

Featured News

**SHARING
JESUS
for LIFE**



FIVE WEEK SERIES

**ADVENT 2022
JESUS IS COMING**

1. BE READY – MATT 24:36-44
2. LOOK FORWARD – ISAIAH 11:1-10
3. GLADNESS AND JOY AWAIT – ISAIAH 35:1-10
4. EVERY TEAR WILL BE WIPED AWAY – REV 21:1-7
5. THE GRACE OF GOD HAS APPEARED – TI 2:11-14




CAROLS

Coonamble 6 Dec 6pm	Gilgandra 7 Dec 6pm
O'Connell 9 Dec 7pm	Condobolin 12 Dec 6pm
West Wyalong 18 Dec 6pm	
Glenelg 23 Dec 5pm	Grenfell 23 Dec 8pm

**BATHURST
DIOCESE**
Sharing Jesus for Life

Bishop's Christmas sermon

CHRISTMAS

The grace of God has appeared

TITUS 2:11-14



General News

Ordination—03 Dec, at the Cathedral, 11am – Jonny Lush and Tim Smith – deacons; Steven Klouth and James Daymond - priest. Clergy are welcome to robe and process (choir habit or alb and white).

Thanksgiving service - 30 years of women in ordained ministry – 10 Dec, Cathedral – 10.30am – with Bishop Sonia from Newcastle diocese preaching, and Archdeacon Joy Harris presiding at communion. Clergy welcome to robe – alb & white.

COMMISSIONING SERVICES

Grenfell – Tim Smith

11am Sat Jan 21

Oberon – Jonny Lush

1.30pm Sun Jan 22

Cowra – Ben Connelly

1.30pm Sat Jan 28

West Wyalong – Steven Klouth

11am Sat Feb 11

Cobar – James Daymond - TBC
Clergy are welcome to robe and process (choir habit or alb and white), except for Oberon.

Diocesan office – closed from midday Fri 23 Dec - Mon 09 Jan. Contact the bishop if urgent.

Assistant registrar role – 1 day p/w available. Ask Louise for PD.

CAROL SERVICES

The Bishop will conduct family carol services in the diocese:

Coonamble 06 December – 6pm

Gilgandra 07 December – 6pm

O'Connell 09 December – 7pm

Condobolin 12 December – 6pm

West Wyalong 18 Dec – 6pm

Glenelg 23 Dec – 5pm

Grenfell 23 Dec – 8pm

Contact Mark quickly if you would love one at your church.

Christmas resources – Mark has service outlines, power points and music to share if helpful.

Quarterly magazine – covering ministry across the diocese. Email Mark if you could help.

Gambling – Contact your state MP re gambling prior to the state election. Email Mark for more information.

Bishop writes

Dear friends,

My guess is that most of us are well and truly getting into Christmas planning and shopping. Some of you may have purchased an Advent calendar which are increasingly popular. However, the secular version seems to be all about helping kids countdown to Christmas. That is not actually what Advent is about!

Properly understood, Advent is about preparing for Christ's second coming - not about counting down to Christmas!

In Advent we look forward to Christ's *second* coming and then at Christmas we celebrate his *first* coming because it is the promise - the guarantee - the beginning of God's plans to save the world through his Son Jesus.

Our sermon series this Advent, is "Jesus is coming" using the lectionary readings to help us explore all that Jesus' coming will mean. We are to be ready; we are to look forward, we're to realise that gladness and joy await and that every tear will be wiped away! I trust the series brings great hope and joy – because – Jesus is coming!

As the year draws to an end, great thanks are due to Warwick Baines and Louise Hickey in the office, the Bishop's leadership team, Bishop-in-Council, the Anglican Property Trust, to all our clergy and LLMs who serve so sacrificially, our Churchwardens, treasurers and parish secretaries, all who serve on parish councils, those who have been parish nominators and so on!! So many! Yet of course - each and every one of you play a very significant role in your church for we are all members of the body of Christ! Thank you.

Have a wonderful Christmas as we celebrate that because Jesus came among us, we have a hope and a future!

Mark

**The Rt Rev'd Mark Calder
Bishop of Bathurst**

Upcoming sermons

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS – JESUS IS COMING

NOV 27	ADVENT 1	Be ready	Matthew 24:36-44
DEC 04	ADVENT 2	Look forward	Isaiah 11:1-10
DEC 11	ADVENT 3	Gladness and joy await	Isaiah 35:1-10
DEC 18	ADVENT 4	Every tear will be wiped away	Rev 21:1-7
DEC 25	CHRISTMAS	The grace of God has appeared!	Titus 2:11-14

SUMMER SERIES – EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING

JAN 01	Chosen	Ephesians 1:3-10
JAN 08	Predestined	Ephesians 1:3-10
JAN 15	Adopted	Ephesians 1:3-10
JAN 22	Redeemed	Ephesians 1:3-10
JAN 29	Informed	Ephesians 1:3-10

YEAR LAUNCH - SEEK, SHINE, GO!

FEB 05	Seek first the kingdom of God	Matthew 6:25-34
FEB 12	Let your light shine before others	Matthew 5:1-16
FEB 19	Go and make disciples of all nations	Matthew 28:16-20

LENTEN STUDIES/LENTEN SERMONS – START SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY

These will be combined this year, with discussion questions made available.

The specific outline and passages are still in the planning stage, but we will spend three weeks on the facts, meaning and significance of the death of Jesus Christ, and three weeks on the facts, meaning and significance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

A great way to prepare for Easter – which is what Lent is designed to do.

Please Pray

Pray for those leaving the diocese to take up new opportunities:

Canon Tim Fogo – commissioning in Deniliquin Fri 27 Jan, time TBC

Archdeacon Joy Harris – commissioning at Crookwell – TBC

The Rev'd Natalie Quince – commissioning at Taree – 31 January – 6pm

The Rev'd Matthew Brooks-Lloyd – starting in Ulverstone, Tas, Feb.

Please pray for Tim, Joy, Natalie, and Matthew and their families - for the Lord's peace in transition and that they will be a wonderful blessing in their new parishes.

Christmas services – pray these will be great opportunities to share the good news of Jesus so that others may find life in him. Pray that many will come at Christmas and that our services will be rich and real and the message clear and compelling.

Pray for ministers for our vacant parishes – Narromine, Gilgandra, Nyngan, Bourke, Coonamble, Condo, Trundle, Cumnock, Coolah-Dunedoo, Canowindra, Kelso, Warren.

Give thanks for the generous partnership of BCA in Cobar, Cowra, West Wyalong, the Cathedral. Ask God's blessing on all who minister as BCA Field staff members around Australia, that they will help reach Australia for Christ.

Pray for the Bishop's Sunday and other ministry through December and safety in travel.
Dec 04 – Blayney & Millthorpe
Dec 10/11 – Parkes
Dec 18 – West Wyalong
Dec 23 – Glenelg & Grenfell
Dec 24/25 - Cathedral

Contact Info

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MDO from January

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For more information contact the diocesan office during office hours, (not Wednesday), 9am-5pm.

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Cathedral Services

Saturday vigil

6pm (5pm when no daylight saving)

Sunday

8.30am Traditional
10am Contemporary
Also 8.30am Mon, Wed, Thu; 10am Fri

Supporting our clergy

We would love your support for Phil Howes, Bec Choi, Tim Smith and/or Jonny Lush. Please indicate in the reference, who you wish to support.

Account: Synod Management Fund
BSB: 082-441

Account Number: 392 655 240