

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews

Fr. David's easy quiz

The priest who is offering a series of reflections on the eucharist in the Chronicle is

- Bishop Donald
- Bishop Garry
- Reverend Robyn Shackell
- Fr. Michael O'Brien
- Fr. David

Fr. David's hard quiz

In the Advent Bible studies you will find the answer to this question

Fr. David's father was

- A Winemaker
- A Farmer
- A Mechanic
- Worked at the Sheep Hills silos

The answers from last weeks quiz were

- Bishops
- His toilet seat

Coffee for the chaps happens at the Hamilton Hamper on Thursdays at 3pm.

Christmass Eve Mass for those whose status is undisclosed at Christ Church Hamilton: Friday 24th at 3:00pm.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Wednesday 15th December	Eucharist 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday 18th December	Vigil 6.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday 19th December	Eucharist 9.00am Eucharist 10.30am Eucharist 5.00pm	St Mark's Cavendish Christ Church Hamilton St Mary's Dunkeld

NB: No weekday masses on Tuesday 28th of December and Wednesday 29th of December

19th December 2021	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Micah 5.2-5a Hebrews 10.5-10	Song of Mary Luke 1.39-45
Reader 1:Stewart	Reader 2:Craig	Intercessor: Meredith	Sides People: Stewart & Meredith

Good times at Glenthompson

- ◆ 1st Sunday of the month. Matins at 10:00am
- ◆ 2nd Sunday of the month Eucharist at 9:00am
- ◆ 4th Sunday of the month. Eucharist at 9:00am

"Hooray!" shrieked Esmeralda.

"The ladies coffee is back on again at The Lemon Myrtle Café on Thursdays at 3pm." She was so excited that she had to have a cuppa to calm herself down.

ADVENT STUDY GROUP

In the Church Hall.

7.30-8.30pm using the Advent Study produced by the Diocese (available at the back of Christ Church). Running for 4 weeks- come to one or come to all. Further information- contact Susan Mason or Jannie Ryan

PUTTING CHRIST BACK INTO CHRISTMAS.

Free to a loving home T Shirts in various colours and sizes. Available at the back of Christ Church Hamilton.

**Anglican Parish of Hamilton**

**Third Sunday Of Advent
12th December 2021**

Sentence: Zephaniah 3.16–17

Do not fear. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love.

Collect: .

Almighty God, you sent your Son into a world where the wheat must be winnowed from the chaff and evil clings even to what is good: let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all corruption, so that, purified, we may wait eagerly for him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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: 0435 867 040 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

If you are sidesmen could you please make sure that folk check in by filling in the book or using the QR Code. New Covid arrangements as from midnight Thursday 18th November. Fully vaccinated now refers to 12 years and over. Services for those fully vaccinated: - No density limits. Masks do not have to be worn. Services for those whose vaccination status is undeclared or unknown: 5pm Tuesday or Holy Communion at home. Density Limit of 4sq up to a maximum of 50 people. Masks have to be worn.

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-20

14. Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!
15. The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.
16. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.
17. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.
18. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.
19. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A Song of Isaiah

‘Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust and will not be afraid;

‘For the Lord God is my strength and my song; and has become my salvation.’

With joy you will draw water: from the wells of salvation.

**On that day you will say:
‘Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;**

‘Make known his deeds among the nations: proclaim that his name is exalted.

‘Sing God’s praises, who has triumphed gloriously: let this be known in all the world.

‘Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion: for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.’

Second Reading: Philippians 4.4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

to listen to John the Baptist and heed his call to act appropriately.

But Megan’s story is a salutary lesson for us. That God is bigger and wiser and more comprehensive and universal than we can ever know and that is a very good thing.

To harbour revenge, to execute retaliation, to give way to and be consumed by the fire of anger in our thoughts, words, and deeds can only extinguish light, hope and love. This leaves the world and especially our own soul in a very dark and foreboding place.

