

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona
St Clement's Altona Meadows
O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



*To proclaim God's love and life in Christ:
growing in faith ✝ serving others ✝ nurturing a common life*

7 December 2025

Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu (Māori Service), St Eanswythe's

5:00pm Evening Service, St Clement's

*Wominjeka :: Haere mai
Welcome*



A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us
for the first time or visiting.

Please join us for refreshments at the end of the service.

*Our parish lies on the country of the Kulin nation.
We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations,
and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present.
We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing*

Gathering in God's Name

We meet in God's name, as God's people – children of God in all our rich diversity, with all that we carry from the complexity of our lives.

We turn to God in praise and prayer; this includes recalling all that has separated us from God, and claiming the love and forgiveness that is always held out to us.

INTROIT HYMN 265 O come, O come, Emmanuel
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

God of all peoples,
whose servant John came baptising
and calling for repentance:
help us to hear his voice of judgement,
that we may also rejoice in his word of promise,
and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day
when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PARISH PRAYER

**God of this ancient land, holy beyond time and place,
you search us out and name us your beloved children.
Work in us to fulfil your longing and compassion for every person.
Send your Spirit to renew our life,
and give us courage to rise and follow where Jesus calls. Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah (11.1-10)

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (72.1-7,18-21)

1 Give the king your judgement, O God: and your righteousness to the son of a king,

2 **That he may judge your people rightly: and the poor of the land with equity.**

3 Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness: and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

4 **May he give justice to the poor among the people: and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

5 May he live while the sun endures: and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.

6 **May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields: and as showers that water the earth.**

7 In his time shall righteousness flourish: and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

18 **Let his name live for ever: and endure as long as the sun.**

19 Let all peoples use his name in blessing: and all nations call him blessed.

20 **Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel: who alone does great wonders.**

21 Blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, Amen.

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans (15.4-13)

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; ¹⁰ and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; ¹¹ and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him’; ¹² and again Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 270 On Jordan’s bank the Baptist cry
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew (3.1-12)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,
² ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, ‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’ ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ ‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

For the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

Our sharing is a gift of grace, a communion with Jesus and with each other. There is a place here for each and every person.

OFFERTORY HYMN 526 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion but to receive a personal blessing, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

**Take, O take me as I am:
summon out what I shall be:
set your seal upon my heart and live in me**

Going into the World

The Eucharist offers us a way to be renewed, transformed, and blessed: now we take that blessing to share with others, in our words and actions, our hearts and lives.

'The Eucharist never ends — it must be lived.'

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1 The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
and they say that his name was Jesus. [Refrain:]

*He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer!
Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.*

2 The angels sang when the baby born,
the angels sang when the baby born,
the angels sang when the baby born,
and they say that his name was Jesus. [Refrain]

3 The wise men saw where the baby born,
the wise men saw where the baby born,
the wise men went where the baby born,
and they say that his name was Jesus.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Notices

Christmas Carols in the Park: Join us for the annual *Carols in the Park* on **Sunday, 7 December at 6:00pm**, at Logan Reserve, Altona. Enjoy an evening of festive entertainment and the singing of carols as we celebrate the spirit of Christmas with the local community. All are welcome — bring your family, friends, and a picnic, and share in this community tradition.

Installation of the Archbishop: We give thanks to God for the installation of Bishop Ric Thorpe as the 14th Archbishop of Melbourne, which took place on Sunday 7 December at St Paul's Cathedral. Highlights from the service can be viewed at the following link: <https://youtu.be/rY4cXzQayaQ?si=2ZxksEkP3h-YFMBq>

Children's Christmas Toys: We are seeking donations of new, unwrapped toys to supplement Christmas Food Hampers provided by our local Salvation Army at their annual Christmas community celebrations supporting families in need. This event takes place in mid-December, and our toy donations need to be ready for their processing no later than the 8th December. Donations may be made on Sunday's or left with Zoya at the Op Shop (Tue-Fri). Contacts: Fred, Alta and Sandra.

Tearfund Useful Gifts: Tearfund Useful Gifts help lift people out of poverty with dignity by providing practical tools for better lives. Gifts start from just \$5. Your purchase can truly change lives. Please prayerfully consider supporting this ministry - your *Gift of Love* makes a real difference. Contact: Phillis Gregson – 0417 869 595.

