

St Andrew's Church

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Newsletter for December 19th 2021

10.00am Mass in Church and on YouTube

Celebrant and Preacher; Fr Paul Hinton

If you are in church, please remember to turn off your mobile phone during the service. Please take this sheet home with you at the end of the service. There are prayers which you may like to use at home at the end of the newsletter.

Hymn numbers for the Mass 535 650 409 59 451

Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

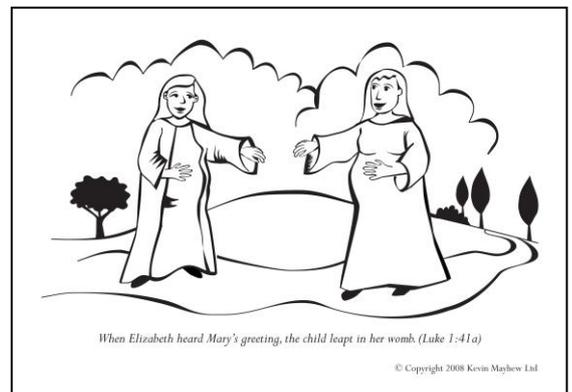
Micah 5; 2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Gospel

Luke 1; 39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."



Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Please pray for people who are sick or in need of prayer: Linda, Victims of the tornado in Kentucky USA, Gloria Boothe, Gloria James, Hayden Lewis, Beryl Clayton, Viki Sidhu, Mark, Karen, Ian MacLennan, Penny Fleming.

Anniversary of death: Doreen Rose, Nicholas Jaison Machiridza, Eleanor Doreen Fisher, Hilda Brown, Freda Wild.

Notices

Prayer

Almighty God, you are greater than our minds can fathom, higher than our highest thoughts, sovereign over all, worthy of praise and honour. Forgive us that we sometimes lose our sense of awe and wonder in your presence, oblivious to your greatness and forgetful of your goodness. Speak to us, as you spoke to Mary, and help us to catch a new sense of who you are, of all you have done, and of all you will yet do in our lives. Help us to magnify your name, singing your praises and telling of your greatness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Nick Fawcett

Poem

God was looking for a carpenter.
He wanted a skilled craftsman
to make him a cross.
The wood must be hard and wide,
straight cut with the joints perfectly squared
and planed as smooth as a yoke.
Finally, he needed a handful of nails
and then, God hung the perfect gift
upon the perfect tree –
Love, present with us through eternity.

Elizabeth Roone