



**1 December 2024**

**Our mission is to:**

***Shine with the love of Jesus, grow mature disciples and declare the Good News.***

## **Advent 1**

Every time I travel to New Zealand, my family always ask what time are you arriving and I can reasonably confidently say the appointed time. They do this so that they can plan for our arrival. Paul has a similar image for the “appointed time” for Christ’s second coming— only on an infinitely grander scale—in 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17. When a Roman emperor or provincial governor arrived with great fanfare to visit a city, the civic dignitaries would go out for a meeting with him as he approached and accompany him into their city. Believers who are alive when the “appointed time” comes will do the same: we will meet and welcome Jesus back, forever, as the returning king of His eternal new creation.

That is the glorious Advent hope which fills our hearts and worship in these weeks before we celebrate Christ’s first coming. And its “appointed time” is known only to God; we are not to waste time guessing its ETA but to be prepared at all times. And there will be no flight delays, strikes, or bad weather! But it is the second “appointed time.”

During advent, God invites us to slow down, to relearn a pace of life that is unhurried so that we can focus on a life lived in God’s light. This life is one filled with hope, peace, joy and love. Jesus encourages us to live in ‘readiness’ – always aware that Christ’s coming is immanent and avoiding the temptation of growing absorbed in self-interest and personal pleasure. This week let’s celebrate and open ourselves to the power of God’s gift of hope in Christ.

**Contact Us:**

**Admin:** Jaqueline Hendrey 9772 1251

**Vicar:** Rev Sue Bluett: 0433 024 626

**Ass’t Minister:** Rev Julia Boyd: 0400 356 696

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## Prayer and Praise

- Pray for Cheryl Sullivan, Richard Temby and Nigel Rosen who are all receiving treatment for continuing struggles with cancer.
- Pray that our Advent and Christmas services, the Inter-church Carols and our other Christmas activities, draw those who attend closer to God.

## Coffee and Chat 1-2.30 pm Thursday 12 December

Thank you to the team who hosted the coffee and chat last Thursday. A great time was had by all. In December, we will be having Christmas Carol Melodies so come along for an enjoyable afternoon on the second Thursday of the month this time. Bring your friends and family.

## Do you like singing? Join the choir at the Inter-church Carols

On Sunday 8 December, a choir from our local churches will be singing the Hallelujah Chorus. There will be a practice on Monday 2 December at 7.30pm at the Town Hall. Let Sue know if you would like to join in.

## Thank you to those who helped with the Market Fundraiser

On Saturday at GWAC, our stall table was laden with lots of jams, pickles, biscuits, slices and Rocky Road Christmas trees. \$750 of goodies were sold with Ron Peterson winning the prize for salesman of the year. Thank you to everyone who cooked and helped price and sell on the day.

## Alpha 2025

Alpha is starting on 25 February 2025. It is a great opportunity to invite those who are seeking answers to life and faith. The Alpha course is a series of discussions run over 10 weeks and a Saturday that explores who Jesus is and what relevance he has for our lives. Each session begins with fellowship over a meal, then a video presentation, followed by coffee and a discussion of the topic that was explored that week. Many have come to faith through this course around the world so please pray for many to come and that they will either come to a faith in Jesus or grow in their discipleship. Please pray about who God wants you to ask along and consider coming yourself. Also, if you could help as a table leader, a helper or in the kitchen please see Julia or Sue.



**Happy Birthday—Tina S, Metche L, Dale S  
Congratulations Ken and Sue married 52 years!**

**Bible Reading December 8— Luke 1:5-25**

## **Opening and closing times for our outreach programs**

### **Matt's Place & Lunch Church**

Christmas lunch at 11:30am on Tuesday 17 December (last day for 2024)  
and reopening on Tuesday 21 January 2025

### **Pantry 5000**

Wednesday 18 December 9:30am-1:30pm

**Wednesday 25 December & January 1 PANTRY CLOSED**

Wednesday 8 January 10:00am-12:00pm

Wednesday 15 January 9:30am-1:30pm

### **Services in the parish over the New Year**

On the Sundays following Christmas we will have combined services on the following dates, times and churches.

December 29—10:00am Combined Service at St Chad's

January 5 & 12—10:00am Combined Service at St Chad's

January 19—8am & 10am Services at St Chads

January 26—10am at St Chad's & 11am St Aidan's

## **What's on at the Longbeach Church for Christmas 2024**

### **Sunday 1 December**

4:00pm Children and Families Christmas Party  
at the Hendrey's (see Sue or Jaqueline for an invitation)

### **Sunday 8 December at the Chelsea Town Hall**

4:00pm Inter-church Council Christmas Carols

(Featuring Inter-church choir, Wayne and our Puppets)

### **Sunday 22 December at St Chad's**

10am Seven Lessons and Carols at St Chad's (with communion)  
(including pageant rehearsal for the children)

11am Seven Lessons and Carols at Aidan's (without communion)

### **Tuesday 24 December**

7pm Family service at St Chad's (With the pageant and puppets)

11pm Holy Communion at St Chad's

11pm Holy Communion at St Aidan's

### **Wednesday 25 December**

9.30 am Holy Communion at St Chad's

## **Volunteers needed over Christmas**

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, it is great to have morning tea or supper, especially for those who are lonely. If you could help with morning tea/supper, cleaning up after communion or being part of the prayer team, could you please let Jaqueline know.

## Services in the church

10am at St Chad's every Sunday  
8am at St Chad's 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month  
11am at St Aidan's 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

## This week in the church

Mon 11am Pastoral Care Meeting  
Tues 11:30am Matt's Place  
Tues 11:30am Lunch Church  
Wed 9:30am-1:30pm Pantry 5000  
Wed 1pm Church Prayer Meeting  
Thurs 7pm Singing Group at St Chad's (28/11 & 12/11)  
Fri 10am Quilting & Craft at St Chad's (29/11 & 13/12)

## Soon in the church

1 December 4pm Children's and families Christmas party  
8 December 4pm Inter-church Council Christmas Carols  
12 December 1pm Coffee and Chat at St Chad's  
24-25 December See page 3 for our Christmas services

**Pantry 5000 Food of the Week ... Cereal and instant noodles**

### Prayer Chain requests—Christine Taylor 0407 725 692

**Ongoing prayer**—email requests to Jaqueline or Sue

**Pastoral care**—Sue Bluett 0433 024 626

**Prayer has been requested for:** Bill, Cale, Caleb, Candice, Colin, Di, Geoff P, Graham, Grahame, Isla, Jack, Jacky, Jade, Jasmine, Jess, Julie, Kayden & Elisabeth, Kirsty, Kirstie, Lee, Margot, Michael, Monica, Nigel & Chris, Nola, Paul, Phoebe, Richard T, Stephen T, Tina, Will

**Offering Via Direct Debit—Our bank details are:**

**Account Name: Anglican Parish of Longbeach**

**Bendigo Bank BSB No. 6 3 3— 0 0 0**

**Account No. 1 5 3 7 4 5 2 2 9**

Please label with the words "tithe" or "offering". Or you can scan the QR code on the right & make your giving via our Shout For Good account. Thank you.



**Wardens**

**Natalie Allinson, Julie Whalan**

**Treasurer**

**Sofia Gerandt [finance@longbeachanglicans.org.au](mailto:finance@longbeachanglicans.org.au)**

**Child Safety Officers**

**Julia Boyd, Jaqueline H.**

**Compliance Officer**

**Zilpha Barker [longbeachcompliance@gmail.com](mailto:longbeachcompliance@gmail.com)**