

The Anglican Gazette



Published by the Diocese of Rockhampton

December 2011 Volume 120 No 11

THE RETURN OF CHRIST THE KING AND HIS SAINTS



*A Happy and Holy
Christmas to all,
and best wishes for
a safe New Year
from all the staff at
the Diocesan
Registry office*



With amazing timing, the stained glass windows from old St Barnabas Church North Rockhampton **were returned after restoration and installed in the new chapel at St David's Church North** Rockhampton, just in time for the celebration of Christ the King on November the 23rd. These splendid high quality windows feature a central panel with Christ the King and on either side of him St Paul and St Barnabas. While in the old church they were viewed as people looked up, here in their new space you can look at them much more closely and more eye to eye. It is a very different experience of stained glass. The new chapel in **St David's allows a more intimate space for weekday services** and other special needs, and overflow space for larger occasions. Along with these three windows the St Barnabas Baptistry window of the Holy Spirit has been placed in the church as a focus for prayer. This window was given in memory of Christopher Warby.

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 2 - **Bishop's Letter**
Page 3 - Journey through the year with Mark
Page 4 - Around the Diocese
Page 5 - Around the Diocese
Page 6 - **Children's Questions & Puzzle**
Page 7 - Lay Retreat, MU News
Page 8 - Christchurch Cathedral
Featured Church this month is St John the Baptist, Goovigen, part of Callide Valley Parish. Which church will we see next month?



December 2011



A Message from the Bishop



Dear Friends,

A few months ago I visited Bethlehem in the Palestinian Territory. I had been there once before, 12 years ago when the ancient town was looking very shabby with lots of rubbish in the streets. This time it was looking much better and had a certain buzz with much building work going on. Getting there however, was more difficult than before, with the separation wall between Israel proper and the Palestinian Territory to be negotiated.

The Church of the Holy Nativity is said to be the oldest Church building in the Christian world. It was saved from destruction in the Persian invasion in 614AD apparently because the depiction of one of the Wise Men in Persian dress.

The long story of this building and the way the site was honoured beforehand point us to the real possibility that Jesus may have been born around here between 6-4 BC.

However having said that, the Christian faith does not depend on this site being accurate. What we do know is that Jesus was born and lived in that land and was crucified in around 30AD when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea. That much is historically verifiable.

What brings Christians around the world to celebrate his birth at Christmas is all to do with just who we believe he was, and continues to be.

Christmas in both its religious observance and secular celebration involves the sharing of gifts. The best gifts that we may ever receive may have nothing to do with Christmas culture. These are the gifts that come to us unexpectedly, marking no particular occasion, and are a complete surprise. Such gifts tell us just how much we are loved. They can be as simple as the spontaneous gift of a small child to a parent or grandparent, quite left field, and immensely moving.

I see the birth of Jesus and his life as a most wonderful gift, given simply because God loves us.

A gift remains a gift whether it is received or not. The patience of God is such that whether or not people acknowledge who the gift is, the gratuitous present is always there waiting to be unwrapped.

Yours in Christ,

+Godfrey

THINKING ABOUT YOUR WILL?

You can assist our Diocese by supporting the ministry of the Bishop. The See Endowment Fund provides a vital source of support for the ministry of the Bishop to the Diocese's clergy and people. Bequests should be worded: *"I bequeath to the Corporation of the Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Rockhampton for the purpose of The See Endowment Fund ..."*.

THE ANGLICAN GAZETTE
the monthly magazine of the
Anglican Diocese of Rockhampton
Postal Address: PO Box 710, Rockhampton
E-Mail: gazette@anglicanrock.org.au
Phone: (07) 4927 3188
Fax: (07) 4922 4562
Website: www.anglicanrock.org.au

The Editorial Panel is not responsible for the opinions expressed by contributors – nor do their views necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Panel or the Diocese.

Editor: Mrs Kathy Thompson

DEADLINE:

14th of the month prior to publication



A JOURNEY THROUGH THE YEAR WITH MARK

Advent Sunday on November the 27th marked the beginning of the Christian year with the four weeks that lead us to Christmas.

