

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews

Fr. David's easy quiz

The wise men stopped in Jerusalem...

1. To inform Herod about Jesus
2. To find out where Jesus was
3. To ask about the star
4. To buy presents
5. To ask for directions

Fr. David's hard quiz

Only two Gospels include any details about the birth of Jesus. Which of them starts with a genealogy to establish that Jesus is the Messiah to whom Old Testament prophecies referred? which is the other gospel?

The answer from last weeks quiz was

Easy quiz 8 days

Hard quiz Southward

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.

The Chronicle is available

Please take one home for some interesting reading.

**Anglican Parish of Hamilton****The Birth of Our Lord: Christmas Day—25th December 2020
Night and Early Morning**

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: Isaiah 9.2, 6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given.

Collect:

Give us, O God, such love and wonder that, with shepherds and pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy Child, the promised King, and with our gifts worship him, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Parish Directory

Parish Website: www.hamiltonanglican.org.au
Parish Facebook: 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
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**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
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CHURCH WARDENS	Stewart Otton Claire Hilsdon Peter Walscott	0429 724 545 0488 529 303 0427 490 606
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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**

SERVICES THIS WEEK				
Morning and Evening Prayer daily		Christ Church Hamilton		
Saturday 26th December		Vigil 6.00pm		
Sunday 27th December		Christ Church Hamilton		
Eucharist 9.00am		St Peter's Glenthompson		
Eucharist 10.30am		Christ Church Hamilton		

Christ Church Cleaning/reading/intercession roster 3/01/2021 - 24/01/2021				
Date	Cleaning	Reader 1.	Reader 2	Intercessor
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				

PLEASE SIGN IN ON THE COVID-19 CHURCH ATTENDANCE REGISTER

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ Jeanine and Fr. David would like to wish ★
 ★ every one of you a very Joyous Christmass and a ★
 ★ fantastic 2021. Thank you very much for all your ★
 ★ support and encouragement through this very ★
 ★ wobbly time! ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

1st Reading: Isaiah 9.2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 96

1. O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord, all the earth.
2. **Sing to the Lord and bless his holy name: proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
3. Declare his glory among the nations: and his wonders among all peoples.
4. **For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: he is more to be feared than all gods.**
5. As for all the gods of the nations, they are mere idols: it is the Lord who made the heavens.
6. **Majesty and glory are before him: beauty and power are in his sanctuary.**
7. Render to the Lord, you families of the nations: render to the Lord glory and might.
8. **Render to the Lord the honour due to his name: bring offerings and come into his courts.**

embarrassment that I had not thought of. The crisp eloquence of the words is something quite special. I found the words helpful and my prayer is that you will too.

Bare feet

kissed the stony walkways
 of Bethlehem
 In the early morning dark
 Young boys,
 junior to my fourteen years
 stood about in the mist.
 Stood about and stared
 making me uncomfortable
 unable to bare my breast
 and feed.

Country boys

speaking quickly
 with a pronounced accent,
 taking no notice of the cold
 laughing at private jokes
 just standing around
 devoid of their sheep.
 The sky opened for them
 or so they said
 peering into the highest heaven
 announcing this birth.

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.

Classy pens with our parish name on them are available for sale at a miserly \$1 (yes that's right one dollar). They are available from the back of Christchurch or from Father David. Please place your \$1 in the red box next to the pens. All pens must go

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.

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Stephen December 26th

St. Stephen, died in the year 36 at Jerusalem; He was a Christian deacon in Jerusalem and the first Christian martyr, whose argument before the Sanhedrin (Acts of the Apostles 7) points to a distinct strand of belief in early Christianity. His defense of his faith before the rabbinic court enraged his Jewish audience, and he was taken out of the city and stoned to death. His final words were a prayer of forgiveness for his attackers (Acts of the Apostles 7:60), echo those of Jesus on the cross (Luke 23:34). Stephen is the patron saint of deacons and stonemasons. His feast day is observed with both religious and secular traditions in a number of countries



Rudolph the red nosed reindeer re-told the Christmass homily called "It was an embarrassment".

It was an embarrassment! An experience that was excessively

cringeworthy. The family Christmass lunch is one those events where only the brave and foolish prosper. Let me tell you about one such fictional attempt at peace on earth and good will to all people.

Fleur and Jack are your welcoming hosts and while there had been some passionate disagreement about Jack's code of dress (Hawaiian shirt, shorts and thongs) they are at the door to greet and meet the troops as they arrive. By the way, Fleur had won and was proudly wearing a twin set and pearls. Jack got away with a dubious but clean T-shirt. The first to arrive are Darby and Colt. Darby is 17 and has discovered her feminine hormones. Colt is 22 with alluring body art and a face full of fishing tackle piercings. He speaks with an accent that no one can quite identify. They are obviously very happy to be together and sit very closely.

