



# Alstonville Anglicans

## Advent 1

**Bulletin for Thurs 28th Nov - Sun 1st Dec 2019**

We acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land, on which we worship, work and meet, the Bundjalung people. We recognise the significant role the past and future Elders play in the life of the region. We are mindful that within and without the beautiful sandstone church, the Land always was and always will be Aboriginal Land.



### ADVENT HOPE

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It is the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

Henri Nouwen was once asked: "Are you an optimist?" His reply: "No, not naturally, but that isn't important. I live in hope, not optimism."

Teilhard de Chardin once said the same thing in different words when he was accused of being overly-idealistic and unrealistic in the face of all the negative things one sees in the world. A critic had challenged him: "Suppose we blow up the world with a nuclear bomb, what then happens to your vision of a world coming together in peace?" Teilhard's response lays bare the anatomy of hope: "If we blow up the world by nuclear bombs, that will set things back some millions of years, but eventually what Christ promised will come about, not because I wish it, but because God has promised it and, in the resurrection, God has shown that God is powerful enough to deliver on that promise."

Hope is precisely that, a vision of life that guides itself by God's promise, irrespective of whether the situation looks optimistic or pessimistic at any given time.

Please note a hearing loop is installed on the right hand side of St Barts.

Please turn off your mobilephone during worship. Toilets are located in the front of the Hall.

First Aid Kits are located in the Church & the Hall.

Hope is not simple optimism, an irrepressible idealism that will not let itself be defeated by what's negative; nor is it wishful thinking, a fantasy-daydream that someday our ship will come in; nor is it the ability to look the evening news square in the eye and still conclude, realistically, that there are good reasons to believe everything will turn out well...To light an advent candle is to say, in the face of all that suggests the contrary, that God is still alive, still Lord of this world, and, because of that, "all will be well, and all will be well, and every manner of being will be well," irrespective of the evening news.

### The Gospel according Matthew 24:36-44

<sup>36</sup> "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.



**Prayer for...** Jeremiah 29:10 says "Seek the welfare of the city". Prayer for youth, children, families and the church.  
Mondays strictly 10am-10.30am.

**Have you completed your Ministry Review yet?**



### LinC End of Year Celebration

An open invitation is extended to this event

**Tuesday 3rd December 1pm for High Tea**

SDA Church Hall      \$15 per person

RSVP by 15th Nov to Vivian Carson

lincalstonville@gmail.com

or 66286960 Mon-Thursday 9am - 12pm.

## Whether you have been naughty or nice ...

Who are  
you inviting  
for  
Christmas?



## Alstonville Anglicans have a place for you

Family Christmas 5pm 24 December St Bartholomew's

Christmas Eve Holy Communion 6pm St Peter & St Paul's Tregagle

Christmas Eve Carols Holy Communion 11.30 pm St Bartholomew's

Christmas Day 9am St Bartholomew's



### Catering Team "Wind Up" Celebration

Graeme Booth invites all his catering team, slice makers, helpers and partners, to join with Messy Church and Messy Church catering teams and their families for a "Wind Up" celebration at Meldrum Park, Norton St Ballina. BYO nibbles and drinks.

Wednesday 4th December 4pm onwards.

### Christmas on the Plateau

Friday 13th December 4.30-8pm—Elizabeth Ann Brown Park, Alstonville

An invitation is extended to everyone to come along and join in celebrating Christmas together. Support is needed in setting and packing up on the day—see Paul Earner. Financial support is also needed—please consider donating for this worthwhile event to BSB704922 Act100015943.

Prayer for the event - Thurs 12th Dec at 5pm at Elizabeth Ann Brown Park.

### Rosters Sunday 8th December 8.00am (2nd Sunday team)

Person in Charge: Margaret Brown, Worship Leader: Barbara Fewtrell

Music: Ros Sharp Sound: Shane McBurney

Flowers: Leone Frogley, Christina Woodhead, Ruth Campbell

Church Cleaning: Barry & Barb Campey

## ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman	04 02 764 969
	priest@anglicans.live	
Associate	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
Parish Office:	The Ministry Centre, 8 The Avenue, Alstonville	
Telephone:	6628 0231	
Postal:	PO Box 451, Alstonville NSW 2477	
e-mail:	office@anglicans.live	
website:	anglicans.live	

**The Anglican Op Shop** 1 The Avenue, Alstonville      **Tel:** 6628 8777

We give thanks to God for all people making offertories to the vision of God's Kingdom here on earth. If you would like to contribute electronically to the Parish Provider these are the details: **BSB: 705 077 / Acc: 32931**

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1st Dec</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion St Barts</b>
		<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Families@4</b>
		<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Sunday@6 St Bart's</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2nd Dec</b>	10.00am	Prayer in the Church
		10.30am	Life Group (TBA)
		1.00pm	Sew Helpful
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3rd Dec</b>	1.30pm	Life Group at Carol Stone's home
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4th Dec</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Meditation Group, St Bart's</b>
		1.00am	Pastoral Care Meeting
		3.30pm	Property Committee Meeting
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5th Dec</b>	9.30am	Play Place
		<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Contemplative Church, Eucharist</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>6th Dec</b>	10.00am	Holy Communion, St Bart's
		2.00pm	Choir Practice, St Bart's
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>7th Dec</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8th Dec</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion St Barts</b>
		<b>10.00am</b>	Holy Communion, St Peter & St Paul's, Tregagle
		<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Families@4</b>
		<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Sunday@6</b>

### Bible Readings

**1st December**    Isaiah 2:1-5                      Matthew 24:36-44

**8th December**    Isaiah 11:1-10                  Romans 15:4-13    Matthew 31-12