

Notices

Our condolences are with Hyacinth and Des Andrews with the passing of Hyacinth's sister Phyllis on the evening of 26th December after an illness. It was also Hyacinth and Des' 60th wedding anniversary this week on 28th December.

Please note: during January and then during early February when Rob is on holidays, there will be no Thursday morning service. **It will resume with the Ash Wednesday service** on 14th February at 10 am. **The 8 and 10 am services** will recommence on Sunday 4th February.

Rob and Shirley are on holidays from Sunday 21st January until Sunday 4th February. Rob will resume on Monday 5th February, but be absent for the services on Sunday 11 February due to a brief study course he is undertaking early this year. The locum will fill in for him that Sunday as well.

We would like to thank everyone for their Christmas cards, gifts and well wishes. Rob & Shirley.

Rosters for January will be available today.

Prayer requests –Please let Beth Gibbs or Liz Helmond know.

Prayers of the people

- For Hyacinth Andrews with the recent loss of her sister Phyllis.
- Rev Ken Rogers who is having chemotherapy every three weeks until February. He is slowly improving which is encouraging.
- We give thanks to God for the healing in the life of Katrina's niece Allison Jessup whose scans show no sign of the cancer.
- Please pray for Barbara Watt as she recovers from her broken foot.
- For Peter, the brother of Liz, who is undergoing treatment for stomach cancer.
- For Peta Foote's daughter Lorna who has developed lung cancer.
- For Des Andrews whose ulcer on his leg is slowly healing.

Please pray for the work of Michael, Melanie & Aaron Viljoen – Wycliffe Bible Translators. And also for the ministry of Rev. Anne & Noel Nixon – BCA, Qld.

Welcome to St Edward's

Today marks the end of one year and with tomorrow, the commencement of a new one. As one era is ending, another is opening up. For many, they will have a sense of expectancy or anticipation about what the coming year may bring.

One man who stood between two eras was the elderly priest Simeon. He is described as righteous and devout, an exemplary figure of piety in whom the Holy Spirit is at work (Lk 2:25-26). He recognises the infant Jesus as the 'consolation of Israel' when he is brought by his parents to the temple to be consecrated to God (Luke 2:25). His aging eyes could look back on the periods of Israelite history when God's acts of salvation had occurred, but he had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he saw the Lord's Messiah – the beginning of a new era (Luke 2:26).

Holding the infant Jesus in his arms, Simeon stands on the threshold between two eras. In the past lies the promise which has prepared Israel for this event. Now the future beckons and the fulfilment of that promise with the arrival of Jesus in the temple. Simeon's eyes see not just an infant, but in this infant, the very means by which God will bring his salvation. However - and here is the tremendous thing - this salvation will be a light for the nations, the Gentiles, not just for Israel (Luke 2:31-32). The salvation brought through Jesus will enable the Gentiles to be brought into God's purpose and plan which began with Israel. This is what is sometimes termed, the 'universality' of salvation. Jesus is not just for the few, or ethnic Israel, but for all people from all the nations – including those in Blackburn Sth.

St Edward's Anglican Church

31st December 2017

Address

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Blackburn Sth
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Minister

Rev Rob Culhane
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Service times

Sunday 9:30 am during
January.

Wardens

Jenny Lynch	9877 6338
Ken Pakes	9897 3454
Chris Ross-Stubbs	0438 353 340

Website: stedwards.org.au

Gathering in God's name

The verse of the day

"My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all nations,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and the glory of your people Israel."

(Luke 2:30-32)

Hymn: 272 "Come thou long expected Jesus"

The Prayer of Preparation

(APBA, p. 101)

The Two Commandments

(APBA, p. 102)

Prayer of the Day

**Saving God,
whose Son Jesus was presented in the temple
and was acclaimed the glory of Israel
and the light of the nations:
grant that in him we may be presented to you
and in the world may reflect his glory;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

Readings

New Testament	Galatians 4:4-7	(p. 1170)
Psalm	148	(APBA, 378)
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40	(p. 1028)

Sermon

The Nicene Creed (p. 103)

Hymn: 324 "Lord bid your servant go in peace" (Tune: Land of Rest)

Prayers of the people (p. 106)

Preparation for the Lord's Supper (p. 108)

General Confession (p. 109)

Absolution (p. 109)

The Lord's Supper (p. 110)

The Prayer of Approach (p. 112)

After Communion

The Lord's Prayer (p. 114)

The Hymn of Praise (p. 115)

Hymn: 675 "Lord the light of your love"

Benediction (p. 116)