

For upcoming events and Calendar <https://events.stphilipsoconnor.org.au>

This week @ St Philip's

Tues	7pm	9 Dec	Parish Council meet
Wed	No Wednesday Evening Prayer till further notice		
Thu	10am	11 Dec	Mid-Week Eucharist and MT
Thurs	12noon	11 Dec	Advent Reflection
Thurs	6pm	11 Dec	Advent Reflection
Sat	11am	13Dec	Eucharist, Canberra Aged Care
Sat	10am-1pm	13 Nov	Pandora's open

Today's Roster – 7 December – Second Sunday of Advent

8am Celebrant: & Preacher: Rev Dr Howard Smith and Fr Martin Davies

Welcoming/Offertory: Alistair and Alison ; LA/Prayers: Lari;

Readers: Alistair and Alison.

10am Celebrant: & Preacher: Rev Dr Colin Dundon and Fr Martin Davies

Welcoming/Offertory: Brian + volunteer ; Slides: Rebecca; Readers: Fr Hartley

and Kerry Anne ; LA/Prayers: Rebecca; 2nd Chalice: Brian; Musician: Colin ;

Morning Tea: Ashton

Next Sunday – 14 December – Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35: 1-10; Song of Mary; James 5: 7-10 and Matthew 11: 2-11

Celebrant: & Preacher: Rev Christine Cargill

8am Welcoming/Offertory: Russell and Margaret ; LA/Prayers: Julianne;

Readers: Russell and Margaret

10am Welcoming/Offertory: Fred and Rev Bob ; Slides: Robyn;

Readers: Brian and Ashton ; LA/Prayers: Fr Hartley and Ashton ; 2nd Chalice:

Rev Colin ; Musician: Colin ; Morning Tea: Helen.

<https://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/news/rosters>



Prayers of the People. In our prayers we remember all in need, including Barbara, Brad, David, John, Sandra, Ursula, Wendy & Nathan, Nicholas, Zahra, Margaret, Katherine, Eloise, Bob, Judy, Beryl and Elizabeth. We pray for those unable to gather with us & those in hospital or other care. We commend to God the recently departed Beryl Blaseotto as we remember those whose anniversary of death falls at this time Peter David Blaseotto (10 Dec 2003), Robert John Fletcher (10 Dec 2018), James Kim (10 Dec 2023); Dorothy Moore (12 Dec 1984) and Joseph Horace Heaton (13 Dec 1988). We remember those whose memories are dear to us & those remembered only by God.

St Philip's Anglican Church, O'Connor

24 Macpherson Street O'Connor. 2602

Rector (Priest in charge): Revd Christine Cargill

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Church website: <https://stphilipsoconnor.org.au>

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St Philip's
Come & See

Second Sunday of Advent

7th December 2025

Welcome to St Philip's – it is great to have you with us.

St Philip's is the local Anglican church, and we are a very diverse group of people. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship. If you are new, please do say hello – we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure about what is going on, please do ask. We will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal, but we hope relaxed-as we come to worship God in our midst.

We acknowledge the Ngambri and Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship. We pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who worship with us.

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Psalms 72: 1-7, 18-21

Romans 15: 4-13

Matthew 3: 1-12

Hymns at 10am

270- On Jordan's banks

588 – In heavenly love abiding

265– O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

431– Thanks to God whose word



A Huge Thank You to everyone who worked so hard at parish working Bee yesterday. Thank you too to everyone who helped at Pandora's and for their generous Christmas Celebrations.

Advent Altar Frontal Thank you to everyone who donated fabric to create a purple altar frontal. This is still under construction. During Advent our frontal is one of the donated pieces of fabric. New frontal will be ready for Lent.

St John's Care needs pantry staples. You can leave donations in the baskets on the back pew.

Thought from the Rector – Chirstine

Our Gospel readings this year come from Matthew. The Gospel of Matthew is thoroughly eschatological from beginning to end. That means it is concerned with the coming of the end times, as well as expectations of the present time as well.

