



ST LUKE'S CHURCH

THE PARISH OF MODBURY and GOLDEN GROVE

Sunday, 21st December 2025

.... WELCOME

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT OUR SERVICES TODAY

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion with hymns
11.30am	Bari Worship

As we arrive at the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our journey of waiting reaches its quiet, attentive climax. Over these weeks we have been invited to **watch**, to **prepare**, and to **rejoice**—simple words that have shaped our hope as we move closer to Christmas. Today, the word placed before us is different again: **Behold**.

To behold is to stop, to look carefully, and to take in what is truly before us. It is not a word of haste or action, but of deep attention. And in a week marked by grief, shock, and sorrow—following the violence at Bondi Beach and the painful eruption of hatred, racism, and antisemitism in our country—this call to behold feels especially demanding.

The scriptures today invite us to see both the pain of the world and the presence of God within it. Isaiah speaks of a sign given in fearful times: a child called *Immanuel*, God-with-us. Paul reminds us that God's promises are not sudden or fragile, but long-held and faithful. And Matthew draws us close to Joseph, who, in confusion and fear, is asked not to turn away, but to stay and trust what God is doing.

This Sunday is not about rushing to easy answers or soft comfort. It is about learning how to see clearly—to face the darkness honestly while holding fast to the promise of God's nearness. As Advent draws to a close, we are invited to behold the God who comes not in power or force, but in vulnerability, mercy, and love.

May today's worship help us to see more clearly, to hold one another more closely, and to prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ who comes to dwell among us.



Christmas services

<i>Christmas Eve</i>	6.00pm	Family service with Holy Communion
	11.00pm	Traditional service with Holy Communion
<i>Christmas Day</i>	9.00am	Holy Communion

Christmas services. Please consider putting your name down to be a reader, sidesperson, intercessor etc. at one of our Christmas services. Lists on the table at the back of the church.

Rev'd Jo will be on leave from Monday, 29th December to Monday, 5th January. Please contact Rev'd Don Owers for any pastoral needs.

Rev'd Don will conclude as Associate Minister in the Parish on 30th January, 2026. He and Elizabeth will continue to be members of the Parish but Don will have another attempt at retirement. Rev'd Samuel Yengi will be licensed by Bishop Sophie as Assistant Curate in 2026.

Foodbank will be in attendance at St. Luke's on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, 24th December from 10am to 11.30am

January/February/March Rosters for 10.00am Services . Paper copies (in beige) of the rosters for the 10.00 am services are on the table at the back of the church for parishioners who do not receive a copy by email or who have been unable to print off their own copy.

Anglican Board of Mission Advent and Christmas Appeal 2025. This year St Luke's is supporting ABM. If you wish to spread peace this Christmas you are invited to donate online. Please visit: www.abmission.org/Advent2025. Or you can deposit directly into: Anglicans in Development Ltd, BSB: 032 135, Account: 691271. Thankyou for your support.

Church bulletin (pew sheet). As there will be no pew sheet on 28th December the roster and readings for Sunday, 4th January are as follows:

4th January readings

Isaiah 60.1-6
Ephesians 3.1-12

Second Sunday after Christmas

Ps 72.1-7, 10-14
Matthew 2.1-12

ROSTER REMINDER for 10.00am service Sunday, 4th January

Reader 1: Colin Fidock
Reader 2: David Smith
Intercessor: Hugh Walker
Sidespersons: Gene Kluver & Wendy W-D
Welcoming: Audrey Dewell & Warren Henriks
Morning tea: Christine Walker & Barbara O'Sullivan

FOR PRAYER

The health and well-being of those needing immediate prayers:

Kirsty Lees (Sandy Trezise's daughter), Belinda Richmond, Max Pontifex, Louise Hoyle, Warren Sharpe, Catherine Cooling, Tess Richmond, Jo Johnson.

