



**ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH,  
MALVERN**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



*John the Baptist by El Greco (1541–1614)*

*In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,  
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'*

**7<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**

**8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.**

*Before the service, speak with God; during the service, let God speak to you;  
after the service, speak to one another.*

SETTING AT 10 A.M.

Parish Eucharist Michael Dudman (1954–)

*The service begins on p. 119 of **A Prayer Book for Australia**;  
seasonal material for Advent is to be found on p. 147*

**Opening Hymn:** 11 vv. 1, 2 & 3

*At the end of the second verse, the second candle on the Advent wreath is lit. We then say:*

*At 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., once the clergy enter, we say:*

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true:

**All: to you be praise and glory for ever!**

Celebrant: Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth,  
your Son, revealed as a burning and shining light.

May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
and so be led to witness to him  
who is the Lord of your coming Kingdom,  
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

*At 10:00 a.m., we then sing the third verse.*

## SENTENCE

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;  
repent, and believe the good news.

*Mark 1:15*

*Following the opening prayer, we move to p. 120 of **APBA** for the Kyrie (said or sung).*

*This introduces the Confession and Absolution.*

*During Advent, instead of the Gloria, we say together:*

**Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

## COLLECT

God of all peoples,  
whose servant John came baptizing  
and calling for repentance:  
help us to hear his voice of judgement,  
that we may also rejoice in his word of promise,  
and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day  
when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us  
in great humility:  
that, on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

*Isaiah 65:17–25*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.  
A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;  
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*Isaiah 11:1-10*

Hear the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 72:1–7, 18–21**

**Response (at 8:00 a.m.): In his time shall the righteous flourish.**

Give the king your justice, O God:  
and your righteousness to the king's son.

That he may rule your people righteously: and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,  
and the little hills bring righteousness.

**R.**

He shall defend the needy among the people;  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and the moon endure,  
holy and righteousness in his sight, all the days of our life.

**R.**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,  
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish;  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more....

**R.**

Blessèd be the LORD God, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous deeds.

And blessèd be his glorious name for ever!  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

**R.**

**Response (at 10:00 a.m.): Let all use his Name in blessing.**

Give the king your judgement, O God:  
and your righteousness to the son of a king.

That he may judge your people rightly:  
and the poor of the land with equity.

**R.**

Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness,  
and hills also with prosperity for his people.

**R.**

May he give justice to the poor among the people:  
and rescue the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.

**R.**

May he live while the sun endures:  
and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.

May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields,  
and as showers that water the earth.

**R.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish;

there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more....

Blessèd be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who alone does great wonders.

Blessèd be his glorious name for ever!

and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, Amen.

**R.**

## **SECOND READING**

*Romans 15:4–13*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the church in Rome:

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God

in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name’;

and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him’;

and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL**

*Matthew 3:1–15*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,  
‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,  
‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” ’

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist,  
and his food was locusts and wild honey.

Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him,  
and all the region along the Jordan,  
and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.  
But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism,  
he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers!

Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

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.

‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I  
is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor

and will gather his wheat into the granary;

but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

For the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The Sermon.*

*After the sermon, silence is kept before the liturgy continues with the Creed on p. 123 of APBA.*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **For the Anglican Church**

The Anglican Church of Bangladesh; The Diocese of Wangaratta; St Michael's North Carlton; St Barnabas', Glen Waverley; St John's Healesville with St Paul's Yarra Glen; St Mary's, Upper Yarra; Police Force Chaplains and members of the Victorian Police Force.

### **For all in need**

We pray for: Coral; George; Josie; Joy; Katherine; Murray; Neil (and Cynthia and family); Roger (and +Kate and family); and those we name before you in the silence of our hearts.

