

ANGLICAN CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS

Newsletter



December 2019

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Welcome to Holy Cross Church.

We hope that you find the worship uplifting and that your relationship with Jesus Christ is enriched through it.

Children are always welcome in church. On the 1st Sunday of the month a special effort is made to include them in the service. There will be a children's talk & activities at the rear of the church.

Change table: is in the disabled toilet.

Hard of Hearing: an AUDIO LOOP operates throughout the church area. Please use your "T" setting to make use of this.

Gluten Intolerant: gluten free wafers are available. If required, please speak to the service leader.

Morning Tea: we invite you to stay for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat in the hall after our Sunday morning service.

ANGLICAN CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS

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t: 08 9330 1550

w: www.holycrossmelville.org

e: holycrossevents@gmail.com

Front Cover

Cape Lilacs in Applecross

You know summer is coming in Perth
when you see the Cape Lilacs in
bloom

Holy Cross

Mission Statement

Our Mission is:

To be a reflection of God's Love.

Our Vision is:

With God's help be united in Christ.

Be a vibrant Christian place of welcome and spiritual development.

An inclusive place where we will pray, worship and learn to love and serve each other and the wider community.



Please Join Us For A
SINGING SOCIAL

WHEN: Friday December 6th

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

WHERE: Holy Cross

56 Mclean St, Melville

WHY: Celebrate Christmas
Sing Carols

COST: Nil

RSVP: 5th December

0417 178 688

Some nibbles provided

Please bring BYO drink

Kids Most Welcome

From The Treasurer

Summary of Income and Expenses for The Anglican Parish of Melville For the Period 1st May 2019 to 31st October 2019

	YTD \$	Budget \$
Income		
Giving	11,125	12,100
Hire of Facilities	7,992	6,571
Interest	498	630
Other	1,467	2,414
Total Income	21,081	21,715
Expenses	20,323	20,785
Surplus/Loss	758	930

At the parish council meeting on Thursday 14th November I presented the financials for our parish for the first 6 months of the church's financial year, a summary of which is shown in the table above.

I had forecast that at the end of October 2019 the parish would have a small operating surplus of \$930 and the actual surplus was \$758 a difference of \$172.

If any member of the parish would like to know more about these numbers or has questions relating to the finances of the parish please contact me.

Peter Bowman
Treasurer

The Joy of Advent

'Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.' Luke 2:10

Advent starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. The word 'Advent' is from the Latin word 'adventus' meaning 'coming'. Sometimes called 'Little Lent', it's a time to prepare our hearts for the future Second Coming, as well as the birth of Christ.

We celebrate the season with advent calendars, candles and evergreen wreaths - symbolising Christ as Light of the world, bringing new and everlasting life.

Here are seven simple tips to help you experience and share the joy of Advent!

1. Connect with your inner child:
Think back to the time when you were a child, on the simple things that made you happy at Christmas. Focus only on the good and feel the joy of Christmas come flooding back!
2. Keep it simple: This year, go for gifts and cards that share the meaning of the season, shop early and stay within your budget.

3. Be people focused: Remember the story of Mary and Martha – keep meals simple and allow yourself time and space to focus on enjoying the company of your guests.
4. Make Room for Jesus: Take some time at the beginning of each day to read your Bible, meditate on Scripture and pray. Focus on giving thanks to God for His gift of Christ to the world and for all He has done for us.
5. Me Time: God wants us to prosper in body, soul and spirit, so try to eat healthy, don't overindulge, take time for long walks and enjoy the good and simple things in life!
6. Wear a smile and share the Joy! Finally, being joyful is a choice, it's not about your circumstances. So, decide to be thankful this season. Wear a smile, act and talk positively, do small things with great love, be on the lookout for opportunities to do good to people. Give to the homeless, visit the sick, or take gifts to lonely neighbours.

If people ask you about your joy, don't be afraid to share your faith. Simply explain to them that 'Christ lives in my heart, and He can live in yours too.'

For to Us a Child is Born

‘For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.’ (Isaiah 9:6)

Approaching Christmas, we are very aware of the political and economic uncertainties that face us. The prophet Isaiah also lived in such uncertain times, as the Assyrians had just conquered the northern kingdom of Israel (734-732 BC). This fulfilled Isaiah’s warnings to the people, who had turned their back on God and His ways. However, Isaiah is able to bring a word of hope, promising a Messiah who would come like a great light: *‘The people walking in darkness have seen a great light’* (Isaiah 9:2). These words are fulfilled in the birth of Jesus 700 years later and describe person of Jesus:

Wonderful Counsellor:

He will give us the wisdom we need, especially when we have difficult decisions to make at work or home, or in dealing with our finances or future direction.

