

## This Week's Diary

<b>Sunday December 21</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	Holy Communion HTO@10:30	8:30am 10:30am <i>in the Memorial Hall</i>
<b>Monday December 22</b>	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	8:30am 5:00pm
<b>Tuesday December 23</b>	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	8:30am 5:00pm
<b>Wednesday December 24</b>	Morning Prayer <b>Holy Communion</b> Christmas Pageant "Mid-night" Service	8:30am <b>10:30am</b> 6:00pm 11:00pm
<b>Thursday December 25</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	Holy Communion Holy Communion	7:30am 9:30pm
<b>Friday December 26</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	8:30am 5:00pm
<b>Saturday December 27</b>	Holy Communion	5:30pm
<b>Sunday December 28</b> <b>The First Sunday after Christmas</b>	Holy Communion HTO@10:30	8:30am 10:30am <i>in the Memorial Hall</i>

**Isaiah 61.10-62.3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4.4-7;  
 Luke 2.22-40**

### Parish Office

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To: Know | Grow  
 Show | Go  
 in Christ

# Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Orange

**To make disciples for Christ, who will make disciples**

**21st December 2014**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

As we are only days out from Christmas I'd like to share with you some of the things that I have learnt about Holy Trinity Orange, and why it is such a special place. Since we have been here I have attended meetings about finances, Parish Council and pastoral matters. I have seen the workings of a successful fete where many parishioners were involved and raised a wonderful amount of money for the ministry of the Parish. I have seen a commitment to prayer from several of our ladies who come to morning and evening prayer during the week. I have seen a real passion for worship from our Licensed Lay Ministers, servers and helpers, as well as within our congregations themselves.

We also have countless numbers of people doing things around the church quietly and unseen just to keep this church running every week. To top all of this off (and anything else that goes on that I am yet to see or mention I am also thankful for and I apologise for leaving you out, if I have) we have several people in our Parish who hold leadership roles within the Diocese, which is a blessing for us as a Parish because these people are extremely generous with their time for us as well.

Now you might say, "So what, this has been going on forever, that's how Holy Trinity, Orange operates!" And you would be right, we have a wonderfully, gracious, faithful and generous foundation of people in this Parish and from my understanding always have.

Personally I feel so blessed to see it in action and now, humbly learning the ropes as it were, to be part of it. I guess what I want is to remind us in this Advent to celebrate these achievements

that so many people are doing and have done.

Running a Parish is extremely difficult for all the leaders of that Parish; with current legislation that must be adhered to including financial, WH&S, and the heritage aspect of our wonderful church and substantial time factors for individuals to do this; the issues arising outside our control and responsibility; more than all of that, the responsibility of building the Kingdom of God through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is our fundamental business if you like.

It's a huge task and is being done well by all involved, and I personally want to thank all of those people publically here, but also encourage all of you to thank those people whenever you get a chance. They are a blessing to you and I. Life changes and our future is one that I believe will see growth and increase in the ministry we do and have. This has been this church's heritage since it was built, and continues as it must, but isn't it good to know that we have people who are doing that well in our midst.

God bless His ministry and all His 'ministers' in our midst here at Holy Trinity.

Fr Mal



## 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 service if you are able.

**Prayer Response:**

Lord of all creation,  
equip us to serve you.

**In our prayers:**

- The Diocese, Bishop Ian Palmer and Liz
- Members of Bishop in Council and the Registry Office staff.
- Parishes of Parkes, Rylstone-Kandos and Trundle
- A good Advent observance
- Father Mal and his family
- Peace in Nigeria and other troubled nations
- Christmas preparations; those for whom this season is one of loneliness and sadness
- Students and teachers commencing holidays
- Give thanks for recent rain
- Rain on still parched lands
- Those fighting bush fires in Victoria
- The people of Pakistan grieving the devastating massacre of so many people
- All who have been affected in varied ways by the siege in Martin Place
- Those mourning the deaths of Barry Roberts, Tori Johnson and Katrina Dawson

**ABM Reflection**

2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16; Psalm 89.1-4, 19-27  
Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38

This week we begin to get the sense that the powerful coming of Jesus about which we have been hearing in the last three weeks might be in a surprising form. An angel comes to a young, powerless, marginalized woman in an outlying province of the world's largest empire and announces the birth of a son. Yet this story is full of surprising reversals: the powerful Messiah will come as a helpless baby, and at the same time, powerless Mary is filled with more power than anyone on earth when

she consents to become the mother of our Lord.

Pray that we may consent to God's work in us, however surprising it might be.

Pray for the *Iglesia Filipina Independiente*, the Philippine Independent Church, giving thanks for the work they do to further God's mission in the world.

**Christmas Services**

**Christmas Eve, December 24**

6:00pm Christmas Pageant

11:00pm "Mid-night" Service

8:00pm Christ Church, Borenore

**Christmas Day, December 25**

7:30am Holy Communion

9:30am Holy Communion

**Anglicare Food Service**

All contributions are very welcome and may be made via the shopping basket/trolley at any service (or left in the office during the week). **Thank-you for your giving. At present**, items for inclusion in Christmas hampers would be especially welcome, including items **such as:** long life custard, puddings, etc. Be creative!

**The Bushranger**

This is the official journal of the Company of the Good Shepherd. Some copies of the Advent 2014 edition are available to-day.

**Volunteers and Worship**

Many people participate on the worship rosters - in a variety of roles. If there are people currently involved in these ministries and wish to review their involvement, **and** if there are others who would like to explore an involvement, **please speak to Canon Margaret** as soon as possible.

At present, extra volunteers are particularly being sought for **Morning Tea** (8:30 and 10:30am), **Welcomers** (at all the week-end services) and **Chalice Assistants** (for the Saturday service).

**Are any of these your gifts??**

**Accidents and Incidents**

Please note that any-one involved in an accident or incident that takes place within the Parish, needs to complete the appropriate form details - via one of the Clergy or the Office. This needs to be done promptly following the incident in order to initiate the appropriate recording and subsequent follow-up that may be required.

**Anglican e-News**

The latest edition is at the doors.

**URGENT**

**Working With Children Check**

**Please**, would volunteers e-mail or bring into the office your copy of your 'Working With Children Check' clearance, in order for the details to be recorded on file by the Parish. We require your last name, date of birth and WWCC Number.

**Your prompt attention in the matter is greatly appreciated.**

**Episcopal Ministry Fund**

A letter and a flier regarding the new Episcopal Ministry Fund to support the "Office of the Bishop" were circulated last week-end. Further copies are available to-day and are commended for your close attention and response, as able. As can be seen, funding for the 'Office of the Bishop' is a matter of urgency.

**Australia Day and Holy Trinity**

Parish Council has endorsed the proposal for the Parish to hold a stall in Cook Park on Australia Day. This will be a stall of *any* saleable goods, to-gether with some brochures about the life of our Parish.

The stall will be from 7:00am-12noon. *All* parish groups are strongly encouraged to be involved, so that this is a true parish effort.

**How could you be involved??**

- Making something to be sold? (Be creative!)
- Co-ordinate the activity?
- Assist with gathering of goods?
- Volunteer to take a turn on the stall for an hour? (At least 2 people are needed at any one time.)
- Co-ordinate the stall roster?
- Assist with table/s and chairs?
- .....

**This a great opportunity to be present in the wider community and have some fun too!!**

For further information, please see Canon Margaret now - for she would like to share this with you!