

COLLECT: Raise up your great power, Lord, and come among us to save us; that, although through our sins we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your plentiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the sufficiency of your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, 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 Readings:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalms 120

Luke 2:1-14

Next Week's Sermon Reading

Psalms 120

FEEDING ON GOD'S PROMISES:

'For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgement, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.'

Romans 12:3

Priest-in-Charge:	Rev Simon Reeve	0450 255 055
Associate Priest:	Rev David Hanger	0408 423 442
Seniors Ministry:	Rev Pam Stone	0418 228 885
Ministers:	The Congregation	
Office/Op Shop:	21 Scarborough Street, PO Box 49 Woolgoolga NSW 2456 66541370	
Email:	office@northernbeachesanglicans.org.au	
Website:	www.northernbeachesanglicans.org.au	

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Monday:	8.30am - Prayer Gathering 9-11am - Stay and Play (Playgroup) (In Recess) 2.00pm - Fellowship Gathering @ Woolgoolga Aged Care Centre (see Pam)
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 - Ministry Centre (In Recess)
Thursday:	8.30am - Prayer Gathering 11.00am - Armchair Church @ Woolgoolga Aged Care Centre (see Pam)
Friday:	8.30am - Prayer Gathering 9am - Women's Bible Study - Alison Reeve's home (Rector) (In Recess) 5.30pm - WiFY - Parish Centre - Years 4-10 (In Recess) 6.30pm - Friday Night Fellowship (In Recess)

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL PARISH ACTIVITIES

DAYS OFF Simon—Thursday Pam—Friday



18th December 2022 AD

MINISTRY MORSEL

As we **celebrate Christmas** personally and think how we can open **avenues of communication** with our family, neighbours and friends I found these words from **Scott Blackwell** helpful.

"**The child** who is born is, in truth, **a sign** himself. A sign of the **God who has been born**. It is that sign that reveals the sort of God who appoints and oversees these events. This is the God who **provides a rescuer** for all humanity. He himself is that rescuer. It is God himself who comes to us, born in a stable and placed in a manger at that first Christmas. He is **the God who becomes a human**."

The child born is a sign of the **kind of God we should worship**. Now at this point, it is worth pausing. These things are easily said, but they are **mind-boggling** in their implications. This is like suggesting that a **girl from Tasmania** can meet a guy in a bar in Sydney and as a result, become a princess in Denmark. It is inconceivable, and yet that is the story (moderately abbreviated though it might be) of **Crown Princess Mary of Denmark**. An Aussie girl from the Apple Isle becomes the soon-to-be-queen of a European nation. You can't write fiction that good! And yet as inconceivable as that story might be, it does not even begin to touch on the **astounding truths** that lie within the Bible, which speaks about the birth of a tiny human child as the **arrival to earth of the eternal God** of the universe.....Why?

Because this God has **committed himself to our salvation**, and in order to save us he becomes like us. He made a promise long ago to seek out and **save those who were lost and dying** as a result of their sin and rebellion. He had given expression to his deep desire to be the good shepherd and faithful overseer of our souls. And so in love and service, the God of the universe **takes on human flesh and becomes a man**.

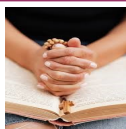
Astonishing! Inconceivable! Yet true.



**YOUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER -
A RESOURCE NOT A THROWAWAY**

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Rex Rainbow, Yve Fraser, Frances Robinson, Belinda Stone,
Mark Wyborn, Marj Simmons, Thelma Watkins, Belinda McHale.
Northern Beaches Anglicans in the Diocese of Grafton is committed to protecting your privacy. The people on this list have requested prayers at this time.



Frances Robinson

Mon 19 December

Aaron Anderson

Mon 19 December

Pam Stone

Wed 21 December

M

Wed 21 December

**Adrienne
Hatton**

Thurs 22 December

*May God bless you all on your
special day*



**Today's Songs
of Worship**

@8 *O Worship the Lord
in the Beauty of Holiness

*Spirit of Holiness

*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord

*Lord Jesus Christ

@10* Mighty to Save

*Yet not I but through Christ in me

*Consider Christ

*We Belong to the Day

ONLINE OFFERTORY:

NAME: **NBA Working Account**

BSB: **082 842** Account: **887941599**

Reference: **Offertory**



**FIRST AID
QUALIFICATIONS**

Parish Council is keen to identify any parishioners who have up to date first aid qualifications. If you do could you please let one of the Wardens know as we seek to improve our Work, Health & Safety practices.

SIMON'S COMMISSIONING

Simon's Commissioning as
Priest-in-Charge will take place on
Wednesday January 18 at 6pm.

2023 AGM: The AGM will be held on **Sunday February 26, 2023**. Please begin to **prayerfully consider nominations** for Wardens, Parochial Councillors and other elected positions. As **2023** is the **beginning of a new 3 year Synod cycle** there will also be **elections for a three year term of Synod Representatives and Parochial Nominators**. Nomination forms available at the back of the church. Please ensure correct nomination form is used for the position being nominated.



CHRISTMAS SEASON EVENTS

For your prayerful invitation of others our Christmas plans are:

TONIGHT Sandy Beach Carols (from 6pm)

Dec 24 6pm Family Christmas Eve Gathering

Dec 25 8am Christmas Day Holy Communion

'Read The Sign'

This Week's Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16 (Pg 686)

Romans 1:1-7 (Pg 1126)

Matthew 1:18-25 (Pg 966)

This Week's Sermon Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16 (Pg 686)



**FREE COVID
TESTING KITS and
N95 MASKS**

are available to the
parish family until supplies run out.
Please take them from the table at the
back of the church under the Notice
Board.

PARISH COUNCIL ROUNDUP

The final Parish Council meeting was held on Tuesday evening. It was a shortened meeting with the following outcomes:

- ◇ discussion and proposed alterations to draft budget which will be finalised and presented to the February meeting prior to the AGM
- ◇ approval of expenditure of up to \$1000 to train Op Shop day leaders and other parishioners to ensure First Aid Officers available daily in the parish
- ◇ discussion about Simon's Commissioning service
- ◇ meeting informed that air-conditioning to be installed in the church next week.



PARISH MISSION: As a parish family we **always seek to be on about the mission of spreading the Good News about Jesus**. From time to time that mission is refreshed by more focused activity, **more focused prayer** and **gospel enthusiasm** from **beyond the immediate family**. Refreshment is on its way through a mission team from **Sydney Missionary and Bible College (March 25 – April 2, 2023)**. Please put the dates in your forward planner. More importantly **please put this Mission on your prayer list NOW** and begin to cover every aspect of the mission in prayer. The **key to fruit** will not be the quality organisation or moving presentations but the **work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of people**.