



REACHING OUT November 17, 2019

Weekly News for Wodonga West and Rural Uniting Churches

Pentecost 23

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

6:00pm Kergunyah Uniting Church

Isaiah 65:17-25, Isaiah 12, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.' They asked him,

'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' And



he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them. 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and

kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Luke 21:5-19



COMING EVENTS

Tue 19 Nov	9:30am	Prayer Group at Emmanuel Playgroup for children 0-5 years, parents and carers
	6:00pm	St Stephen's Forum - Child Social Isolation, Poverty & Disadvantage
Wed 20 Nov	9:00am	Emmanuel Grounds and Maintenance Group
Tue 26 Nov	9:30am	Prayer Group at Emmanuel Playgroup for children 0-5 years, parents and carers
Wed 27 Nov	9:00am	Emmanuel Grounds and Maintenance Group
Sat 30 Nov	7:30am	Breakfast/BBQ at Grace Church Mitchell Street Guest Speaker-Major Damien Batty

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO SUPPORT UNITING



1 Peace

Sentiment: May the spirit of peace and goodwill be with you this Christmas and throughout the coming year.



2 Nativity

Bible Verse: "And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped Him. Then opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh." Matthew 2:11

Sentiment: Wishing you the love, hope and peace that the true meaning of Christmas brings.



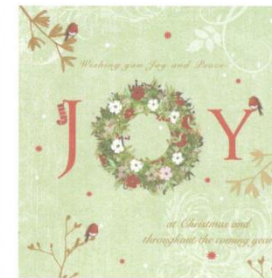
3 Dove Joy

Sentiment: May the hope and peace of Christmas be yours throughout the year.



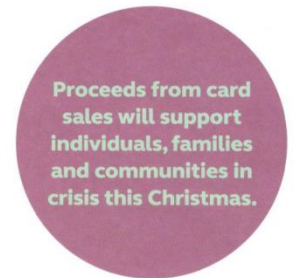
4 Tree

Sentiment: May your Christmas be filled with peace, hope and joy.



5 Wreath

Sentiment: Peace and Joy Merry Christmas.



Each pack of 10 cards is only \$10.00

See Church Notice Board for samples and to place your order or go online at

<https://foodforfamilies.org.au/christmas-cards/>

Enquiries: 1800 668 426

A THANK YOU TO FR. DAVID HOLLOWAY

A morning tea to thank Fr. David Holloway for his services to St John's Church and Emmanuel will be held on Sunday November 17, at St. John's Church following the 9:30am service. All welcome.

LECTIONARY COMMENT

Luke 21:5-19

Our reading is from the last story about Jesus teaching in the Temple. He foretells its destruction ("thrown down", v. 6) – an event then some 40 years in the future. At that time, Roman legions ("armies", v. 20) surrounded the city. In Jesus' time, people were concerned about when the world would end, and what signs would indicate "this is about to take place" (v. 7). Jesus begins to answer, in terms drawn from prophetic books (Micah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Joel, vv. 8-11) and brought together in contemporary books (e.g. 2 Esdras). He adds "the end will not follow immediately" (v. 9), and then diverts to issues that matter now: the treatment his followers will receive, and how they should react to it (vv. 12-19). ("The time", v. 8, is the time chosen by God for the end of the era.) They will be treated as he has been: they will be accused of heresy in "synagogues" (v. 12) and be brought before civil courts ("prisons"). On these occasions, be yourselves (the word translated "prepare ... in advance", v. 14, literally means practise a gesture or rehearse a dance); take this "an opportunity to testify" (v. 13, to tell the good news). Following Christ entails suffering – betrayal (v. 16) and being "hated" (v. 17). Perseverance under duress will gain you eternal life (v. 19). In vv. 20-27, Jesus combines prophecy (when Jerusalem was invaded, Christians did flee across the Jordan) and more images drawn from prophetic and contemporary books ("desolation", v. 20; vv. 23-26). We do not know whether to take these images literally or symbolically. Jesus, the "Son of Man" (v. 27), will then come again. True disciples should then "stand up and raise your heads" (v. 28) for you will soon have eternal life ("redemption"). So (vv. 34-36), be prepared for this day, "praying that you may have the strength to escape", to avoid the fate of the ungodly. *Chris Haslam- Anglican Diocese of Edmonton.*

CHILD SOCIAL ISOLATION FORUM



St. Stephen's Uniting Church Wodonga Social Justice Group
in association with **Uniting** Wodonga

present a Forum:

"Imagine preventing the harm caused by childhood poverty,
social isolation and disadvantage in Australia"

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Robyn Seth Purdie, Senior Analyst, UnitingCare Australia

The presentation is based on the recent report, "Child Social Isolation, Poverty & Disadvantage in Australia" developed by the University of Canberra and commissioned by UnitingCare Australia.

Venue: St. Stephen's Uniting Church, Wodonga

Tuesday November 19, 2019

6.00pm to 8.00pm

A light finger food meal will be provided at the conclusion of the forum.
RSVP Judith Butler, Church office on 60242108 or email

<mailto:office@wodongastst.victas.uca.org.au> by Friday 15th November 2019

MINISTERS OF THE WORD & OTHER CONTACTS

UCA:

Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies

02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069

stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au

[weekly RDO: Friday]

Emmanuel Pastoral Care: *Speak with an Elder or Warden*

Emmanuel Prayer Chain: *Give requests to Betty Sagers on 0427 761 044*

Address: PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689

Office Phone: Emmanuel Meeting Place: (02) 6059 5460

Office Open: Not staffed at present

Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com
or LouAnne Stabb 02 6059 2244 stabb@iinet.net.au by **Wednesday**.

Website: <http://www.emmanuel.unitingchurch.org.au/index/htm>

BIBLE READINGS *for* NEXT SUNDAY

Christ The King

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Luke 1:68-79, Colossians 1:11-20, Luke 23:33-43

WORSHIP SERVICES *for* NEXT WEEK

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

11:00am Kergunyah Uniting Church

ON DUTY

Sunday Nov 17(Anglican)

Readings Carol Clutterbuck

Elders/Wardens Rod Clutterbuck

Karen Robinson

Organist

TBA

Prayers

Karen Robinson

Early Word

Carol Clutterbuck

Sunday Nov 24 (Uniting)

Scott Felstead

Carol Harris

David Robinson

TBA

Carol Harris

Carol Harris

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

World Council of Churches

East Timor (Timor Leste), Indonesia, Philippines

We pray for:

- governments in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Timor Leste, that they will eradicate corruption, establish justice and peace, and work effectively for the wellbeing of all their people
- victims of violence, torture, drug and human trafficking, and human rights violations, that those responsible might be held accountable
- all those affected by earthquakes, tsunamis and other natural disasters, and for the rebuilding of communities afterwards
- ecumenical and interfaith cooperation to bring justice, peace and sustainability to these lands.

