



William Adolphe Bouguereau, "Song of the Angels" (1881)

Welcome to
ST PETER'S
EASTERN HILL

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

CHRISTMAS
PEW
SHEET
2020

Collect of the Week

Almighty God, who gave your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of the virgin Mary: grant that we being born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, ever one God, now and for ever. Amen

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Welcome to St Peter's Eastern Hill on this most holy of feast days in the Christian calendar. The modern word "Christmas" is a shortened form of the Old English: *Cristes Maesse* or "Christ's Mass." Evidence of the origins of this Mass, however, goes back much further to 200AD when Clement of Alexandria noted that certain Egyptian theologians "over curiously" observed not only the year of Jesus' birth, but also the date, which they then held to be 20th May in the twenty-eighth year of Augustus. The current date of 25th December, had long been observed by pagans as the solar feast of *Natalis invicti*, but was not widely adopted by Christians prior to a decree in the fourth century by Pope Julius (337-352).

Today Christ's Mass is well and truly imbedded in Western culture. Even in this year of pandemic, the Myers Nativity scene has been erected, the Christmas mince pies have long been in the supermarkets, and other than on the Northern Beaches of Sydney, the shops are relatively busy once again. The advertising and commercialism of Christmas is our culture's outward sign, but the inner grace is still manifest as we gather in church. In so doing, we join with countless others to acknowledge a miraculous, and at the same time a profoundly ordinary birth, that was to change the world.

In the simplicity of Christ's Mass today, in the ancient Christian ritual of breaking bread, the real presence of Christ is mysteriously manifest amongst us. Emmanuel. God is with us. And in this act, each one of us is invited to respond to this greatest of Christmas gifts. All that is required of us in this moment is to hold out our hands in humility, to receive the bread of life. It is as easy and yet as profoundly life-changing as that. May you and those close to you be deeply blessed by Christ's Mass today ... and each day. Amen.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Are given by Peter Yewers in loving memory of his mother Mavis Yewers, whose year's mind occurred during Advent. Thank you to all those who have made a contribution to Christmas flowers leading into the new year.



Christmas Bowl

“Love your neighbour
as yourself.”

Mark 12:31

Any questions or comments? Contact us!

Call 1800 025 101, email info@actforpeace.org.au or send us a letter at Act for Peace, Locked Bag Q199, Queen Victoria Building, NSW 1230.

The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

ABN 86 619 970 188



National Council of
Churches in Australia



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

ACT FOR PEACE
CONFRONTING INJUSTICE TOGETHER
THROUGH THE **actalliance**

Act for Peace gratefully
acknowledges the support of
the Australian Government.

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

Other Parish Ministries and Programs

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
Weekday Mass	Christy Thiagarajah	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

*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".*