But to withhold judgment gives the best possible opportunity of hope and light and love to flourish. It’s a tough gig and something we need to be reminded of continuously. Perhaps when we are struggling to withhold judgment we might remember John the Baptist and his little tantrum of repentance and new life. Or if we can’t bring him to mind, maybe Megan or perhaps just “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us” might do the trick.

18th and 19th of December

This weekend will be one with lots of Carols.

- Saturday 18th will be the 9 Lessons and Carols at Christ Church Hamilton at 7:00pm. This will take the place of the usual 6:00pm Vigil mass.
- Sunday 19th of December will be the Carol service at St. Peters Glenthompson at 7:00pm.

Please etch these occasions into your burgeoning diaries.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DIARIES

Help families in Australia and worldwide by buying your cards and diaries from the Mothers’ Union.

Packet of 10 cards \$8; large diaries \$8; small diaries \$6.

There is a folder showing card designs at the back of Christ Church.

Cards are selling quickly and Design 1 has already sold out. It is possible for us to order a few more packets. If you would like some, contact Linley without delay.

Inquiries and orders to Linley Bramall: 55721957, 0428582152

Christmas Times—Roster

For Parishioners who will be attending Christmas in Hamilton there is a spot for you to put your name down to help with the Christmas Services not catered for in the normal Parish Roster. Please see the Roster at the back of the Church. Jenny Rankin.

Jeanine and Fr David

Will be on some R n R on Monday, 6th December to Wednesday, 15th December. Fr Robert will be here to celebrate the masses on the weekend of 11th December and 12th December. The Parish of Warrnambool will be on call in case of emergency. P 55611687. M. 0418672808

Thank you very much everyone. I know that you will look after Fr. Robert and enjoy him as he always enjoys coming to see you
“During this time there will be no weekday services.”

Did you know that you can donate to Anglicare at any time? A list of the desired goodies is attached to the container which is in the church porch at Christ Church Hamilton.

New Roster

Copies of the new roster beginning 2/1/22 are at the back of the Christ Church. If there is anyone who would like to help in any way please talk to Jenny. Helpers particularly for cleaning are very low. Thank you.

Today's Homily

If Fr. David had been here, he would have preached this homily ..

So who is Megan Phelps - Roper?

John the Baptist must have been a mean looking hombre and fierce orator. This morning he's woken up grumpy and he's just in the mood to tick everyone off.

'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 9 Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

The people quiver and shake with fear.

"OK, so what do we have to do?" they reply. And John the Baptist gives them a step by step, easy to understand, any idiot can do it guide, on how to go forward.

'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'

You tax collectors in your lovely swish suits from the top end of town 'Collect no more than the amount that is due.'

And you soldiers huddled over there in the corner

"Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." No such thing as CPI in those days. And from what we can gather the folk take all this on board. They adjust their lives accordingly. They are baptised and begin a new life. One of Luke's pet subjects. Repentance, forgiveness and new hope.

It seems that judgement is withheld and thus there is hope. And it's this nuance that I want to speak about today.

To be fair the idea came from a podcast I was listening to. But if you remember only one thing from this homily remember this "To withhold judgment is the beginning of hope..."

The podcast was about Megan Phelps - Roper who grew up in an insular worshipping com-

munity. They had a very blinkered view of their own self righteousness. They were right and everyone else was wrong and they could quote chapter and verse from the bible to prove it. Further they genuinely believed that the reason people died in 9/11 and the ensuing Afghanistan war was because some gentlemen lived a particular lifestyle. What's more our Jewish brothers and sisters were going straight to the fiery depths of hell. No questions asked, even the little children. This was God's punishment on the planet and his retribution was fierce and warranted. As an infant of five years old Megan was waving placards and protesting in the streets. God hates Jews etc.

But then social media happened and Megan used this thing called twitter to put out this unfortunate point of view. Of course other people engaged with Megan, disagreed and eventually she got to meet some of these people.

