

Services

Sunday 8.30am	Holy Communion (traditional)
Sunday 10.30am	All age worship (contemporary service with kids & junior youth programs)
Sunday 6pm	Sunday at Six (for the young and young at heart)
Wednesday 10.30am	Holy Communion and companion time

Next Week's Sermon

8.30am, 10.30am & SAS

Words of Paradise

continued

Simon Jackson

Upcoming Events

Combined Carols Services

10am & 5pm **Sunday 13 December**

St Matt's Church

Christmas Eve Services

5pm Children's - St Matt's

5pm Children's - St Bart's

11pm - St Matt's

Christmas Day services

8am & 9.30am - St Matt's

9am - St Bart's

9.30am - Trinity Gardens

Combined Services

27 December 10am - St Matt's

3 January 10am - St Matt's

Partner Churches

St Bartholomew's Norwood

77 Beulah Rd Norwood

Grace Church Trinity Gardens

Trinity Gardens Bowling Club

Canterbury Ave Trinity Gardens

Grace Anglican Network Office

146 Kensington Rd Marryatville

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed & Thurs 9am - 12pm

Tuesday 1-3pm

Giving Electronically to St Matt's

BSB: 105 073

Account No: 286 016 340

If you require a reference we recommend using your surname.



St Matthew's
KENSINGTON

Prepared for Christmas

29 November 2015

As the Norwood pageant heralds the Christmas season, the question is always – are we prepared?

I want to suggest a couple of areas that seem to drop of my list in the rush and business that can come.

- Invite friends and family to Carols and Christmas services (we have some great services that are ideal for these invites. Why not invite a few people to come along with you and then join you for a cuppa or drinks back at your place afterwards?)
- My response as to why Christmas is important (It often comes up in conversation at parties and at work – what are you looking forward to this Christmas? What do you like about Christmas? and so on. The Apostle Peter encourages us to have an answer ready that will point to Jesus.

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect 1 Peter 3:15

I encourage you to be looking out for those opportunities where you can gently and naturally let those around you know that for you Christmas is about your saviour being born, that it is a significant celebration of your faith and that it is good news for everyone ...why not join me at our Church this Christmas?

I pray that God in his graciousness will give us many opportunities in the lead up to this Christmas to share our faith with those around. Joy to the world, as they say!!

Blessings, David Bassett (Senior Minister)



Prayer Points

Special Needs: Joy Blanch & Daniel, Judy & Ian Black

Prayer focus

- pray for those effected by the fires to our north. For those in grief, those who have lost homes and livelihoods, for communities as they support one another.
- give thanks for the witness of the combined local churches at the Norwood pageant. Pray that the local churches will be faithful in witnessing God's love to all.
- pray for our preparations for the carol and Christmas services and for many visitors to join us.
- pray that we may all use the opportunities that Christmas brings to share with others our faith and encourage them to know more about Jesus and put their trust in him.

Community Notices

Congratulations to Liam Grosvenor and Naomi Winter who were married at St Matt's yesterday.

TEAR useful gift's shop

TEAR useful gift shop is running this year at St Matt's after the 10.30am service on Sunday. For more information contact Robyn Lakos

Let's do lunch

Thursday Dec 10, 12 noon at Elibio's on The Parade. Topic: Christmas: Revelation and Incarnation. Bring a gift for Anglicare Food Hampers. For more details contact Rowena 8362 6409.

Knitted Squares for Refugees

Thanks to all knitters. Please bring your squares to the St Matt's office or to St Bart' For more information contact Rowena Dunk (8362 6409).

Magdalene Centre

Thank you to those who helped prepare and serve the meal at the Mag center, it was a big success. One man thought it was Christmas and another said it was the best meal he had ever had.

Roast Lunch

Reminder that the next Roast Lunch will be on the 13 December at St Matt's at 12.30pm. There is a sheet located in the hall to write your name to indicate you will be attending. All welcome.

Barnabus Petition

Final weeks to sign petition to help persecuted Christians. See Geoff Bloor or Glenyss Barker on Sunday to sign.

St Matt's Flower and Brass roster

We are looking for more people to be involved in this ministry. Please contact the office for more information.

St Matt's Thanksgiving Day

On December 6 we will be having a special focus of thanksgiving at our services at St Matt's. It is an opportunity to focus on the goodness of God to us over this year. It is also an opportunity for a thanksgiving offertory in response to God's goodness and in support of the ministry He has called us to. Our thanksgiving offertory will be used to support the work of our ministries and the maintenance program. Please consider how you can respond to God's goodness over this last year.

Magdalene Centre donations for Christmas hampers and gifts

As we are getting closer to Christmas we are hoping to increase our giving of food items to the Mag Centre and also donate gifts, the food and gifts will be given to disadvantaged individuals and families this Christmas. Food items include: tinned ham and tuna, canned veg, canned fruit, cordial, treats, Christmas cake, biscuits, long life milk, coffee, milo, tea, spreads and jams, pasta and pasta sauce. Gift ideas include: dolls, art and craft sets, tennis balls, Lego kits, tea sets, books, DVD's, stationery, jigsaws, jewellery, balls, board games. Please drop donations in the labelled red bin in the foyer of St Matt's church (for more suggestions of food or gift donations please contact the office).

Christmas Cards

In the St Matt's hall there are Anglicare Christmas cards on display which can be ordered by filling in one of the order forms found next to the cards and placing it in the office door slot. For more information contact Glenys Gould 8364 1117.

BICC Prayer Breakfast

The next Inter-Church prayer breakfast will be held at St Matt's on Saturday 5 December from 7.30-9am.