

Welcome to

ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

Diocese of Melbourne - Anglican Church of Australia
Parish Church of the City since 1846



'Cestello Annunciation', Sandro Botticelli (1489)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

20TH DECEMBER 2020

Gracious God, whose eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will: prepare our hearts for his coming again and keep us steadfast in hope, that we may be ready for the coming of his kingdom; for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

VICAR'S MUSINGS

Our Christmas-countdown is almost complete. Today we light the fourth and final Advent Candle and enjoy the children's excitement, as they get closer to lighting the Nativity Candle in the centre of our Advent Wreath.

On Thursday we commenced another traditional Christmas-countdown: the praying of "O Antiphons". It is traditional from 17th to 23rd December, at the evening prayer of Vespers each day, to recite in turn seven special prayers, calling on the Messiah to come (in Latin: *veni*), addressing Christ by seven divine names found in the Old Testament: O Wisdom! (*sapientia*); O Lord! (*adonai*); O Root of Jesse! (*radix*); O Key of David! (*clavis*); O Dayspring! (*oriens*); O King of Nations! (*Rex gentium*); O God-with-us! (*Emmanuel*).



The words of the Advent hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel" that we will sing at today's Mass, are drawn from these ancient Christian prayers (*NEH 11*). You may like to take your liturgy sheet home, and make this hymn your prayer each night, as we approach Christmas Day.

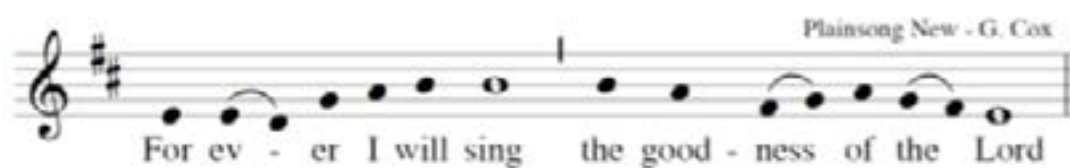
On a practical front, it will help us in our COVID-Safe protocols if you could take the time to book-a-pew for the Christmas service(s) you intend to attend. The TryBooking links are listed on the home-page of the Parish website: www.stpeters.org.au Alternatively, feel free to phone or e-mail Kosta in the Parish Office, and he can do this for you: (03) 9662 2391 or sphoffice@stpeters.org.au. It is with great anticipation that I look forward to celebrating the great Feast of the Nativity with you, in person, after all these months of virtual church.

SUNDAY MASS READINGS

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Now when David, the king, was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind, for the Lord is with you.” But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: “Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel: and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you, David, that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne, David, shall be established forever.”

Psalm: 89.1-2, 3-4, 26+28



I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. R.

You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:

I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.” R.

He shall cry to me, “You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!”

Forever I will keep my steadfast love for him,
and my covenant with him will stand firm. R.

Second Reading: Romans 16.25-27

To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith - to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Gospel: Luke 1.26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came to Mary and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

It is not too late to donate funds for Christmas flowers. You can put them in an envelope marked 'Christmas Flowers' and place in the collection plate. Alternatively, you can deposit funds in the Parish Account:

BSB: 703-122 Account Name: SPEH Account number: 05005124

Please put 'Christmas Flowers' as the reference.

Helen Drummond

PRAYERS

FOR THE SICK:

Margaret Bishop, John Crocker, Guia Legarda, Eleanor Langford, Babu Mathew, Marion McIntosh, Alice McCraith, Judy McCraith, Lyn Nicholas, Liz Prideaux, John Small, John Stewart BISHOP, Paul Wheelton, George, Charles, Jan, and Victoria

AS WELL AS:

Jenny Allen, Chris Bennie, Michael Boyle PRIEST, Joe Butscher PRIEST, Cheryl Duff, Gail Edwards, Siew-Hung, Grace James, Lynn James, Gwen Joyce, Bronwyn Large, Margaret Lea, William Lees, Margaret Lugg, Sr Lyn CHN, Joyce Newton, Tim Peake, Judith Ryles, Margaret Sutherland, Evelina Thornton, Joan Waldren-Small and Barbara Ure-Smith

FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED: Ellen Staniforth and Susan

FOR THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S MIND FALLS THIS WEEK:

Sun 20 Margaret Hauser

Mon 21 John Langton, William Keith Morrow, Bruce Gilbert Stevenson

Tue 22 George Andrew, Joyce Alice Cooke, Phyllis Eleanor Frost

Wed 23 Alice Priscilla Cook, William Jurgen (Bill) Ondaatje,
John Ormond Randell

Thu 24 Bette Bennison, Philip Henry Job, James Ernest Watts

Fri 25 Leslie Cula PRIEST, Mavis Errey, Elizabeth Gordon Robinson

Sat 26 Neville James Barry, Nellie Margaret Dearlove, Annette Grimes,
Allan McGuire, Reginald Murphy

THE DAILY OFFICE AT HOME

In these days of pandemic we are nor currently able to gather in worship community as we used to. Many parishioners, however, are finding it a comfort to worship and pray at home. It is a long-held tradition for Christians, Lay and Ordained, to pray the Daily Office. All you need is a Bible and A Prayer Book. If you only have one or neither of these at home, call Carol in the Bookroom, or online at :

<http://www.bookroom.stpeters.org.au/>

MORNING PRAYER

EVENING PRAYER

Thomas, Apostle & Martyr

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|-----------|---|---|
| Monday | Ps 34 Job 42.1-6 1 Peter 1.3-9 | Ps 92 2 Samuel 15.17-21 John 11.1-16 |
| Tuesday | Ps 118.1-8 Isaiah 27.2-13 Mark 12.41-13.13 | Ps 118.19-29 & 120 Isaiah 58 Revelation 21.22-22.5 |
| Wednesday | Pss 124, 125 & 126 Isaiah 28.1-13 Mark 13.14-37 | Pss 127, 128 & 129 Isaiah 59.1-15a Revelation 22.6-13 |
| Thursday | Pss 19 & 113 Isaiah 28.14-29 Galatians 3.23-4.7 | Ps 85 Isaiah 33.17-22 Revelation 22.14-21 |

The Birth of our Lord; Christmas Day

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|--------|--|---|
| Friday | Ps 132.10-18 Micah 4.1-8 Mark 1.18-2.6 | Ps 138 Micah 5.2-5a 1 John 4.7-21 |
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Stephen, Deacon & Martyr

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|----------|---|------------------------------------|
| Saturday | Ps 130 Exodus 18.13-26 Acts 6.1-7, 7.1-49 | Ps 72 Isaiah 60.1-11 Titus 1 |
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Time We Started Listening
Theological Questions Put To Us By
Recent Indigenous Writing

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Theological Questions Put To Us By
Recent Indigenous Writing



Duncan Reid

By
Duncan Reid

'Duncan Reid tackles a mammoth but urgent task, the task of reimagining our ways of seeing in and through the eyes of the other. This is a task First Nations People have become adept at in the intersection between Aboriginality and the European way of seeing. Reid challenges us each to move out of our siloed thinking and be as expansive as the Australian continent in our engagement with the Great Creator Spirit who is indigenous to this place. Please read and digest.'

Revd Glenn Loughrey MA, Wiradjuri, author, artist, Anglican Priest and Blackfella's Youngfella

Special Price AUD \$20.00 until December 31st 2020

contact sphoffice@stpeters.org.au for an order form



SUPPORT OUR CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We've been helping the homeless every day for the last 28 years, but 2020 has been a very challenging year – each week, we've had four times the usual number of people come to us for help. And many of them are different people to those we usually see.

The pandemic has left many young people and international students destitute in our city. The jobs have dried up, they are not eligible for government assistance and they've been going hungry.

Fortunately, thanks to your support and the work of our wonderful staff and volunteers in the Social Enterprise, we've been able to work with State Parliament House to distribute cooked meals as well as staples like milk and bread, providing an important lifeline to these needy young people and others in similar need..

