

This Week's Diary

Sunday December 16 Advent 3	Holy Communion	7:30am
	Holy Communion	9:30am
	Bible Study Group	5:00pm
Monday December 17	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	Parish Council	7.30pm
Tuesday December 18	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	Bible Study Group	7:00pm
Wednesday December 19	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Holy Communion	10:30am
	Bishop in Council, Bathurst	9.30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	Choir Practice	7:30pm
Thursday December 20	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	OAGS	5.30pm
Friday December 21	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
Saturday December 22	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Holy Communion	5:30pm
Sunday December 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent	Holy Communion	7:30am
	Holy Communion	9:30am
	"Songs of the Season"	2.30pm

**Readings: Micah 5:2-5a, Psalm Song of Mary, Hebrews 10:5-10,
Gospel Luke 1:39-45**

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Know Grow
Show Go
In Christ

Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Orange

To make disciples for Christ, who will make disciples

16 December 2012

The Third Sunday Of Advent

From the Rector,

The public debate on asylum seekers too often ignores the voices of refugees themselves. To improve refugee protection and help change and humanise the public debate in Australia, refugee voices need to be heard.

Lydia came as a refugee from Chin State in Burma/Myanmar. Her home is a hilly rugged country and Chins are a romantic people who love singing and are famous for their bamboo dance. Their songs reveal their love of their land.

In 2007, Lydia's family received notification from the military that their farm had been confiscated to expand military camps. This was their only source of income, so Lydia reported it and asked for compensation. The military came to know this and were furious. They came searching for her but fortunately she was in the church so they could not find her. She went into hiding in her relative's home. Life was too dangerous, so her father arranged for her to escape to Malaysia via Rangoon. In Malaysia she became an illegal immigrant and had to hide from police.

Refugees could be harassed at any time by the notorious Peoples' militia in Malaysia. Fortunately, Lydia got a job as an interpreter with the UN and could speak

some English. She then applied for a humanitarian visa for resettlement and was granted a visa to come to Australia.

Lydia could not believe her luck. She loves Australia and said everyone is so kind to her. When she first arrived she found everything was so strange and so big but she feels safe and the police never harass her here.

Lydia's parents had to remove her name from the electoral roll in Burma. All families are required to put the names of their family members on the roll for the military to check and if they find out that Lydia is on the list and not home, her parents will be arrested, so they removed her name from the family list. Lydia said "I feel sad that my name has been removed from my family." Lydia's dream is to bring democracy to Burma and an end military rule.

From the Christmas Bowl Material.



To our visitors

Welcome to our parish community.

We hope you are refreshed by your worship here today.
Please stay for a cup of tea after the services if you are able.



Prayer Response

Come, Holy God, and, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In our Prayers:

- The Anglican Alliance in its work
- The Christmas Bowl as it supports people in Myanmar
- The parishes of Oberon, Orange and Orange East
- Bishop elect, Ian Palmer
- Peace in Syria, Israel and the region
- Schools as the end of term approaches
- Helping Agencies supporting lonely people at this time

The Jesse Tree

A series of Bible Readings with accompanying illustrations for Advent are available today. They provide Old Testament readings which lead up to the Nativity Story, to help us prepare for Christmas. Do take a copy home with you. The pictures can be coloured and used to hang on a tree, make a string along shelf or window line, or simply make a tree of them.

Helpers for Christmas Services

If you are able to help at the Christmas Pageant in any capacity, please contact Rachel Budden on 6360 2862 or 0414 737 402. Helpers are urgently needed to assist with the sausage sizzle, please.

Trinity News:

The Christmas edition of Trinity News is available for distribution today. **If you are a “deliverer”, please take your papers with you so that they can reach homes in good time for Christmas.** Thank you.

“Advent into Christmas – Songs of the Seasons” Hymn Festival next Sunday, December 23 from 2:30pm to 3:30pm, followed by Christmas cake and drinks. Please bring some Christmas cake or other nibbles to share afterwards.

Service Times for Christmas

Christmas Eve, December 24

Children’s Pageant, 6.00pm

Christ Church, **Borenore 8:00pm**

“Mid-night” Service **11:00pm**

Christmas Day, December 25

Holy Communion 7:30am

Holy Communion 9.30am

From Sunday, December 30 up to and including **Sunday, January 27,** there will only be one Sunday Service: at 9.00am.

Orange Anglican Grammar School

Last week, end of year activities were conducted at the school. Foundation Principal, Mrs Ann Brown, was farewelled. Mrs Brown will be taking up a position in Vietnam.

The new school principal, Mr Len Elliott commences in early January. Please pray for the School and its Council as it continues to grow into its future.

Anglicare

Emergency food stocks are very low. Gifts of non perishable food to help over the Christmas season are urgently needed. Please bring them to church and put them in the Anglicare basket at the services.

The Anglicare Western Appeal can be seen on the noticeboard. There are various ways to support its work.

Our Bishop Elect

Archdeacon Ian Palmer, BD, Dip ThL, has been elected as the 10th Bishop of Bathurst. He is the Rector and Team Leader for Queanbeyan and District Anglican Church, and Archdeacon for Chaplaincy Ministries in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. He will be consecrated as a Bishop in All Saints’ Cathedral, Bathurst, on February 9 at 11am.

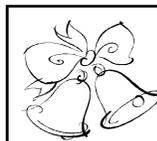
Ian served in parish and university ministries in England prior to moving to Australia in 1990. He is married to Liz, who has considerable experience as a spiritual director. They have two adult daughters.

Our Bishop-elect brings an enormous range of experience and skills. In Australia, he took up an appointment as Director of Evangelism in the Diocese of Newcastle, before returning to parish ministry in the Belmont area and subsequently Muswellbrook. He moved to Queanbeyan in 2005.

Ian is a member of the Management Board of Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT, the welfare arm of the Anglican Church which now operates as an alliance across the Dioceses of Canberra-Goulburn, Riverina and Bathurst - an area covering almost three-quarters of NSW.

The Christmas Bowl

In Myanmar, \$120 given through the Christmas Bowl appeal can provide a refugee with training and skills for public speaking to help humanise the public debate on refugees.



Congratulations to

Andrew Barry
and
Prue Crofts

who were married yesterday

Peaceful Central Quality Retirement Villa – Holy Trinity Village

This is a comfortable 2 bedroom villa set amongst beautifully maintained gardens with only 8 other villas, with new paint and carpet. It also features ducted air conditioning and a single garage with internal access.

All enquiries to the Parish Office between 9am and 1pm - 6362 1623.

Updated Waiting List for Village

The waiting list continues to be updated for our Retirement Village. Please contact the office if you or a family member would like to be added to it.

ABM Reflections

Zephaniah 3.14-20; Song of Isaiah (APBA p. 391); Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18
In today’s readings from Zephaniah, Philippians and Luke, we are given a message of restoration; there is exhortation not to be anxious and instead to rejoice in the Lord at all times. In the Gospel, God even restores those that were least expected to be restored.

Today’s question: How do I bring the message to all those around me who think they are beyond restoration?

Pray for all who feel that they have sinned beyond restoration; that they are brought to the restorative power of the Gospel.

Give thanks for those who rejoice in God, no matter what their circumstances.

Mission Action Plan

The current draft of the Parish Mission Action Plan is enclosed in to-day’s Bulletin for your reflection. It includes the current ‘activities’ that take place in the Parish, and highlights ‘gaps’, some of which are starting to be addressed. If you have any questions or comments, please speak to one of the Clergy.