

# Season of Advent Second Sunday of Advent

Church Year A  
Cycle II

Second Sunday of Advent



## Bringing peace to Sri Lankan refugees returning home

When ethnic violence swept across Sri Lanka, the poorest and most vulnerable families fled to India. With the war now over, many of them wish to return to their homeland to live in peace and freedom, and to help rebuild their nation. Your gifts can help provide skills training and financial assistance, and can support welcome groups that help families to make the return home. Please give today.



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188



December 7<sup>th</sup>  
St John's Riddells Creek  
5.30 pm

December 8<sup>th</sup>  
St Paul's Gisborne 9 am  
Church of the Resurrection 10.30 am

*The Parish of Gisborne acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land,  
the peoples of the Kulin Nations,  
and we pay our respects to their elders, living, past and emerging.*

*The Parish of Gisborne is committed to being a Child Safe organisation.*

## Welcome

*We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship. Whether you are a visitor or a regular parishioner of the Anglican Church, you are invited to join us in Holy Communion. Please make yourself known to us and if you would like more information about our community and ministry, then please take a copy of our welcome brochure, visit our website or ask one of our sidespersons.*

Today's worship:

In the light of the recent NATO gathering and Environmental Summit held in Madrid, the focus of the world media looked to the vexed issues of world peace, security and sustainability. Partly as our world is so reliant on the market forces that can vary and impact on us so quickly (a quick look at fuel prices illustrates this perfectly) the message of today's Gospel is something that we could consider as a reminder to us of the need of making sure our own house is in order. "The axe is already laying at the base of the trees" warns the Baptist, and "the winnowing fork is in his hand." (Matthew 3:1-12). The call of the one crying in the wilderness is to transform not only our lives but our world view that is in accord with the teaching that Jesus was to bring. We are to make our paths straight, and not hinder the coming of the kingdom. This is why Advent is considered penitential as well as expectant. We are called to make changes so that we can welcome the reign of Jesus into our lives.

We welcome Fr Graham Snell as guest preacher and presider at Church of the Resurrection,

Scripture readings:      Isaiah 11.1-10      Psalm 72.1-7, 18-21  
   Romans 15.4-13      Matthew 3.1-12

Wednesday:                      10 am at St Paul's  
   Isaiah 41.13-20; Psalm 103.1-5; Matthew 11.28-30

**NEXT WEEK:**

Third Sunday of Advent      **ONE SERVICE ONLY: MACEDON 10.30 am**  
   Isaiah 35.1-10      Psalm 146  
   James 5.7-10      Matthew 11.2-11

**Parish Fire Policy:**

If a **CODE RED** day is declared [this is the most extreme rating] and this occurs on a Saturday or Sunday – then please note that all services and/or parish activities will be cancelled on that day.

This policy will also apply during the week and to all our centres. For other fire danger ratings, it is important that everyone implement their own fire plan.

Your own fire plan must always take precedence even if you are on a rostered duty.

Texts from A Prayer Book for Australia © Broughton Publishing 1995 Reproduced with permission. Other liturgical material from Common Worship © The Church of England, and Celebrating the Christian Year, Alan Griffiths (2004). Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, NCCA (1990), used by permission.

## The Gathering of God's People

*The ministers may have already entered in silence.*

*Advent is a time for waiting and preparing.*

*Our liturgical colour today is BLUE. It signifies the Advent night sky.*

*We sit in silence.*

*After a while, a bell will ring.*

*A member of the congregation prepares to light the second of the blue candles.*

*As a sign of our stewardship over creation, and our responsibility to care for the world, our candles in the Advent Wreath are recycled. Vines and leaves remind us of the fragility and rhythm of life that is our journey.*

*A minister begins:*

We are those who come to prepare,  
to open our lives for the coming of Christ:  
**the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ.**

*A silence is kept.*

We join with those who cry in the wilderness  
and look for signs in our world of the coming of Christ:  
**the Light of the world which darkness cannot comprehend.**

*A silence is kept.*

We look for the reign of Christ's peace in a world  
torn apart by war:  
**May we be ready: in our hearts,  
in our minds, in our souls.**

*A silence is kept, and this carol is sung:*

**Peace, peace, peace -  
The gift of Christ is peace.  
We walk with God, our past forgiven.  
All in Him is life and heaven.  
Peace, peace, peace -  
The gift of Christ is peace.**

Tune: Stille, stille, stille

Words by Ken Bible

© 2006 by LNWhymns.com.

CCLI Song #4663940.

*The presider greets the people.*

✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

cf 1 Corinthians 4.5

Lord Jesus, you come to gather the nations  
into the peace of your kingdom.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you come in word and sacrament  
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you will come  
in glory  
with salvation for your people.

