



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

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

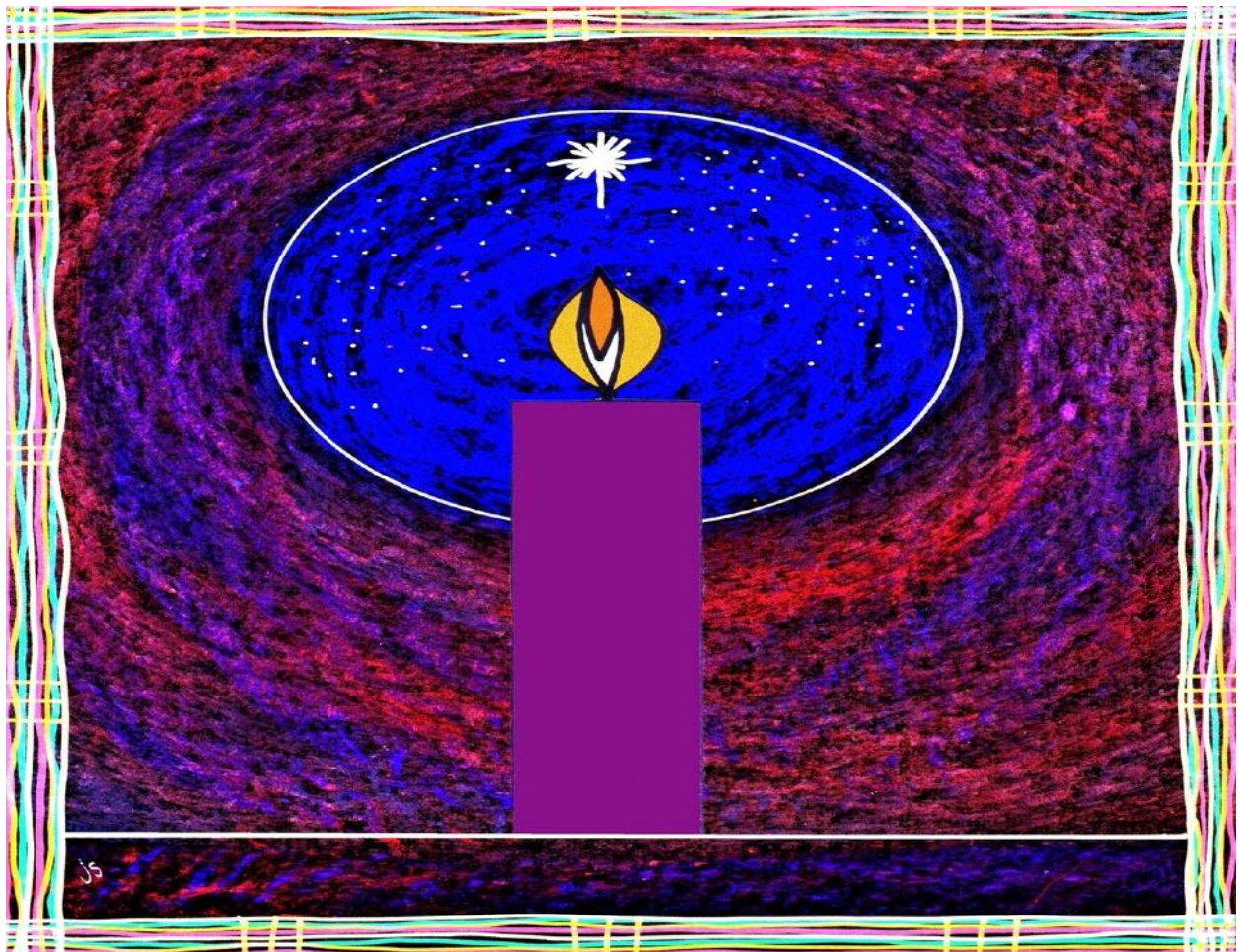
29 November 2020

First 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 first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Church year.

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



# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

## Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

### Introit

Cantors

*Verbum Supernum* - Plainsong

### 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: First Sunday of advent

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is hope.

*Advent 1* [26 (A&M 2013)]

Cantors

Advent candles tell their story  
as we watch and pray;  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness  
Changed for gladness on that Day.