Each year the Sunday readings have a special focus on one of the synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark or Luke, and while the Gospel of John does not have a year as such, his writings are used at certain points every year during major seasons, especially around Christmas, Lent and Easter, and as a backup in the year of Mark, because his Gospel is the shortest.

The readings in the Revised Common Lectionary as used in A Prayer Book for Australia are built around the main cycles of Christmas and Easter with a season of the year for the rest of the time, as well as various holy days and the celebration of saints.

Mark is the earliest of the gospels written, possibly between the 60s and early 70s AD. It is likely it was written for the Church in Rome, as the selection of material seems to be chosen to assist a church that had been suffering persecution, including the martyrdoms of Peter and Paul, and without such towering leadership was experiencing some internal division. The theme of the cross begins when Jesus is tested by Satan in chapter 1 and continues to overshadow his ministry in the constant and cosmic struggle between good and evil that is evident right **through to Jesus' last week in Jerusalem.**

As the Gospel unfolds it becomes clear that suffering and persecution will also be part of the **life of Jesus' followers.** The parable of the seeds falling on rocky ground, along with its interpretation that people fall away because of

"troubles", could be an allusion to Peter, who denied Jesus, and a warning that many others will do the same under pressure.

Mark is probably written after the great fire in Rome reputedly started by the emperor Nero in 64AD, after which persecution of Christians in the capital of the empire heightened and spread, and **Gospel phrases like "you will be hated by all for my sake" took on an intensity of meaning.**

This gospel is summarised in Jesus preaching in Mark 1.15. Now is the time of fulfilment, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Reform your lives and **place your faith in the good news".**

The main topic is the kingdom of God, and while there is an aspect that the kingdom is to be experienced in the future, the coming of Jesus in his activities and teaching also indicate that the kingdom has to a great degree already arrived, and needs a response.

The parables especially in 4.1-3 reveal Jesus' basic teaching about the kingdom where contrast is drawn between small beginnings in the present and the surprises of the future.

The power of Jesus as Herald of the Kingdom of God is also revealed in the charge he takes over storms at sea, the demonic, and sickness and death, all of which had previously been seen as being under the dominion of Satan in Jewish and **other eastern religious traditions.** Mark's emphasis on this is quite deliberate.

It is a Gospel that abundantly rewards deeper investigation and I would recommend this be done **with a good study guide such as "The People's Bible Commentary" by Dick France published by the Bible Reading Fellowship.** +GCF

Bishop John and Anne Bayton recently returned to Rockhampton, and visited Lis Escop where Anne had once lived as the daughter of Bishop and Moira Housden.



Revd Shaji Joseph with Deacon William Chol and Michael Lueth following the Eucharist for the Sudanese community at St David's Frenchville.





AROUND THE DIOCESE

SPRINGSURE

After a very busy year, activities in the Parish and elsewhere are slowing down. Schools are breaking up, holidays the order of the day and before we know it, Christmas will be upon us. What joy. I never cease to wonder how the birth of a baby born in a stable 2000 years ago can still bring that wonderful message of joy, peace, hope and goodwill to all people. Just imagine, there was no room for Joseph and Mary at the inn so they had to find accommodation elsewhere. The only place they could find was in a stable in a backyard where the Saviour was born in a manger, a trough in today's language. Not really a fitting place for a King to be born. Guests at the inn could not spare a moment to go and see the baby, they thought it must be very poor parents to give birth in a stable surrounded by animals. Little did they realize they missed the opportunity of seeing the Saviour of the World. I wonder if they regretted their decision? No room in the inn. Let us make sure that there is room in our hearts (inn) for Jesus always, especially as we come to celebrate His birthday. Every time we do something for the underprivileged, the lonely, the outcast there too we will meet Jesus, who has room in His heart for everyone and what could be better than that. Upon reflecting on some of the events in the past year at St Peters, the visit of our beloved Bishop Godfrey and Bronwyn stands out as a highlight. Sharing dinner at Rod and Anne **Carpenter's home was indeed a highlight.** A continuing pleasure is the Presbyterians coming to worship with us. We greet them **warmly.** Sharon's bible study group is growing and ably led by Mervyn, shows no sign of abating. After 80 years of All Saints being fenced in by an old netting fence, a brand new one has been erected. It is so new one can hardly recognize that it is All Saints standing inside it. We extend Christmas greetings to all from the Parish. *Anne Travers*