Act for Peace – Christmas Bowl Appeal: This Christmas, we invite you to share God's love through the *Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal*. Your gift will help bring hope, food, and support to people facing conflict and hardship around the world. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Fix & Fellowship: Come and help keep our churches and grounds neat and tidy. **St Clement's** – 6 December, 3 January, 7 February. (Monthly, 1st Saturday, 9:30am). **St Eanswythe's** – 20 December, 17 January, 21 February. (Monthly, 3rd Saturday, 9:30am)

Op Shop Summer Holiday Break: The Op Shop will close for the summer holiday break on Friday 12 December and will reopen on Tuesday 20 January. During this time, the Op Shop will be cleaned. Please note that donated items cannot be received during this period.

Advent: Preparing for Christ's Birth and His coming



Our Prayers

The World and Nation:

- Victims of family or domestic violence will receive protection and practical support to rebuild their lives and trust.
- Displaced peoples everywhere, forced from their homes by conflict or natural disasters, may find safety and renewed hope.
- Those affected by scams, especially the vulnerable and elderly, will receive the help and guidance necessary to renew their confidence.

The Church:

World Council of Churches:
Myanmar and Thailand

For Christians facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia:

The Diocese of Brisbane
Archbishop Jeremy Greaves; Clergy and People

Diocese of Melbourne:

Police Force Chaplains (Drew Mellor & other Chaplains) and members of the Police Force

Agencies supported by our parish:

Anglican Overseas Aid – for work with partners and communities in Vanuatu, India and Kenya.

Our parish & community: For God's guidance, love and care of our people.

We pray for our clergy and their families.

Those with particular needs at this time:

Peter Forni, Jennifer Joseph, Rodger Prowd, Rev'd Dave Thompson, Mary Duguarte.

The communion of saints:

Margaret Hall (9th),
Emma Bingley (10th),
Jessie Grant (11th),
Bobby Meiers (12th).



*To add a name to the pew sheet prayer list
or to remember someone on the anniversary of
their death,
please contact the parish office.*

Readings for this Week

Take time to prepare for worship by exploring the readings for this week.

Wednesday 10 December, 9:00am St Clement's

Isaiah 40.25-31; Ps 103.1-5; Matthew 7.21-27

Thursday 11 December, 10:00am St Eanswythe's

Isaiah 41.13-20; Ps 145.8-13; Matthew 11.11-15

Sunday 14 December Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35.1-10; Ps Song of Mary; James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11

Morning Prayer:

Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9:00am at St Eanswythe's. Everyone is welcome.



Christmas & January Services

Christmas and January Services:

Wednesday 17 Dec - 6.00 pm Children's Christmas Service. (St Eanswythe's)

Sunday 21 Dec - Fourth Sunday of Advent (normal)

Wednesday 24 Dec Christmas Eve,

5.00 pm Children's Service (St Clement's)

11.00 pm Christmas Eve Service (St Eanswythe's)

Thursday 25 Dec Christmas Day - 9.30 Holy Eucharist (St Clement's)

Sunday 28 Dec -First Sunday after Christmas -

9.30 am Combined Service (St Eanswythe's)



This Week in our Parish

Sunday 7 December:

Second Sunday of Advent

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's

5:00pm Evening Service, St Clement's

Tuesday - Friday

10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open

Tuesday 9 December

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

10:00am Tiddler's Playgroup,

St Eanswythe's*

Wednesday 10 December

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

Thursday 11 December

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 12 December

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

9:30am Clementines Playgroup,

St Clement's*

Sunday 14 December:

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's

5:00pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

**During school term*

Parish Contact List

St Eanswythe's: Cnr Bent & Queen St, Altona 3018 | PO Box 48, Altona VIC 3018

Parish Administrator Office Hours [Wednesday & Thursday 8.30 to 2.30]

St Clement's: 85-95 Central Ave, Altona Meadows 3028

www.anglicanaltlav.org.au | T: 03 9398 1005 | E: parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Vicar: The Rev'd Kerry Davis [Tuesday to Sunday, Monday rest day]

M: 0425 163 063 | E: kdavis@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assist. Curate: Rev'd Johnwerni Maryoe [Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday]

Assistant Priest and Maori Minister: The Rev'd Danny McRoberts

M: 0448 841 196 | E: dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Anna Watts (042 874 061), Denis Lee (03 9398 2993), Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).