

6th January
 6.00 pm Youth and Family
 Community Cinema Meredith
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

7th January
 11.00 am Communion
 Estia Health Bannockburn

8th January
 4.00 pm Baptism Interview

10th January
 8.30 am Men's Breakfast
 Parish Ministry Centre Bannockburn

12th January
 12 Noon Inverleigh and Bannockburn
 Op Shop Volunteers Thank You BBQ
 Parish Ministry Centre Bannockburn

13th January
Bannockburn Op Shop Trading resumes
 6.00 pm Youth and Family
 Community Cinema Meredith
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

20th January
 6.00 pm Youth and Family
 Community Cinema Meredith
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

26th January
Australia Day Public Holiday

27th January
Schools Resume
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

Parish Directory

Parish Office 5281 2553
Vicar
 Revd Timothy Smith 0412 673 152
revdrtim@hotmail.com

Wardens
 Darrell Blackman 0457 338 678
 Carol Newlands 0409 654 527
 David Bannister 0477 564 268

Parish Council Secretary
 Carol Newlands 0409 654 527

Parish Treasurer
 David Osborne 0419 398 455

Assistant Treasurer
 Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

St John's Op Shop
 Naomi Peel 0418 346 484

Surprise Op Shop
 Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

Pastoral Care
 Alison King
pastoralcare.gpas@gmail.com

Parish Roster for January 11

Church Cleaning:
 Inverleigh: Anne Bolitho
 Bannockburn: David & Jenny Bannister

Banno Reading: Freda Duke

Communion Assistant:
 Inverleigh: Geoff Morgan
 Bannockburn: Ivan Marsetti

Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith
 4th January—EPIPHANY

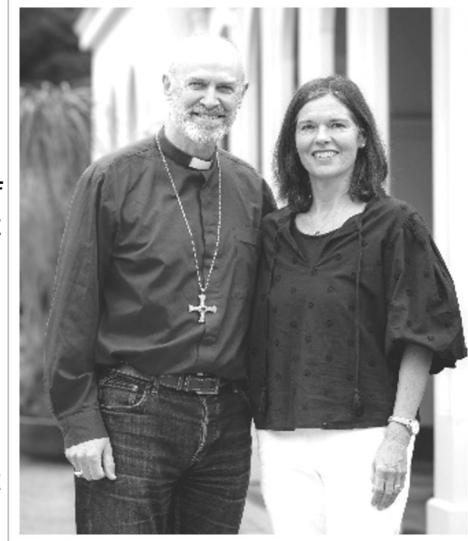
ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)

These words from the prologue of John's gospel, John 1v5, are read out in Christmas services all round the world. They describe the life of Jesus Christ as a light for every person in the world. This year, these words are especially powerful. Our world has felt the weight of darkness in recent weeks. The tragic shootings in Bondi shocked our nation and reminded us of the brokenness of our world. Yet even in such moments, we have seen glimpses of light: the acts of courage, the outpouring of grief and solidarity, communities standing together, and faith leaders joining with the Premier here in Melbourne to affirm hope and peace.

One of those signs of light for me personally was the privilege of attending a pre-planned Hanukkah celebration with our Jewish friends and other faith leaders just two days after the violence. Hanukkah is a festival of light, commemorating an enduring and miraculous provision of oil for the Jerusalem Temple's Menorah candle in the second century BC. That oil lasted eight days. Enduring light is powerful to reflect on in times of darkness and sorrow, and it reminds us, especially when people come together in common humanity, that light is stronger than darkness.

