

Welcome to
ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

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



Eighteenth century rose pink chalice veil belonging to Fr Michael, from his training parish, St Mary's Swanley, in the Diocese of Rochester in Kent.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(GAUDETE SUNDAY)
17TH DECEMBER 2023

WORSHIP AT ST PETER'S

SUNDAY

8.00am Low Mass (Traditional Language)

9.30am FAMILY MASS

11.00am HIGH MASS

6.00pm Evensong & Benediction (2nd & 4th Sundays)

6.00pm Low Mass (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)

WEEKDAYS

Daily Low Mass – 8.00am Monday to Friday (Live streamed on Facebook and YouTube)

Wednesday – 1.15pm & Saturday 12noon Low Mass in the Handfield Chapel.

DAILY INTERCESSIONS

FOR THE SICK: Shelley Young, Roger Boey, Angela, Baby Leo, Bp Peter Hollingworth, Julie-Anne Bird, Janine Harris, Susanne Marsden, Col Robinson, Lena Sheridan, Nelson Rufatt, Sue Tan, Robert Saliba, Janine Stewart, Bp John Stewart, Bp John Parkes.

FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED David Curtis, Frances O'Neil, Athol Leach.

FOR THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S MIND FALLS THIS WEEK

- December 17 Mary Clappison, Florence Elsworth, Patrick Hannaford,
Henry Daryll Robins
- 18 Frederick Waldegrave Head BISHOP, Maurice Jones
PRIEST, Nicholas Bernhard Major, Mavis Yewers
- 19 Peter Robert Marks-Chapman, Jeanne Lawler Marsden,
Charles Schwieger PRIEST, Joseph Henry Thorne
- 20 Margaret Hauser
- 21 John Langton, William Keith Morrow, Bruce Gilbert
Stevenson
- 22 George Andrew, Joyce Alice Cooke, Phyllis Eleanor
Frost
- 23 Alice Priscilla Cook, Sr Elizabeth Gwen CHN, William
Jurgen (Bill) Ondaatje, John Ormond Randell

Please contact the Parish Office or email office@stpeters.org.au to have names added to the sick list. They will remain on our prayer list for one month unless requested to be extended.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Please stand for the beginning of the Mass. The people's responses are printed in bold.

Mass setting: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-94) Missa Aeterna Christi munera

Introit Hymn: NEH 5 Hark! a herald voice is calling

At 11.00am the sanctuary party enters the chancel to prepare for the Asperges.

Cantor

All

Pu - ri - fy me, O Lord, with hys - sop and I shall be clean:

Fine

wash me, O Lord, and I shall be whi - ter than snow.

Cantor

Have mer - cy on me, O God, in your en - du - ring good - ness:

All

ac - cor - ding to the fulness of your compassion blot out my of - fen - ces.

Wash me tho - rough - ly from my wick - ed - ness:

Cantor

and cleanse me from my sin. Glo - ry to God:

All

Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Spi - rit: as in the be - gin - ning so now,

Repeat antiphon

and for e - ver. A - men.

The sanctuary party re-enters the chancel. The celebrant intones the responsory.

Please kneel

The Deacon introduces the Confession:

Merciful God: **Our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The celebrant pronounces the Absolution.

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Kyries are sung by the choir at 11.00am

Kyrie eleison	<i>Lord have mercy</i>
Christe eleison	<i>Christ have mercy</i>
Kyrie eleison	<i>Lord have mercy</i>

The Celebrant prays the Collect.

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit for the readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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 broken-hearted, 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 : MAGNIFICAT



My soul magnifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed. **R.**

For the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation. **R.**

The Lord has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy. **R.**

THE EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

A reading from the first epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians.

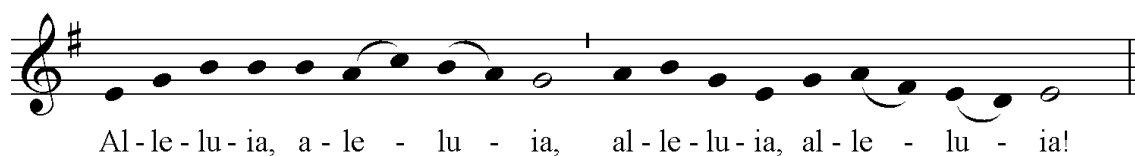
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

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.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Spirit of the Lord now upon me
has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Deacon:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John 1.6-8, 19-28**

✠ 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.