Renew us in faith and love.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The Presider pronounces The Absolution*

Almighty God,

who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:

✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,

strengthen you in all goodness

and keep you in eternal life,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Let us pray:

Keep us, O Lord,

while we tarry on this earth,

in a serious seeking after you,

and in an affectionate walking with you,

every day of our lives;

that when you come

we may be found not hiding our talent,

nor serving the flesh,

nor yet asleep with our lamp unfurnished,

but waiting and longing for our Lord,

our glorious God for ever. **Amen.**

## The Ministry of the Word

As we prepare to hear God's holy word through the scriptures:  
**open our hearts and minds, Lord. Amen.**

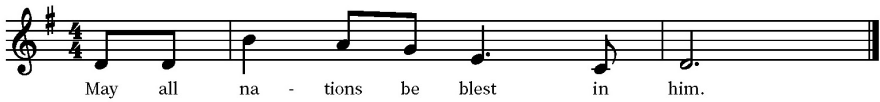
*All sit for the Readings.*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 11.1-10

May your word live in us  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Psalm 72.1-7, 18-21



*May all nations be blest in him.*

Give the king your judgements, O God,  
and your righteousness to the son of a king.  
Then shall he judge your people righteously  
and your poor with justice.  
May the mountains bring forth peace,  
and the little hills righteousness for the people.

May he defend the poor among the people,  
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.  
May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
from one generation to another.

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,  
like the showers that water the earth.  
In his time shall righteousness flourish,  
and abundance of peace  
till the moon shall be no more.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Romans 15.4-13

May your word live in us  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

*All stand for the Gospel Reading.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Matthew 3.1-12

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

*After the Gospel, the reader says*

This is the Gospel of the Lord,:

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

Breaking Open the Word

An Affirmation of Faith

**W**e believe in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

**And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death –  
even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:  
✠ Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

(Philippians 2:5-11)

Jesus Christ is Lord

(Uniting in Worship People's Book - page 128)

The Prayers of the People

*The minister says*

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*The prayers may be offered by a deacon and/or other members of the congregation.  
Periods of silence may be kept.*

For your love and goodness  
**we give you thanks, O God.**

*The prayers will conclude with a Prayer from our Partner Churches in Zimbabwe,  
as we prepare our Christmas Bowl:*

We pray for Sri Lanka.  
There has been so much sorrow.  
We pray for those affected by the Easter Sunday terrorist  
attacks in the churches, and for families who lost loved ones.  
We pray for the leaders of the country,  
that they will rule with wisdom, justice and a concern for all citizens.  
We pray for peace.  
And we pray for those who have sought safe refuge in other countries.

Lord Jesus, Light of the World:  
**the prophets said you would bring peace  
and save your people in trouble.  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide  
and show all the world God's love.. Amen.**

*The intercessions may be placed on the altar as a symbol of our prayers being offered.*

### The Greeting of Peace

The God of peace make us holy in all things  
that we may be ready at the coming of our Lord Jesus.

The peace of the Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### The Offertory and Offertory Hymn

TiS 270 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

*The gifts of the people are brought to the Lord's Table.  
They may be presented in silence or a suitable prayer.*

With this bread that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**  
With this wine that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body,  
wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**Faithfully following the example of Jesus,  
we seek to live as people of compassion.  
Through this offering,  
and the offering of our lives,  
may we be those who usher in peace in large and small ways,  
so God's reign will be known amongst us. Amen.**

Act for Peace

The Great Thanksgiving  
The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*We begin our praise*

We love to praise you, holy God,  
for your beautiful world  
and your wonderful ways.  
You are the shepherd of your people.  
You gave us good commandments  
and you sent your messengers to guide us.

*Our hope for a reign of everlasting peace*

We give you thanks because you anointed Jesus Christ,  
your only Son,  
as the eternal priest and king of all.  
As a priest he offered up his life on the cross  
that by his one sacrifice  
he might present to you an eternal kingdom;  
a kingdom of truth and life;  
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.


So we praise you, living God,  
singing our song with angels and saints  
and Christians everywhere:




1 Cantor:  
  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho \_\_\_\_\_ ly Lord, God of pow'r and God \_\_\_\_\_ of might.


2 All:  
  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho \_\_\_\_\_ ly Lord, God of pow'r and God \_\_\_\_\_ of might.

3 Cantor:  
  
Heav - en and earth \_\_\_\_\_ are full \_ of your glo \_\_\_\_\_ ry.

4  
  
Ho-san - na in the high - est, hos-an-na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est.

5 All:  
  
Ho-san - na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est, hos-an-na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est.