*The candle is lit.*

“We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.”  
(Psalm 33:20)

Eternal God, as we await the coming of our saviour, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. **Amen.**

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

Heavenly Father,  
you have created a universe of light:  
forgive us when we return to darkness.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you are the light of the world:  
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you give us light in our hearts:  
renew us in faith and love.  
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.**

**Kyrie eleison** – *Ukrainian Orthodox* [TIS 736]

Cantors

## Prayer of the Day

Faithful God,  
whose promises stand unshaken through all generations:  
renew us in hope,  
that we may be awake and alert  
watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ,  
our Judge and Saviour,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Isaiah 64.1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord ,  
and do not remember iniquity for ever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

**Psalm 80:1-7 & 17-19**

Cantors

- <sup>1</sup> *Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
you that led Joseph like a flock:  
you that are enthroned upon the cherubim,  
shine out in glory;*
- <sup>2</sup> *Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh:  
stir up your power, and come to save us.*
- <sup>3</sup> *Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:  
show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.*
- <sup>4</sup> *O Lord God of hosts:  
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?*
- <sup>5</sup> *You have fed them with the bread of tears:  
and given them tears to drink in good measure.*
- <sup>6</sup> *You have made us the victim of our neighbours:  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.*
- <sup>7</sup> *Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:  
show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.*
- <sup>17</sup> *Let your power rest on the man at your right hand:  
on that son of man  
whom you made so strong for yourself.*
- <sup>18</sup> *And so we shall not turn back from you:  
give us life, and we will call upon your name.*
- <sup>19</sup> *Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:  
show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.*

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1.1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

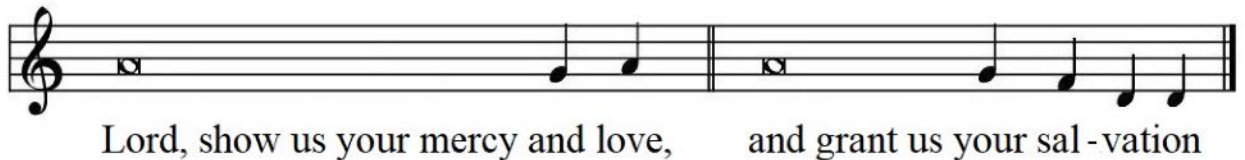
## Gospel

*Alleluia.*

Cantors

*Lord show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.*

*Alleluia.*



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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

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

Mark 13.24-37

But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Sermon

### 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

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Murray our Bishop, Greg our Dean, Camellia our Priest and Grant our Deacon together with all the baptised in this parish. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

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

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for those in public life, those working in the media and all involved in policy development and public administration. Before you rulers will stand in silence.

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

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter. We pray for all those impact by the current global pandemic, and especially for health workers and medical researchers. Within our local community of faith we pray for Betty Gilbert and her family in this time of grief, and also for Sue Cotter, Betty Ford, Brian Holley, John McAnally and Muriel Shepherd. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.

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

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember especially at this time Bryce Gilbert and we give thanks for his many years of service to this parish. We also pray for those whose year's mind occurs at this time: Ivy Sweatman, Neville Smith, Gary James Dow, and Ken Kingsley. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

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

Cantors

#### The Advent of our God [TIS 271]

*The advent of our God  
with eager prayers we greet,  
and singing haste upon his road  
his glorious gift to meet.*

*The everlasting Son  
scorns not a Virgin's womb;  
that we from bondage may be won  
he bears a bondsman's doom.*

*Daughter of Zion, rise  
to meet thy lowly King,  
let not thy stubborn heart despise  
the peace he deigns to bring.*

*In clouds of awful light,  
as judge he comes again,  
his scattered people to unite  
with them in heaven to reign.*

*Then evil flee away  
before the rising dawn,  
let our old nature day by day  
God's image still put on.*

*Praise to the incarnate Son,  
who comes to set us free,  
with Father, Spirit, ever One,  
to all eternity.*

Charles Coffin 1676–1749  
tr. John Chandler 1806–76 and others

### 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.*

Christ Church Mass (Philip Mathias)

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.

The celebrant says

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

## Communion Anthem

*O Come, O come Emmanuel (Veni Emmanuel)* – Plainsong

## Notices

### 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 Sun 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

*Veni Emmanuel* - Noel Rawsthorne

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## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Please note the restricted set of services for Advent and Christmas this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

### TODAY – Advent Sunday

9.00am, Cathedral

11.00am All Saints, Lawrence

### 6, 13, 20 December—Advent 2, 3 & 4:

9.00am, Cathedral

13 December

11.00am All Saints, Lawrence

No Advent Carols & Lessons this year due to COVID restrictions.