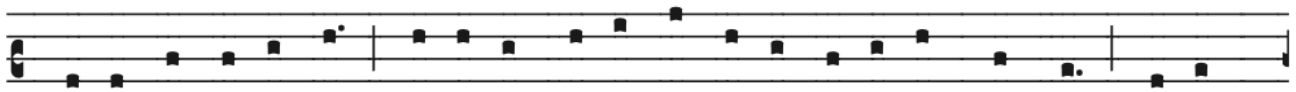
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Please sit for the Homily by Fr Philip Gill

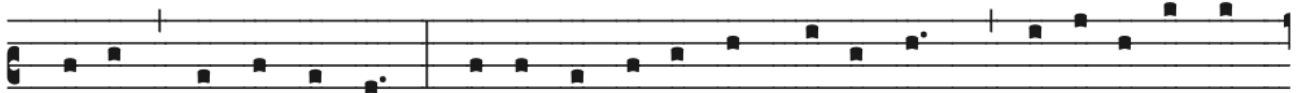
Please stand for the Creed.

The Creed

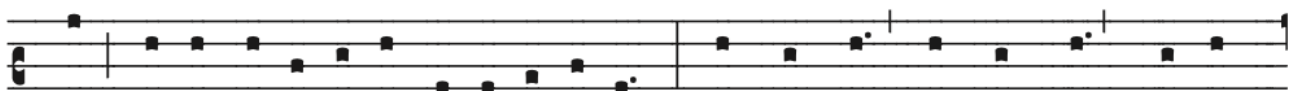
All stand and sing together facing the High Altar. The priest intones the opening phrase.



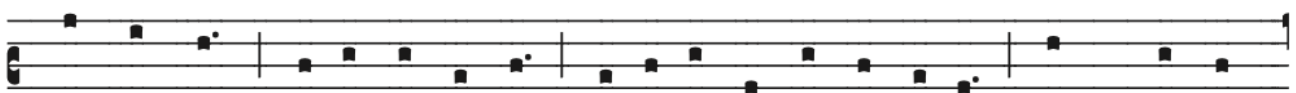
∇ We be-lieve in one God, the Fa-ther, the al-migh-ty, ma-ker of heav'n and earth of all



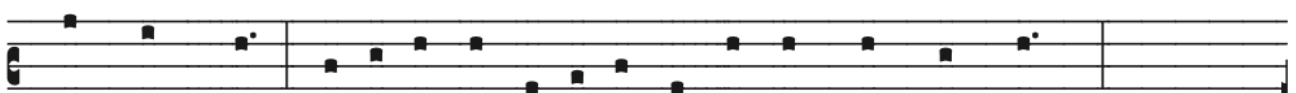
that is, seen and un-seen. We be-lieve in one Lord, Je- sus Christ, the on-ly Son of



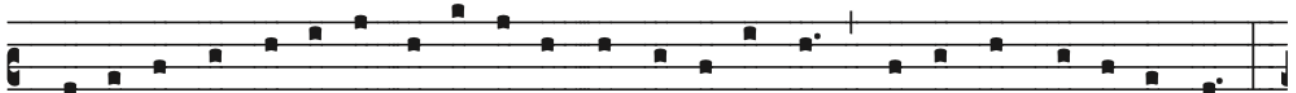
God, e - ter-nal-ly be-got-ten of the Fa-ther, God from God, light from light, true God



from true God, be- got-ten, not made of one be- ing with the Fa- ther through him all



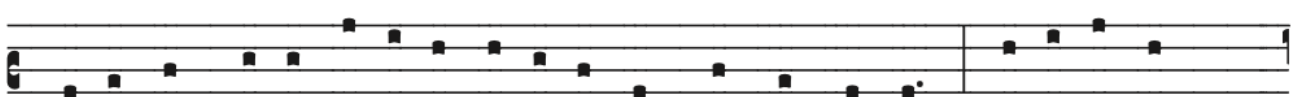
things were made. For us and for our sal-va- tion he came down from heaven,



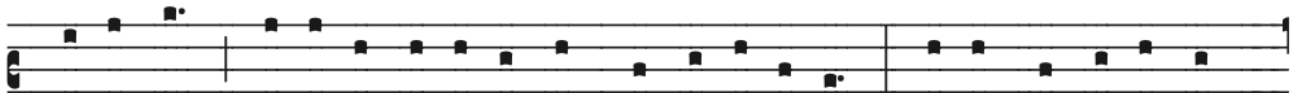
was in-car-nate of the Ho- ly Spi-rit and the vir- gin Ma-ry, and be-came tru-ly hu-man.