6 Cantor:  
  
Bless - ed is he \_ who comes in the \_ name \_\_\_\_\_ of \_ the Lord.

7  
  
Ho-san - na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est, hos-an-na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est.

8 All:  
  
Ho-san - na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est, hos-an-na in the high \_\_\_\_\_ est.

*With this bread that we bring*

And now, Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you  
for the meal you shared with us  
on the night before you died.

You took the bread  
and blessed it  
and broke it  
and gave it to your friends. You said:  
“This is my body.  
Take it and eat it  
in memory of me.”

*With this wine that we bring*

Then you took the cup of wine,  
and blessed it,  
and gave it to your friends to drink.  
You said:  
“This is my blood.  
It is God’s guarantee that sins will be forgiven.  
Every time you drink it,  
do this in memory of me.”

*We remember Jesus*

So we do what you command us,  
and we remember:  
you lived and died,  
you rose in glory,  
you sent your Holy Spirit,  
and you will come again at the end of time  
to bring us home to God.

Cantor/All

Christ has died, Christ is ris — en, — Christ — will — come — a — gain.

The musical notation is a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the staff, with hyphens indicating where the notes continue over the words.

*Epeicles: the Sending of the Holy Spirit*

Now, Holy Spirit, we praise you  
because you help us pray.  
Come to us in this celebration,  
and make us your holy people.  
Feed us at this table  
with the body and the blood of Christ.  
Make our faith grow.

*Commissioning:*

Send us to be your messengers to the world.  
Spread the Good News of Jesus  
by our words, our actions and our love.  
Teach us to praise the living God,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
with every breath you give us.

Cantor/All.

A — men. A — men. A — men. A — men.

The musical notation is a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the staff, with hyphens indicating where the notes continue over the words.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
 hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done  
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
 now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body  
 for we all share in the one bread.

Cantor:

Je-sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord: you take a way the sins of the  
 Je-sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree:  
 Key of Da - vid and Day - spring from on high:  
 De-sire of na - tons, our Em - man - u - el:

7 | 1,2,3. All:

world, have mer - cy on us; have mer - cy on us.

12 | 4. All:

world, grant us - peace, - grant us - peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
 but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.

All are welcome at his supper. Come.

Anthem at the Church of the Resurrection  
Prepare the way for the Lord

Post Communion Prayer

Go into the world as those who tread the pathway of peace,  
following the example of Jesus.

Go into the world with God's peace that passes all understanding,  
soothing hearts and calming minds.

Go into the world knowing God's Spirit  
of comfort and peace goes with you.

**Gracious Lord,  
in this holy sacrament  
you give substance to our hope.  
Bring us at the last  
to that pure life for which we long.**

Post Communion Hymn

TiS 279 The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices

Blessing and Dismissal

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
**in the name of Christ. Amen**

Postlude at Church of the Resurrection  
Herr Christ, der einig Gottes Sohn, D Buxtehude.

Mission Proposals for 2020

In accordance with the Mission Giving Policy, Parishioners are invited to submit ideas to Fr. Dennis by Tuesday, to guide the priorities for Mission Giving in 2020. The Parish has a proud and strong track record in fundraising to support charitable programs and in 2019/20 this begins with a \$6,000 commitment.

## NOTICES

Appeal for Anglicare Broadmeadows Women's Charity House

For underwear and socks (new) for children under the age of 5. Please give me a ring and I will arrange collection from the Church of the Resurrection, Macedon. Thank you and God Bless, Rosemary Homewood, Ph. 54287152.

Grand Charity Raffle!

The Proceeds of this raffle will be for both Asylum Seekers and Refugees at Broadmeadows and also at the Thai-Burma border. There are nine prizes including a Christmas hamper donated by Neal Street Medical Centre Doctors. Tickets are \$5.00 for 3 and are available from Elaine Millar (Gisborne), Margaret Poyser (Riddells Creek) and Popsy Colquhoun and Rosemary Homewood (Macedon). The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 22nd December at the Church of the Resurrection, following the service. Please support this special effort for the end of the year. God Bless, Rosemary Homewood.

December 10

On December 10th, Fr Dennis will be celebrating his 25th anniversary of priestly ordination. Prior to the Parish Council meeting at Church of the Resurrection, you are invited to share in the Eucharist at 6.30 pm, followed by a light 'finger-food buffet'. This will also mark the end of his second year with us.

