

ST MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE



PARISH OF ALBURY

*In the heart of Albury
Welcomes all people*

DECEMBER 2018

Fr Peter writes :

Dear People of St Matthew's

*O holy night the stars are brightly
shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its
worth*



*A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new glorious morn
Fall on your knees
O hear the angels' voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night divine o night
O night divine*

O Holy Night had a Jewish beginning, was banned by the church in France, rescued and kept alive by the ordinary people, became associated with the anti slavery movement and was the first song to be broadcast across the airwaves in 1906 and was shared by soldiers at the famous Christmas truce during the First World War on the battlefields of Flanders in 1914 continues to be an international anthem of hope.

Christmas seems to come at a funny time of year when internationally there is anxiety, loss of confidence in governments and institutions around the world, more shadows than real light. 2018 is good time to claim back the Christmas story as good news for all people, it doesn't belong to institutions and it is not even a religious story. The message can barely be understood by virgins, angels or people in authority. The vulnerability of those without political power, those who are on the road, on the run or on the hop is the real homepage for the community looking for a future. A blended family with a shadow of social disapproval, visitors of other faiths or outcasts abiding in the field are all on the worlds 'B guest list' and governments continue to see human beings as numbers, and religious traditions tragically rely on spiritual fossil fuel of control. But we experience the real joys of the season in welcoming all people, giving a helping hand, sharing the gifts of kindness and compassion, if you can't find it in Albury you will never find Christmas in Bethlehem.

Thanks to the many individuals and organisations who have helped St Matthews reach out to others at this time. It was inspiring to see 500 Christmas hampers having been packed by students and volunteers and even more inspiring to know that the theme of practical care and compassion is a carol that sings every day of the year.

Please feel welcome to come to one of our Christmas services including our Seniors and children's services. If you know of someone who needs a hand at this or another time of year please let us know.

Following the great success of the **Albury Chamber Music Festival - in November**. We have had a series of events that catapult us into the new year.

St Matthews **Annual General Meeting on 25th November** followed the 9am service and farewell to head verger Ray Fietz was a wonderful day. We have a new parish council to share the load as we navigate new opportunities and challenges. While keeping our wardens at the helm ensuring continuity in the midst of change.

Bishop John's visit for a **Confirmation and reception** was also a very moving and memorable occasion for our parish family and we congratulate him on his 10th anniversary of his leadership in Wangaratta.

Looking ahead for the **Christmas** calendar

16th December - Interfaith Carols and Lessons

19th December – Wednesday Christmas Seniors Service at 10.30am.

24th December – **Christmas Eve** – 4pm Infants Service, 6pm Family Service and 11pm Carols before 11.30pm Midnight Mass

25th December – **Christmas Day** at 9am

All welcome, all invited.

Please note there will not be a 10.30am Mass on Boxing Day Wednesday 26th December or at 8am Mass on New Year's Day Tuesday 1st January or Evensong on 6th January.

Tunes on Tuesday resumes on 29th January.

Fr Peter



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS DECEMBER

The Garden. Have had some major difficulties with the irrigation system because some one has been sabotaging it.

The Gazebo. The students from Beechworth Secondary College coming on Monday to finish building it.. This is be opened by the Governor of NSW on the 16th November

Centenary of the Armistice. The choir to sing at this service.

Food Room 32 hampers, 104 meals and 179 drinks were given out during October.

Takings for the op shop \$441.75

Christmas hampers will be packed on the 13th December. Students from Albury High will be helping.

CTV cameras to be installed in church and church grounds.

25th anniversary of the re-opening of church. Albury City to be asked if they could do a display of St Matthew's memorabilia in the Library/Museum

Kaye Kennedy Secretary

David Murray turns 80



Lyn Gardnir





St Matthew's Church, Albury

**Invites You to Attend Our
Seniors' Christmas Service**

To Be Held On
**Wednesday, 19th December,
2018
at 10.30 am**

**A specially designed service
to invoke the Spirit of Christmas.**

**Ideal for those who find sitting for long periods difficult.
We truly want to make you our special focus**

**Light refreshments will be served
at the conclusion of the service**

**Assistance with transport maybe available
Please ring St Matthew's Church Office
phone 6021 3022
and we will make every effort to arrange it**

MEDITATION

KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

“Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son....she placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” (St Luke 2:7)



In recent years the world has tried to take Christ out of Christmas, and this secularised version seems to be winning. It is easy to think that Christmas is about Santa Claus, decorated trees, shopping, parties and holidays. Many these days say “happy holidays, not happy Christmas”.