Writing around the year 80 CE, Matthew wanted to reassert an eschatological expectation among his readers. After some fifty years of waiting for Jesus to return it hasn't occurred in the way that they expected, and so Matthew writes to encourage the believers not to give up hope as they wait for the return of Christ.

Some 2000 years later, it is likely that it is even harder for us, than that early Christian community, to believe that Jesus will return.

The question is 'what are we waiting for'?

Jesus speaks of looking for the coming of God's reign or Kin-dom. A time when peace and justice will be the reality for all creation. This is not just an expectation of God, but of ourselves. When we look for things to change, we need to first look to our own ability to embrace change and be open to living in a way that embraces God vision of the world.

During this Advent Season, we might make one small change that might bring peace more quickly. What change might we each make in the way we deal even with each other?

News from our community

Long term member of our congregation **Beryl Blaseotto** died peacefully on Wednesday morning. Beryl has worshipped at St Philip's since its early days in the late 1950's until she moved to a care home in the last few years. Details of her funeral which will be at St Philip's will be shared when they are known.

Help Needed...

We are **still** looking for some volunteers to help with some little tasks around the parish. **Jobs include** charging batteries in cameras, washing altar linen, leading intercessions on a Sunday, serving at the altar, serving Morning Tea after the service. Please speak to Christine.

City News – did you see the advert for St Philip's Christmas Services in this week's edition of CityNews (4 Dec). You can take a look here -

<https://citynews.com.au/2025/digital-edition-december-4/> (check page 7)

Anglican Board for Mission. (ABM)

At our recent parish council meeting, **Meagan Schwarz** from ABM updated us on the work that is being undertaken by the Episcopal Church in the Philippines, which is one of our parish mission projects. In the New Year there will be a display in church, showing what has been achieved. , If there is anyone interested in actually visiting the school (and other communities that participate in ABM funded activities, you would be welcome to join a

pilgrimage for 10days in Feb March (dates to be confirmed) Cost will be approx. \$2500 for in-country costs (accom, meals, transport etc) plus flights. If you are interested let Christine know and she will put you in touch with Meagan.

Advent Activities

Advent Meditations...

In the first two weeks of Advent we will be offering an Adv Reflection/Meditation on the theme of the Nativity. We are aware this is a busy time of year, and it will allow space for people who would like to have a little space and ponder the Advent themes. These Sessions, like in Lent, will be offered twice on a Thursday.

Thursday's 4th and 11th December at 12noon and then again at 6pm. Weekly theme using music, images and silence.

Community Carols – Sunday 7th December at 4pm.

This service will include favourite Carols, performance from Tongan Congregation Choir, stories of different traditions of Christmas, and even a scratch Nativity. Come dressed as your favourite Nativity Character. A great service to invite family, neighbours and friends to.

Lessons and Carols – Sunday 21st December at 7pm.

Featuring Soloists as well a chance to sing traditional carols. Readings which tell the story of Christmas followed by Festive Cheer. Do bring along your friends and family. **Advent Flyer at the back of church.**

To help in your Advent devotion, there is an **Advent Calendar** available on our website to help shape our prayers and meditation each day during Advent. You can access the calendar here

https://calendars.stphilipsoconnor.org.au/advent/advent2025/advent2025_30.php A huge thank you to Brian for all his work in putting this resource together.



ADVENT

Receiving Communion. All who are baptised are welcome to receive communion, regardless of their tradition or the last time they received. If you would simply like to receive a blessing, please cross your hands on your chest as you come forward. When you come forward, please use the hand sanitizer at the front of the church. We offer both a common cup and provision for those who intinct. You are also welcome to receive in one kind. Gluten-free bread is available.

Offertory. Please place your gift in the offering bag or use the Eftpos machine in the foyer. St Philip's account for regular giving is: 702-389 05202512. For those who give electronically, giving cards are available to put in the bag offered at the altar.