

**dNews**

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews

**Fr. David's easy quiz**

The Feast of St. Nicholas is kept on ..

December 4th

December 5th

December 6th

January 5th (the 12th day after Christmass)

**Fr. David's hard quiz**

Which animals does the Bible say were present at Jesus' birth?

1. Cows, sheep, goats
2. Sheep and goats only
3. Miscellaneous barnyard animals
4. None of the above

The answers from last weeks quiz were

- West
- William Hardie

**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

**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.

**New Covid Restrictions**

In line with the health authorities mandate of 23rd December masks are now mandatory for all indoor venues for people aged over 8 years old.

Please bring your own when you come to the Christmas services. The safety of our people remains our top priority.

**SERVICES THIS WEEK**

Morning and Evening Prayer daily		Christ Church Hamilton
Wednesday 22nd December	Eucharist 10.00am Christmas Mass 7.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton All Saint's Penshurst
Friday 24th and Saturday 25th December		Christmas Eve/Day <i>Please refer to sheet with Christmas times</i>
Sunday 26th December	Eucharist 9.00am Eucharist 10.30am Eucharist 5.00pm	St Peter's Glenthompson Christ Church Hamilton All Saints' Penshurst
NB: No weekday masses on Tuesday 28th of December and Wednesday 29th of December		

26th December 2021	First Sunday After Christmas	1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26 Colossians 3.12-17	Psalm 148 Luke 2.41-52
Reader 1:Gladys	Reader 2:Helen P	Intercessor: Jannie	Sides People: Linley & Denise

**Anglican Parish of Hamilton**

**CHRISTMAS DAY  
25th December 2021**

Sentence: Unto Us a child is born. Unto us a son is given.

*Collect:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

<b>Parish Directory</b>		
<i>Parish Website: <a href="http://www.hamiltonanglican.org.au">www.hamiltonanglican.org.au</a>            Parish Facebook: <a href="https://facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton">facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton</a>            Diocesan Website: <a href="http://ballaratanglican.org.au">ballaratanglican.org.au</a>.</i>		
<b>PARISH PRIEST</b>	Fr David Oulton	03 5571 1317 (Rectory & Office) Email: <a href="mailto:droulton72@gmail.com">droulton72@gmail.com</a> PH: 0435 867 040 39 Griffin Street Duo, Facetime, Messenger, Skype
<b>While it is true that Fr. David has Monday as his day off he is always available in case of emergency.</b>		
<b>PARISH OFFICE</b>	9.00am-12.00pm Thursdays and Fridays	03 5571 1317 (Office & Rectory) <a href="mailto:office@hamiltonanglican.org.au">office@hamiltonanglican.org.au</a>
<b>CHURCH WARDENS</b>	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.

<b>Christ Church Hamilton</b>	<b>St Mary's Dunkeld</b>	<b>St Peter's Glenthompson</b>	<b>St Mark's Cavendish</b>	<b>All Saints' Penshurst</b>
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If you are sidesmen could you please make sure that folk check in by filling in the book or using the QR Code.

1st Reading: *Isaiah 62.6-12*

<sup>6</sup>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,<sup>7</sup> and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth.<sup>8</sup> 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;<sup>9</sup> but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup> 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.'<sup>12</sup> 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

#### Psalm 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 idols 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.

**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.**

Second Reading: *Titus 3.4-8a*

<sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared,<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup> This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour,<sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.<sup>8</sup> 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

and shiny and smoothly fashioned. He comes to us in the gentle vulnerable breakable things like a child, like bread and he comes because he so wants to be joined to us, to enter into our life, our cradles, our muck, our joy and our tears. Someone at some point must have made that first rough wooden trough. The manger. The feed stall. They would have had no idea this would be the resting place of God. They might have even looked around the finished product and thought... I missed that bit there, or this corner here isn't quite right. In anything we produce we know where the mistakes are, even if no one else spots our blunders.

Mary and Joseph would not have seen it that way. They would have been so pleased that there was something, anything for their Son. And so are we. We come forward and we make our own manger. With unspeakable and unstoppable joy, with a divine Yippee! God becomes flesh and so He is inseparable from us. Here's to you and I, for we are all manger makers with our hands, and with our hearts.

**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.

#### Here are two exciting things to write into that shiny new 2022 diary of yours.

- ◆ The unveiling of the Photo of the Rev'd Marjorie Keeble on Sunday January 16th after the 10:30am Mass.
- ◆ The blessing and dedication of the Good shepherd window in memory of Ann Sandison on Sunday January 30th at the 10:30am mass. This is the fifth Sunday of the month. Bring some lunch to share. But wait there's more. A baptism.
- ◆ "For those who are comfortable, both of these events will be followed by a bring and share lunch. You may wish to bring your own set of tongs".
- ◆ Christ Church Guild meets on Thursday January 13th at 10am to begin to organise the World day of Prayer.