We're now launching our Christmas appeal to help get everyone through summer.

If you're in a position to help with a donation, please give. In addition to continuing our program providing breakfast and packaged meals, we want to provide a Christmas package to those we support. Something to help restore a sense of dignity and bring some joy to those doing it tough.



- **FEEDING OVER 450 PEOPLE A WEEK**
- **50,000 MEALS DISTRIBUTED SINCE MARCH**
- **PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER BEFORE NEEDED HELP**



ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL
Melbourne-Charitable Foundation

www.spehcf.com.au/donations

Or call us on 9662 2391.
Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.
Thank you.



Tuesday 8th December 2020, marked 90 years since Fr Gerard Kennedy Tucker, Guy Coleman Cox and Michael Clarke founded what is now the Brotherhood of St. Laurence (BSL). For 90 years, BSL's mission has been to create lasting change for a compassionate and just society where everyone can thrive and be free of poverty and disadvantage.

Thank you for being a part of this movement, both collectively and individually. Your involvement helps us build a better Australia and fulfil our mission of an Australia free of poverty.

We invite you to learn more about our rich history and our vision for the future, as well as read inspirational stories of progress from our wonderful community through the following on-line video: <https://bit.ly/2Lcvap5>

Whether it takes the next ten years or a further 90 years to realise our vision, one thing is certain, the Brotherhood of St. Laurence will proudly continue to be a strong voice for people experiencing disadvantage. *Because we believe no one should live in poverty.*

Thank you for your compassion and kindness to others through your support of BSL and all of those we work with. We wish you and your parishioners many blessings for Christmas and the New Year.



**MEALS
PROGRAM
BY STUDENTS
FOR STUDENTS**

**9.30AM-11AM
MON-FRI**

*Heaven
at
The Hill*

ST PETER'S BOOKROOM & CHURCH SUPPLIES

NEW RELEASE

A novel which can make a perfect gift or enjoyable light reading over the Christmas season:

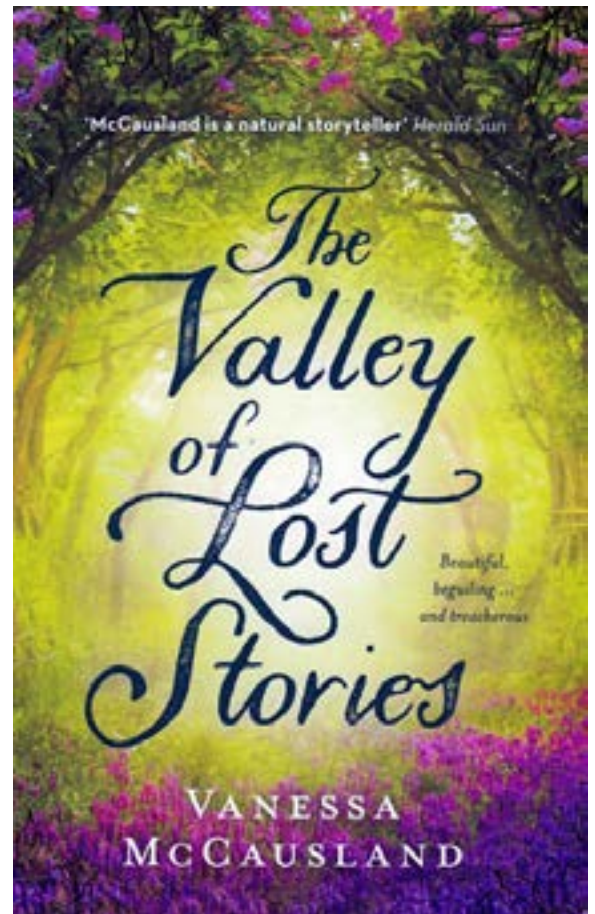
The Valley of Lost Stories by Vanessa McCausland

Beautiful, beguiling and treacherous .

Four women and their children are invited to the beautiful but remote Capertee Valley, west of the Blue Mountains.

