

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona
St Clement's Altona Meadows
O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



*To proclaim God's love and life in Christ:
growing in faith † serving others † nurturing a common life*

6th January 2019 THE EPIPHANY

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

*Wominjeka :: Haere mai
Welcome*



A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting from elsewhere. Please join us for refreshments after the 9:30 service.

This booklet contains the parts of the service which change from week to week, as referred to in the coloured service booklet. Hymns are found in *Together in Song* (the red book in the pew in front of you).

Our parish lies on the traditional country of the Yaluk-ut Weelam people within the Boon Wurrung clan, part of the greater Kulin nation. We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations, and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing.

OPENING HYMN: 291

Earth has many a noble city

COLLECT

Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

PARISH PRAYER

Gracious Father, your loving providence has brought us into the sacred fellowship of this parish. Help us to worship you with such holy worship, to serve you with such unselfish love, and to give so generously for the spread of your kingdom, that we may be worthy members of your holy, catholic Church, and that our parish may faithfully fulfil its mission, by growing in faith, serving others, and nurturing a common life: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING *Isaiah 60.1-6*

Arise! Shine! Your light has come;
the Lord's glory has shone upon you.
Though darkness covers the earth
and gloom the nations,
the Lord will shine upon you;
God's glory will appear over you.
Nations will come to your light
and kings to your dawning radiance.
Lift up your eyes and look all around:

they are all gathered; they have come to you.

Your sons will come from far away,
and your daughters on caregivers' hips.

Then you will see and be radiant;
your heart will tremble and open wide,
because the sea's abundance will be turned over to you;
the nations' wealth will come to you.
Countless camels will cover your land,
young camels from Midian and Ephah.

They will all come from Sheba,
carrying gold and incense,
proclaiming the Lord's praises.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

72.1-7, 10-14

Give the king your judgement, O God:
and your righteousness to the son of a king,

That he may judge your people rightly: and the poor of the land with equity.

Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness: and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

May he give justice to the poor among the people: and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures: and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.

May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields: and as showers that water the earth.

In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon
shall be no more.

**The kings of Tarshish and of the isles
shall bring tribute: the kings of Sheba
and Seba shall offer gifts.**

All kings shall fall down before him:
and all nations do him service.

**He will deliver the needy when they
cry: and the poor that have no
helper.**

He will pity the helpless and the needy:
and save the lives of the poor.

**He will redeem them from oppression
and violence: and their blood shall be
precious in his sight.**

SECOND READING *Ephesians 3.1-12*

This is why I, Paul, am a prisoner of
Christ for you Gentiles.

You've heard, of course, about the
responsibility to distribute God's grace,
which God gave to me for you, right?

God showed me his secret plan in a
revelation, as I mentioned briefly
before (when you read this, you'll
understand my insight into the secret
plan about Christ). Earlier generations
didn't know this hidden plan that God
has now revealed to his holy apostles
and prophets through the Spirit. This
plan is that the Gentiles would be
coheirs and parts of the same body,
and that they would share with the
Jews in the promises of God in Christ
Jesus through the gospel. I became a
servant of the gospel because of the
grace that God showed me through
the exercise of his power.

God gave his grace to me, the least of

all God's people, to preach the good
news about the immeasurable riches of
Christ to the Gentiles. God sent me to
reveal the secret plan that had been
hidden since the beginning of time by
God, who created everything. God's
purpose is now to show the rulers and
powers in the heavens the many
different varieties of his wisdom
through the church. This was
consistent with the plan he had from
the beginning of time that he
accomplished through Christ Jesus our
Lord. In Christ we have bold and
confident access to God through faith
in him.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: 459

In Christ there is no east or west

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 2.1-12*

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

We have seen his star in the East; and
have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in
the territory of Judea during the rule of
King Herod, magi came from the east
to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is
the newborn king of the Jews? We've
seen his star in the east, and we've
come to honour him."

When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

*You, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
by no means are you least among the
rulers of Judah,
because from you will come one who
governs,
who will shepherd my people Israel."*

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honour him." When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honoured him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN: 314
As with gladness men of old

COMMUNION HYMN:
The kingdom of God is justice and peace
and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us
the gates of your kingdom.

*Words: Taizé Community
(from Romans 14.17)*

FINAL HYMN: 281
When God almighty came to be one of us

From your priest...

Dear friends,

Epiphany literally means “an appearance”, when someone or something is revealed and seen. Sometimes we talk of experiencing an epiphany when there is one of those “Aha!” moments of clarity or fresh understanding.

In Christian tradition, the Epiphany is celebrated on 6 January, at the end of the 12 days of Christmas. We hear the story, as told in Matthew’s Gospel, of these mysterious visitors from the east who come to worship Jesus (probably as a toddler rather than a baby). They can be seen as representing the best wisdom of the wider Gentile world, paying homage to the new king who is Emmanuel, God with us.

Another major theme of Epiphany is light—the light of the star in Matthew’s account, and then by extension Jesus as the light of the nations. So the story of the magi comes to be seen as a very particular fulfilment of Isaiah’s prophecy from the first reading today.

In all of this, Epiphany carries the sense of an appearance, a revelation: of God appearing, being revealed, to Israel and all nations, and to us, in a new way. Jesus is God’s extraordinary act of self-revelation, in his birth, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension. Next week we read the account of Jesus’ baptism, that moment of revelation right at the beginning of his ministry when the heavens open and the Father affirms Jesus as his Son.

Meanwhile, God continues to be revealed to us: in our sharing of the scriptures and the Eucharist, and in our encounters with the face of Christ in other people, particularly the stranger and the outcast. When was your last “Aha!” moment, recognising God’s presence in a new way? In many ways the journey of faith can be seen as a steady series of these moments, some of them more or less striking than others, but all of them inviting us to change in some way as a result of encountering God afresh.