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

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

**Christmas Day:** 9.00am Eucharist



## LAST WEEKEND @ GRAFTON CATHEDRAL

On Saturday the Bishop ordained Grant Sparks as a Deacon in our biggest worship event at the Cathedral since before the COVID restrictions were first imposed back in March. Grant is a vocational Deacon, and is choosing to live out the distinctive vocation as a Deacon here in the Cathedral community rather than seeking to proceed with ordination as a priest.

You can find the video of the ordination service here:

[https://youtu.be/v2iszMs\\_CqQ](https://youtu.be/v2iszMs_CqQ)

On Sunday we celebrated the Cathedral’s feast of title as we observed the festival of Christ the King. Our celebrant was Archdeacon Tiffany Sparks and she was assisted by Grant Sparks, serving as a Deacon in the liturgy for the first time. It was a very special occasion, and we were delighted to be joined by Bishop Murray as well as many members of the Sparks family.

You can find the video of the liturgy for Christ the King here:

<https://youtu.be/RK0q6sE9U64>



## CHRISTMAS BOWL

Over the next several weeks we are encouraging everyone associated with the Cathedral to make a special gift to the annual Christmas Bowl appeal. This project commenced in 1949 with the simple suggestion that people donate the cost of one place at their family's Christmas Dinner to assist those in need. Due to the on-going impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on church events, this year there is the option of making online gift while still linking your gift to the Cathedral's total amount raised.

For details of how to make an online gift, please use this link which includes a code for Christ Church Anglican Cathedral Grafton: <https://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au/50732>

We also have gift envelopes in the Cathedral and at the office, for those who prefer to make their gift that way.

Each week we shall also share a brief video with information about ways in which gifts to the Christmas Bowl helps to transform people's lives in so many different parts of the world.

Here is a link to the video for this week: <https://tinyurl.com/y6skv6n6>

We shall also copy this link to the THIS SUNDAY page on the Cathedral website to make it easier for you watch it on your computer at home.

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Hope for school girls in Afghanistan**

The coronavirus is making it even harder for girls in Afghanistan to get an education and realise their dreams. Schools closed in March and most children don't have internet, TV or radio to learn remotely. Act for Peace's local partner is distributing self-learning packages to children, advocating for girls' education, and getting schools ready to reopen. You can help this vital work. **Please give today.**

**CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](https://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

## **BRYSON (BRYCE) GILBERT**

This past week we lost one of the gentle giants from our Cathedral community, with the sad passing of Bryce Gilbert. We extend our sincere sympathy to Betty and the other members of her family and assure them of our continuing love, care and support. The funeral service was held in the Cathedral on Friday afternoon.

## **BEQUEST FROM DORIS LEE**

This week the Cathedral received a cheque for \$70,846.18 from the



estate of the late Doris Lee as a bequest to the Grafton Cathedral Precinct

Maintenance Endowment.

Doris and her husband Col were involved in so many

aspects of the Cathedral Community but particularly

Doris was a lifetime member

of the Mother's Union and Col was a long time Verger of the

Cathedral as well as a

member of Parish Council.

The cheque was presented to the Dean by their two

daughters, Liz and Rhonda by the window near where

they often sat during their many years of faithfully

attending services and events in the Cathedral.

The **Advent Wreath** which we are using today was given by Doris in memory of Col after his death.

## **CALENDARS 2021**

There are a number of **Anglican Church Calendars** available from the Parish Office at \$12 each. If you would like one please contact the Parish Office during the week Tuesday to Thursday.

**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:** Bryson Gilbert

**Year's Mind:** Ivy Sweatman, Neville Smith, Gary James Dow, Ken Kingsley

## Around the Parish this Week

**Today**                    **ADVENT SUNDAY**  
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=eFRvaEpjWmJxaDZldDIkdVJiNm9Zdz09>

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

**Afterschool Kids Club:** Tuesdays from 3.30pm at Storrs Hall, Clarence Valley Anglican School across Victoria St from the Cathedral.

**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**            **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
9.00am - Cathedral Live Online:  
<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>



*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)*