EMERALD FAIR

A very successful fair was held at St Luke's Emerald in October. The weather was fine and there was enjoyment for all who attended.

Highlights included dancers from the Emerald Dance Centre, the Treasure Trove, **Bishop Alf's 'Holy Herbs' stall, and the 'train'** - a tradition that still continues.



KEPPEL SINGS & SUPS

In September, the Yeppoon Choral Society staged four wonderful performances of the old time favourite musical 'Oklahoma' at the newly refurbished Yeppoon Town Hall. St James congregation catered for the intermission suppers and afternoon teas. Delicious plates of biscuits, slices & small cakes were provided by many of our excellent cooks and a small team of workers happily served between eighty and one hundred cups of tea, coffee or cold drinks in each fifteen minute interval. Still there was time to help the elderly find a seat and carry their cups and generally chat, joke and interact with many people. Our especially made aprons, embroidered

Ailsa Emmert, Phillip Ward, Lyndall Anderson, Marzley Baldwin, Patty Dawes



wearing aprons especially made for the occasion

with St James Keppel Parish, identified our church workers. What a wonderful opportunity to work together and provide a service to our community. We were encouraged by the many positive comments.

LONGREACH

We were delighted to see Canon Alan Lamb back from holidays looking fresh and fit; and helped him celebrate his 75th birthday with a very pleasant dinner at the Commercial Hotel. A visit from Bishop Godfrey for All Saints was a happy **occasion, and his thoughts on the "celebration" of Halloween** probably echoed the uneasiness many of us feel over this. The Ladies Guild is preparing the hall for a Christmas Wonderland, which entails six individual displays from various **sources. It will open to the public with our St Andrew's Day** celebrations but can be kept open for a longer period than the Christmas Tree Festival in the church. Our ecumenical service was held at the Pioneer Home for Remembrance Day, with the Community Choir making their usual appreciated contribution.



NORTH ROCKHAMPTON NATTERS

The men's breakfast was held in All Saints Community hall at St David's Church. Guest speaker, Dr Phillip Moulds, Principal of the Rockhampton Grammar School, highlighted important issues such as bullying and the steps taken in counteracting this problem mainly through counselling and support. The breakfast concluded with Dr Moulds playing a rendition of **the Beatles' 'Hey Jude'**. **At the November meeting,** Dr Nanjappa Ashwath, professor in botany at CQU was the guest speaker. Recently a luncheon was held at the North Rockhampton Bowls Club for present and former parishioners over 75, affectionately known as the **"Treasures of the Church"**. **Following the meal, everyone** participated in community singing. The GFS group has been busy; the leaders attended the annual **children's ministry fellowship weekend at**

Coolwaters; Revd Delfina attended GFS and talked to the children about how special they are; and at present the group are undertaking an Advent program in preparation for their breakup at the end of the month. The parish is conducting a Christmas raffle in the aim of raising enough funds to be sent to Papua New Guinea towards supplying school equipment for the schools. Commemorating All Saints Day, a dinner was held in the Parish hall. This was well patronised by the different families connected to the parish. This was a nice way of bringing together parishioners from both 7.30am and 9.30am Eucharists. All Souls was also commemorated with a special service. Parishioners were able to write the names of a loved one who have departed from this life, and have prayers offered for their souls. We extend to all Parishes in the Diocese a happy Christmas and a prosperous 2012.