#### 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

## Today's Homily

### Christmass Homily "In praise of the Manger maker"

*"Mary wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them."*

The gurus tell me that the word "manger" comes from the Latin

word munducare which means "to eat." A manger or crib is a wooden feeding trough or food box that holds hay for larger farm animals like cattle, horses, and donkeys. Mangers were located wherever livestock were kept, places like stables, corrals, or caves. The Farmer's job was to keep their mangers well-supplied with fodder at all times so the animals would never go hungry. The cattle could walk up to a manger at any time, and then spend long, leisurely hours chomping away, chewing and slowly re-chewing their cud.

When Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem there was no room for them at the local, so they were forced to find lodging elsewhere, probably in a cave where animals were staying. When Jesus was born, Mary would not have wanted to lay her infant on the hard, cold, stone floor. Instead, she had to make do with what was available and the manger proved to be a convenient alternative: the hay was soft, the box was up and off the ground, and the sides tall enough to keep her child safely inside.

This manger gets another mention a bit later on. They went in haste and found the child in the feeding trough and they feasted their eyes on him (Lk 2:16).

A few things about this manger.

The manger was dirty.

Yes, we may be sure that Joseph and Mary cleaned it up as best they could. They, no doubt, padded it in some way to make a comfy little bed. But there is no way to romanticise this bed into anything other than a feeding trough for slobbering animals. The first bed for the Son of God was not a royal cradle. It was a common

cold crib. It was meant to hold scraps to be eaten.

The manger is the way of discipleship. The angel of the Lord came to shepherds, not to politicians or the religious leaders of the day, not to the parish priests or bishops or with the great of respect the local synods people.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased! (Luke 2:14)

Not the wise. Not the understanding. But to mere pimple faced, adolescent youths. The ones who would take no offence at a baby in a feeding trough. The ones that would expect no better bed than their Saviour:

Something else about the manger. At some point a carpenter must have made this wooden trough. It probably wasn't Joseph, but it would have been someone like him. Joseph in his day, probably made several mangers along with coffee tables, and yokes. So at your Christmass table raise a glass to the guy who made the manger for God. The manger maker.

Joseph and Mary probably thought that the manger was rough. Here we are laying the most precious thing in the whole world into a wonky wooden manger and yet it is that or nothing. It is the best that can be found and in God's plan it will do and it is enough. He desires to lie there to identify with all those whose life is rough and less than desirable.

As I was writing this I couldn't help but think of the manger that you make with your hands as you come to the altar to receive communion. You too are manger makers.

At some point it would be understandable for you to think that my hands are not a worthy throne for the king of kings and Lord of Lords. That my hands are a bit care worn and rough and gnarly and calloused. And yet the miracle happens. The body of Christ is placed into your hands not because any of us are worthy, or brand spanking new, or highly polished

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 for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**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

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> 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: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' <sup>15</sup> 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.'

<sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

<sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and prais-

ing God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**  
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	Gwen Kenny
Virginia	John O'Donnell	
Dorothy	Evan	
Len Peters	Dash	
Dorothy	Joan Mallinson	

### For those who have died

Joseph Vaughan	John McCormack	Margaret McKellar
Dorothy Falkenberg	Frances McKenzie	Helen Moodie
Gilmore McCurdy	Elsie Gould	Rebecca Filbay
Catherine Woodward	Patricia Geebung	Susan Gaussen
Margaret Cooper	Jean Chadderton	Lena Burger
Leanne Ellis	Desmond Wilson	Laiton Jones
		George White

### For the wider Church and its ministry

- The Diocese of North East India – The Church of North India
- All R.E. Teachers.
- Warrnambool: Scott Lowrey & Robyn Shackell (Hon. Assist. Priest)
- (Anglicare) Warrnambool Parish Emergency Relief Centre: Louise Serra and Tracey Hose.
- Port Fairy: Alan Courtney and Netta Hill.
- Komungwai
- Those suffering through political unrest and oppression

## Intercessions for the Eucharist and for you to say at home

The Response to the bidding  
Lord in your mercy is: Please hear our prayers.

Dear Lord in your mercy....**Please hear our prayers .**

We pray for all the mothers and children in the world that they celebrate Christmas with their families with happiness and love.

Dear Lord in your mercy....**Please hear our prayers.**

We pray for all families in the world that they celebrate Christmas with happiness and are kept safe from harm.

Dear Lord in your mercy....**Please hear our Prayers.**

We pray for everyone in the. Diocese of Ballarat that they have a very happy and safe Christmas with family and friends.

Dear Lord in your mercy....**Please hear our prayers**

We pray for the sick and those who are suffering through hunger and war, the homeless and those who are alone, and the lonely, that you, Lord, help them all and give them comfort.

Dear Lord in your mercy....**Please hear our prayers**

We pray for the Departed, especially the recently departed.....We especially pray for the people who have lost family members and friends, recently, and in the past.

Dear Lord in your mercy....**Please hear our prayers**

Dear God today we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and we remember Mother Mary. Please keep all people and families and animals in the world happy and safe during this special time of the year.



Jeanine and Fr. David wish you all the very best for a Joyous Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

**If you are visiting during this time** ... Welcome and Merry Christmass. If you normally receive communion in your own church and would like to do so today you are encouraged to join us at the altar.