### Christmas Program

Christmas Eve	5.30 pm	St John's Riddells Creek
	11.00pm	Carols, followed by
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass at Church of the Resurrection
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Christmas Eucharist at St Paul's, Gisborne
Sundays in the Holidays:		
December 29	10 am	Church of the Resurrection
January 5	10 am	St John's, Riddells Creek
January 12	10 am	St Paul's, Gisborne
January 19	10 am	St Paul's, Gisborne (post Bric'a'brac)
January 26	10 am	Church of the Resurrection

**CODE RED** DAYS: no services. Please implement personal fire plan.

Wednesday 10 am

January 22 and 29	St Paul's, Gisborne
January 8	Church of the Resurrection
January 15	St John's Riddells Creek

Vision Australia

Large and extra large print calendars for 2020 are for sale priced at \$15.00 each, available from Elaine Millar 5428 2522.

## This week in the Parish

### **Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>      ADVENT 2**

9.00 am	Eucharist	St Paul's, Gisborne
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Church of the Resurrection

### **Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>**

9.30 am	Play Group	Parish Hall
1.00 pm	Play Group	Parish Hall
1.30 pm	Card Group	Parish Centre

### **Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am	Play Group	Parish Hall
1.30 pm	Bible Study	Parish Centre
6.30 pm	Eucharist	Church of the Resurrection

followed by a light supper and Open Parish Council

### **Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Eucharist	St Paul's, Gisborne
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### **Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	DEADLINE PEW BULLETIN	
6.00 pm	Meeting AA	Parish Centre, Gisborne

### **Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>**

1.30 pm	Funeral for the late Neale Clark	St John's, Riddells Creek
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### **Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup>**

### **Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>      ADVENT 3**

10.30 am	Baptism, Confirmations and Parish Eucharist followed by BYO to share lunch	Church of the Resurrection, Macedon
7.30 pm	Service of Readings and Carols	Church of the Resurrection, Macedon

Parish Office:	32A Fisher Street, Gisborne PO Box 325, Gisborne 3437	
Phone:	(03) 5428 4038	gisborneparish@bigpond.com
Vicar:	Fr Dennis Webster (03) 9012 3365 (will relay to a mobile service)	
Wardens:	Alison Kitching, Tony Woodgate, Mary Duggan	

Child Safe Officers: Debra Saffrey-Collins; Mary Duggan

From the Christmas Bowl Appeal:

The third week of Advent is the week of joy. Joy is different to happiness. The word happiness shares its origins with the word happenstance. We are happy because of things that happen to us, our circumstances or context affects our condition. Joy is the opposite. Joy arises from a place within. In the case of joy, it is our condition that affects our context. Imagine the scandalous story of Mary and Joseph, an unwed mother giving birth to a child whose father was not her betrothed! In spite of the fear and shame associated with such an event, there is also much joy: the joy of the miracle of birth, the joy of the miracle of love, the joy of 'God with us.' And it is the joy of Jesus' arrival that becomes a polemic to the shame of the circumstances surrounding his birth. Joy changes our circumstances. True joy confronts, re-interprets, and reshapes our context. Or as Isaiah so beautifully imagines, there will be 'streams in the desert' (35:6) and the way of joy will make 'sorrow and sighing flee away' (35:10). Christians believe that joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit – in other words, joy grows within us as the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives. What joy are you experiencing in your life that confronts your notions of conformity? What joy do you see around you that challenges your previous assumptions? What opportunities do you have to share this joy with others?



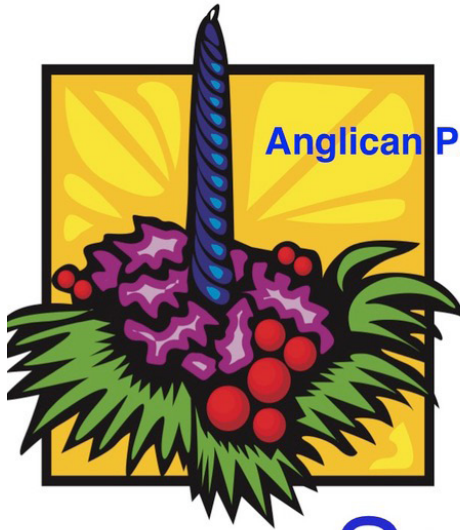
**ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION**  
*Working for Love, Hope & Justice*

John the Baptist quotes the prophecy of Isaiah: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight'. How can we prepare the way of the Lord this Advent? As Isaiah tells us, by proclaiming (in deed and in word) good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, freedom for the oppressed and the year of the Lord's favour.

- Pray this week for the chance to proclaim to others the fullness of life that Jesus offers the world.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai, the Anglican Church of Japan.

Text:

Robert McLean, Partnerships Missioner  
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Anglican Parish of Gisborne

# Service of Readings and Carols

Choir of the Anglican Church of Gisborne  
Young Voices of Macedon

Sunday 15 December at 7.30 pm  
Church of the Resurrection,  
Cnr Honour Avenue and Mt Macedon Rd, Macedon.