



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds ...

13 December 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

*A generous faith community—centred on Jesus, seeking wisdom for life and acting with compassion—in the heart of Grafton since 1842.*

Welcome to our worship this morning as we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Church year.

<i>President</i>	The Revd Canon Zoe Everingham
<i>Assisting Clergy</i>	The Revd Canon Camellia Flanagan, TSSF
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mr Robert Eather

Mass setting:	<i>Christ Church Mass</i> (Philip Mathias)
Kyrie:	<i>Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie Eleison</i> [TIS 736]



# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

## Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

### Introit

Choir

*Let the words of my mouth* - Dulcie Holland

### Invocation and Greeting

*The presiding minister greets the people.*

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

### Prayer of Approach

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
born in David's city of Bethlehem,  
born like him to be a king:  
be born in our hearts at Christmas,  
be King of our lives today.  
Amen.

### The Advent Wreath: Third Sunday of advent

*Advent 3* [26 (A&M 2013)]

John the Baptist, by his preaching  
and by water poured,  
brought to those who heard his teaching  
news of hope restored:  
'Keep your vision strong and steady,  
and be ready for the Lord.'

Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

*The candles are lit.*

“You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.” — Isaiah 55:12

Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

### **Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath**

Heavenly Father,  
you call us to prepare for the coming of your Son:  
forgive us our unreadiness to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you were proclaimed by John the Baptist:  
help us also to prepare your way.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you speak through the prophets:  
make us attentive to hear your word.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to God’s truth,  
strengthen us to do God’s will  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his rule of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD'S favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Canticle: The Song of Mary (Magnificat)

Choir

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:  
from this day all generations will call me blessed;  
The Almighty has done great things for me:  
and holy is his name.  
God has mercy on those who fear him:  
from generation to generation.  
The Lord has shown strength with his arm:  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones:  
and lifting up the lowly.  
God has filled the hungry with good things:  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:  
to remember the promise of mercy,  
The promise made to our forebears:  
to Abraham and his children for ever.*

## Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:12–28

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Beloved, pray for us. Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

John 1:6-8,19-28

*Alleluia.*

Cantors

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,*

*And has sent me to bring Good News to the poor.*

*Alleluia.*

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Revd Canon Zoe Everingham

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray to God, the source of all light and life. Maranatha:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send your Spirit upon the Church, for the declaration of the Gospel to all people. We pray for Murray our Bishop, Greg our Dean, Camellia our Priest and Grant our Deacon. Give to your people the prophetic voice that brings knowledge of salvation to all people through Jesus Christ. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Restore to new life the places that human sin and folly have made desolate. We pray for the success of vaccines as the world fights against COVID-19 virus and that life giving health may be available for all without discrimination.

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We pray for young people and those leaving school to begin a new life in a changing world. We give thanks for teachers and parents as they raise young people to be signs of hope, peace, and wisdom in our community.

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Help us to be messengers among our friends and neighbours, and all with whom we share our lives. Comfort and raise up to new life the broken hearted, the sick and those in need. We pray for Cheryl Cook, Gladys Gray, Joan Marr, Val Rogers, those known only to you and those held in our hearts ... *(pause)* ...

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We give thanks for all who have heard the message of salvation and passed from this world into the full knowledge of Christ, especially Laurence William Marchant who died recently and in the Communion of Saints we remember Mary Hope McFarlane and Jack Lumley. Keep us constant in faith until we too shall come to meet Jesus Christ. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Let us pray the Cathedral Prayer together:

**Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage and prayer. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death, and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.**



## THE GREETING OF PEACE

### The president says

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. cf. Luke 1:78 & 79

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

## THE OFFERTORY

### Hymn

*Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes* [TIS 269]

Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long;  
let every heart prepare a throne  
and every voice a song.

On him the Spirit largely poured  
exerts its sacred fire;  
wisdom and might and zeal and love  
his holy breast inspire.

He comes the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.

His silver trumpets publish loud  
the jubilee of the Lord,  
our debts are all remitted now,  
our heritage restored.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
your welcome shall proclaim,  
and heaven's exalted arches ring  
with your beloved name.

Philip Doddridge 1702-51

The gifts are brought to the Lord's Table.

As this bread was scattered  
and then gathered and made one,  
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.  
**Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Wisdom has built her a house;  
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.  
**Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## 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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

We thank you that when he shall come again  
in power and great triumph to judge the world,  
we may with joy behold his appearing,  
and in confidence stand before him  
who redeems us from sin and death  
and makes us heirs of everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name.  
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 for ever. Amen.**

The celebrant breaks the bread.

