

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF TAREE



Sunday Services - Taree & Old Bar

ST JOHN'S
 294 Victoria St. Taree

9am - SUNDAY

4pm - SUNDAY

OUR LADY OF FATIMA
 18 Hall St. Old Bar

11am - SUNDAY

PARISH CONTACTS:

MINISTRY TEAM	Reverend Natalie Quince - 6552 1310-0411 763 448 prieststjohnstaree@gmail.com	Fr Bill Green Fr Ivan Ransom
WARDENS	Beryl Fenwick - 0414 527 075	Colin Rose- 6552 2775
PC SECRETARY	Beryl Fenwick - 0414 527 075	TREASURER
PARISH OFFICE	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED (All General enquiries) Email: officestjohnstaree@gmail.com	
HALL MANAGERS	Ken Park - 0412 138 985	Bruce Walker - 0405 697 690



ADVENT TWO

This Sunday Our psalm this week imagines a time when God brings peace back into creation. A time when we can take a deep breath, pause and know that everything is as it should be - that we are blessed, the world is restored, God is good – ‘righteousness is at home’ (2 Peter 3.13).

This image is summed up in one of the most beautiful lines of scripture as the psalmist in verse 10 imagines a time when:

*Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet:
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.*

The difficult reality we face is that in our ‘now but not yet world’ righteousness and peace are usually estranged. The quest for righteousness usually involves conflict.

Personally, we strive and discipline ourselves to live righteously. DL Moody, the 19th century evangelist, dramatically declared:

*‘We have self to overcome, we must overcome it or be overcome.
The greatest enemy that ever crossed my path was DL Moody.
Our enemies are within.’*

There is truth in this for all of us. We need to fight with ourselves to overcome temptations and suppress our desire to please ourselves in all things.

When we think about the world more broadly, righteousness usually involves struggle. Seeking justice often brings us into conflict with the ways of the world – we fight for the rights of the marginalised, we confront the authorities for the way of love and equality to overcome the economies of power and greed. Wars are waged in the name of righteousness.

In the context of our personal struggles and the world’s stubborn resistance how beautiful is the image of a time when righteousness just is. When Jesus comes in judgement and unrighteousness is expelled from the world and we live on in holy peace. Come Lord Jesus, come!

Rev Natalie



WORLD: People & communities affected by violence & conflict, racism & discrimination, oppression, poverty, natural disasters. We pray for those impacted by COVID19. Please pray for President Zelensky, the people of Ukraine, Aung San Suu Kyi & for the detained peoples of Myanmar, Lebanon, the Philippines & Papua New Guinea.

CHURCH: Bishop Peter, Assistant Bishops Sonia & Charlie; Craig Tinker; Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation - Grace Gunning, Natasha Smith, Peggy Robson, Brianne Buckley, Kerrie Cryer, Felicia Sharman, Cheryl Sorenson, Sally Veronesi & Sue Wells; Parish of Wyoming - Hilary Wong; Parish of Wyong - Aleks Pinter; Mothers Union; Anglican Women.

General Synod Office (Gen Sec: Anne Hywood).

The Anglican Church of the Central American Region; The Anglican Church of Uganda).

COMMUNITY: For the homeless, and agencies supporting the vulnerable. For the victims of abuse and violence. For those affected by the impacts of COVID 19, floods & other challenges. The First Peoples of the Diocese especially the Awabakal, Biripi, Darkinjung, Geawegal, Kamilaroi, Worimi & Wonnarua peoples.

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS: Bill & Jill Green, Suzanne, Leonie, Diane, Vera, Lyn, Ted Hill, Wendy McKeogh, Norrie Spicer, James, Jamison, Ian, Joan, Alex Platt & Margaret McDonald.

PRAYERS FOR ANIVERSARIES: Gwen Riley, Anthony Davies, Lindsay Riley & Joyce Rudge.

