

TRINITY NEWS

Sharing Jesus for Life

THIS WEEK

Sunday 1 December

8.30am Traditional Service followed by Morning Tea

10.30am Contemporary Service with Kids' Group followed by morning tea

Monday 2 December

7pm Monday Evening Fellowship Group

5.30pm Bell Practice

Tuesday 3 December

11am Prayer Gathering in Trinity Centre

1pm Tuesday Afternoon Fellowship Group

6.30pm Ladies' Dinner at Robin Hood Hotel

Wednesday 4 December

9.30am LAST Trinity Playgroup in Trinity Centre before the Summer break!

10.30am Traditional Service followed by morning tea

5-6pm Prayer Gathering in Trinity Centre

Thursday 5 December

10am Thursday Fellowship Group (ladies)

NO Kids Club - resumes in February 2025!

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 7 Dec

Christmas Market

Sunday 8 December

9.30am Family Christmas Craft & Morning Tea, Carol Service

2pm Organ Concert

Saturday 14 December

10am Christmas Morning Tea Garden Party

From Andy's Desk...

Are you good at waiting? Some of us are very patient, waiting as long as it takes, convinced that good things come to those who wait; some of us want it all yesterday!

Advent is about waiting - although maybe you've been waiting and now it's December you plan to bring out the mince pies and start Christmas.

Advent comes from the Latin word for "coming". In the New Testament we learn about two separate "comings" of Jesus into the world. First, 2000 years ago, Jesus came into our world as a baby, the eternal Word of God arrived on earth incognito, looking weak and unimpressive. The second coming of the Lord Jesus is still in the future. He will return as King and it will be unmistakable, and glorious, and it will mark the recreation of all things and the resurrection of all God's people. It will be stunning and wonderful for God's people, but terrifying and awful for those who continue to reject Jesus.

As we get ready to celebrate Jesus' first coming as our Saviour at Christmas, we also look forward to Jesus' return. And in fact, the two go together.

Our confidence in the promise of Jesus' future return and the guarantee of His coming, rests on our confidence that Jesus actually came 2000 years ago. You see, if Jesus' first coming was just a nice story to make us feel better in a dark, scary world, then we might also think that the idea that Jesus is coming back again is also just a nice story. A fairy story to hide the pain.

I don't know about you, but I want to know what is actually **true**. I want to know if Jesus really came, if he really did and said all those amazing things. If he really died and rose again. And that is where Luke can help us with his gospel account. The gospels are biographies of Jesus and Luke tells us in the opening verses that he has approached his biography of Jesus as a historian.

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. Luke 1:1-4

Luke tracked down the eyewitnesses, the people who saw and heard Jesus, just like an expert investigative reporter. He wanted to be able to know and he wanted his friend, Theophilus, to be able to know with certainty that Jesus really is the divine Son of God with power to save and forgive.

And because we can be certain about all the events of that first Christmas, and Jesus' death for our sins and his resurrection to life again, we can also be certain that he is coming back again in the future. We may not know when, but we know he will, and when he does we will see him face to face, we will become like him with no sin to spoil us or his new creation, and everything will finally be put right. Now that is worth waiting for!

With love in Christ,

Andy Martin, Rector



PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES**Church Family Prayer Gatherings - Tuesday 11am and Wednesday 5pm in Trinity Centre**

Please join with our Church family to pray for our ministry and mission over Christmas!

Advent & Christmas on the Bookstall

Getting ready for Jesus! There are fantastic Advent resources and Christmas gifts available for all ages - books, Bibles, advent calendars, websites, etc. Check the bookstall for some great ideas!

Women's Dinner - Tuesday 3 December, 6.30pm at the Robin Hood Hotel

Join us for a relaxed evening, getting to know one another better across our congregations. Come along for dinner, dessert or a drink. See Karen Willis or Amanda Martin for more details.

Christmas Market - Saturday 7 December 8.30am-12noon

See flyer for more details on how to get involved by volunteering & donating goods!

Family Christmas Craft & Morning Tea followed by Carol Service - Sunday 8 December 9.30am

Bring along your family and friends for a fun morning of Christmas craft in the Hall at 9.30am, followed by an all-age Family Carol Service in the church at 10.30am. See Amanda Martin for more details.

Organ Concert - Sunday 8 December 2pm

Join us for an afternoon of music and hymns to give thanks to God for our refurbished organ, with organist James Porteous. See flyer for more details.

Christmas Morning Tea Garden Party at the Martins - Saturday 14 December 10am-12noon

We invite the whole church family to join us for delicious treats and great company!

MISSION NEWS

Please sign the Christmas card for Bruce & Kathy, our mission partners in Nigeria. If you would like to contribute to a Christmas gift from us all, please pass your contribution to the church office.

PARISH COUNCIL Next Meeting: TBC

Andy Martin - Rector, Garry West - Rector's Warden, Rod Wykes - Warden & Treasurer
Lynne Middleton - Warden, Sandy Bosanquet - Secretary
John Bosanquet, Charles Jones, Elyse Gilbert, Steve White, Daniel Willis

If you have feedback, comments or questions for Parish Council please send an email to holytrinityorangesec@gmail.com or leave your contact details with the office and a member of Parish Council will contact you. Meeting Minutes are available to read in the church office.

GIVING FOR THE GOSPEL

If you would like to give financially to support the work at Holy Trinity of Sharing Jesus for Life, please take a copy of our **Giving** leaflet and prayerfully consider how you might contribute.

Gifts can be placed in the baskets or gift-box at church, or given online:

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Orange - NAB - BSB 082 774 - Account 391-842-618

SAFE MINISTRY

At Holy Trinity Orange we are committed to Safe Ministry and have zero tolerance for any kind of abuse.

We adhere to the NSW Child Safe Standards (see posters for more detail)

If you need to speak to someone about a concern please contact Andy Martin (Rector) or our Safe Ministry Coordinator, Heather Morgan (safeministry@holytrinityorange.org.au)

Alternatively, you can directly contact the Bathurst Diocesan Office (louise@bathurstanglican.org.au)

HOLY TRINITY ORANGE

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