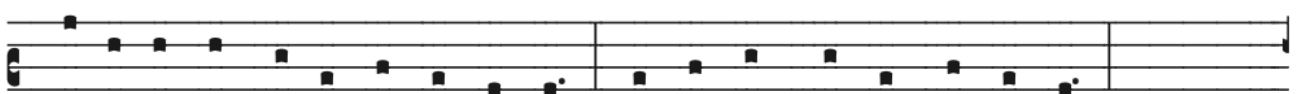
For our sake he was cru-ci-fied un-der Pon-tius Pi-late, he suf-fered death and was bu-ried.



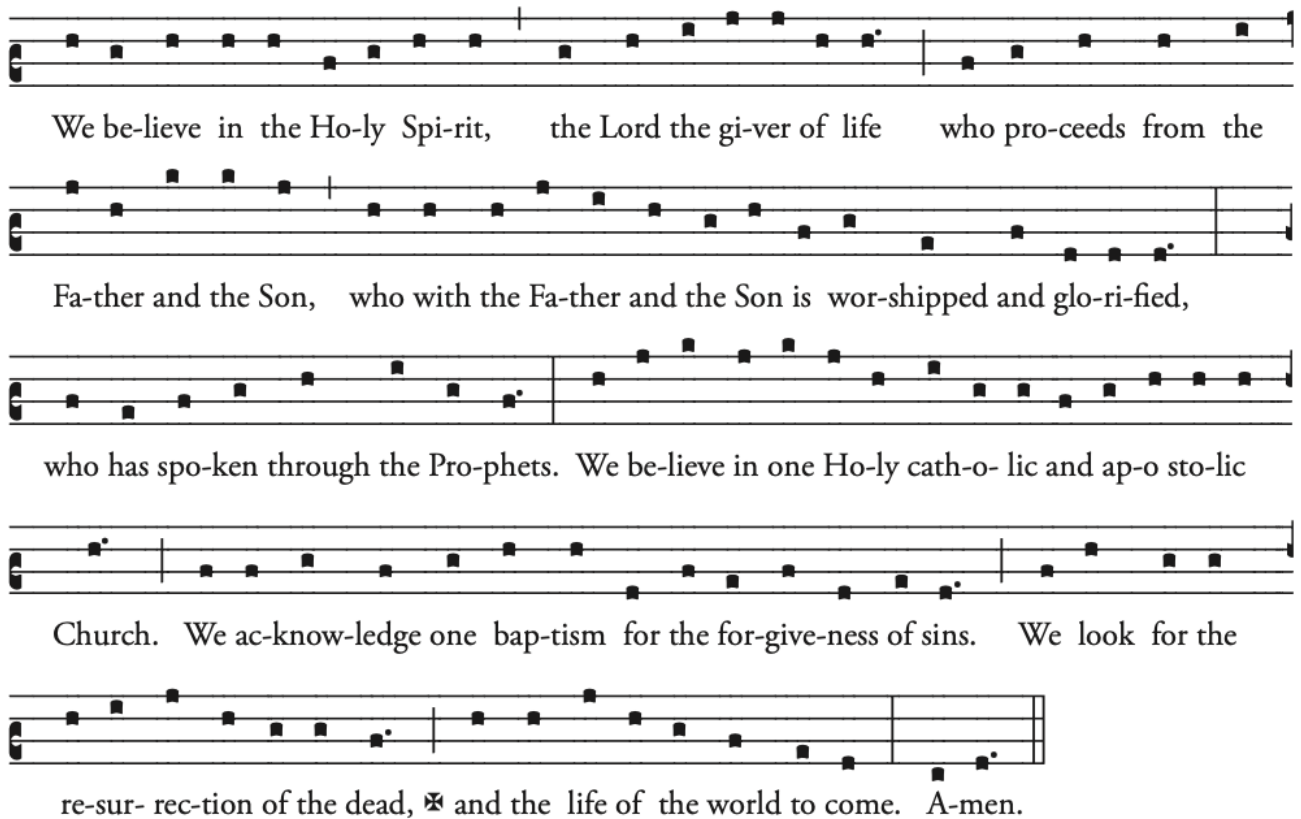
On the third day he rose a- gain in ac-cor-dance with the scrip-tures. He as-cen-ded



in- to heav'n, and is seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther. He will come a- gain in



glo-ry to judge the liv- ing and the dead and his king-dom will have no end.