### **For the Faithful Departed**

We remember those who have died recently: Maxine Butterfield; Tricia Elmes; Kaye Gooch. and those whose anniversary of death which occurs at this time: John Lindley Daish; Frederick Davis; Vera Eastaugh; Harriet Hood; Colin Lachlan McInnes; Cecil Macnaughtan; George Matthews; Colin Prain; Janette Mary Ray; Peter Reid; Wendy Kim Stone; and Maurice Street.

*The Peace (p. 127) is shared, followed by*

Offertory Hymn: 9

*The Great Thanksgiving (p. 148) begins.*

*During communion at 10 a.m., the choir will sing:*

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings;  
that publisheth peace; that publisheth salvation;  
that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!*

Words: Isaiah 52:7  
Music: Sir John Stainer (1840–1901)

*After communion, silence is kept, before we offer a final prayer (p. 148)*

*Notices are then given followed, at 10 a.m. by*

Final Hymn: 500

**Postlude:** from *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* [Buxwv 223]

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637—1707)



<b>Roster for today</b> <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> <b>7 December 2025</b>		<b>Roster for next week</b> <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> <b>14 December 2025</b>	
<b>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>		<b>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>	
Sides-person	Campell Paine	Sides-person	Venetia Patchett
Acolyte	Bryan Elmes	Acolyte	Ravi Renjen
Eucharistic Assistants	Helen Baddeley Jane Baddeley	Eucharistic Assistants	Simon Dickie Jenny Weller-Newton
Intercessor	Malcolm Tadgell	Intercessor	Jenny Robertson
Readers	Lorilae Garcia Jane Baddeley	Readers	Simon Dickie Betty Renjen
<b>10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>		<b>10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>	
Sides-persons	Sandra Morgan Ewan Morgan	Sides-persons	Melissa Carson Grant Rowlands
Acolytes	Meg Winter Pam Felgate	Acolytes	Pam Felgate Jenny McPherson
Eucharistic Assistants	Ray Lester Geraldine Powell	Eucharistic Assistants	Ewan Morgan Geraldine Powell
Intercessor	John Stewart	Intercessor	Meg Winter
Readers	Muriel Porter Vincent Amos	Readers	Jenny McPherson Riley Brooks
Morning Tea	Sandra Morgan Jenny McPherson	Morning Tea	tbc
<b>Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>		<b>Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>	
Sides-person	Miriam Cherry	Sides-person	Andrea King
Reader	Miriam Cherry	Reader	Andrea King

Of your charity, **please continue to pray** for those in long term need or sickness:  
His Majesty the King; Ann; Geoff; Ivan; Jane; Joan; Liza; Mary; and Simon.

## **The Week Ahead**

Monday	The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – <b>Eucharist 9:00 a.m.</b>
Thursday	Memorial Eucharist for Kaye Gooch, followed by Interment of Ashes at <b>10:15 a.m.</b>
Friday	Funeral of Tricia Elmes at <b>3:00 p.m.</b>
Saturday	Lucy, martyr and virgin (d. 304)

### **Morning Prayer**

**8:30 a.m., Monday – Saturday**

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWVIdmIXWDQ4Zz09>

### **Evening Prayer**

**5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday**

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWVIdmIXWDQ4Zz09>

### **Reflections on the Lections**

**7:30 p.m., Wednesday**

Meeting ID: 868 9252 3142; Passcode: 744866

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86892523142?pwd=MlczZlJRempKL0hrQThORXBFeFFBdz09>

### **Scripture Readings next week:**

Isaiah 35:1–10

James 5:7–10

### **Advent 3**

Song of Mary (*Magnificat*)

Matthew 11:2–11

## Notices

We are delighted that Fr Matthew Dowsey is celebrating at this morning's 10:00 a.m. eucharist on the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. We congratulate him sincerely, and with the same sincerity thank him for the faithful continuance of his ministry in this parish.

We are in serious need for more servers/acolytes at the **10:00 a.m.** services. If you would be interested in contributing to the worshipping life of the parish in this way, please speak with Gregory or let Jenny Robertson know.

