

CHURCH THIS WEEK

9:30am: John
Second Sunday of Advent
Bible Readings:
Ps 85:1-2,8-13
Isa 40:1-11
2 Pet 3:8-15a
Matt 25:14-30

(**Children's Church** is on today for children in K-Yr 3)
(**Kid's Time** is on today for kids from Years 4-9).

5pm Jesus Talk

NEXT WEEK

9:30am: Mark
Third Sunday of Advent
Bible Readings:
Ps 126
Isa 61:1-11
1 Thes 5:12-28
Matt 25:31-46

(**Children's Church** is on today for children in K-Yr 3)
(**Kid's Time** is in recess for the holidays).

5pm Jesus Talk

Sentence of the Day:

'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' (Matthew 25:21)

The Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Contact

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Sermons – Audio & Video

www.stmarksbassendean.church/blog



Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbassendean>



St Marks Bassendean YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkz-PyfZ7TSSOOVsH7OUegQ>



SUNDAY MEETINGS

Sundays at 9:30am – Prayer, Praise, Proclamation & Holy Communion

Sundays at 5pm - Jesus Talk

"the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy" (Rev 19:10)
Jesus Talk seeks to be a "prophetic hub" where Christ- concentrated expressions of prayer, praise, and proclamation, can take place in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Church Council

Church Wardens:

Shirley Landon
Roger Wright

Councillors

Alan Hunt
Mary Lindsey
Jennifer Murray
Marilyn Wright

Welcome to ST MARK'S BASSENDEAN

*Discovering and demonstrating Jesus' love
in Bassendean and beyond.*

10 December 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

Imagine someone is at work and their boss goes away – what do they do? Work diligently? Or maybe this is the time to check social media, have that long hair appointment, take an all-afternoon lunch... It's tempting isn't it?!

This advent we are looking at Jesus' parables in Matthew 25, and they're all about how his disciples are to wait for his return. Like a boss out of the office, right now Jesus is physically 'away'. So, what do we do? Jesus tells a parable where three servants are entrusted with 3 different amounts of money to invest and make a return on (Matt 25:14-30). Two of them go get to work, and double what they had. When the master returns, they receive a wonderful commendation. But the third servant does, well, nothing. He just buries what he was given, and probably enjoys his days on the golf course! But the master does return and says he is "wicked and lazy," and he is to be thrown outside.

Like the master in the parable, Jesus cares very much that his 'assets' belonging to him are grown. And what is that? The most simple answer, I think, is: the church. Not meaning these physical buildings, but people who know and trust Jesus. And Jesus has entrusted to us the means of growing his church: Spirit-empowered, prayer-based sharing of his Word. Now of course, just as the servants in the parable are given different amounts, we are all given different opportunities for growing the church. The question isn't what we're given, but what will we do with what we're given? Is it possible that we might be living like the servant who just buried his bag of gold, going off to do our own things? If so, we need to hear Jesus' warning. But in telling this parable, Jesus also gives great encouragement. To everyone who knows him and seeks to live for him, you can be assured the day will come when he will say, 'well done, good and faithful servant... come and share your master's happiness.' And your share in his happiness will be great indeed. One of the things I love about Christmas time is the many opportunities it gives us to very naturally share of Christ, or extend an invitation, or pray for others, and more. So, this Christmas, how might we prayerfully seek to grow Christ's church?

In and for Christ,
Mark

WELCOME

Welcome to St Mark's. We are an active Anglican church of all ages and walks of life, seeking to grow in the likeness of Christ and welcome new members and visitors.

Please relax and enjoy the worship and fellowship. Are you **new to this church**? Please make yourself known to one of the ministers or service leaders. You may also like to complete and return the **Welcome Form**.

The **Order of Service** may be followed on the screen.

The **Holy Communion** is open to all believers. Visitors are welcome to receive Communion if they normally take it in their own church. Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the minister when you come to communion.

