

MORDIALLOC MOORINGS

A weekly newsletter from St Nicholas Anglican Church, Mordialloc

Fourth Sunday in Advent

21st December 2025

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD TODAY.....

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14. Romans 1:1-7. Matthew 1:18-25.

The scene revealed to us in Matthew this morning,
is in one sense very simple and also incredibly messy.

It is also filled with sacred intervention.

A woman is with child.

Her betrothed knows he is not the father.

He wants to break things off.

He is honourable and wishes to do so gently.

God breaks into the scene, via an angel

(we can compare the Annunciation – via an angel).

Maybe most importantly of all this man is told,

'do not be afraid'.

Do not be afraid, even though the child in your wife's womb
will be God breaking into history.

Today's reading from Isaiah gives a sense of the longing for this presence.

For a sign of something extraordinary.

A sign that 'God-is-with-us'.

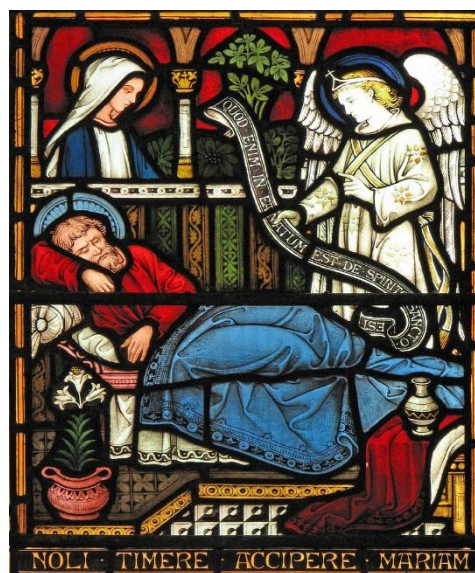
A sign that cannot remain understood as mere sign.

This presence changes everything.

As St Paul tells the Romans, it changes everything for the whole world.

How does it change things for you?

Advent Peace and Grace to you. Fr Ron



Celebrate Christmas at St Nicholas....

CHRISTMAS EVE 24TH DECEMBER

5.00pm - A 'Messy' Family Christmas Service

11.00pm - Midnight Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY 25TH DECEMBER

9.15am Holy Eucharist

As the Christmas season begins this coming Thursday evening and most,
if not all Parish groups are taking a break until almost the end of January 2026,
this is the last 'Mordialloc Moorings' until Sunday 25th Jan 2026.

As we make our way to begin our celebration of Christ's Nativity, from all at St Nicholas,
may a joyous and holy and peace-filled Christmas be yours this year.

MOTHER'S UNION AUSTRALIA – DEVOTIONS FOR ADVENT 2025

"THE NAMES AND TITLES OF JESUS"

The Bible gives us a variety of names and titles of Jesus. This aids our understanding of who he is and why he came among us. A number of these names and titles are revealed in the Christmas story. As we meditate on them, we are gazing at the real Jesus and why we worship him with all our hearts.

Luke 2:11 *'For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord'*

Of course, Jesus is most familiarly known as Jesus Christ. The first is his name, the second his title, Christ. Christ is the Messiah, a title again with royal connotations. But it reminds us in particular that Jesus did not simply appear unexpectedly. All the way through the Old Testament, God made promises. He promised a prophet greater than Moses, a priest greater than Aaron and a king greater than David. And so Jesus the Messiah can be identified because all the promises of God find their 'Yes!' in him. Our God is a faithful promise-keeping God, and he sends Jesus the Saviour, the King, the Lord, the Son of God, in order to save us, although we do not deserve it. Praise the Lord this Christmas!

Prayer

Dear Lord, we thank you that all your promises are fulfilled in our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Help us always to trust in your promises and live by this faith. Amen.

READINGS & HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY AND THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday after Advent 22nd December	<u>Isaiah 7.10-16 - Ps – 80.1-7, 17-19 - Romans 1.1-7 - Gospel, Matthew 1.18-25</u> TIS 264 Hark! a herald voice is calling - TIS 286 Light one candle (1,2,3,4) TIS 271 The advent of our God – TIS 318 Away in a manger – TIS 297 Come, your hearts and voices raising (vv 1,2,3,6,7) – TIS 316 O little town of Bethlehem
Christmas Eve 24th December 11.00pm & Christmas Day 25th December 9.15am	<u>Isaiah 9.2-7 - Psalm 96 - Titus 2.11-14 - Luke 2.1-20)</u> TIS 503 O come all ye faithful (1,2,3,6) - TIS 312 Once in royal David's city TIS 301 The first nowell ~~~~~ Hymns during communion TIS 311 Silent Night - TIS 318 Away in a Manger ~~~~~ TIS 393 Joy to the world
First Sunday after Christmas 28th December	<u>Isaiah 63.7-9 - Ps 148 - Hebrews 2.10-18 - Matthew 2.13-23</u> TIS 313: Good Christians all, rejoice - TIS 293 Unto us a child is born TIS 231 At the name of Jesus - TIS 393 Joy to the world

Weekly Use of St Nicholas' Narthex & Church.....

Groups meet at St Nicholas in the following order:

Monday: Peaceful Living Yoga, 6.00pm - 7.15pm & 7.30 - 8.30pm
Tuesday: Peaceful Living Yoga, 10.00am - 11.15am
Thursday: Peaceful Living Yoga 10.30 – 11.15am / Parkinson's Support Group 1 - 3pm
(2nd Thursday of the month)
Saturday: Peaceful Living Yoga 'Restorative' class 10.00am – 12.00 noon (new dates in 2026)
Peaceful Living Yoga classes are now innrecess over the Christmas break. Classes resume in 19th January 2026

This Newsletter comes from the Parish of St Nicholas Mordialloc.
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