

COLLECT: Lord Jesus Christ, at your first coming you sent your messenger to prepare the way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the ways of the righteous, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found acceptable people in your sight, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER BEFORE READING: Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us, showing us the way of salvation through faith in your Son. We ask you now to teach us through your word, so that we may be ready to serve you, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Next Week's Bible Readings:

2 Samuel 3:6-21

2 Peter 3:10-18

Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon Reading:

2 Peter 3:10-18

FEEDING ON GOD'S PROMISES

"Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong."

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 (NIV)

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WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Monday: 8.30am - Prayer Gathering
9-11am - Stay and Play (Playgroup) **IN RECESS**
2.00pm - Fellowship Gathering @ Woolgoolga Aged Care Centre

Tuesday: 8.30am - Prayer Gathering
4pm - Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday: 9-10am - Prayer Gathering
1.30pm - Women's Bible Study - fortnightly (Anne Dorman's home) **IN RECESS**
2pm - Women's Bible Study - fortnightly (Lilian Essex-Clark's home) **IN RECESS**
4pm - Sunday@10 Singing Practice
7.30-8.30pm - Men's Bible Study - **IN RECESS**

Thursday: 8.30am - Prayer Gathering
11.00am - Armchair Church @ Woolgoolga Aged Care Centre
4.30pm - 6pm - TEF - 8 Whitehaven Crescent (Hanger home)

Friday: 8.30am - Prayer Gathering
9am - Women's Bible Study - Alison Reeve's home (Rectory) **IN RECESS**
5.30pm - WiFY - Years 4-10 **IN RECESS**

NEXT COMBINED SERVICE IS December 31, 2023 @9am

DAYS OFF Simon—Thursday Pam—Friday



We warmly welcome you to Northern Beaches Anglicans.

If you are new, visiting, or one of our regulars we are glad you have joined us today.



'Trust the Plot' – 2 Peter 3:1-9

The first two verses of chapter 3 encapsulate the Christian life. Again, Peter wants to remind his audience of the importance of the Old Testament, the teachings of Jesus, and the teachings of the apostles. It is the Bible that ought to be the rule for all our lives. And it is the Bible that ought to stimulate us to wholesome thinking. Peter knows that in order to guard our sinful hearts from leading us astray we are to fill our minds with the things of God. So if you find yourselves stunted in your Christian growth, I think we will find it is because we are neglecting to take seriously the Word of God. So, why not let Peter's letter stimulate you to wholesome thinking?

PARISH SERVICES: SUNDAY@8 - 8AM (Holy Communion) &

Sunday@10 - 10AM (Family Service). **Combined Service** every 5th Sunday@9 - 9AM.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Mark Wyborn, Marj Simmons, Jeff Maher, Ian Fraser and Stephen Powell.
Northern Beaches Anglicans in the Diocese of Grafton is committed to protecting your privacy.
The people on this list have requested prayer at this time.

HOPE is born

Christmas Eve – Dec. 24
8am – Holy Communion
10am – Family Service
6pm – Kids' Christmas

Christmas Day – Dec. 25
8am – Holy Communion

NORTHERN BEACHES ANGLICANS CHRISTMAS

19 Scarborough Street, Woolgoolga
northernbeachesanglicans.org.au 6654-1370

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED:

A short 6-week course in the basics of Christianity will be run in the new year beginning on Monday evening 22nd January, 5:30-6:30pm at the church. If you know of, or are interested yourself in joining us, please contact Simon.



Thelma Watkins TODAY 17 Dec
Frances Robinson Tues 19 Dec
Aaron Anderson Tues 19 Dec
Steve Rea Tues 19 Dec
Pam Stone Thurs 21 Dec
Gideon Anderson Thurs 21 Dec
Adrienne Hatton Fri 22 Dec

May God bless you all on your special day



COMBINED SERVICE:

The next Combined Parish Service will be at 9am on Sunday 31 December, 2023. At this Service we will be hearing, about and praying for, the work of Coffs Coast Schools Ministry (CCSM) and the joy of school scripture in our region. Please make time to stay around after the Service for our Combined Parish morning tea.

"Trust the Plot"



This Week's Readings

2 Samuel 2:22-3:5 (pg 301)
2 Peter 3:1-9 (pg 1226)
Matthew 24:36-44 (pg 971)

This Week's Sermon Reading:

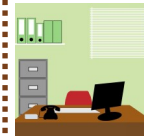
2 Peter 3:1-9 (pg 1226)

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS:



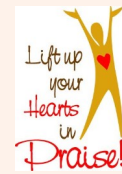
The Parish will be distributing its annual Christmas hampers in the next week to families who usually struggle at this time of the year. If you are available to help put together and distribute these hampers, please speak with Alison asap.

OFFICE CLOSURE:



The Parish Office will be unattended from Friday 22 December to Monday 8 January. For all pastoral matters please ring through the office number on 6654-1370, which will be diverted to the ministry team. Simon will be in and out of the parish 27-30 December, and then at CMS Summer School 5-10 January.

Today's Songs of Praise



@8* Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

- * Amazing Grace
- * God is Love
- * Before the Throne of God above
- @10*** All My Ways are Known to You
 - * Jesus, Strong and Kind
 - * By Faith
 - * Let Your Kingdom Come

ACCOMODATION REQUIRED:

One of our young congregation members is seeking accommodation locally in the new year. If anyone has a unit, a granny flat, or even a spare room available for rent please contact Simon.



OP SHOP CLOSURE:



The Op Shop will be closed to customers and donations from Friday 22 December to the 8 January 2024, meanwhile new carpet will be installed in the Parish Centre on 4-5 January. The Op Shop Volunteers will be having an Orientation Day on Monday 8 January before the shop opening on Tuesday 9 January, 2024.



GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP: Operation Christmas Child – Earlier in the year, in October, we sent off our

75 shoeboxes to be distributed to children in difficult circumstances around the world. We are not aware of which country these shoeboxes went, or what circumstances those who received these boxes will be in, but we can continue to pray that the simple gifts in each box will bring joy and delight to those who received them this Christmas. Please also continue to pray that the gospel message attached, and the invitation to The Greatest Journey discipleship course, will also be received with joy.