WANDAL WORSHIPS

Celebrating one's patronal festival (in our case, St Luke) is always special, but this year we had a double celebration. We also had a Confirmation - which meant Bishop Godfrey and Bronwyn were present too! The young man who came forward for confirmation was Rob Lee Lewes. Family members travelled from Brisbane to support Rob on his important day. After the Eucharist we moved to the Hall where we enjoyed morning tea followed by brunch. Revd Barrie Harvey presented Rob with a Bible, a gift from the Parish, and which Bishop Godfrey inscribed. Rob also cut his confirmation cake, which was in the shape of a cross. **It's very encouraging to have Rob seek the sacrament of Confirmation, and we pray God's richest blessings on him as he continues his faith journey.**

DAWSON VALLEY DOUBLE DUNKS

It was a double celebration when twin girls, Addison May and Isabella Joyce were baptised by Revd Des Potter at **St George's Theodore**, and welcomed into the family of God by their proud parents, Scott and Michelle Hartwig, and Godparents, Jason Bode, Justin Morrison, Oriel Morrison and Susan Scarr. The girls were presented with teddies made by Lorna Goodland and Del Baxter, to mark the occasion.



GRACEMERE GATHERS

What a busy year we've had and how faithful our God has been to us! We now come to the end of 2011 but in a sense it's the beginning of a new year as we look forward to Advent and Christmas. Our Advent theme this year has taken on a Rugby Union slant due to the World Cup being played so recently. A word of explanation is probably needed here. **Advent 1: "Crouch" or "get ready". Advent 2: "Touch" or "get in touch with Jesus"** – this is also St Andrew's day so we will be exploring how he got in touch. **Advent 3: "Pause" or "weigh up the pros and cons". Advent 4: "Engage" or "jump in boots and all".** The over all theme is **"Close to the Final Whistle"** which will culminate at our Christmas service – whistle and all! We are also preparing for our annual Carols by Candlelight concert which we hold in the church grounds for the community. Many people are involved in this event using their many and varied gifts and it is a great witness to all around us. We at St Andrew's send all our sisters and brothers God's blessing for the year ahead.



ANSWERING CHILDREN'S QUESTIONS ABOUT HEAVEN & HELL

Part 7 in a 7 part series of quick answers for children.

What is heaven like?

We don't know the details, but it would be a beautiful place full of God's love.

Is hell real?

Yes. Jesus talked about hell too. All we know about hell is that it must be without God or any love.

What about heaven?

Jesus talked a lot about the kingdom of heaven as something we could be part of now, as well as in **the life to come, where he promised he would prepare a place for in his Father's house.**

Does hell have fire?

We don't know what hell is like, except that it's a place without God and his love.

Will bad people go to hell?

God is the only one who can decide that, because only God knows our hearts.

Are there angels in heaven?

Yes. Angels are God's messengers and the Bible tells us they are in heaven with God and other special heavenly beings.

This question series was written by Canon Janne Whitehead in response to questions asked of her during her 40 years of teaching RE in schools. If you would like a copy of the entire 7 parts, please contact the Gazette office.

R	G	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	N	E	S
G	A	L	I	L	E	E	S	U	S	E	J	A
N	B	T	N	L	R	L	P	G	U	A	O	N
M	R	M	E	H	E	L	H	T	E	B	S	G
W	I	S	E	M	E	N	S	T	A	R	E	E
R	E	G	N	A	M	A	R	Y	S	J	P	L
L	L	E	I	S	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S

KIDS CHRISTMAS PUZZLE

Angels	Bethlehem	Gabriel
Galilee	Jesus	Joseph
Manger	Mary	Nazareth
Shepherds	Star	Wise Men

Word puzzle based on the **Christmas Story in Luke's Gospel.**
MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE.

