

Notices

Please note: throughout January, there will be one combined service at 9:30 am.

The Thursday morning service will resume on February 7th.

Expressions of thanks and gratitude

- Eileen Comber would like to say thank you for the flowers, cards, phone calls and best wishes following her recent surgery.
- **Angel Tree Appeal** Thank you to all who donated gifts and cash to the Angel Tree Appeal this year. The donations were greatly appreciated and will be distributed to children over the coming weeks. A receipt for the cash is attached to the notice board in the narthex. Alan Gibbs.
- **Liz Helmond** wishes to thank you all so much for your kind wishes, cards, etc. Your thoughts and prayers are really appreciated. I am home from rehab now thankfully, but it's a long road; walking with the Lord.

Prayers of the people

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

- Alan Gibbs is recovering from the fitting of heart pace maker and has developed a few additional health issues.
- Beth Gibbs is recovering from a flare up of diverticulitis.
- Pauline Robertson is now at home but still recovering from a very painful back.
- Eileen Comber has returned home following her surgery.
- Liz Helmond is now at home following her hip operation and rehabilitation. Pray for a good recovery and for Robin and family.

Please pray for the work of Michael, Melanie & Aaron Viljoen – Wycliffe Bible Translators in Cameroon. They are currently back in Melbourne on a holiday and deputation.

Welcome to St Edward's

There has been a cost for the Western church when it emphasised the death of Christ for *me* and the need for *my* personal faith in his atonement. A positive result has been the encouragement of the individual conscience and freedom of religious expression. Our democracy is one such fruit of this individual emphasis. But it has also left open a door for many to leave the church and say to it (the wider church) that has little relevance to them, because it is their relationship with Christ that matters and that they are now 'saved' without any obligation to it or membership in it. This has led to innumerable Christian groups springing up with no interest in, or outright antagonism toward the wider church, especially those whose historical roots predate the Reformation.

This is why John's first letter is still relevant. It tackles the claims made by a splinter group that they hold the 'truth' about Christ. He notes it is he and his fellow leadership ('we') who have known Christ and his teaching intimately (1 John 1:1-4). There is no 'secret' knowledge which has been suppressed or forgotten by the church authorities. Second, they claim to be without sin, yet if this was the case, why did Christ die? Christ did not die to save an exclusive group (as they claimed), but all who have faith in him (1 Jn 1:2). John concludes, if they hold to the apostolic truth, and they believe in the incarnation of Christ, they then belong to the his body, the church and should abandon their separateness for unity.

St Edward's Anglican Church

30th December 2018
1st Sunday of Christmas

Address

59 Edinburgh Road
Blackburn Sth
Victoria 3130
Office: 9877 3665

Minister

Rev Rob Culhane
rculhane@optusnet.com.au
Mobile: 0412 832 328

Service times

Normally: 8 & 10 am.
During January: 9:30
am

Wardens

Jenny Lynch	9877 6338
Mobile	0490 951 549
Stephen Smith	9898 4945
Chris Ross-Stubbs	0438 353 340

Website: stedwards.org.au

Verse of the Day

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
(John 1:14)

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created,
and yet more wonderfully restored,
the dignity of human nature:
in your mercy,
bring us to share the divine life of Jesus Christ,
who came to share our human life,
and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

10 AM (Holy Communion, 2nd Order, APBA, p.119)

Gathering in God's name

Verse of the Day

Hymn 93 “Praise the Lord, you heavens adore him”

Prayer of Preparation (APBA, p. 119)

Prayer of the Day

Ministry of the Word

New Testament	1 John 1:1-4	(p. 1225)
Psalm	148	(APBA, 378)
Gospel	Luke 2:41-52	(p. 1029)
Sermon		

The Nicene Creed (APBA, p. 123)

Hymn 246 “Christ is the world's light”

Notices

Prayers of the people (p. 124)

Lord's Prayer

Confession and Absolution (pp. 125-127)

Hymn 316 “O little town of Bethlehem”

Holy Communion – Thanksgiving 1 (APBA, p. 128) +

Christmas Preface (APBA, p. 149)

Prayer after communion: p. 149.

Hymn 291 “Earth has a many and noble city”

Sending out of God's people