Praying Together This Week: Help to live & share the gospel & for people to come to Christ; Those who are unwell; Christians being persecuted; Myanmar; Afghanistan; Ukraine; Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Israel & Gaza; our Youth Group, our Children's Ministries, for people from Bassendean to come to some of our Christmas services.

Regular Parish Prayer Meeting - Every second Saturday **11:30am-12:30pm** in the church
Dates: 9/12
For more Info: please talk to Shirley or Mary. **(Note time change)**

John Yates Teaching Series: Worship Old and New –Sundays at 5pm

You are invited to this new 8 week series which will be held at St Mark's on Sunday's 5pm from 29th October to 16th December. John will address the current worship crisis in the Church, the central symptom of which is the lack of deep discipleship in our city/state/nation and point us to renewal in Christ and his story of redemption, including practical outworking of this in our personal and corporate worship. All welcome.

Celebrate Christmas at St Mark's - Christmas Services for this year:
Sun 24 Dec at 5pm - Christmas Eve Nativity Family Service
Mon 25 Dec at 9:30am - Christmas Day Service

Bible Study Groups

Women's Bible Study:

Mondays 7-7:30pm catch up, 7:30-9pm Prayer & Study in Bassendean – Contact Donna – 0401 615 819 – In Recess for the Holidays

Men's Bible Studies:

Tuesdays 6:30pm in Bayswater – Contact Mark – 0406 659 249

Also **Tuesdays** 6:30pm - location varies between Swan View and Bassendean
Contact Roger – 0408 096 022 – In Recess for the Holidays

Wednesdays 5-6pm in the church – Contact John – 0405 640 740

Men's & Women's Bible Studies:

Wednesdays 9-10am in the church led by John - 0405 640 740

Thursdays 7:30pm in Bassendean at Charles and Charmaine's place. Contact Charmaine – 0421 868 321 – In Recess for the Holidays

MISSION PROJECT UPDATE Information for your Prayers



is a Christian charity partnering with churches in more than 50 of the world's poorest and disaster affected countries (such as the recent Afghanistan earthquake) with the aim to end poverty and starvation in disaster areas.

Do you give useful and meaningful gifts at Christmas?



When you buy a goat, a chicken, safe water, or a toilet

from the TEARFUND Christmas Card project, you are helping people living in difficult places to feed and educate themselves and their families. Every item represents a long-term TEARFUND poverty-fighting project run by one of TEARFUND'S partners aimed at helping people gain the skills and resources to address local problems and fight poverty to create a more sustainable world.

When you give this card to a loved one as a gift, they too can experience the joy of helping to eliminate poverty, and of feeding our starving world both spiritually and physically.

St Mark's supports TEARFUND – please see Barbara Mallett for more information.

Save the Dates – Women Together for 2024

9 March; 4 May; 27 July; 14 September; 9 November
See Barb Wadley, Donna Yates, Verna Fernie for more info.

**Coffee and Chat plus
Mens Breakfast are now
in recess for the Summer.**

Youth Group – In Recess for the Holidays

Youth Group meets fortnightly during term time for young people in years 4-9.

We play crazy games then share a meal and learn about Jesus together. Dinner provided.

Saturdays 4-6pm, at the Church Hall - all welcome.

Dates for 2024 TBA

Contact Andrew, Ros, or Charmaine

Financial Information for October 2023:

Total income: \$13,316.25 made up as follows:

Envelopes - \$2,359.20

Direct Giving - \$8,040.00

Open Plate - \$1,130.00

Other - \$1,787.05

Total Expenses: \$12,768.32

Bank Account Details:

Anglican Community Fund

BSB: 706 001 **A/c No:** 300070717

Name: Anglican Parish of Bassendean.

*Please identify payment, i.e., offering. No need to use your name if you prefer not to. **More info from Jenny***

We encourage people to use direct deposit or direct debit (forms available at the back of the church).