

Notices

Our condolences are with Hyacinth and Des Andrews with the passing of Hyacinth's sister whose funeral was held on Thursday. It was also Hyacinth and Des' 60th wedding anniversary on 28th December.

The church directory is being updated. A copy of the directory is in the narthex. Please check your details before leaving this morning.

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 on Sundays 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 then be away for the services on Sunday 11 February due to a brief study course he is undertaking early this year. The locum, Rev Graeme Winterton, 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 are available for collection.

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.
- Des Melder has breathing difficulties and has been in Epworth Eastern this week.
- 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 we look at Genesis 1:1-19. Written approximately 3,500 years before the scientific age, its interest is about the 'why' God created the world, than the 'how'. As you read it, keep in mind the religious context in which Israel lived. The gods of Egypt and those of the Sumerian cities of Ur, Babylon and Nippur claimed to be the creators of the world and worthy to be worshipped.

Genesis ch 1, affirms the following, much of which is a polemic (critical attack), on the claims by these gods. **(1)** The Creator God has made everything: the heavens above, the earth and everything in the sea. The god of Babylon, Tiamat who was the dragon of the primordial sea, did not create the land. It was God's Spirit, who brought into being out of the formless chaos, order and land (Gen 1:2). **(2)** The sun, moon and stars were made by God. They are not explicitly named in Gen 1:16-17, but are stripped of their deity. They serve God's purpose marking the time and seasons and should not to be worshipped. They do not control human destiny, God does – who created them. Astrology, therefore, has no basis. **(3)** The pinnacle of God's creation is humanity, whereas the Sumerian gods claimed humans were made to serve them as their slaves. In contrast, Genesis teaches that all humanity, and both men and women, are created in God's image (1:26-27). In Egypt, their supreme god Ra, whose son, the Pharaoh, was the incarnation of Ra, boldly claimed to be the only person to bear his god's image. **(4)** The 6 days of creation are divided into 3 days of preparation, then 3 days of fulfilment. And it is declared very good by God (1:31). not evil.

St Edward's Anglican Church

7th January 2018
1st Sunday after Epiphany

Address

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Minister

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Service times

Sunday 9:30 am during
January.

Wardens

Jenny Lynch 9877 6338
Ken Pakes 9897 3454
Chris Ross-Stubbs
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Website: stedwards.org.au

Gathering in God's name

Verse of the Day

"In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were
made;
without him nothing was made that has been made." (John 1:1-3)

Hymn: 134 "Praise my soul the king of heaven"

Prayer of Preparation

(APBA, p. 119)

Prayer of the Day

**Holy Spirit of life and change,
in whose power Jesus was anointed
to be the hope of the nations:
be poured out also upon us
without reserve or distinction,
that we may have the confidence and strength
to share the good news of Jesus
with those he came to seek and to save,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord we pray.**

Ministry of the Word

Old Testament	Genesis 1:1-19	(p. 3)
Psalm	29	(APBA, 248)
Gospel	Mark 1:4-11	(p. 1002)

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

(APBA, p. 123)

Hymn: 188 "Where wide skies roll down"

Notices

Prayers of the people & the Lord's Prayer (p. 124)

Confession and Absolution

Prayer of Approach (p. 125)

Confession (p. 126)

Absolution and Greeting of peace (p. 127)

Hymn: 119 (Tune: 485 St Peter) "I sing the mighty power"

Holy Communion – Thanksgiving 1 (p 130)

+ Epiphany Preface: page 150.

Prayer after communion: APBA, p. 150 + 144.

Hymn: 137 (Tune: 314 Dix) "For the beauty of the earth"

Sending out of God's people.