As this broken bread was once many grains,  
which have been gathered together and made one bread:  
**so may your Church be gathered  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

*Agnus dei (Lamb of God) is sung.*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

The celebrant says

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Holy things for holy people.  
Broken things for broken people.

## Communion Anthem

*Ave Verum* – Edward Elgar  
*Teach me O Lord* – Peter Moger

## Notices

## Mission Hymn

*O bless the God of Israel* [TIS 284]

O bless the God of Israel,  
who comes to set us free,  
who visits and redeems us  
with love for all to see.  
The prophets spoke of mercy,  
of rescue and release;  
God shall fulfil his promise  
and bring our people peace.

He comes! the Child of David  
the Son whom God has given;  
he comes to live among us  
and raise us up to heaven:  
before him goes his servant -  
forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation,  
the herald of the Day.

Where once were fear and darkness  
the sun begins to rise -  
the dawning of forgiveness  
upon the sinner's eyes.  
He guides the feet of pilgrims  
along the paths of peace:  
O bless our God and Saviour  
with songs that never cease.

After The Song of Zechariah , Michael Perry (1942 - 1996)

# THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

## The president says

God for whom we wait,  
we thank you that you have fed us  
with the bread of life  
and the cup of salvation.  
As we joyfully await your Son,  
keep us ever watchful  
that we may be ready to stand before him  
on the day of his coming.

**Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.**

## Blessing

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you,  
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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

## Organ Postlude

*Toccata in C* – Johann Pachelbel

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Some liturgical texts are from the *Common Worship* website of the Church of England. Used with permission. The prayers for the lighting of the Advent Wreath are by the Revd Matthew Kozlowski.

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### Sundays during Advent

9.00am, Cathedral

Wednesday 10.00am services will continue until December 23 then pause until the first Wednesday in February.

### Organ Music for Advent & Christmas

Sunday, 20 December at 7.00pm

**Christmas Eve:** 6.00pm Children's Service: Blessing of the Crib  
11.00pm Midnight mass

**Christmas Day:** 9.00am Eucharist

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

Those involved in the Bookshop, caring for the gardens, the Choir, cleaning rosters, flower arrangements, the OpShop or the Pantry are invited to a Christmas lunch in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 22 December at 12 noon. Please let Roger know by this coming Thursday if you are coming so that we can organise the catering in good time.

## LEANNE HARVEY

We are very sad to announce that Leanne Harvey will be concluding her role as our Associate Minister for Children, Families and Youth at the end of this month. Leanne has decided to return to her full-time teaching position at Redbank State School. We wish her every blessing in this transition and express our deep appreciation for all that she has done in this ministry among families as well as with children and youth. She will be hugely missed.

## NEW COVID-SAFE RULES

As the restrictions under the NSW Public Order have been eased significantly, we now have **up to 150 people** in the Cathedral for services (and up to 25 people in All Saints Church at Lawrence). We can now have the full choir and we are allowed to sing hymns. It is starting to feel more like church again ...

We still need to have contact details for everyone attending our services, and observe hand hygiene and other social distancing requirements.



Until further changes are approved, please avoid contact with people outside your immediate household at the Greeting of Peace. Holy Communion will continue to be served simply with the sacramental bread. The collection plate cannot yet be passed among the congregation to receive offerings.

We have set up a free registration process using Eventbrite for the major events around Christmas:

- *Organ Music for Advent & Christmas* (Sunday, December 20)
- *Christmas for Children* (Christmas Eve, 6.00pm)
- *Midnight Service* (Christmas Eve, 11.00pm)

You can easily access these links from the THIS SUNDAY page on the Cathedral website.

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

A joint effort is being made this year to coordinate the making of hampers for the needy in Grafton to help them celebrate Christmas. This is a collaboration between Anglicare, the students and staff at CVAS and the Cathedral Op Shop as an outreach to the local community. Anglicare and CVAS have done this over the past few years but since the Op Shop and Anglicare have been working together in providing emergency food through the Pantry and particularly during this difficult period of the pandemic it was decided to assist the operation by using the Hunt Hall as a storage, make-up and distribution centre.



This will be coordinated by Moe Jones who has been in charge of the Food Pantry operation this year. Thank you to everyone involved for their assistance. If you would like to help in any way then please contact Moe through the Op Shop.