PRAYERS FOR DEPARTED:

DIARY DATES

Mon 11 th December	4pm	Choir Practice	St John's
Thurs 14 th December	11am	Mothers Union	St John's
Sun 17 th December	7pm	Lessons + Carols Service	St John's
Sun 24 th December	6pm	Christmas Eve Family Service	St John's
Mon 25 th December	9am	Christmas Day Service	St John's
Thurs 28 th December	10am	Old Bar Morning Tea	Village Café
Tues 2 nd January 2024	3.15pm	Blue Cross Leaders Meeting	BC Shop

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SENTENCE:

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

**Merciful God,
you sent your messengers the prophets
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:
give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40.1–11

A reading from the book of Isaiah

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord 's hand double for all her sins.³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord , make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the lower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85.1–2, 85.8–13

- 1 O Lord, you were gracious to your land:
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people:
and covered all their sin.
- 8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak:
**for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.**
- 9 Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
- 11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:
and our land shall yield its plenty.
- 13 For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3. 3-15a

A reading from the second book of Peter

³First of all you must understand this, that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and indulging their own lusts ⁴and saying, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since our ancestors died, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation!” ⁵They deliberately ignore this fact, that by the word of God heavens existed long ago and an earth was formed out of water and by means of water, ⁶through which the world of that time was deluged with water and perished. ⁷But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the godless. ⁸But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and

the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1.1–8

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Mark
Chapter 1 commencing at verse 1.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt

around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptised you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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*Lessons
and
Carols*

Sunday 17th December @ 7pm St John's Taree



*Festival
of
Christmas Trees*

Come and view the trees
Saturday 16th December
@ St John's
10.00am to 4.00pm
and vote for your
favourite tree.



CHRISTMAS
2023
SERVICE TIMES

9 Lessons and Carols
Sunday 17 December
@ 7.00pm

Christmas Eve Family Service
Sunday 24 December
@ 6.00pm

Christmas Day Service
Monday 25 December
@ 9.00am

Old Bar Christmas Service
Sunday 24 December
@ 11.00am

HOLY EUCHARIST READINGS

SUNDAY 10th December - Advent 2

Isaiah 40. 1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3: 3 -15a; Mark 1. 1-8

SUNDAY 17th December - Advent 3

Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5. 12-28; John 1. 6-8, 19-28

WELCOMERS

Sunday 10 th December		Sunday 17 th December	
9am	Doreen Sinclair Col Rose	9am	Di Woollard Ian woollard

READERS

Sunday 10 th December		Sunday 17 th December	
9am	Ian Woollard	9am	Doreen Sinclair
4pm	Sue Prentice	4pm	Ken Park

MORNING TEA

Sunday 10 th December		Sunday 17 th December	
Di Woollard + Ian woollard		Kylie Sanderson + David Denning	

HYMNS: 10th December

TIS 183, 212,

BRASS CLEANING for December

Margaret Kelly

ABM

Anglican Board of Mission - Australia
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist is an important figure in Advent for he prepares the way for the coming of our Lord. He appears odd and acts differently to most, calling people to repentance and making paths straight. Yet, people are drawn to him, they confess their sins, and he is busy baptising them in the river Jordan. There is still more to come and he promises the Holy Spirit.

- ✦ God, I confess my sins and in my repentance straighten my path to holiness and truth.
- ✦ Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of the Province of Central Africa.

Text: Fr Matthew Smedley, Diocese of Perth © Anglican Board of Mission, 2023

The Anglican Parish of Taree works to build Faith & Hope in our community despite the struggles around us. Your help to continue this work is essential so please give what you can.

Gifts can be offered for the Parish or for Mission in 2 ways:

- ◆ Directly into the appropriate baskets before or after each service OR
- ◆ By Electronic Funds Transfer

Many People are finding that this is an easy, fuss free way to maintain their support.

Donations this way can be easily arranged by speaking to your bank directly or set it up through internet banking.

Bank: Westpac

Branch: Taree NSW

Account Name: St John's General Account

BSB: 032-587

Account Number: 120 816

Reference: Parish or Mission recipient eg: ABM

*Some give freely yet grow all the richer;
others withhold what is due,
and only suffer want.
A generous person will be enriched,
and one who gives water will get water.*

Proverbs 11:24-25

The Anglican Church of Newcastle takes allegations of misconduct and abuse seriously.

We welcome and encourage everyone with concerns to come forward.

TO REPORT A CRIME TO NSW POLICE RING 131 444 or RING 000 IN AN EMERGENCY

TO CONTACT CHILD PROTECTION HELPLINE RING 132 111 or

TO CONTACT THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIRECTOR PLEASE CALL 1800 774 945

WRITE: Director of Professional Standards PO Box 494, Newcastle NSW 2300

EMAIL: dps@newcastleanglican.org.au

IF YOU NEED IMMEDIATE SUPPORT PLEASE CALL LIFELINE ON 13 11 14