Answer key on page 8



END OF 2011: A BUSY TIME FOR MU

The Diocesan Council of The Mothers' Union held its Annual General Meeting and election of executive on November 4. President Lurline Jones, Secretary Noelle Frazer and Treasurer Jan Jenkins were all re-elected for another term. Members were pleased to learn that proceeds of the Centenary celebrations exceeded two thousand dollars for the Centenary project. Vacancies exist for leaders of some departments within MU: these are Education, Promotion & Development and Overseas & Northern Outreach. Members who are keen to

become more involved in MU are encouraged to approach either their branch president or Lurline or Noelle, who will explain the purpose of each of these departments. From experience, I can vouch that one gains more in knowledge than one expends in time. Such an opportunity arises in November as MU welcomes Bev Owens, the Australian Co-ordinator of the Overseas and Northern Outreach Department of MU who is visiting the Diocese. Bev is an energetic, much travelled lady, who has been a practical worker for improvements in health and education for families in many countries - among them Myanmar, and the Solomon Islands. Every Christmas MU members fill toiletry bags with items needed by women and **children who take refuge at the Women's Shelter. This year we included children's books and coloured pencils.** May you and your families enjoy a Happy, Holy and peaceful Christmas!

Sandra Barnbaum



DIOCESAN LAY RETREAT 2011

19 lay people from across the Diocese gathered for the 2011 Lay Retreat, held again at the beautiful Haven in Emu Park. The retreat conductor was Br Alfred Boonkong SSF, who led us through a marvellous introduction to Franciscan ideals. Pictured here is a poster of the San Damiano Cross, in front of which it is said that St Francis had his vision which led to him turning his life around and forming his brotherhood. During the Retreat we were challenged by searching questions as to how we would respond to some of the issues which faced St Francis, as well as being introduced to an inspiring Stations of Creation. The times of silence allowed for special blessings as



Br Alfred with the San Damiano Cross

The view from the dining room at the Haven



we spent time alone with no one else but God.

One memory stands out for me.... sitting on the lawn in silence in the darkness watching a spectacular moonrise above Keppel Island, while inside Allison Hutton, from Gladstone Parish, played hauntingly beautiful music on her bass recorder.

*Article: Caroline Strickland
Photos: Betty McLucas*



The Retreatants with Br Alfred

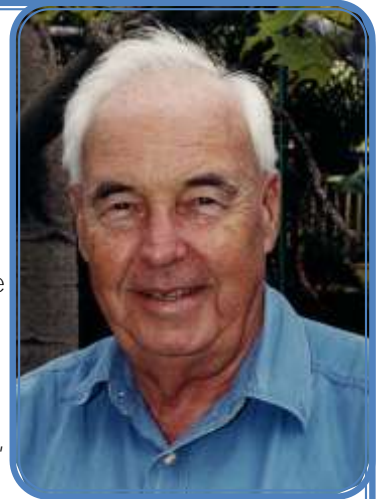
REST IN PEACE: FR MICHAEL HAYES

Excerpts taken from the homily preached by Fr John Grace at the funeral of Fr Michael Hayes

Father Michael Hayes excelled in both the vocations of Christian life and Priestly ministry, each gracefully grafted to his accommodating human nature. Priests from this Diocese and beyond embraced Mick as a brother and a friend. His loyalty extended to all. His ordained condition never separated him from anyone, nor did his close associations ever compromise his priestly integrity.

Father Michael's inclusiveness knew no bounds. He belonged as one with Aboriginal, South Sea and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, with the Filipino community, with Japanese students, with Indian residents of Hindu practice, with Asians of Buddhist connections, with Iranians of Bahai ways, with English Child Migrants and Orphans, and others felt squeezed to the edge of society. Michael functioned as did St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, **whose heart and ways he matched: "Never see a need without doing something about it". Together, we** bond affection, sorrow, pride, joy, faith and hope in the presence of a truly holy and saintly man. His many fields of endeavour included cofounding OPAL in Rockhampton, pastoral ministry at Woorabinda, full time Diocesan Chaplaincy to the Aboriginal Communities, the driving force of the Aboriginal and Islander Catholic Council, and prominent promoter of the Diocesan and State Conferences for these purposes. He is remembered in a Rehabilitation Centre in the city, named in his honour, and in a Catholic Education Award every year through a scholarship for Indigenous Students. In 1991 Mick was rewarded with the Order of Australia Medal for his industriousness. For years Mick walked the streets of the city meeting everyone with equal ease and on their level. To the townspeople, this was Father Mick on patrol, reaching out often where angels feared to tread. He **was the angel, the medium of God's loving presence. He freely unlocked his heart and his home to the** lonely and to the poor.