The Parish has always assisted those in distress during the year and particularly at this time of year with food vouchers and gifts for the Women's Refuge. This will be taken over and continued by this group for the future.



## **CONGRATULATIONS TO MURIEL SHEPHERD - 100 on December 23**

This is a picture of Muriel in one of her many roles for the Cathedral Parish as a member of the Flower Guild. She was an active member of the Floral Art Society and took part in many of the Jacaranda Flower Festivals in the Cathedral.

Muriel served on the Catering Committee and also volunteered in the Op Shop. She cooked meals and did housekeeping at the Diocesan Accommodation Centre for Clergy Retreats and Conferences. We wish her well for the years ahead and thank her for her devotion and commitment to this Parish.

## **CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURES**

Please note the following times for closures during the Christmas and New Year holiday period:

### **Parish Office**

closes at noon on Christmas Eve  
reopens Tuesday, January 12

### **Cathedral Bookshop**

closes at 2.30pm Wednesday, December 23  
reopens at 9.30am Tuesday, January 19

### **Cathedral OpShop & Cathedral Pantry**

closes Friday, December 18  
reopens Monday, January 18

**Cathedral Parish Directory**  
[www.graftoncathedral.org.au](http://www.graftoncathedral.org.au)

<b>The Dean</b>	The Very Revd Dr Gregory Jenks dean@graftoncathedral.org.au	0426 067 344
<b>Canon Pastor</b>	The Revd Canon Camellia Flanagan priest@graftoncathedral.org.au	0417 928 914
<b>Deacon</b>	The Reverend Grant Sparks deacon@graftoncathedral.org.au	0418 995 535
<b>Associate Minister Families &amp; Children)</b>	Mrs Leanne Harvey families@graftoncathedral.org.au	0402 278 323
<b>Director of Music</b>	Mr Robert Eather music@graftoncathedral.org.au	0458 093 292
<b>Parish Office</b>	Mr Roger Millard office@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 2844
<b>Cathedral Bookshop</b>	bookshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 3958
<b>Cathedral OpShop &amp; Pantry</b>	Mr John Adlington (OpShop) Mrs Moe Jones (Cathedral Pantry)	02 6642 1906

**Prayers for those in need**

Joy Baldwin  
 Cheryl Cook  
 Sue Cotter  
 Kathryn Douglas  
 Gail Gilmore  
 Gladys Gray

Brian Holley  
 Fay Kelly  
 Ruth Kingsley  
 Joan Marr  
 John McAnally

Kay Metcalfe  
 Eileen Rogan  
 Val Rogers  
 Muriel Shepherd  
 Tammy Uren  
 Jessie Usher

**Remembering those who have died**

**Recently departed:** Laurence William Marchant

**Year's Mind:** Mary Hope McFarlane, Jack Lumley

## Around the Parish this Week

**Today**                    **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
9.00am – Cathedral Live Online:  
<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>  
11.00am – All Saints Church, Lawrence

**Weekdays**            **Morning Prayer & Evening Prayer** are said at  
8.30am and 5.30pm every day except Sunday  
mornings. Join us by Zoom using this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2379732870?pwd=eFRvaEpjWmJxaDZldDlkdVJiNm9Zdz09>

Both the **Bookshop** and the **OpShop** have now  
re-opened. Other parish activities remain  
suspended, unless otherwise advised.

**Afterschool Kids Club:** This will resume after  
school returns in 2021.

**Wednesday worship:** 10.00am

**Cathedral Youth Group** meets on alternate  
Friday nights (6.00–8.00pm) . For details email  
[families@graftoncathedral.org.au](mailto:families@graftoncathedral.org.au).

Please ensure that we have your **email address**  
and **mobile** number so we can reach out to you  
with information, news and pastoral support.

If you need **pastoral care** or other support,  
please call either Dean Greg, Canon Camellia or  
Deacon Grant.

**PLEASE MAINTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF VIGILANCE  
AND PERSONAL HYGIENE AS WE SEEK TO LIMIT  
THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

**Next**  
**Sunday**                    **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
9.00am – Cathedral Live Online:  
<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>  
7.00pm – ORGAN MUSIC FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS  
Please [register via Evenbrite](#) for your free tickets. This  
event will also be live-streamed.



*Please visit the Cathedral web site for the latest news,  
additional information, and the text of sermons as well as  
video recordings of many special moments in our life as a  
faith community: [www.graftoncathedral.org.au](http://www.graftoncathedral.org.au)*