

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

During The Day

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 2.10–11

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Collect:

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK		
Morning and Evening Prayer daily		Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday 26th December	Vigil 6.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday 27th December	Eucharist 9.00am Eucharist 10.30am	St Peter's Glenthompson 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
24/01/2021	Jenny	Stewart Otton	Helen 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				

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 (Rector & 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 & Rector) 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

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 62.6-12

⁶ Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, ⁷ and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. ⁸ The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have laboured; ⁹ but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. ¹⁰ Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. ¹¹ The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, 'See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.' ¹² They shall be called, 'The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord'; and you shall be called, 'Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.'

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalms 97

1. The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice: let the multitude of islands be glad.
2. **Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**
3. Fire goes before him: and burns up his enemies on every side.
4. **His lightnings light the world: the earth sees it and quakes.**
5. The mountains melt like wax before his face: from before the face of the Lord of all the earth.
6. **The heavens have proclaimed his righteousness: and all peoples have seen his glory.**
7. They are ashamed, all those who serve idol and glory in mere nothings: all gods bow down before him.
8. **Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced: because of your judgements, O God.**
9. For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth: you are exalted far above all gods.

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.

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

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

Today's Homily



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

10. **The Lord loves those that hate evil: the Lord guards the life of the faithful, and delivers them from the hand of the ungodly.**

11. Light dawns for the righteous: and joy for the true of heart.

12. **Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous: and give thanks to his holy name.**

2nd Reading: Titus 3.4-8a

⁴ But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶ This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone

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 2.8-20

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

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!' ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

317 155 364 501

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