The word Christmas comes from Christ and Mass – celebrating a Mass (Eucharist) in honour of Christ’s birth. It is about God so loving the world that He gave the greatest gift of all -His only Son, so that we may have life eternal. (John 3:16)

Christmas can still be a beautiful and joyous time if we grasp its true meaning and celebrate its magic and sacredness. An angel appeared to the Shepherds saying “a Saviour has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord”. Then the heavenly host appeared praising God and saying “Glory to God in the highest, and they hurried to Bethlehem where they spread the word ...and all were amazed at what they were told.” (Luke 2:8-13)

The Wise Men from the east followed a star and came to worship and give gifts to “the King of the Jews.” (St Matthew 2:2) We too give and receive gifts to honour the Christ Child and to give thanks for His Holy Birth.

Christmas is a time for us to draw closer to God, to show love to family, friends and strangers- “Peace on earth and goodwill to all”. It is a time of renewal – a time to feel the warm glow and joyful feeling known as the “Christmas Spirit”. Above all it is a time to thank God for His incredible gift and make room in your life for Jesus who came into this world and made it a better place. **O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

*“Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown
When Thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem’s home was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity. O come to my heart Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee.”*

From the Sermons of Father Colin



Children's Church in NOVEMBER

As the music festival Mass was on in the church, it was decided to have the Children's Church service in the Rectory.

Reverend Catherine took the service the theme which was "Getting ready for Christmas". Unfortunately numbers were down, but Reverend Catherine had the children thinking about what happens when families prepare for Christmas, and also when a baby is expected.

The children were eager to share their thoughts on both these subjects. Rowena Ginns very kindly played for the service, and the songs were enthusiastically sung! Later the children created and coloured in their own puzzle of the nativity, and had some morning tea. Our willing helpers were much appreciated as usual! Our last service for 2018 will take place on **Sunday 16th December**.

Julie Scott

Children's church spokesperson for M.U. Albury.



Confirmation and reception with Bishop John on Sunday 9th December





Interfaith Carols & Lessons

St Matthew's Church

Kiewa Street

Albury

SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER

5.00 PM



St Matthews Choir and Venetia Heath featuring at the Interfaith Carols and Lessons



NEWS FROM THE TOWER 'RINGING REMEMBERS 2018'



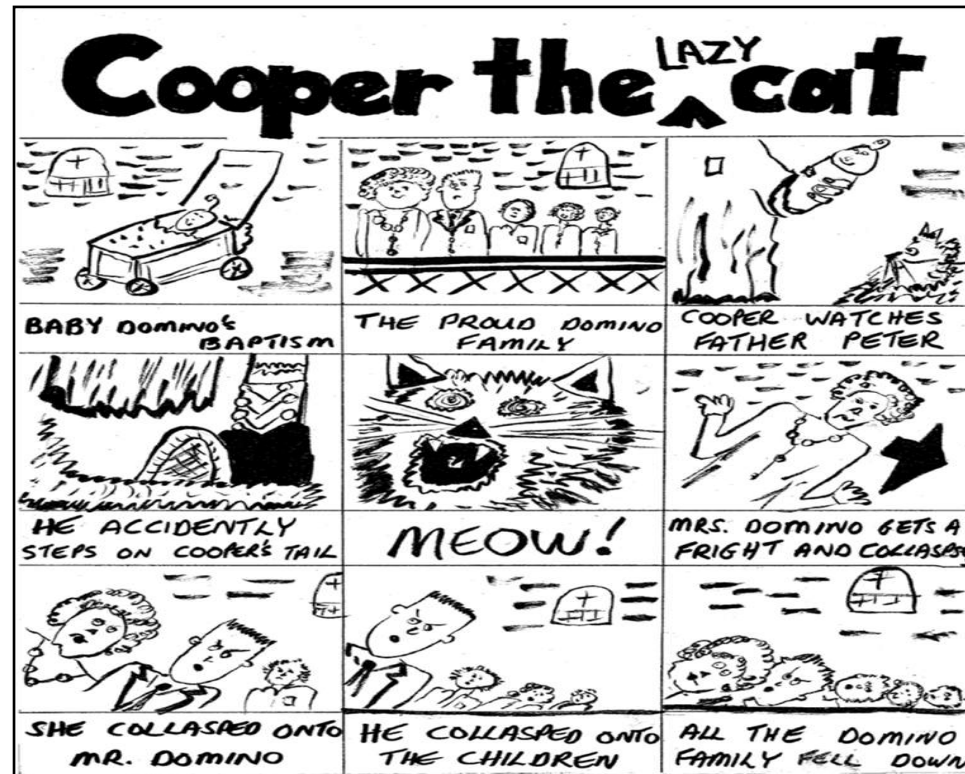
Bellringing is a British tradition and the British Isles are home to a distinctive style of bell ringing called "Change Ringing". While the British Isles are home to 5,500 change ringing towers, the rest of the world put together has less than 150.