Those who need ongoing prayers for healing and well-being:

Shirley & Stewart Shrimplin, Helen Gummow, Jessie Waters, Donald & Marjory Prince, Beth Morgan, Emily Cahill, Emmett Bollen, Bryan Shillabeer, Cathie, Faith Drodge, Malcolm Mayes, Naomi, Vicky Pattie, Jeremy Bollen, Andrew Mitchell, Bob Hall, Sue Fawcett, Paul & June Walters, Anne Pfitzner, Jeanette Canton, Marilyn Harris, Ken Hodgson, Lorelie Hill, Sonia Smith, Alf Ho, Peter Cooling, Carol Aitken, Ian White, David, Debbie, Ruth Anne, Woody Abroe, Jan Walton, Colin Fidock, Jean & John McIntosh, Margie Caddy, Alec, Tricia, Erin & Tyson, Tim & Suzanne, Levi, Scarlett & Will, Ian & Bryan & families, Marion Ford & Ann Tee.

Cycle of Prayer. This week we keep before God in our prayers the following members of our Parish family: Lyn & Alf Ho, Louise Hoyle, Beverley Inwood, Brian & Heather Jeffries, Margaret Johansson, Jo & Ron Johnson, Ali Karimi and the Pastoral Care team.

Those who have died and whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Departed:

Anniversaries: Reginald Worthy, Kitty Anson, Hilda Charlton, Clarice Castellari, Mary Southren, Ngaire Stichbury, Garth Kappler, Ernest Codd, Kathleen Goode, Kathleen Drodge, Betty Dell, John Gray.

+ Rest in peace and rise in glory.

Requests for prayer should be made to Deb Travis 0450 950 112 (8am service); Ann Dixon 0421 816 614 (9.30am service); or speak to Jean Rechner 0409 816 115 (Thursday service).

28th December readings

Jeremiah 31.15-20

1 John 1.5-2.2

First Sunday after Christmas

Ps 124

Matthew 2.13-18

ROSTER REMINDER for 10.00am service Sunday, 28th December

Reader 1: Mano de Mel

Reader 2: Margaret Curd

Intercessor: Julie Nicholls

Sidespersons: Warren Henriks & Ralph Nicholls

Welcoming: Margaret Collins & Christine Walker

Morning Tea: Dany & Louisa Fidock

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

The Venerable Jo Smith; 0401 086 404; jo@amip.net.au

ASSOCIATE PRIEST

Rev'd Dr Don Owers; 0432 330 818

Rev'd Samuel Yengi; 0479 098 849; mori.keribe@gmail.com

PRIEST'S WARDEN**PEOPLE'S WARDEN**

Margaret Curd; 0423 205 140; curdm@bigpond.com

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PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Ann Dixon; 0421 816 614; addixon@rocketmail.com

OP SHOP CO-ORDINATOR

Colin Fidock; 0417 819 938; colin.fidock@bigpond.com

**COMMUNITY GARDEN
CONVENOR**

David Datson; 0413 278 180;
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**PROPERTY COMMITTEE
SERVICES**

Darryl McLean; 0447 508 609; macfuddled@gmail.com

WEEKLY PEW SHEET

Please forward information to the church email or put a note under the office door by Wednesday.

CHURCH BANK DETAILS

BSB No: 705 077

A/c No: 00041526

A/c Name: Parish of Modbury and Golden Grove

REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday	Bible Study	10.00am
Tuesday	Holy Communion	8.30am
	Community Garden	9.30am
Wednesday	Foodbank (fortnightly)	10.00am
	Bible Study	10.00am
Thursday	Holy Communion	10.00am
Friday	Community Garden	9.30am
Community Garden BBQ	1 st Tuesday of the month	11.30am
Bari Worship	1 st & 3 rd Sunday of the month	11.30am
Men's Group	2 nd Thursday of the month	7.30pm
Come as You Are (Women's Fellowship)	1 st Friday of the month	10.00am