Once home to a burgeoning mining industry, now all that remains are ruins slowly being swallowed by the bush and the jewel of the valley, a stunning, renovated Art Deco hotel. This is a place haunted by secrets. In 1948 Clara Black walked into the night, never to be seen again.

\$28



15 Gisborne St Melbourne 3002

Situated in the Parish Hall building on the street side, facing St Patrick's Cathedral

P: (03) 9663 7487 E: bookroom@stpeters.org.au

www.bookroom.stpeters.org.au

PARISH DIRECTORY

St. Peter's Eastern Hill, 15 Gisborne Street, Melbourne, VIC 3002
Secure Mail: St Peter's Eastern Hill, PO BOX 18108, Collins Street East, VIC 8003
[03] 9662 2391 Web: www.stpeters.org.au
E-mail: sphoffice@stpeters.org.au or vicarswarden@stpeters.org.au
Office Hours. 9.30am – 2.00pm Monday-Thursday

Sunday Services

10.30 am Parish Mass - online and in person (limited due to the pandemic restrictions)
YouTube: www.youtube.com/StPetersEasternHill
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpeterseasternhill/

Weekday Services

Mon – Fri: Mass at 7.15am (9am on Public Holidays)
Feast Day High Mass, as advertised: 6.15pm
Also online only, due to the pandemic restrictions
YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/StPetersEasternHill
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpeterseasternhill/

Clergy and Lay Ministers

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Vicar: | Fr Hugh Kempster | 0488 960 022 |
| ASLM: | Alae Taule'alo | 0409 802 892 |
| Clergy: | Fr Greg Davies | 0417 992 976 |
| | Fr Philip Gill | 0480 101 711 |
| | Fr Ken Letts | 03 9662 2391 |
| | Fr David Peake | 0412 299 839 |
| | Fr Roger Prowd | 0417 323 112 |
| Klingner Scholars: | Eugene Chin | 03 9662 2391 |
| | Xeverie Swee | 03 9662 2391 |

Parish Council Membership:

Helen Drummond
Stephen Duckett (Chair)
Rachel Ellyard
Daniel Ferguson
Peter Griffin (Treasurer)
Stuart Hibberd
Fr Hugh Kempster (President)
Daniel Mitterdorfer (Secretary)
Terry Porter
William Southey
Peter Wild
Sue Wuttke

Other Parish Ministries and Programs

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Bookroom: | Carol O'Connor | 03 9663 7487 |
| Cell of O.L.O.W: | Eleanor Newton | 03 9662 2391 |
| Charitable Foundation: | Krystyna Campbell-Pretty | 03 9662 2391 |
| Children: | Katherine Barnett | 03 9387 4089 |
| COVID Safe & Child Safety Officer: | Rachel Ellyard | 0419 335 793 |
| Churchwardens: | Stephen Duckett (Vicar) | 0447 837 741 |
| | Rachel Ellyard (People) | 0419 335 793 |
| | Daniel Ferguson (People) | 03 9662 2391- |
| Director of Music: | Andrew Raiskums | 0439 556 627 |
| Flowers: | Helen Drummond | 0419 897 973 |
| Guild of St Benedict | Daniel Ferguson | 0419 572 033 |
| Head Server: | Anthony Schepis | 0400 578 952 |
| Music Administrator: | Sue Wuttke | 0422 866 286 |
| Organist: | Rhys Arvidson | 0405 277 853 |
| Parish Administrator: | Konstantine Soteriou | 03 9662 2391 |
| Pastoral Care: | Di Clark | 0407 354 987 |
| Prayer Link | Fr Roger Prowd | 0417 323 112 |
| RMIT Chaplaincy: | Alae Taule'alo | 0409 802 892 |
| Sacristan | Eugene Chin | 03 9662 2391 |

*We are an inclusive
and welcoming Church,
built on the lands of the
Wurundjeri people.
We are committed to
social justice, equality and
diversity. Our mission
is: "Catholic Evangelism:
Growing in God's love".*