1400 bell ringers died during the First War. To honour the memory of these 1400, a project called "Ringing Remembers" has been formulated. It is hoped that 1400 new bell ringers can be taught in the current year and be able to join in the ringing on this unique occasion. A special badge has been produced and will be presented to each of these learners who rang on "Armistice 100".

I am pleased to announce that Alex Crane has qualified for this award as he has only been learning this year and he will be ringing with the St. Matthew's Band on Remembrance Day.

Pam Thorman Tower Captain

FOR THE KIDS



H U M O U R

One has to wonder who dreamed these up. It could only be a lexophile!

- ◇ Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!
- ◇ How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it
- ◇ England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- ◇ I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.
- ◇ They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Typo.
- ◇ I changed my iPod's name to Titanic It's syncing now.
- ◇ Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.
- ◇ I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- ◇ I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- ◇ This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.



A Nativity Scene was erected in a church yard.

During the night the folks came across this scene. An abandoned dog was looking for a comfortable, protected place to sleep. He chose baby Jesus as his comfort. No one had the heart to send him away so he was there all night.



We should all have the good sense of this dog and curl up in Jesus' lap from time to time.

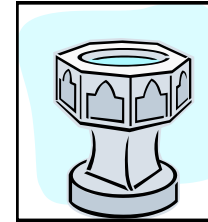
This is too sweet not to share. No one mentioned that the dog breed is a "shepherd!"

ON THE RECORD

Baptisms

We welcome into Christ's family

4 November Jack Joseph BARTOLETTA
Harlow Dusty PRESCOTT
2 December Thomas William MITCHELL



Weddings

We congratulate those joined together in Holy Matrimony

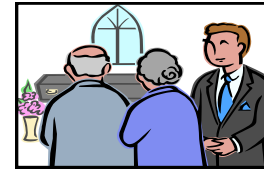
No weddings in November



Funerals

We pray for those who have died and extend our sympathies to those who mourn

11 November Evelyn Catherine PILTZ
19 November Alan Craig HETHERINGTON
23 November Kathleen Isobel VONTHIEN
Margaret Olive SPENCER
3 December Alan Samuel CHICK



Years Mind—

We pray for those whose anniversary falls at this time

December

Marjorie Joan FYFE (4th), Bert WINSTANLEY (4th), 'Syd' Sydney William YOUNG (4th), Rosemary Macpherson PATON (5th), Alan Barton FOSTER (6th), Shirley-Ellen TUCKER (7th), James SCOTT (9th), Gerald DIBGY (10th), 'Wally' Walter Alfred MORAS (11th), George JARDINE (13th), Teresa May NIEHUS (13th), Emily GLANVILLE (15th), Ivan Rex PIKE (15th), Stella Apphia POWELL (15th), Kathleen JARDINE (15th), Betty Lorraine SULLIVAN (16th), 'Max' Maxwell Isaac JONES (19th), Clifford Harold MOREY (21st), Dolly YEOMANS (21st), 'Roddy' Roderick Broun DAVIES (22nd), Irene BREY (23rd), Maria WHITE (24th), Richard CRAMBROOK (24th), Nora DAVENPORT (25th), Annie BROOKS (26th), Ronald BRADDY (27th), 'Dick' Albert Alan EISENHAUER (29th), Shirley BOWTELL (29th), 'Fred' Sidney Frederick THORMAN (30th), 'Harry' Henry Samuel DYE (30th), Laszlo LADI (30th)