Next to arrive is Martha and June, her partner. Fleur has never really approved of this arrangement while Jack is already pouring them large glasses of Chardonnay as they settle themselves down next to the loud TV.

Unannounced they have brought Jimmy their son along and he is gazing down the bottomless black hole of his shiny new Ipad.

Ryker and his Dad Kingston arrive. They live at the dodgy end of the street but have bought a chook from Coles and half a dozen VB cans. They have no-one else for Christmass and Jack thought it would be a cracking idea if they came along. The first Fleur knows about this is when the doorbell goes. Imagine Hyacinth Bucket and an unexpected Onslow. Ryker and Kingston are the last to arrive.

Extra chairs are squished in around the table and a smoky aroma begins to waft from the kitchen. Fleur exclaims a very unlady like word and hurtles away to sort out the mess. The Christmass presents are predictable except those between Darby and Colt. They are curious in shape and design. The conversation starts innocently enough. Chooks, footy, cars, real estate and the weather; but then slips mercilessly towards politics, COVID and religion. The booze flows, Faces are flushed, voices begin to be raised. Somehow a chicken drumstick magically sails through the air striking Jimmy's beloved iPad. The christmass tree topples over onto Colt and Darby who are mercifully oblivious to everything else that is happening. The doorbell goes and the Vicar arrives for a nice pastoral visit and a cup of tea. The police pull up outside as there has been a complaint from one of the neighbours. It was an embarrassment. So why am I telling you this story and where does God fit into all this mayhem? The good news is that God fits right into our every embarrassment. It is an embarrassment that the Mother of God was a peasant teenage lass from a backwater town. It was an embarrassment that she and her hubby hadn't been married for nine months before her waters broke. It was an embarrassment that their pleas for a room were declined. It was embarrassing that the maternity ward was nothing more than a dark dank cave. It was an embarrassment that the wise men had to stop and ask directions from a devious and manipulative monarch. It was an embarrassment that Our Lord died a lonely criminal's death with only a few by his side. It is embarrassing that the King of Kings and Lord of lords offers himself in meagre busted bread and a sip of wine.

There is no circumstance, no dysfunctional family, no embarrassment so catastrophic, that God is alienated. He can never be apart from Fleur, Jack and the crew or even the well meaning Vicar who should have known better and been at home with his own family. I am going to conclude with some words that I did not write. A parishioner wrote them and I sought their permission to use their words. If you listen closely you will discern another

9. O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
10. **Say among the nations that the Lord is king: he has made the world so firm that it can never be moved; and he shall judge the peoples with equity.**
11. Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad: let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
12. **Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them: then shall all the trees of the wood shout with joy before the Lord;**
13. For he comes, he comes to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

2nd Reading: Titus 2.11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia.

I am bringing you good news of great joy to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.
R. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 2.1-14

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 According to St Luke

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

For the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

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)	Evan
Virginia	Katie Kuiper	
Dorothy	Fr Paddy	

For those who have died

Dorothy Ryan

For the wider Church and its ministry

- Sapele (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Dr Blessing Erifeta
- East Kerala (South India) The Rt Revd V S Francis
- All R.E. Teachers.
- Warrnambool: Scott Lowrey & Robyn Shackell (Hon. Assist. Priest)
- (Anglicare) Warrnambool Parish Emergency Relief Centre: Louise Serra.
- Port Fairy: Alan Courtney and Netta Hill (deacon).
- Komungwai
- Those suffering through political unrest and oppression

Intercessions for the Eucharist and for you to say at home

The response to the bidding:

Dear Lord...is...Please listen to and answer our prayers .

Dear Lord

Please listen to and answer our prayers .

We pray for all the people of the World that they are safe and happy this Christmas. We pray for all the families around the world that they are able to spend Christmas with all available members of their families, especially this Christmas.

Dear Lord

Please listen to and answer our prayers .

We pray for the people in the Diocese of Ballarat, especially Bishop Garry, Fr David and Jeanine that everyone may have a happy and safe Christmas. We pray for our families and friends that the Lord keeps them safe in their travels.

Dear Lord

Please listen to and answer our prayers .

We pray for the sick that they have a happy and healthier Christmas.

Dear Lord

Please listen to and answer our prayers .

We pray for the Departed, Dorothy Ryan, and their families that God folds them in his warm embrace this Christmas.

Dear Lord

Please listen to and answer our prayers .

Lord this year has been a very trying year for everyone in this world. Please make 2021 a happier year for all people and animals in this world and keep us all healthy and safe this Christmas and throughout next year.

Amen

HYMNS
526 614 155 317