Like those mysterious sages from the east, may we learn the wisdom and diligence to seek and to recognise these revelations, and to offer ourselves and our treasure back to God with gladness and joy.

With my prayers for all that God will reveal to us in 2019,
Chris

Readings for next Sunday: 13 January (The Baptism of our Lord)

Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-22

For our prayers:

The world and nation: For United Nations peacekeepers serving in conflicted areas around the world.

The Church: For the Church in Iran, Iraq and Syria. For Christians who are persecuted and martyred today.

Our parish & community: For those who struggle with extreme heat.

Those for whom prayers have been asked:

Particular current prayers: Jenny, Davey, Malek, Esther A, Vahid, Susan, Jimmy, James, Maria, Paul, Liam, Bill.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Peter Haining (6), Elsie Sinclair (10), Richard Henshall (11), Ron

Duckmanton (12), Robin Bingley (13), Cheryl Smith (13).

Ongoing prayers (*remembered at Morning Prayer through the week*): Paul, Mavis, Bronwyn, Marge, Debbie, Rolf, Belinda, Joseph, Peter, Daniel, Melissa, Patricia, Sasha, Stuart, Nick.

To add names to the prayer list, either those needing prayers now (with their agreement) or those to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please send details to anglicanaltlav@gmail.com or give to the Vicar.



MOTHERS' UNION

First, I would like to thank everyone who donated Christmas cards last year. We were able to brighten the lives of 600 women in prison by giving them 5 cards to send to family and friends. This is really great outreach. We will be doing the same this year, so if you have any leftover unused Christmas cards, could you please give them to Sandra Hansen or Jan Lee.

Secondly, I will be putting together the Prayer Partners list this month, so if any ladies would like to be added to the list, or taken off the list, could you please let either myself or Lyn McDonald know soon.

Thank you, Sandra Hansen

REMEMBERING CHILDREN ON NAURU Thank you to those who have shared in a time of silent reflection on Friday afternoons to remember refugee children on Nauru. Thank you whether you've come once or many times. When we started in September there were 102 refugee children on Nauru, and now there remain just three still awaiting resettlement. So we give thanks for this progress as we conclude these Friday afternoon reflection times, while continuing to pray for the many adults on Nauru and Manus Island whose condition is a deep concern.

SUMMER FAIR Plans are under way for our Summer Fair at St Eanswythe's to be on Saturday 16th February. Please note the date and watch this space for further updates.

Dates for your diaries

15 January

Op Shop reopens for 2019

27 January

Final combined service, with blessing of school bags and sausage sizzle to follow

3 February

Normal Sunday service times resume

8 February

Soup & Sandwiches resumes for 2019

16 February

Summer Fair at St Eanswythe's

HOLIDAY SERVICES Please note that until the end of January we have combined services at 9:30am: check details on the pew sheet or our website to make sure you have the right time and place each week!



SUNDAY 27 JANUARY will be the last of our summer combined services: 9:30am at St Eanswythe's. During this service children will be invited to bring forward their school bags as we pray a blessing for the start of the new school year.

And after the service, everyone is welcome for a sausage sizzle lunch with musical entertainment too. Please bring a salad if you are able to.

COLLECTION FOR THE DENNIS FAMILY All parishioners are invited to contribute to a general collection for the Dennis family, in memory of Grace. Please put your gift in an envelope marked "Dennis Family" and place it in the collection bowl at one of the Sunday services.

VICAR'S LEAVE Chris will be on leave for the coming week and then at a conference during the following week, back in the parish on Saturday 19th January. During this time there will just be one Morning Prayer, this Friday 11th January. For pastoral needs please contact the Rev'd Danny McRoberts on 0448 841 196.

Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Please take this pew sheet with you, for your reference and prayers during the week.
- ⇒ If you are or have been away for a Sunday, you can see recent pew sheets on our website at www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets
- ⇒ Visit www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav for photos, links, news and other updates.
- ⇒ If you don't already receive occasional emails regarding news, changes of service times, and other updates, please send your email address to anglicanaltlav@gmail.com

Please send all material for the pew sheet to anglicanaltlav@gmail.com

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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St Clement's telephone [when church is attended] - 9315 8959

Vicar: The Rev'd Chris Lancaster

0423 199 850 revdchrislancaster@gmail.com

Assistant Priest & Maori Minister: The Rev'd Danny McRoberts

0448 841 196 dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

This week in our parish:

Sunday 6th January

Epiphany

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

Friday 11th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Sunday 13th January

The Baptism of our Lord

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

12pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Until the end of January, we have combined Sunday morning services:

Sun 13 Jan 7:45 (St Eanswythe's) 9:30 (St Eanswythe's) 12pm
(Te Wairua Tapu)

Sun 20 Jan 7:45 (St Eanswythe's) 9:30 (St Clement's)

Sun 27 Jan 7:45 (St Eanswythe's) 9:30 (St Eanswythe's) with blessing of school
bags and followed by sausage sizzle

Sun 3 Feb normal times resume:

7:45 (St E), 8:45 (St C), 10:30 (St E), 1pm (St E).

Weekday services resume on Wed 30 Jan (St C) and Thu 31 Jan (St E).

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45am St Clement's and 10:30am St Eanswythe's (resumes 3 February)

Groups meeting regularly in the parish (resuming in February):

Altona Tiddlers Playgroup: Tuesdays in term time, 10am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993)

Clementines Playgroup: Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's. Contact Louise (9395 5472)

Mothers' Union: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661)

Caritas: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday evening at 7:30pm. Contact Joan Meiers (9398 1906)

Men's Group: monthly at St Clement's, third Tuesday evening at 7:30pm.

Reflective Bible Study: monthly at the Vicarage, first Tuesday evening at 7:30pm.