Thank you dear, friendly and compassionate Father Michael. You have been a living light who shined a wisdom gleaned from reflective experiences, some bitter others sweet, over many years. You are, indeed, a Diocesan Treasure.





130 YEARS ON, CHRISTCHURCH CATHEDRAL CEASES TO BE EXTRAORDINARY

The 130-year-old spiritual centrepiece of Christchurch was recently reduced to an ordinary ruin. Up to 350 people gathered under a leaden sky in Cathedral Square for the service of deconsecration, led by Bishop Victoria Matthews. Facing the broken entrance – albeit at a safe distance – the congregation quietly gave thanks for the extraordinary life and ministry of the place since the original consecration by Bishop Henry Harper in November 1881. In his mihi of welcome, Dean Peter Beck noted that “this is a sad day, and yet another step in the recovery and rebuilding of our city.” He paid tribute to the many “living stones” which had held the spirit of Christchurch for so many years, and concluded with a prayer from the former UN Secretary -General, Dag Hammarskjöld: “For all that has been, thanks. For all that will be, yes!” The opening hymn, led by the Cathedral Choir in red cassocks, was “One Church, one Faith, one Lord” –



*Christchurch Cathedral
Photo Credit: AnglicanTaonga*

not a bad confession in the face of such upheaval. Readings were from Lamentations (3:17-24) – “My soul is bereft of peace” – and Revelation (21:1-4): “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth...” In her homily, Bishop Victoria acknowledged the prevailing sorrow but focussed strongly on the hope of resurrection. “In homelessness, God’s love is still with us,” she said. “This is not a time to lose hope. We need to move on, knowing that what God has in store for us is more magnificent... We are a work in progress... Even as we deconsecrate, as we shed our tears, let us be full of hope because we go forward in the mission of Christ. It is the mission that matters... Let us be a pilgrim people – people of the resurrection.” Moving then to the formal deconsecration, Bishop Victoria declared: “I do remit this building, and all objects remaining in it, for any lawful and reputable use, according to the laws of this land. This building, having now been deconsecrated and secularized, I declare to be no longer subject to my canonical jurisdiction.” The next step in the cathedral saga – a \$4m exercise in itself – is to make safe what remains of the icon and to assess what may give rise to a new centrepiece.

<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/news.cfm/2011/11/11/ACNS4972>

THE DAWSON FAREWELLS OLD FRIENDS

Former parishioners joined with parishioners from the Dawson Valley Parish to say farewell to Fr Paul Gribble who has officially retired from visiting the Parish for communion services every fourth Sunday of each month. The Parish was left without a priest about 7 years ago and Fr Gribble's visits from Rockhampton have been greatly appreciated. He has been often called upon for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Back in the 1960's Fr Gribble was the Parish Priest of the Dawson Valley, which includes Baralaba, Moura and Theodore. Together with his wife Val, and 3 little boys, they became very involved in the communities and it was a sad day when they moved to Port Hedland WA. 34 years later, following his retirement, Fr Gribble returned to the Dawson Valley, and has been very much welcomed. Following his final service at St George's, Theodore, a luncheon was held to say thank you and gratitude to him and his wife, for their many years of faithful service to the people of this Parish.



Fr Gribble and Val displaying a collage of photographs which were presented as a memento of his time in the Parish.



Answer key for puzzle on page 6

ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

A protocol has been established to respond to any complaints of abuse within parishes and agencies of the Anglican Diocese of Rockhampton. Anyone wishing to seek assistance should telephone The Director of Professional Standards: Mr Rod McLary on 07 3835 2266



Now available:
2012 Lectionary
\$9.70 each
(plus postage)

Please call the Registry office to order.