January

Bonnie DUGAN (2nd), Dorothy Jean STORES (2nd), Shirley RUTHERFORD (3rd), William Hamilton LESTER (4th), Olive WILSON (5th), Eric COLEMAN (7th), Katarina Vasilja FILIPOVIC (8th), Clarence Leonard RICHARDSON (9th), Frank BLACK (9th), Kevin CURNOW (Priest)(9th), Lucy MAGRATH (10th), Noel Thomas NAGLE (10th), Harold SCHNELLE (12th), Ilma LESTER (12th), 'Les' Leslie BLEASDALE (13th), Bruce ELLIS (Priest)(13th), Kenneth Edwin CALLAGHAN (14th), Belle SHORT (16th), Henry HODGSON (17th), Shirley BULLIVANT (17th), Reginald PIPER (19th), Viva GABRIEL (20th), David DUNWOODIE (20th), Dorothy HEPPNER (20th), George EISENHAUER (21st), Jean Roberta HABERECHT (21st), John Lester ROACH (21st), Bernard Joseph STORES (22nd), Elsie Evelyn FORBES (25th), Colleen SAMPSON (28th), Reg PIPER (30th), Johannes Reinhard Wilhelm BEIER (31st)



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ST MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

SERVICE TIMES

TUESDAY

8:00 am. Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

10:30 am. Eucharist

THURSDAY

No services

FRIDAY

10.00 am. Eucharist at Riverwood (except 2nd Friday). All welcome

SUNDAY

9.00 am. Sung Eucharist

10:30 am. Children's Church 3rd Sunday every month

5.00 pm. Evensong (only 1st Sunday of every month)

PARISH CLERGY:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Rector: | Peter Macleod-Miller | (02) 6021 3022 |
| Hon. Associate Priest: | Fr. Bill Ginns | (02) 6025 0556 |
| Hospital Chaplain: | Catherine Dawson | 0466 324 435 |
| Pastoral Care— | Annette Gorham | (02) 6021 3022 |

PARISH OFFICE:

Rector's Secretary: Deb Davenport

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Monday to Friday

Phone: 6021 3022

Email: office@stmatthewsalbury.com **Website:** www.stmatthewsalbury.com

Facebook: [St Matthew's Anglican Church Albury](#)

GRAPEVINE EDITOR—

Julie Scott Ph. 6021 8897 Email: jazzzer43@bigpond.net.au

PARISH BANKING DETAILS—

Bank: National Australia Bank (NAB) - Account Name: St Matthew's Church Albury No 1
Account—BSB: 082 406 Account No: 17053 2923

PARISH COUNCIL:

Fr Peter MacLeod-Miller—Chairman
Victoria Chick—Rector's Warden
Mark Carden—Warden
Robyne Slade—Warden
Mark Carden—Assistant Treasurer
Kaye Kennedy—Secretary

Councillors

| | |
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| Matthew-Paul Fowler | Martin Hendrik |
| Barbara Hoodless | Jim Lee |
| Amanda Lovekin | Sally Morris |
| Gillian Pearce | Carol Read |
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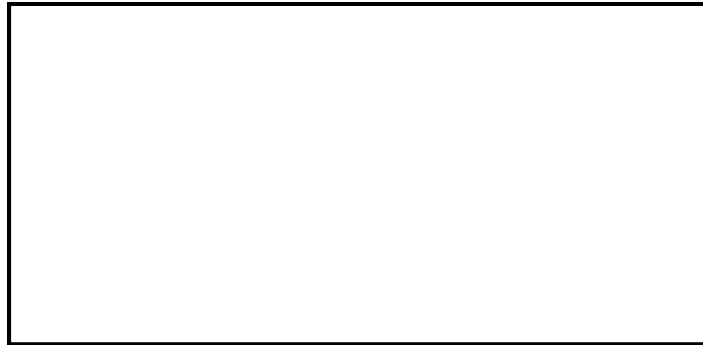
ST. MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE

PARISH OF ALBURY

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DECEMBER 2018