Mighty God:

He will provide the help and strength to face a difficult diagnosis, family crisis or relationships breakdown, as we trust His plan and purpose for our lives.

Everlasting Father:

He cares for us as a father cares for His children, so that we can come to Him when we feel alone or we are really struggling, knowing that He hears and will answer our prayers.

Prince of Peace:

He has secured peace by His cross and resurrection, and so we can find in Him true acceptance, forgiveness and peace for our lives, relationships and future.

Christmas is the time to celebrate a God who is faithful to all His promises, ‘the zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this’

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Protecting the Innocent

The day most of us call 'Boxing Day', was when tradesmen used to collect their annual tips from customers. It is named in the Church Calendar as St Stephen's Day, in memory of the first martyr, stoned to death by an angry crowd because of his faith. That is a shocking footnote to the celebration of Christmas, but worse is to follow.

Three days later the Church asks us to remember the 'Holy Innocents'. These were the young children of Bethlehem killed by Herod's soldiers in a vain attempt to annihilate the potential new-born king. The Magi – the so-called 'Wise Men' – had told him the child had been born in that town. In fact, the child Jesus was by then safely across the border in Egypt, his parents having been warned to do so in a dream.

But that did not save the innocent toddlers of Bethlehem, who were brutally put to the sword. They were subsequently named the 'holy innocents' because that is what they were: holy and wholly innocent, victims of a man's determination to cling to power, whatever the cost.

Innocent children still suffer, of course: in refugee camps, in enslaved families, in unhappy homes and at the hands of abusers. Because they are weak and helpless, and utterly innocent, the rest of us have a duty to protect them.

When Jesus wanted to portray pure innocence, He took a small child in His arms. He then uttered a warning, probably the harshest words to leave His lips. Anyone who offends against such little ones would not escape severe punishment.

The fate of the 'holy innocents' is a sharp reminder, just after the Christmas celebrations, that Jesus was born into the world as it is: light and darkness, compassion and cruelty, love and hatred. He didn't come to endorse that world, but to change it. Darkness cannot defeat light. In the end the angel's song will be fulfilled: 'Peace on earth' in the kingdom of God.

Training Opportunities

Wollaston Cert in Theology Term I Offerings 2020

Elective Unit - Anglican Studies

Thursday evenings, 12 March - 2
April 6pm - 8pm Wollaston
Theological College, Mt Claremont
\$120 for credit; \$80 audit

This unit explores the development of Anglican faith and life from Christian origins in Britain/England to the present world-wide Communion. Anglicanism in the Australian context will also be studied, and there may be a focus on Anglican understanding of education. The Warden of Wollaston Theological College, the Reverend Dr Gregory Seach, coordinates this unit.

Elective Unit - Intro Youth Ministry

In this elective unit, coordinated by Mark Davis, ACYM's Team Leader, you will experience high quality, practical training that blends elements from Missiology, Practical Theology and Youth Work. The module will explore the difference between Youth Work and Youth Ministry, compare the Incarnational and 'hit-and-run' models of delivery, how to start right and finish well, and whether youth ministry should be fun.

Thursday evenings, 13 February - 5
March 6pm - 8pm Wollaston
Theological College, Mt Claremont
\$120 for credit; \$80 audit All units
can be taken via in-person seminar,
or fully online. To find out more
please contact Wollaston
Theological College via email
info@wtc.perth.anglican.org or call
9425 7270.

Training Opportunities (cont'd)

CYM Leaders' Breakfast

Saturday 8 February 8.30am - 12pm

Registration opens at 8am

Wollaston Conference Centre Mt Claremont Free

Join with the ACYM Commission and staff team as we say thank you for all the time and work you put into growing and nurturing faith in the lives of children and young people. The morning will include time to network with others over breakfast, hear some new ideas, while also having the opportunity to understand how ACYM can support you in your ministry. For catering and dietary purposes, registration is essential. Please register your attendance by Monday 3 February at perth.anglican.org/events. For more information please contact ACYM. 9425 7278; info@acym.perth.anglican.org

Tree of Life Weekends Program

21 - 23 February 29 - 31 May 28 -

30 August 20 - 22 November St

John of God Retreat Centre

Gloucester Crescent Shoalwater

Applications are invited for the 10 positions available in 2020 for first year participants in the Tree of Life Weekends Programme in Christian Spirituality, Spiritual Formation, Spiritual Direction, Wollaston Theological College. The programme consists of four residential weekends per year for four years. Each weekend consists of lectures/presentations, reflections, discussions, case studies, sharing groups, practicum in Spiritual Direction and Spiritual Formation, as well as prayer and regular worship in the Anglican Tradition. This is a course for lay people and clergy. A brochure providing details of the programme together with an application form is available on request from the Programme Director. Enquiries may be directed to the Programme Director, Archdeacon Michael Pennington. 9332 7221 or 0409 372 029; michael@mpenn.net