A Memorial Eucharist, followed by Interment of Ashes, for Kaye Gooch will take place at **10:15 a.m. on Thursday December 11**. While she was able, Kaye was a regular worshipper at our weekly Thursday service, as well as Sundays, so please feel free to join her family and others to give thanks for the life of a most faithful Christian and parishioner of St George's. Morning tea will follow in the Parish Hall: in Kaye's own words it is to be feature "slap up refreshments in the St George's Hall: food, grog, make merry!"

On **Friday December 12 at 3:00 p.m.** the funeral service for Tricia Elmes will be held in the church, followed by refreshments in the Hall. Again, please come to support Bryan and family in this time of sadness with thanksgiving for a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

On the afternoon of **Sunday, December 14, at 2:00 p.m., Stonnington Brass** returns to St George's for another offering of Christmas Carols and Music, supported by members of St George's Choir. This was a marvellous occasion last year, with a full church of family and friends of the brass players. Why not come along and enjoy this fun afternoon and show a welcome to those who come to sit and hear in our Church?

**A Working Bee** to clean the Church in preparation for **Dedication Festival** and Christmas will take place on **Saturday December 20 from 9:00 a.m.** Why not come for Morning Prayer before we start the polishing, sweeping and other cleaning? Morning tea will obviously occur!

**On Sunday, December 21**, we will welcome **Bishop Garry Weatherill**, current Bishop of Ballarat, who will preside and preach at a special **Feast of Dedication** in a combined service at **9:30 a.m.** This will be followed by a buffet luncheon in the Hall. Please ensure that you are here, and invite any past members and all friends of the parish who are able to come, to join with us to celebrate this wonderful milestone in true St George's style.

**Please sign up if you are coming, and indicate if you are able to provide a salad or a dessert.** There will be a \$25 donation at the door to cover meat and beverages.

**Sunday December 28** will be Fr Jeremy's final Sunday with us. We will have one service that morning (at **9:30 a.m.**) followed by a Festive Morning Tea at which we will have the opportunity to thank him most sincerely for his faithful and sterling ministry among us. If you would like to **donate** for a farewell present to Fr Jeremy, please leave money in the envelopes provided, or make an electronic funds transfer to the parish. Please mark either envelope or Fund Transfer as "For Fr Jeremy".



## **The Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation (MACO)**

MACO is an organisation to which tax deductible donations can be made to support the 'Cultural' activities and areas at St George's. Parishioners will know that we have a continuing account with MACO to support the work of the choir, and we established another one to facilitate donations for the Restoration of the stained glass windows, classified as "of great cultural significance, in their depiction of the gospel's spread 'From Nazareth to the Pacific'."

Owing to the breadth of definition associated with this second account, it is completely acceptable to use funds donated there for the restoration work of the walls in the North and South Transept: after all, if the walls supporting the windows fall down, the restoration of the windows will have served little purpose.

It was always envisaged that donations through MACO for restoration works would be the preferred option for parishioners, with the National Trust appeal (which has a better 'name') for the wider community. The chief reason for this is that MACO offers donors the same tax deduction status, but the 'cut' it takes to run the fund-raising is considerably below that taken by National Trust – more money goes directly to the church.

As discussed at last week's Annual Meeting, therefore, parishioners are warmly encouraged to donate to MACO to assist with the costs of restoration, if you have not already done so (or even if you have!). Such donations will be most warmly welcomed.

To donate please go to St George's website. Select the "Prayer and Worship" tab which will lead you to the "Support & Donations" page: <https://www.stgeorgesmalvern.org/support-donations>

The red **Donate Now** button takes you to the donation page.