As I began my new role as Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne at the beginning of Advent, my first act, emerging from my installation at the Cathedral, was to invite our clergy and the visiting bishops to pray for Melbourne and Geelong. God calls his people to seek the peace and

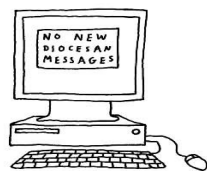


(Continued on page 4)

THE SUMMER



EARLY MORNING SERVICES
 BECOME POPULAR



THERE ARE NOT AS
 MANY E-MAILS



A RELIEF CONGREGATION IS
 BROUGHT IN TO COVER ABSENTEES

Worship Today: EPIPHANY

Sentence: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. *Isaiah 60:1*

Collect: Lord of the nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendour: may the brightness of your incarnate Word pierce the night that covers the earth, signal the dawn of justice and peace, and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 314 – As with gladness men of old; 234 – How good Lord to be here; 547 – Be thou my vision; 165 – Praise our God the great creator

Bannockburn: *Great is the Lord; We three kings; Light of the world; How good Lord to be here; Praise our God the great creator; Lord you have my heart; Be thou my vision; I will offer up my life*

Meredith: *Great is the Lord; We three kings; Light of the world; Be thou my vision; Praise our God the great creator; I will offer up my life*

Intercessions: *God of signs and wonders, hear our prayer.*

World: peace in the Holy Land, Ukraine, India & Pakistan, Thailand & Cambodia, Sudan, and all places in conflict, war, or threat of war; South Sudan and all developing nations; for all nations experiencing natural disaster; injustice, loss of freedom, racism, misogyny and death, where there is need for education, health services, employment, food; that all national leaders to bring fulfil a vision of service to their nations.

Church: to share the good news of God's kingdom in an uncertain world; Bp Sarah Archbishop of Canterbury elect, Abp Ric Thorpe, Bp Brad as he prepares for the Diocese of Adelaide, raise up bishops to replace those who are retiring; parish organisational and administrative unity and financial viability; for a sabbath month before recommencing the kingdom mission we are called to; the Youth and Family Community Cinema; the BBQ for our Op Shop volunteers.

Community: the Wadawarrung and all our first nations peoples on whose country we live and the work of reconciliation; for all who come into our communities that in diversity they will be welcome and safe; the establishment of Bannockburn Food Relief Project.

Those in need: Matt Bellchambers, Shirley Musgrove, Melinda Gregory, Karen Schulze, Jenny Bannister, Margaret McLaren, Sarah Rees, Jayden Rees, Fay McFarlane, Jesse Osborne, Phil Dickson, Paul Duke, Josie Andrews, Josie Harvey, Steve and Stacey Copland, Mawut Gotbaai, Timothy and Weng Deng.



For thousands of refugee children in northern Uganda, hunger is now a daily reality. Earlier this year, severe funding cuts removed nearly all food assistance from many refugee settlements. Families who escaped war and violence, are now struggling to survive each day. That's why MAF's ability to fly partners, like Kids Around the World (KATW), directly into these remote areas is so critical.

Vicky, a 63-year-old refugee, cares for four grandchildren on her own. Her husband is gone, her son abandoned the family, and due to complications from diabetes, she had her arm amputated. When food aid was removed, she couldn't feed her family.

"The children were crying because there was no food to eat," she said.

Now, KATW teams fly with MAF to Adjumani* to distribute life-saving food packs to more than a thousand children. Each pack contains rice, lentils, vegetables and vitamins - simple ingredients that prevent malnutrition and restore strength.

KATW also installs play areas in refugee camps, giving children a place to heal emotionally after trauma. As their team leader shared:

"Play is therapeutic... especially for children with troubled backgrounds."

MAF flights make this work possible. Your gift keeps MAF flights reaching remote refugee settlements, so partners like KATW can bring life-saving food, hope and practical care to the children who need it most.

<https://maf.org.au/campaign/abandoned-children/>

Adjumani is the location of one of the refugee camps for South Sudanese in Uganda. (Revd Tim)



Thank you for considering supporting this vital work.
Chris Barnes
CEO
MAF in Australia



YOUTH AND FAMILY COMMUNITY CINEMA

NEXT SHOWING

**Tuesday January 6
6.00 pm**

Church of the Epiphany Meredith

Presented by The Melbourne Anglican
Foundation



(Continued from page 1)

prosperity of the place where God has set us, and so we prayed, with our hands stretched out in different directions, for God's blessing, for hope, and for the light of Christ to shine in every street, home, and heart across Melbourne and Geelong and beyond.