We be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spi-rit, the Lord the gi-ver of life who pro-ceeds from the
 Fa-ther and the Son, who with the Fa-ther and the Son is wor-shipped and glo-ri-fied,
 who has spo-ken through the Pro-phets. We be-lieve in one Ho-ly cath-o-lic and ap-o sto-lic
 Church. We ac-know-ledge one bap-tism for the for-give-ness of sins. We look for the
 re-sur- rec-tion of the dead, ✠ and the life of the world to come. A-men.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please kneel. After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

And at the end:

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.
And let light ✠ perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace. Celebrant:

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON [*Sung by the choir*]

O Lord, you have favoured your land; you have restored the wellbeing of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity of your people.

Offertory hymn NEH 11 O come, O come, Emmanuel

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Celebrant:

Blessed are you, Lord God... **Blessed be God forever.**

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Holy Church.

The Celebrant prays the Prayer over the Offerings. People respond with Amen.

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.

Please kneel. The celebrant continues the prayer.

At 11.00am the choir sings the Sanctus.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

+ Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues the prayer, leading to:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith


All



Christ has died. Christ is ri - sen. Christ will come a - gain.

The celebrant continues the prayer, ending with:

All



Bles sing and ho - nour and glo - ry and power are yours for e - ver and e - ver. A - men.

Celebrant



As our Sav - iour Christ has taught us, we are con - fi - dent to pray,
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us
from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours
now and for ev - er. A - men.

Celebrant:

We who are many are one body.

For we all share in the one bread.

All remaining kneeling as the Agnus Dei is sung by the choir.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

Celebrant:

Behold the Lamb of God,

behold him who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,

but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Communicant members of any Christian church are invited to receive the sacrament.

All others are very welcome to come forward for a blessing.

COMMUNION MOTET *Sung by the choir.*

Henry Purcell (1659-1695) Rejoice in the Lord alway

Please stand for the Post-Communion hymn.

