

## This Week's Diary



<b>Wednesday December 24</b> Christmas Eve	Christmas Pageant "Mid-night Service"	6:00pm 11:00pm
	<b>Christ Church, Borenore</b>	8:00pm
<b>Thursday December 25</b> Christmas Day <i>Office Closed</i>	Holy Communion Holy Communion	7:30am 9:30am
<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> The First Sunday after Christmas	Holy Communion HTO@10:30	8:30am 10:30am

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

### *Please Note:*

There will **not** be a Service at Borenore in January.  
All other Services will be held as usual.

*Many parish activities will be in recess during January  
and resume late in the month or early in February.*



### 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

25th December 2014

Christmas Day



Luke 2:10-11; "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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

This week we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus the Christ, who is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. We will go to Church and say these words, but do we understand them or are they just jargon that is irrelevant to modern society?

Let me just remind us, Saviour means he has saved humanity because it needs to be saved; "the Christ" means he is the promised Messiah. King of Kings and Lord of Lords means he is like no other, and greater than all others. He is the one who brings to us the Kingdom of God and shares it with us.

So we celebrate the advent of all of this, and hope and pray that it has the same

impact on us as it did for Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zachariah, the wise men and the shepherds, the Angels and the hosts of Heaven, the prophets and early believers, who were all waiting and hoping for Jesus' birth to happen.

I believe that we are to celebrate, enjoy and thank God for this wonderful event, and to allow it to change us daily as it should, even in today's society, remembering whom we celebrate, why we celebrate, and with whom we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**The good news for all humanity has come, let us Praise God together for that!**



**Wishing everyone a  
Happy and Holy Christmas**

## 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:**  
*In the Order of Service.*



**In our prayers:**

- The Diocese, Bishop Ian Palmer and Liz
- Members of Bishop in Council and the Registry Office staff.
- Father Mal and his family
- Peace in the Holy Land and all other troubled nations
- A joy-filled Christmas celebration, witnessing the birth of Christ
- Safe travelling
- Rain on still parched lands
- Those who are alone at Christmas
- Those who are unwell, and those who are grieving

**ABM Reflections on the Readings**

Isaiah 62.6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3.4-8a;  
Luke 2. 8-20

Today's readings have a resounding message that the promised Saviour came into the world to save us and set us free from all manner of oppression especially sin. Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Christ and the birth of the Church.

**Today's question:** How do I participate in making Christ be born in the lives of many around me who are oppressed by sin and its ravages?

Let us pray that during Christmas many will allow Christ to be born in their hearts. Give thanks for the joy and family reunions that Christmas brings.

Give thanks for the work of the Mothers' Union throughout the world, especially in rural and high density locations in the Church of the Province of Central Africa.

**Volunteers and Worship**

Many people participate on the worship rosters - in a variety of roles. If there are people currently involved in these ministries who 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??**

**Episcopal Ministry Fund**

A letter and a flier regarding the new Episcopal Ministry Fund to support the "Office of the Bishop" have recently been circulated. Further copies are still available 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.**

**Pastoral Care**

If, at any time, you know of a member of the Parish family who is ill or in hospital, would you please let Canon Margaret or Father Mal know, for it is not possible to offer ministry to these folk unless we know of such need.

**URGENT**

**Working With Children Check**

**Please,** would volunteers e-mail or take to 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.**

**Parish Annual Meeting**

2:30pm, Sunday, 8 March, 2015,  
in the Parish Centre

**Annual Reports** from all Parish groups and organisations are required as soon as possible please, and by no later than **25th January.** These may delivered to the parish office during office hours or, preferably, forwarded in electronic form to the office manager:

office@holyltrinityorange.org.au

**Australia Day  
and  
Holy Trinity**

A Parish Stall (of mixed goods) is to be held in Cook Park on Australia Day. This will be a stall of **any saleable goods**, together with some brochures about the life of our Parish.

The stall will be from 7:00am-12noon. *All* parish groups and individuals, 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!)
- Volunteer to take a turn on the stall for an hour?  
(At least 2 people are needed at any one time.)
- Assist with table/s and chairs?

**Thank-you to Lynne Middleton for offering to co-ordinate this event.**

Please liaise with Lynne (6362 0306) about any of the above.

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

**Message from the Trinity Foundation**

**Church closes some doors for restoration work.**

The final stage in addressing the critical rising damp issue for the church, involves creating new walkway access to the **two northern doors - which will be closed** for most of the project.

The work is anticipated to commence on 19th January and is hoped to be completed by Easter.

We apologise for any inconvenience which may occur, but the end result will not only address the issue, but provide good access for both disabled and able-bodied people.

All work is within the terms of the Trinity Foundation agreement with the National Trust of Australia (NSW) and will draw on funds held in a joint account with the National Trust.

**Christmas Tree Blessing**

Holy Creator of Trees,  
bless with your abundant grace  
this our Christmas tree as a  
symbol of joy.

May its evergreen branches be a  
sign

of your never-fading promises.  
May its colourful lights and ornaments call us  
to decorate with love our home and our world.

May the gifts that surround this tree  
be symbols of the gifts we have received  
from the Tree of Christ's Cross.

Holy Christmas tree within our home,  
may Joy and Peace come and nest  
in your branches and in our hearts. Amen.

- Author Unknown



... and he will  
be called  
Emmanuel.