Training Opportunities (cont'd)

Godly Play Core Training

Registrations Now Open Saturday
25 - Monday 27 January St
Cuthbert's Church Cnr Darlington
and Hillsden Rds Darlington \$450
Core Training is an intense three-
day course in which participants
are immersed in Godly Play
practice and learn and tell a story
for supportive feedback and
evaluation. In this time two
accredited trainers will work with
the group to provide information
and experience of the three genres
of stories in Godly Play, the role of
the storyteller, the role of the
doorperson, the Godly Play space,
materials, response time,
spirituality of the child, forming and
maintaining a story circle
community that is safe and the
history/practice of Godly Play. 6292
0074;
rector.darlington@live.com.au

Lent Sqared

2020 Art Challenge

26 February - 12 March 2020

Submission deadline: 15 January
2020

St Barnabas, Kalamunda

The Parish of Kalamunda is inviting
artists to participate in contributing
to the creation of 43 artworks for
use in our 2020 online Lent
Reflections. Artwork is to be 20cm
x 20cm in the medium of your
choice and will be inspired by 43
selected passages from the Gospel
of Matthew and will be
progressively exhibited at St
Barnabas, Kalamunda during Lent
and Holy Week. All of the works
will be auctioned following
Evensong on the 2nd Sunday of
Easter. Proceeds will go to the
Kalamunda Volunteer Fire Brigade.
0400 452 426
julie.johnward@bigpond.com
kalamunda.perth.anglican.org/lent
2020/

Vaccinate? Yes or No

Measles is known to make children vulnerable to other infections. Two major studies of Dutch Orthodox Protestants, who reject vaccination, have discovered why: it massively damages the immune system, making measles even more lethal than we realised.

As measles cases worldwide rise to levels not seen since 2006, increasing tenfold in Africa and doubling in Europe. They have reached the highest numbers in years in the US and England. There were 7 million cases worldwide in 2017.

After measles vaccination was introduced in the 1960s, cases fell dramatically. Mysteriously, wherever that happened, deaths from completely unrelated infections also dropped.

In 2015, Michael Mina, now at Harvard University, found that children who have had measles are so much more likely to catch other diseases that such post-measles infections may account for half of all infectious disease deaths in children living in areas where measles circulates.

Around 100,000 children died of measles in 2017. Mina suspects that two or three times that number who had measles will later die of other infections they would not have caught if they hadn't had measles.

Now we know why. As we are exposed to pathogens as children, we accumulate specialised immune cells, each of which has learned to make antibodies to attack one particular bit of a pathogen. The measles virus kills these cells, but the impact of this wasn't known.

Mina and his team determined what antibodies were made by 77 unvaccinated Dutch children who later caught measles. Before any of them had measles, these children could make antibodies to many viruses and bacteria. But afterwards, they lost between 11% and 73% of their library of antibodies, for all kinds of pathogens.

"The worst-affected 20 % lost more than half the antibodies they could make against more than half the pathogens we tested," says Mina. The live, weakened measles virus in the MMR vaccine had no such effect in the 32 other children they studied.

Vaccinate? Yes or No (cont'd)

To get their lost antibodies back, Mina suspects those who had measles must be re-exposed to all the pathogens they had already encountered, with the attendant risks of disease. They may even need to receive any previous vaccinations again, as vaccines work by teaching the immune system to make specific antibodies.

It might even be worse than that. In another study out this week, Colin Russell at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands and his colleagues sequenced the DNA of immune cells from 20 of the same group of children. “We could look not just at cells producing antibodies, but at their naive, precursor cells,” says Russell.

In our first few years of life, these naive cells mature, diversifying so they will rapidly recognise particular types of molecules on different pathogens. Russell’s team found that measles kills the mature cells. “It’s as if our immune system is reset back to infancy.”

That means, he says, that those who have had measles may need to be re-exposed to diseases multiple times to rebuild their antibody repertoire.

The effect has real clinical impact. Russell’s team gave a virus similar to measles to ferrets vaccinated against flu. These animals went on to have bad bouts of flu.

Vaccinated ferrets who didn’t get the measles-like virus were still protected against flu.