NEH 3 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

THE CONCLUDING RITES

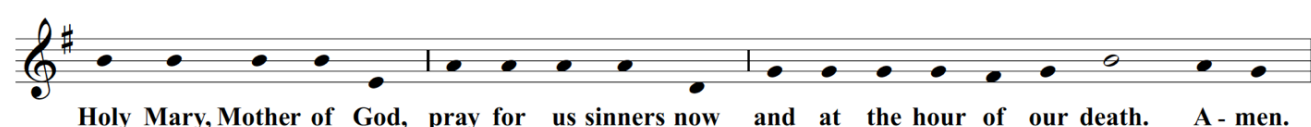
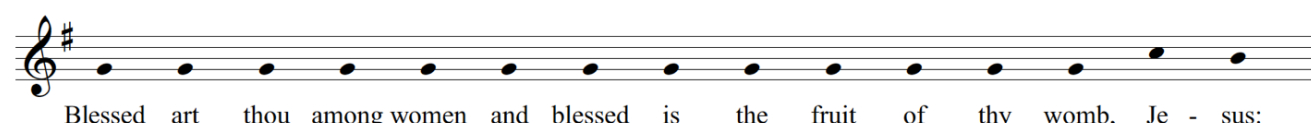
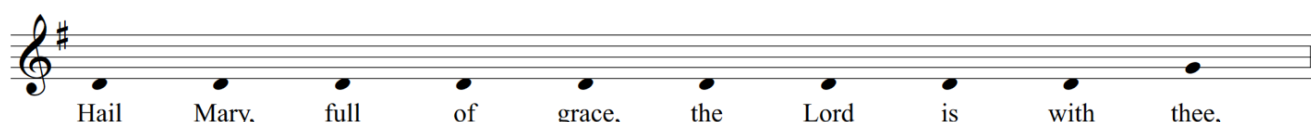
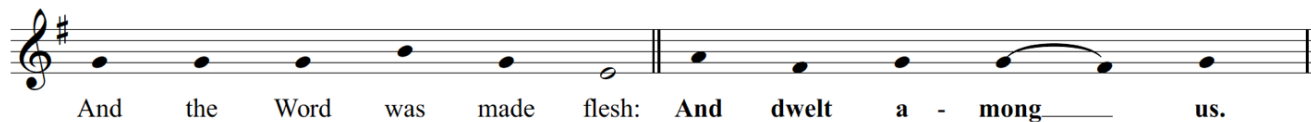
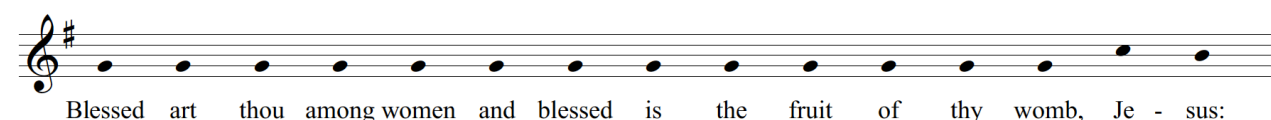
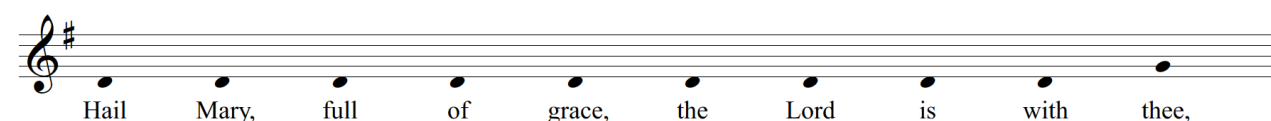
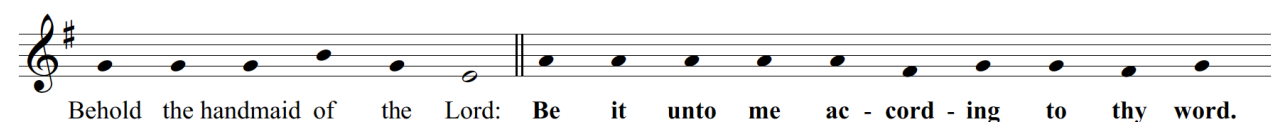
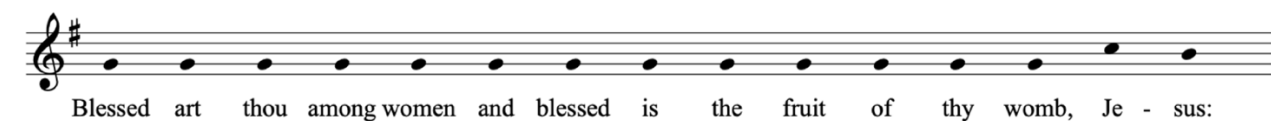
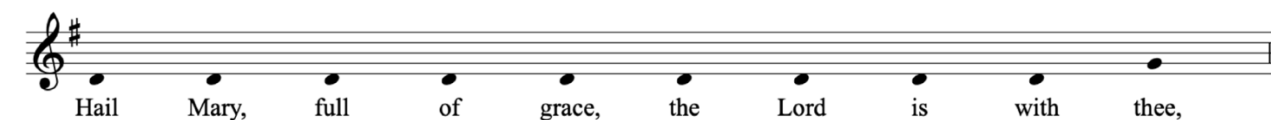
The Celebrant sings the final prayer, leading to:

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and
work to your praise and glory.**

The Celebrant offers the blessing and the Deacon dismisses the congregation:

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

THE ANGELUS





Let us pray. We beseech thee O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of thy son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Sanctuary party processes to the West door for the final prayers and dismissal.

Postlude: Olivier Messiaen (1908-92) Les enfants de Dieu

If you are a new parishioner, or a visitor to St Peter's, please introduce yourself to the clergy at the door as you leave the church. All are welcome for refreshments after the Mass in the Parish Hall.

Readings for

December 24th 2 Samuel 7.1–11,16; Romans 16.25–end; Luke 1.26–38

December 24th (10.30pm) Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-16
(High Mass & Blessing of the Crib)

December 25th Isaiah 52.7-10; Hebrews 1.1-6; John 1.1-14

NOTICES

Advent Study Group: *The Meaning is in the Waiting* by Paula Gooder

With Carol O'Connor, Wednesday, 2.15pm (after the 1.15pm Mass). In the Vicarage. Wednesdays: 29th November; 6th 13th & 20th December, 2023. Please let Carol in the Bookroom know if you are interested in coming along and order a copy of Paula Gooder's book.

