

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday—Last Bible Study “Little Town—Big Story”
10:30 am St Aidan’s

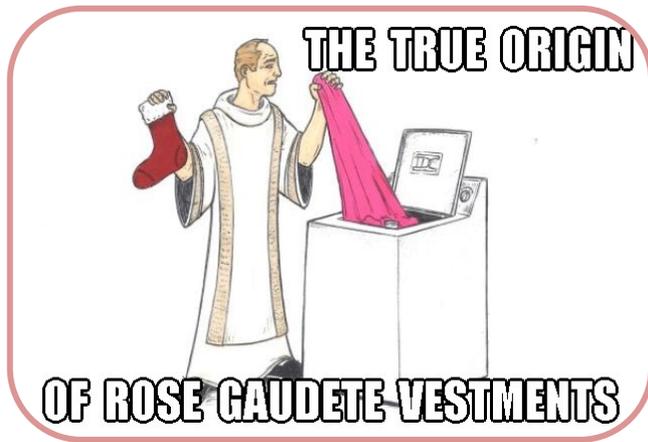
Christmas Services

Forrest—13th December 4pm—bring a picnic chair!
Beech Forest—19th December 12 noon— at Art Reach!
bring a picnic lunch and Chair!
Carlisle River—20th December 1pm

Apollo Bay—Christmas Eve—5pm Family Service
11pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day—10am Christmas Mass
Sunday 27th— 10am Eucharist
Please notify Jenny as to which service you wish to attend



The Lighter Side of Life



The Anglican Diocese of Ballarat does not tolerate harassment or abuse in its Church Community. For any complaints please ring Safe Church Officer Rev'd Glen Wesley on 03 5331 1183 or the Director of Professional Standards on 1800 377 842



Anglican Parish of the Otways

13th December, 2020

Advent 3



Priest in Charge -
Rev'd Jenny Brandon

Contact Details

Phone: 0488 433 023

Email: [otwayanglicans@
gmail.com](mailto:otwayanglicans@gmail.com)

Web: otwayanglicans.com



Welcome to worship today.

Thankyou for adhering to our COVID restrictions:

- Use of Hand sanitiser
 - Keeping 1.5 m apart
 - No more than 3 people per pew (unless all of the one household.)
 - Wearing a mask
 - Not mingling in porch
- Your co-operation is appreciated

Regular Services

St Aidan's Apollo Bay:

10am Sunday
10am Wednesday

Christ Church Carlisle River

1pm-1st & 3rd Sundays

St Anselm Beech Forest

1pm-2nd Sundays

St James Forrest

4pm-2nd & 4th Sundays

Please notify Jenny prior to attending any service as numbers are limited.

Direct Deposit Details

Anglican Parish Otways
BSB 633 000
ACC No: 1685 80009

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas!!! Last week as we drove to Carlisle River it was delightful to see the Christmas bush all in flower, making the bush look very festive! We start our Christmas worship services this week in Forrest with an outdoor service this evening. Next weekend it will be Beech Forest and Carlisle River's turn. Please pray these services will bring joy to those who attend and be a witness to the communities about the real meaning of Christmas.

Last week Cyril had a birthday. Happy birthday Cyril. I know you enjoyed the company of some family and we wish you every blessing for the coming year. Also, Welcome home Freda and Alf. You were truly missed but we hope you enjoyed your time in Queensland.

Restrictions have eased again but of course it is not as straight forward as media reports would have you believe. I hope by Christmas we will have met all requirements so we can have up to 40 people in St Aidan's. This is still going to reduce the number of visitors we can have so please let me know when you want to attend church so I can sure we have a seat for you, especially for Christmas. Face masks are still mandatory if we want to sing indoors.

May the Lord bless you with peace and joy.
Jenny



Prayer of the Week

Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his rule of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Readings. Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11; Psalm 126;
I Thessalonians 5:12-28; John 1:6-8, 19-28

ABM Reflection

In this week's Gospel we have part of John's stunning Prologue. We also have John's introduction of John the Baptist. The one who sets the scene for the coming Messiah. John's appearance is prophesied. In fact, he is the last of the Old Testament style of prophets, coming out of the wilderness and preaching judgement and repentance. John makes it very clear that he is not the Messiah and points to the one to come. Jesus will turn up soon enough.

From the very beginning of the narrative in John's Gospel there is a tension with the Jewish leaders who want to know "who are you?" - first John and then Jesus himself. The rest of the Gospel is taken up with answering this question.

- Text: The Very Rev Phillip Saunders,
Dean of Canberra and Goulburn
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ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Prayer Points

Thanksgiving

- We give thanks to God for John the evangelist and his Gospel of profound wisdom and witness
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church in Uganda and South India.
- For the diocese of the Northern Territory.
- For the parish of West Wimmera.

Petitions

- Peter, Summer, Lorna, Chris, Julia & Tom, Bernie, Anne-Marie, Margaret, Jessica, Jean and their families.
- For those who work the land and live in rural communities.