New Scientist: 31 Oct 2019

Journal references: Science, DOI:
10.1126/science.aay6485;
Science Immunology, DOI:

For Your Diary



Beginning of Advent decoration in the church and hall

When: 2nd December

Where: Holy Cross, Melville

Advent Studies

When: Tue 10th December
6 pm to 7:15 pm

Where: St Thomas's, Willagee

Advent Studies

When: Tue 3rd November
6 pm to 7:15 pm

Where: St Thomas's, Willagee

Advent Studies

When: Tue 17th December
6 pm to 7:15 pm

Where: St Thomas's Willagee

Mainly Music

Last session of the year

When: Wed 4th December

Time: 10 am

Where: Holy Cross, Melville

Family Service/Celebration

When: Tue 24th December

When: 6 pm

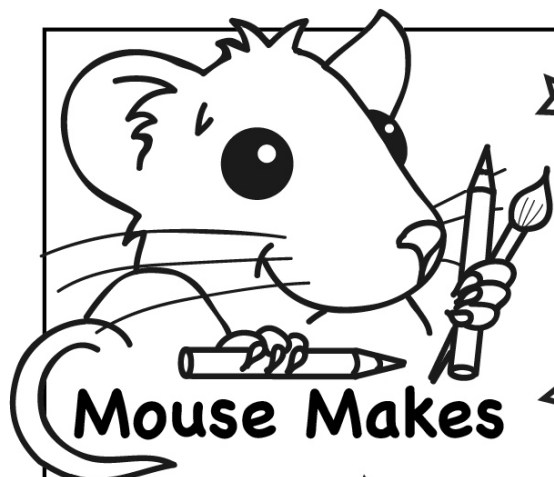
Where: Holy Cross Church
56 McLean Street

Happy Hour & Singing Social Carols with Sing Australia

When: Fri 6th December

Time: 6 pm to 7:30 pm

Where: Holy Cross, Melville



Where was
Mary's baby born?
Why were Joseph
and Mary there?
Read Luke 2 :1-6

Where did
Mary lay
her baby
and why?
Read
Luke 2:7

What did
Mary dress
her baby in?
Read
Luke 2:6

Why were
the
shepherds
afraid?
Read
Luke 2:8

What did the angel
tell Joseph to name
Mary's baby and why?
Read Matthew 1:21

What good
news did
the angel tell?
Read
Luke 2:10-11

Who
appeared
praising God
and what did
they say?
Read
Luke 2:13-14

What did the
shepherds
do after they
had seen
the baby?
Read
Luke 2:16

Colour a
star each
day until
Christmas



Rosters: From Sunday 10th November 2019 through to Sunday 25th December 2019

Date	Service	Media	Money	Reading	Intercess	LPM / PA	Altar	Welcome	Kitchen
Sun 10 th November	Holy Comm	Peter	David J Tom	Pat T Claire		Jill	Carol	Betty Alice	Hazel Sheri
Sun 17 th November	Morning Prayer	Michael	David D David J	David D	Jill	Jill Sue	Carol	Sheri Betty	Joy Frank
Sun 24 th November	Holy Comm	Michael	Peter B Pat T	Sue S	Bill Georgie	Bill Georgie	Carol	Alice	Adele Mike
Sun 1 st December	Morning Prayer	Peter	David D David J	Pat T	Sue	Jill	Sheri	Betty Alice	Joy Frank
Sun 8 th December	Holy Comm	Mike	Peter B Pat T	Peter B	Bill Georgie	Bill Georgie	Sheri	Sheri Betty	Pat Norma
Sun 15 th December	Morning Prayer	Peter	David D Tom	Norma Claire T	Jill	Jill	Sheri	Margaret Betty R	Adele Mike
Sun 22 nd December	Holy Comm	Michael	David J Tom	Pat T Claire	Bill Georgie	Bill Georgie	Sheri		Hazel Sheri
Christmas Eve	Family Service	Peter	Peter B David D	T.B.C.	T.B.C.	T.B.C.	Sheri	Sheri Betty R	
Christmas Day	Holy Comm	Mike	Tom David J	David J	T.B.C.	T.B.C.	Sheri		Adele Mike

Please Note:

If you are unable to fulfil your roster duty on your rostered day, please try to find someone to swap with and let Jill know. If you cannot find anyone, please contact Jill. Thanks.

Christmas

The Anglican Church of the Holy Cross 56 Mclean St Melville

Carols Social Event with Sing Australia
Friday 6th December—6.00pm

Family Nativity Service
Christmas Eve—6.00pm

Family Celebration
with Holy Communion
Christmas Day—9.00am