### **For donating to St George's restoration:**

Under 'I. Select a Program in MACO', scroll down and select St George's Malvern – Windows Restoration complete the details required then click on "**Go to Payment**" Button

## Pledge Giving: An important message from Parish Council

St George's is reliant on the generous giving of all parishioners to ensure its ongoing financial viability. **The Parish is entirely self-funded.**

Figures for the month of October reveal the stark reality:

Total income: \$22,430 and Total expenses: \$35,244

**This is a significant deficit of \$12,914.**

**You will note that since publishing these figures we have had a negative trend in each month.**

**This reinforces the need for the pledge request that the Parish Council is making.**

Looking to the future the Parish has substantial repairs and maintenance to undertake on the church building to address damp issues.

It is also committed to taking on an Assistant Curate next year.

These will add extra costs to the Parish.

For this reason, Parish Council is requesting that all current pledge givers consider their current pledge undertakings and look to increase them in a substantive way. We also request that those who have not yet made an annual pledge and are contributing via the open plate to consider seriously committing to our annual pledge programme. (Offerings are then payable weekly/monthly/quarterly or annually in advance). These contributions are critical to the financial management of the Parish. We are forecasting total expenses for next year of **over \$800,000**. Whether you attend weekly or less often Parish expenses remain the same.

We are richly blessed by the foresight and generosity of many who preceded us here.

They have provided a beautiful church in which to worship every week, with gardens, grounds and other buildings.

We all enjoy a wonderful Parish with outstanding ministry led by the vicar, Father Gregory, and wonderful pastoral care and companionship.

Unfortunately we need to recognise that maintaining all of this costs money.

Therefore please give this request serious consideration.

Please speak to or email Geraldine Powell, Thanksgiving Co-Ordinator, ([dgp3934@icloud.com](mailto:dgp3934@icloud.com)) to indicate your increased amount or new pledge commitment.

Geraldine will be very pleased to discuss all payment options with new and existing pledge givers.

*Ray Lester  
Parish Treasurer,  
on behalf of Parish Council*

# **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

## **ST GEORGE'S, MALVERN**

### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**WITH STONNINGTON CITY BRASS**

**Sunday 14 December at 2pm**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

**5pm Children's Service**

**10:30pm Carols in the Church**

**11pm First Communion of Christmas  
("Midnight Mass")**

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

**9:30am Traditional Christmas Service**





ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

*Anglican Parish Church of the City since 1846*

15 Gisborne Street Melbourne Victoria 3002 Australia

# HANDEL'S MESSIAH

STELLA HORVATH SOPRANO

SOPHIA GYGER ALTO

MATTHEW O'LEARY TENOR

LACHLAN McDONALD BASS

THE ST PETER'S BAROQUE PLAYERS

THE CHOIR OF ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER WATSON

3PM SATURDAY DECEMBER 13

ST PETER'S, EASTERN HILL

TICKETS \$60/\$45

Scan the QR code to get your tickets  
or go to <https://www.stpeters.org.au/>



# PARISH DIRECTORY

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, VIC 3144



## VICAR

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

Phone:

9822 3030 Option 3 (w);

9822 4662 (h); 0408 505 646 (m);

Email:

vicar@stgeorgesmalvern.org

Day off:

Saturday (*for this week only*)

## ASSISTANT PRIEST

The Reverend Fr Jeremy Cavanagh

Phone:

*on leave this week*

9822 3030 Option 4 (w);

0427 264 329 (m)

Email:

stgeorgesassistantpriest@gmail.com

Days in parish:

Sunday, Tuesday, Friday

## HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Fr Matthew Dowsey

0412 852 697

## CHURCH OFFICE

Adrian Chong

Monday-Friday

Phone:

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

9822 3030 Option 2

Email:

office@stgeorgesmalvern.org

## WARDENS

Malcolm Tadgell

0400 799 030

Robyn Whitehouse

0409 707 117

*Vicar's Warden to be appointed*

## CHILD SAFE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Leonie Bird

0409 860 026

*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples  
of the East Kulin nations  
as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet:  
land which was taken, not ceded.*

*We pay our respects to their Elders past and present,  
acknowledge their continuing spiritual and living connection to Country,  
and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.*