All the best Fr Philip

Thank you for all you have done here at St Peters, we will miss you. Look forward to your visits.

Sunday December 24		Morning Masses for Advent 4
	6pm	Christmas Eve Children's Mass with the telling of the Nativity story and the arrival of St Nicholas
	10.30pm	High Mass and blessing of the Crib
Monday December 25	10.00am	High Mass for Christmas Day
Sunday December 31	8am	Low Mass
Feast of the Holy Family	9.30am	Family Mass
	11.00am	High Mass
	7.00pm	Festival of Lessons and Carols, followed by New Year celebra- tions in the parish hall
Monday January 1	9.00am	Mass
Mary, Mother of the Lord		

Weekly Reflections

Rejoice! Reflections for Advent 3 from Stephen Duckett

We are now more than halfway through our Advent journey, reflecting over the past couple of weeks on the Gift that was/is given to us, and pondering in preparation. Today we shift from deep reflection to focus on the joy, the good news that is heralded.

The reading from and of John has a lovely verse: he comes as a witness to testify to the light. Such a powerful evocation of the light of the world, which has always been present, but was to shine forth in a different form with the miracle of Christmas. It is a light which is passed on to all of us to pass on to others. Sometimes the world around us makes it hard for us to radiate joy every day, especially now when we see the horrible tragedy which continues to unfold in Gaza. But we can take heart that our life is able to be restored, with our light becoming brighter as we refresh ourselves in our community of faith.

Today, one of the lights of our community is moving on to shine his light in a different place. Fr Philip has been a most welcome presence for many years – off and on – and we have been assured he will come back in visiting roles in the future. We wish him well as he passes on his light as he expands his prison chaplaincy roles.

Postscript:

After I wrote this, I asked Artificial Intelligence software ChatGPT to provide a Reflection for Advent 3. This was the response:

Advent 3, known as Gaudete Sunday, is a time of joy and anticipation. As we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath, it serves as a reminder to rejoice in the midst of our waiting. This season prompts reflection on the themes of hope, peace, and joy, inviting us to consider how these virtues manifest in our lives. Gaudete Sunday encourages a balance between patience for the arrival of Christ and the celebration of the joy found in his imminent coming. It's a moment to ponder the deeper meaning of the season and cultivate a spirit of gratitude and expectation.

A question to discuss after Mass is: is ChatGPT Catholic?
Stephen Duckett (with one paragraph of help)

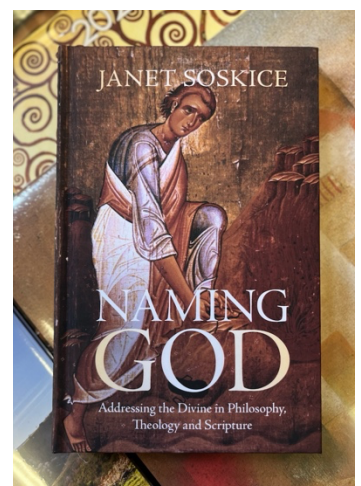
St Peter's Bookroom & Church Supplier



Lots of wonderful gifts, books, cards, calendars.....available for all your Christmas gift-giving and reading this festive season.

NEW BOOKS

Naming God: Addressing the Divine in Philosophy, Theology and Scripture by Janet Soskice



Generations of Christians, Janet Soskice demonstrates, once knew God and Christ by hundreds of remarkable names. These included the appellations 'Messiah', 'Emmanuel', 'Alpha', 'Omega', 'Eternal', 'All-Powerful', 'Lamb', 'Lion', 'Goat', 'One', 'Word', 'Serpent' and 'Bridegroom'.

In her much-anticipated new book, Soskice (theologian and philosopher at Jesus College, Cambridge) argues that contemporary understandings of divinity could be transformed by a return to a venerable analogical tradition of divine naming. These ancient titles – drawn from scripture – were chanted and sung, crafted and

invoked (in polyphony and plainsong) as they were woven into the worship of the faithful.

However, during the sixteenth century Descartes moved from 'naming' to 'defining' God via a series of metaphysical attributes. This made God a thing among things: a being amongst beings.

