

CHURCH THIS 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

NEXT WEEK

9:30am: Mark
Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve
Bible Readings:
Ps 89:1-4,19-27
2 Sam 7:11-16
Rom 16:25-27
Matt 1-1-17

(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:
'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25:40)

The Prayer of the Day
Stir up, we pray you, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

17 December 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

Here we are screeching into Christmas just a week away! Here are a few questions which may be helpful for us as we do so:

How might we adore Christ this Christmas?

Matthew 2:11 "they [the Magi] bowed down and worshipped him".

It's so easy for all our attention to be consumed by the busyness, gifts and food. But at the heart of Christmas is the good news of God fulfilling his promises to send a King who "will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness" (Isa 9:7). The babe in a manger is also the King worthy of our adoration and worship and obedience. How might we "come" and "adore him" this Christmas?

How might we rejoice this Christmas?

Luke 2:10 "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people".

Christmas can often be a time of disappointments and sadnesses. It is easy to look at our circumstances (or compare them to others as curated on social media!) and grumble. How good to bring into view the bigger Christmas news that "a Saviour has been born to you" (Luke 2:10). How might we instead cultivate and express our thankfulness and "great joy"?

How might we give this Christmas?

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..."

Christmas is *supposedly* a time of 'goodwill' to others. But why? For us who know God's indescribable gift in giving us Jesus, we have the best motivation to give to others, whether in hospitality or care or gifts or more. So, to our friends, family, neighbours, community-members, are there ways we can express the generous love of God this Christmas?

How we share the good news this Christmas?

Luke 2:17 "[the shepherds] spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child".

We have something much better than Santa to celebrate and make known! In Christ God has given us a Saviour, who does not reward us for being 'good', but the opposite, "saves his people from their sins." So please do be praying for opportunities to share of Christ this Christmas. Perhaps for those informal conversations with friends or family we gather with? Perhaps in a thoughtful social media post? Perhaps in invitations to our Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services we could extend to neighbours or friends?

In 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: TBC - In Recess for the Holidays
For more Info: please talk to Shirley or Mary.

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

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).