble. Hooray. You too can dine with Reverend Marjorie on Sunday 10th of January. Sign up by Sunday January 3rd at the back of Christchurch Hamilton or let Fr. David know.

MOTHERS' UNION CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DIARIES

Spread some Christmas cheer while helping families in Australia and overseas. Good quality cards in several designs.

Cards: \$8 per Pk. of 10

Large diaries: \$7

Small diaries: \$5.50.

Contact Linley Bramall:

Tel. 55721957

There is a purple folder on the bench at the back of the church containing samples of the card designs. There are also instructions regarding ordering and payment.

Strawberry Plants For Sale

\$2 each. Funds to Virtual Fete.

Phone Ken 0490 784 642 or 5571 2591

Our virtual fete

Thank you to all those who generously contributed to our Virtual Fete during November. Approximately \$3345 has been raised. There is a 2 nights accommodation available for purchase for \$400 which would top up the total very nicely. If you are interested in taking advantage of this bargain please let Fr. David know.

Anglicare Warrnambool are

offering Christmass family parcels to those who might need a little something extra this year. Please see Fr. David by the 15th of December if you or someone you know is interested.

Advent & Christmas Appeal 2020

information and Giving Envelopes will be at the back of the Church.

This year's Appeal is for welfare & Education in East Africa and community projects in indigenous communities.

Supporting educational and community mental health projects in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Communities

**HYMNS
316 505 527 648**

For your Prayers this week

For the sick and in need

Phil Reid	Dorothy	John O'Donnell
Fr Peter Treloar	Patrick and family	Len Peters
Brian Lacy	(Irene Edwards son)	Elisabeth
Virginia	Katie Kuiper	
Dorothy	Fr Paddy	

For those who have died

Stella Downs

For those whose Year's Mind we remember

Janice Hann	Arthur Moon	Robert Hall
Ralph Henderson	Laurel Mercer	Christopher Rook
Frank Uren	Kathleen Bochanan	Elizabeth Frank
Druscilla Forster	Clement Hadden	Jane Darling
Gary Holmes	Evangeline Wensley	Florence Carter
Marjorie Hall	Montague Bloomfield	
Robert Stoke	Ropbert Ronen	

or the wider Church and its ministry

- Ruaha (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Joseph Mgomi
- Europe (England) The Rt Revd Robert Innes
- Europe (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Mark D W Edington
- Bunbury: Ian Coutts
- St John's Ballarat: Chris Keast, Colin Griffiths (assisting)
- Licensed Lay Ministers
- Fikombaro
- Parents, children & health care workers affected by abortion.
- All involved in nuclear non-proliferation

MU thought for the week

proclamation
O Living Word,
proceeding from the mouth of God,
penetrating to the ends of the earth,
come and pierce us,
with the sword of truth.

Jim Cotter 'Cries of Advent' No 1. From Prayer in the Morning, Cairns Publications 1989.
How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Isaiah 52: 7

Improving communication and leadership development are priorities for members in the province of York, UK. May their voices and actions proclaim the Good News of Jesus' love for all.

Intercessions for the Eucharist and for you to say at home

The Response to the bidding

"O Daystar from on high" ... is ...

"Enlighten our lives with your love"

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

In joyful hope for the coming of God's reign, let us pray to the Lord. That the church in all her conversations may make a pathway that is level for those whom she serves. For Garry our Bishop and for the parish of Holy apostles. For Fr. Matthew and God's people there. For those parishes that will have no priest at this time of year.

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

For those whose lives are torn apart by bloodshed and distress. For an end to terrorism in our world and those who are called to be instruments of peace. For wise words of reconciliation to be found.

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

For our own selves as we prepare for the coming of Christ. In a moment of silence let us ask God for the resolve to be heralds of good

news by our deeds and words. (Pause 1,...2,...3,...)

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

For the poor, the homeless and the forgotten, that we may recognise in them the person of Jesus. For those who are affected by COVID at this time.

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

For those this week who will have to impart or hear painful information. That they may be reassured by the loving presence of St. Joseph and Our Lady.

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

For our deceased relatives and friends that Christ the good shepherd may gather them into His care forever. Especially the recently departed

O Daystar from on high

Enlighten our lives with your love

Living God, hear the prayers of your people who anxiously await your coming. Help us to straighten the crooked roads of our lives so that we might create a highway for you to enter our lives with Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Christ Church Cleaning/reading/intercession roster 20/12/2020 - 24/01/2021

Date	Cleaning	Reader 1.	Reader 2	Intercessor
6/12/2020		Linley Bramall	Tony Roe	Eileen Jolly
13/12/2020	Ken & Judy Pickett	Gavin Wallis	Stewart Otton	Meredith Otton
20/12/2020		Neville	Susan	Betty
				Barbara Oliver
27/12/2020	Gladys	Helen Powell	John Oliver	
3/01/2021		Linley Bramall	Jannie	Robyn Wilken
10/01/2021	Rachel	Jenny	Betty	Celia
17/01/2021		Sue Mustow	Eileen Jolly	Lofty
			Helen	
24/01/2021	Jenny	Stewart Otton	Roseborough	Meredith Otton

I am trying to spread the load as best I can.

If you cannot read or clean please ask someone else to do it for you