The greatest light of all is Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. He is the Light of the World. His light brings forgiveness, peace, and transforming life to all who trust in Him - a hope that no tragedy, no darkness, can ever extinguish. This is the good news we proclaim: that God has come near in Jesus, offering forgiveness from the past, new life today, and a hope for the future filled with His transforming love.

Louie and I have been warmly welcomed to Melbourne and Geelong, and we are deeply thankful. We look forward to journeying with you as we carry Christ's light and make him known in this city and beyond.

May the light of Christ shine in your hearts and homes this Christmas and always.

+ Ric Melbourne

To watch the message on video: <https://vimeo.com/1149049519>



OP SHOP VOLUNTEERS THANK YOU BBQ

Without all our Op Shop volunteers, in both Inverleigh and Bannockburn, the Parish would not be able to continue. Come and say thank you to our community volunteers:

**Monday 12th January 2026
12.00 noon until you leave
Parish Ministry Centre
11 Byron Street BANNOCKBURN**

Parish members please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

Almighty God, by whom the world has been filled with the light of your incarnate Word: grant, we pray, that as he kindles the flame of faith and love in our hearts so his light may shine forth in our lives; who now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Monday

Thomas Becket (d.1170) *Martyr*
Archbishop of Canterbury

Morning: Pss 15 & 16

Isaiah 66:10-16

Ephesians 3:14-21

Evening: Ps 17:1-13(14)15-16

Isaiah 35

John 4:13-26

Tuesday

Morning: Ps 18:1-31

Isaiah 66:18-23

Ephesians 4:1-16

Evening: Ps 18:32-38(39-44)45-52

Isaiah 38:9-20

John 4:27-38

Wednesday

Morning: Ps 19

Proverbs 25:1-19

Ephesians 4:17-28

Evening: Ps 119:1-16

Proverbs 25:20-26:12

John 4:39-54

Thursday

Morning: Pss 20 & 21:1-7(8-13)

Proverbs 26:13-28

Ephesians 4:29-5:5

Evening: Pss 24 & 26

Proverbs 27:1-19

John 5:1-18

Friday

Morning: Ps 22:1-22

Proverbs 27:20-28:10

Ephesians 5:6-20

Evening: Pss 22:23-32 & 23
Proverbs 28:11-28
John 5:19-29

Saturday

Willam Laud (d.1645) *Martyr*
Archbishop of Canterbury

Morning: Ps 25

Proverbs 29:1-16

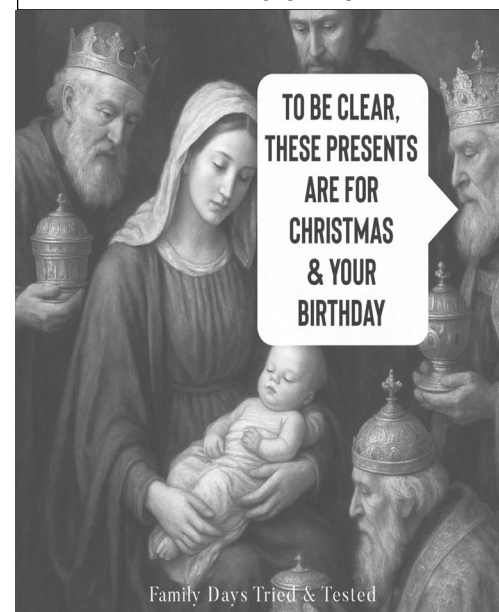
Ephesians 5:21-33

At Evening BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Evening: Ps 63

Joshua 3

Mark 10:32-45



Next Sunday 11th January

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

8.00 am Holy Communion

Inverleigh

10.00 am All-Age Communion

Bannockburn

5.00 pm Holy Communion

Meredith

Readings

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalms 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17