For Janet Soskice, reclaiming divine naming is not only overdue. It can also re-energize the relationship between philosophy and religious tradition. This path-breaking book shows just how rich and revolutionary such reclamation might be.
\$56.95 Hardback

St Peter's Bookroom Book Fair 2024 - storage space

High quality book donations are already starting to arrive for the next Book Fair in September 2024.

We are in great need for dry and safe storage spaces. Do you have an empty garage or know of a space we could use? It needs to be relatively close to the city for access.

Please let us know in the Bookroom if you can assist.

Carol O'Connor

email: bookroom@stpeters.org.au

ph: 03 9663 7487

Foundation Christmas Appeal

Please give generously

We need your help to continue our important work, providing breakfast and support services to the most disadvantaged, every day of the year
We need to raise an additional \$100,000 this Christmas.

This will enable us to serve a sit down breakfast every weekday, as we did before the pandemic, for all of 2024.

It will also enable us provide much needed Christmas cheer packages and some dignity to those who have nothing.

You can donate through this link: <https://www.spehcf.com.au/check-out/donate?donatePageId=62f5171f2cd41248af0bbb71>

Foundation Christmas Soirée



Thank you! to all the donors and supporters of the St Peter's Eastern Hill Charitable Foundation, it was wonderful evening of music, food, and fellowship. A special thank you to Krystyna Campbell-Pretty for organising the soirée.

PARISH DIRECTORY

St. Peter's Eastern Hill, 15 Gisborne Street, East Melbourne, VIC 3002

Phone: 0401 826 325 Web: www.stpeters.org.au

E-mail: office@stpeters.org.au

Vicar: mnrbowie@gmail.com

Assistant Priest: kathryn.bellhouse@gmail.com

FB: www.facebook.com/stpeterseasternhill

YT: www.youtube.com/c/StPetersEasternHill

Office Hours: 10am to 1pm, Tuesday – Friday

Sunday Services

8.00am Low Mass [BCP]; 9:30am Family Mass; 11.00am High Mass
6pm Low Mass [1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays] 6pm Evensong & Benediction [2nd & 4th Sundays]

Weekday Services

Mon-Fri Mass at 8.00am (9.00am on Public Holidays); Wednesday 1:15pm Mass; Saturday 12noon Mass

Special Devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham on the 1st Saturday of the month

Feast Day High Mass, as advertised: 7.00pm

Clergy and Lay Ministers

Vicar:	Fr Michael Bowie	0432 072 213
Assistant Priest:	Mthr Kathryn Bellhouse	0416 378 748
Associate Clergy:	Fr Graeme Brennan	0427 321 744
	Mthr Pirrial Clift	0407 453 306
	Fr Greg Davies	0417 992 976
	Fr Philip Gill	0480 101 711
	Fr Ken Letts	03 9662 2391
	Fr Roger Prowd	0417 323 112
Klingner Scholars:	Alex De Leon	03 9662 2391
	Naomi Johnson	03 9662 2391

Parish Council Membership

Fr Michael Bowie (President)
Daniel Mitterdorfer (Secretary)
Peter Griffin (Treasurer)
Anne Scott-Pendlebury
Craig Wilson
Geoffrey Bush-Coote
Marcus Roberts
Michael Upson
Stuart Hibberd
Terry Porter

Other Parish Ministries and Programs

Bookroom:	Carol O'Connor	03 9663 7487
Charitable Foundation:	Krystyna Campbell-Pretty	03 9662 2391
Children's Church:	Katherine Barnett	0403 352 256
Churchwardens:	Michael Gronow	0411 289 318
	Helena Hughes	-
	Daniel Ferguson	0419 572 033
COVID Safe & Child Safety Officer:	Rachel Ellyard	0419 335 793
Flowers:	Michael Upson	0492 964 984
Guild of St Benedict:	Daniel Ferguson	0419 572 033
Head Server:	Anthony Schepis	0400 578 952
Organist/Acting Music Director:	Rhys Arvidson	0405 277 853
Parish Administrator:	Eugene Chin	0401 826 325
Pastoral care:	Di Clark	0407 354 987
Prayer Link & Pastoral:	Fr Roger Prowd	0417 323 112
Sacristan:	Naomi Johnson	03 9662 2391

We are an inclusive and welcoming church, built on the unceded lands of the Wurundjeri people. Our mission is: "Worshipping Christ in the Eucharist; serving Christ in the world".