One day a peculiar yet lovely thing happened. A rabbi sidled up to her in the street and just began gently chatting about everything except what was printed on her placard. Judgment on both sides was suspended and hope had an opportunity to take a breath and live.

And I reflect ... would I have been as gracious and as wise and sensitive as the rabbi? Probably not. I think I would have been hurt and very crotchety.

In the conversation not only had the Rabbi withheld his judgement but also Megan was able to withhold her judgment.

In the end, because of this dialogue and other people engaging with her point of view in a non judgmental way, Megan actually left the worshipping community.

And then something even more powerful happened. She went to the Holy land where she was embraced, welcomed, sheltered and fed by the very people she had denigrated. The experience was humbling, full of hope and life giving for everyone.

I don't know about you, but getting my own stuff together and trying to become the sort of person God wants me to be is a full on, full time, rich and challenging experience. I simply don't have the time and the energy to worry about whether God is smiting this person, or that group, or that community. It is enough

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia Alleluia

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed

Alleluia

The Holy Gospel: Luke 3.7-18

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

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹ In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹² Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³ He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff

he will burn with unquenchable fire.'¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Thank you to the Tonissen Family

for yet another outstanding Christmass tree complete with dazzling star at the top!



For your Prayers this week

For the sick and in need

Phil Reid	Katie Kuiper	Nalani
Fr Peter Treloar	Fr Paddy	Sue Mustow
Virginia	John O'Donnell	Gwen Kenny
Dorothy	Evan	
Len Peters	Dash	
Dorothy	Joan Mallinson	

For those who have died

Fr Lyall Cowell (We pray for Gilda and family)

Helen Baker	John Arnold	Ian McFarlane
Charles Somers	Jeffrey Dickeson	Albert Hickey
Justin Ryan	Robert Lowcock	Thomas Rolton
Rodney Northcott	Viola Robertson	Arthur Wiles
Winifred Johnson	Stanley Duncan	
Marguerite Tarr	John Watkins	

For the wider Church and its ministry

- The Anglican Church of Canada
- North Queensland: Keith Joseph
- Glenelg Wannon: Robin Elliot
- Kenainj
- Our local hospitals and all who work in health care.



An Ostrich sized welcome to our Celebrity Preacher and Celebrant today Fr. Robert. Fr. Robert is one of those affable, articulate and admirable priests. Enjoy!

Intercessions for the Eucharist and for you to say at home

The Response to the bidding:
"Help us to live" is ...
"in the light of your coming"

Help us to live
in the light of your coming

For our church, that she may be an agent of reconciliation, encouragement and joy to those whom she serves. For Garry our Bishop and for the parish of Warracknabeal. For Fr. James as he prepares God's people for the coming of the Christ child.

Help us to live in the light of your coming

For our Advent celebration, that it will be a time of reflection on the coming of Christ; that it would be filled with prayer, repentance, and love for God and neighbour.

Help us to live in the light of your coming

For God's blessing on those who bear witness to Christ our light in the dark places of oppression and violence. That St. John the Baptist, Our Lady and St. Joseph may come to their aid and support them with their prayers and encouragement.

Help us to live in the light of your coming

For all who are called to the vocation of married life. That they may be given courage in their difficulties and joy in their lives.

Help us to live in the light of your coming

For those who have asked our prayers and those who have no-one to pray for them. In a moment of silence let us offer to the Lord those who went to hospital with COVID this week. (Pause 1,...2,...3,...)

Help us to live in the light of your coming

For all who live with fear, those who suffer and those who mourn; that in our compassion and help, they may experience the healing presence of God.

Help us to live in the light of your coming

For our beloved dead, especially the recently departed Lyall Cowell that they may be reborn in the light of the Risen Saviour and come to the joy that does not end

Help us to live in the light of your coming

Gracious God, transform our lives and our world from barrenness to harvest, from division to completeness, from death to life. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Saviour and Redeemer

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