

CHURCH TODAY

9:30am: John

Bible Readings:

Ps 80:1-7

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-55

Hebrews 10:1-10

5pm Jesus Talk (Final for the Year)

25 Dec – Christmas Day

9:00am: John

Bible Readings:

Ps 96

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-20

Titus 2:11-14

Sunday 26 Dec

9:30am: Dale

Bible Readings:

Ps 100

Micah 4:1-8

Matthew 1:18-26

1 John 4:7-16

No Godly Play or Godly Science during School Holidays

The Prayer of the Week

O Lord, raise up your power and come among us, and with great might succour us, that, whereas through our sins and wickedness we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**



SUNDAY MEETINGS

Every Sunday

9:30am – each week

Prayer Praise Proclamation and

Holy Communion

5pm Jesus Talk

(Finishes for the Year on 19th December)

"the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy" (Rev 19:10) Jesus Talk seeks to be a "prophetic hub" where Christ- concentrated expressions of prayer, praise, and proclamation, can take place in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Contact

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Church Council Locum (Minister):

John Yates

Church Wardens

Shirley Landon

Roger Wright

Councillors

Mary Lindsey

Charles Mugford

Jennifer Murray

Marilyn Wright

Sermons – Audio & Video

www.stmarksbassendean.church/blog

St Marks Bassendean YouTube

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbassendean>

Bank Account

Changes to BSB for payment to Bank Account

We encourage people to use direct deposit or direct debit
Anglican Community Fund

BSB: 706 001 **A/c No:** 300070717

Name: Anglican Parish of Bassendean.

Please identify payment, i.e., offering.

No need to use your name if you prefer not to.

More info from Jenny

Welcome to

ST MARK'S BASSENDEAN

*Discovering and demonstrating Jesus' love
in Bassendean and beyond.*

19 December 2021

Watching and Waiting

It is plain, especially in Luke, that pious and devout Israelites were prayerfully waiting for the coming of the Lord. This had already long been prophesied (Gen 3:1; Isa 7:14; Mal 3-4), so their anticipation is unsurprising. The prophetic Spirit in Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary, Anna, and Simeon indicates the Father was preparing his people for the first Advent of their Lord. They were not shocked by the birth of Messiah. Just as the Old Testament prophecies were not an exact timetable for the first coming, neither will Jesus' Return be predictable. "concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only." (Matt 24:36). Nevertheless, this hasn't stopped people, including folk I know, setting up timetables of when Jesus is returning. One writer famous argued that the Lord would return by 1988. (A generation after the establishment of the state of Israel). Just as at the turn of the millennium, with the Y2K bug scare, today there are folk telling us to stock up our pantries. (Some people folk sent me a "prophecy" to that effect recently.) However, it's important that we shouldn't ridicule these brothers and sisters and become like the scoffers mentioned by Peter. "They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation."" (2 Pet 3:4). Unbelief in the nearness of Jesus' return is ungodliness for Christ himself says, "Surely I am coming soon." (Rev 22:20a). How then should we live? According to the New Testament we are to be "eagerly waiting for him" (Heb 9:28). Plus, whoever is looking for the Lord's blessed appearing "purifies themselves as he is pure" (1 John 3:2-3). We must suppose that the Bible ends with "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev 22:20b) because this is the highest priority of the Bride of Christ. Do we love the prospect of the Lord's appearing to judge the living and the dead (2 Tim 4:8), or are we more like the church in Ephesus who had "lost the love they had at first" (Rev 2:4)? These are serious questions of an ultimate nature, ones which I believe are best answered not by a mental response but by our prayers, especially that those who don't know Jesus as Saviour may swiftly turn to the Lord.

John

CHURCH ON THE RISE

WELCOME

Welcome to St Mark's. We are an active Anglican church of all ages and walks of life, seeking to grow in the likeness of Christ and welcome new members and visitors.

Covid19: Please observe the physical distancing guidelines. Hand sanitizer is available at the door. If you are unwell, please stay at home.

Please relax and enjoy the worship and fellowship. Are you **new to this church**? Please make yourself known to one of the ministers or service leaders. You may also like to complete and return the **Welcome Form**.

The **Order of Service** may be followed on the screen.

The **Holy Communion** is open to all believers. Visitors are welcome to receive Communion if they normally take it in their own church. Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the minister when you come to communion.

The former Archbishop of Perth Roger Herft has been found unfit for Holy Orders by the Episcopal Standards Board on account of his failure to take appropriate actions in relation to allegations of child sexual abuse when he was the bishop of Newcastle. In layman's terms this means "defrocking". Please pray for all victims of abuse, and for Roger. Any questions, ask John please.

Trading Table in the Hall

Thank you to those who have supported since setting this up. Approximately \$200 have to date been added to Parish funds. Please continue to "Bring" and "Buy" if able.

A Prayer as we seek a New Minister

Bountiful God give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments; an encourager who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling. Give to those who will choose; wisdom, discernment, and patience, and to us give warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

All Bible Study Groups are in Recess until February. Please prayerfully consider joining one of the Bible Study groups in the new year.

Youth Group is also in recess until February.

Coffee & Chat is in recess until the new year.

The Men's Breakfast is in recess until February.

Jesus Talk finishes for the year tonight on 19th December

Praying Together This Week

Help to live & share the gospel;
Those who are unwell;
Christians being persecuted;
For people to come to Christ;
The Nomination Board;
Myanmar; Afghanistan;
John and Donna Yates

Anyone who senses a call from God to pray regularly for the children of the parish BY NAME please talk to John (Acts 2:38-39)

MISSION PROJECT UPDATE Information for your Prayers



BCA: Bush Church Aid

Some copies of BCA's summer edition of its magazine "The Real Australian" are available at the back of the church. The articles therein are full of encouragement and joy. Even the titles express the enthusiasm and excitement BCA staff and supporters bring to this mission, e.g., Community engagement bears fruit on King Island; A bright light of hope in Mallacoota; Many reasons to rejoice in Kununurra.

If you miss out on obtaining a copy to read then, remember, for a donation BCA will post you each seasonal edition of "The Real Australian" plus Prayer Notes. Donation forms are also to be found at the back of the church or ask me for one.

St Marks members will be interested to know that WA Regional Officer Rob Healy (who has often visited St Marks at about this time of year to explain the aims and efforts of BCA) will conclude his service with BCA at the end of January 2022. Please pray for Rob and Kaye as they start a new chapter in their ministry.

For more info see Murray.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES at St Marks:

Christmas Eve Children's Nativity – 24th December at 5pm
Christmas Day - 25th December at 9am
Boxing Day - 26th December at 9:30am

***Christmas Eve service at St Matthews Guildford:
24th December at 11pm for Holy Communion and Carols***

Baptisms:

On the **16th of January (Note the change of date)** we will have two baptisms – Baby Hunter in the church, and his father, Julian at Sandy Beach down at the river!

Please start to pray for these baptisms that all will go well, and unbelievers will hear the gospel.

Financial Information for November 2021:

Total income: \$10,884.90 made up as follows:

Envelopes - \$1,680.00
Direct Giving - \$6,931.50
Open Plate - \$920.00
Other - \$1,353.40

Total Expenses: \$10,065.20

Please note changes to BSB for payments to the church bank account on the back page.