



Alstonville Anglicans

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 19th December 2021



Sharing the Good Life

We acknowledge the Bundjalung people,
traditional custodians of the Land.
Our doors are open: LGBTQIA+ welcome here.
Streaming licence: One License A-738115

About Advent

Welcome to Advent! Advent is the four weeks in which we get ready for the mystery of Christmas. Advent is a time of spiritual darkness for us where we are set free to engage with doubt and the shadow side of spirituality.

Liturgy for 19th December

Sentence of the Day

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. Luke 1.45

Collect

Gracious God,
you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son:
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your Word,
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Readings

Luke 1:39-45, 46b-55

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is

she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

⁴⁶ And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, ⁴⁸ for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Messages

Pastoral Care



To make you smile...

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?

Deep pan, crisp and even!

Pastoral visits Remember!

If you or anyone you know is ill or in hospital, please let the office or Lynne Watt our Pastoral Care Coordinator know. Also, if you do visit anyone could you email Lynne? wattlg@bigpond.com.

Mothers Union: third Monday of each month. Contact Pam on 0417 258 991 or Joyce 0407 690 874 joyce@stephanies.com.au .

Community Engagement

Community-On-the-Verge



Help yourself to what is ripe and ready for picking. If you are keen to be involved as the garden evolves, please contact Alan Larsen on 0409 655 123 or Barbara Fewtrell 0429 385 713.



Thank you to everyone who helped at the Bunnings Christmas

Markets. It was a fun Community event to be involved in and our craft and the fresh garden produce was enjoyed by all.



Play Place

Play Place is in recess until 10 February 2022.



Sew Helpful

Sew Helpful is in recess over the holiday period but we plan to meet at Options on Monday 17th January at 2pm for afternoon tea. All welcome. Margaret.

Christmas Dinner in the Church



THANK YOU to everyone who came on Saturday night to the Christmas dinner in the church. It was a lovely night of fellowship and friendship and a celebration of belonging to our lovely church family. Thanks must go to the ukelele group organised by Cathi Angus. It certainly brought smiles and enjoyment to everyone. A special Thank You to Carol and Geoff, Susan and Des, Amanda and Simon, and John N. who were an indispensable group who made it all happen on the night. Thank you too to the many people who helped out before and after the dinner making it a magic night for all. Jenny NOBLE

Plastic lids and Bread tags



If you have any plastic lids / bread tags, PLEASE bring them to the church or to the Op Shop and place them in the white garbage collection boxes. The plastic will be recycled and used to assist children with disabilities. This is a small step we can take together to help look after our beautiful world.



COVID Update

Singing without masks

This is the last weekend we must wear masks in church. From 15th December NSW COVID rules are relaxed.

1. Masks are not necessary at worship or the Op Shop.
2. COVID check is not required at the Op Shop.
COVID check in still required for worship services.
3. Density limits abolished – as many in church as we like.
4. Ventilation still very important, so Church & Ministry Centre doors and windows must be open while being used.

PS For those of you who want, masks and sanitiser are still available at the door
COVID Committee

Finance: Supporting Alstonville Parish

Parish Provider is now Planned Giving A note from your worried Treasurer.

For the people who have completed their transition from the old Parish Provider system to the new Planned Giving, thank you. Your vital gifts to the parish are what supports' the continuing ministry of Alstonville Anglicans.

Sadly, less than half of those regular givers have renewed, and alarm bells are ringing in your treasurer's ears! Offertory at services remains consistent so there is a substantial decline in giving already.

Please help by completing your paperwork and sending it off. If you've put aside the letter about changing to the

new Planned Giving system, please make it a priority in the coming week. For help, please call the parish office.

Luke 6:38 "Give and it will be given to you."

Annual Report

If you are responsible for submitting a report for inclusion in the Annual Report, can you please forward them to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Final date for submission is the 14th January.

Christmas Closing Times

Op Shop: 3pm 22nd Dec – 9am 10th Jan 2022

Parish Office: 12pm 22nd Dec – 9am 17th Jan 2022

Worship and Spirituality

Invite your friends for Christmas



Christmas Celebration Tregagle 24th December 6pm

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers all the baptised!

Rector The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman
0402 764 969 priest@anglicans.live

Associates The Reverend John Kidson 0411 394 213

The Reverend Geoff Vidal 0447 645 456
The Reverend Doug Bannerman 0418 182 450
The Reverend Greg Ezzy 0412 660 742

Parish Office: 8 The Avenue, Alstonville
Telephone: 6628 0231
Postal: PO Box 451, Alstonville NSW 2477
e-mail: office@anglicans.live
website: anglicans.live

Bank account: BSB 705 077 / Acc:00032931

The Anglican Op Shop

1 The Avenue, Alstonville **Tel:** 6628 8777

Dates 19th to 26th December

19th Dec Sunday 9am Holy Communion
20th Dec Monday 10am Anam Cara Praying for You
Parish Office 9am-12pm
Op Shop 9am-3pm
21st Dec Tuesday Parish Office Closed
Please refrain from visiting the Parish office on a
Tuesday. This time is set aside for staff to work
uninterrupted. Thank you.
22nd Dec Parish Office 9am-12pm
Op Shop 9am-3pm
Anam Cara 9am
23rd Dec Parish Office 9am-12pm
Op Shop 9am-3pm
Thursday Anam Cara 6pm
24th Dec Christmas Eve
Parish Office 9am-12pm
5pm Family Service
6pm Christmas Celebration Tregagle
11pm Carols & Communion
25th Dec Christmas Day
9am Christmas Service
26th Dec Sunday 9am Holy Communion