Welcome to Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans church!

We're so glad you are here

15 DECEMBER 2024

If you're new we'd love to connect with you and hear more of your story. Fill in a follow-up card or talk to one of the priests.

PRAYER AND CARE

Parish Prayer for the week

Dear Lord, we have so much to celebrate in our lives especially what baby Jesus coming to earth has brought to us. Let us celebrate and be grateful for all that is good in our lives. We give praise for our blessings and thank you for the hope you give to all who are burdened.

We have freely received so help us to freely give. Give us hearts of compassion, forgiveness and love so that your precious gift of life can be recognised and everyone will know you are God of all. Amen.

Pray for those in need of healing

Joy Swinbourne, Ros Rowe, Alex & Myra Arrighi, Gerri White's granddaughter, Phil and Felicity Ross, Ramin Nairyzi, Mavis McDonald, Betty Missingham, Damien Bourke, Margaret Saul, Maisie Stratton, Yvette Paish, Jimmy Gistitin, Janice Peate, Cate Bible, Val Barnes, and Alison Lee.

Schools Prayer

As the school year ends we give thanks for all the opportunities available in our area to meet the needs of our children and young people. We give thanks for the high quality educational facilities and commitment by the community to support learning.

We pray for a safe and refreshing holiday break during the Christmas and New Year season. We pray that families will make the effort to seek a place to celebrate the birth of Jesus in one of our Christian congregations.

Thanks to all members of our congregation who continue to pray for our schools.

FEATURED NEWS

'PRAYERS FOR HOPE' CHRISTMAS TREE

During Advent we have a Christmas tree with a difference: a prayer tree, where we will hang our prayers of hope.

This week we pray for what we hope for our community. What gives you hope as you see God at work in our community and our nation? How do you hope that God will continue to move?

As each prayer is added, the Christmas tree is a visible reminder of the hope we have in Christ.

BEACHSIDE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

If you're coming to the Lennox Head beachside service on Christmas Day, please bring a chair for yourself and, if possible, one for someone else to use.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR OUR AGM

Due by Friday 24 January, sooner if possible. I If you have any questions, or wonder if you need to prepare a report, email <u>office@anglicanballina.com.au</u>. **Please share any photos that are suitable**

for inclusion in the report.

God calls us to...

Worship and pray *creatively* encountering God in old ways and new Think and learn *eagerly* discovering more about God and faith Serve and care *generously* sharing God's love and justice in our community Accept and include *compassionately* because God's table has a place for everyone READINGS for this week Advent 3 Zephaniah 3:14-20; A Song of Isaiah; Luke 3:7-18 READINGS for next week Advent 4 Micah 5:2-5a; A Song of Mary; Luke 1:39-45

OP SHOP AND ISAIAH 61 PROJECT NEWS

Op Shop open Mon-Fri 9.00 - 3.30; Sat 9.00 - 1.00 Op Shop will be closed 25 December – reopening **2 January**

ISAIAH 61 PROJECT NEWS Our BBQ Breakfast: There is no BBQ breakfast in December. Instead, we will be hosting the Community Christmas Lunch.

God calls us to bring good news to the poor and the oppressed. (Is. 61:1)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Light Eternal Christmas Choral Concert Sunday 15 December, 3.00pm St Mary's Vox Caldera Chamber Choir directed by Nicholas Routledge. Tickets \$25/\$20 Concession

available at the door, or book at www.musicestuary.org

Advent Music Reflections Tuesday 17 December, 5.00pm St Mary's

30 minutes of beautiful organ music and a poem. Take time to sit in God's presence.

Christmas Closures

Op Shop will be closed 25 December – reopening 2 January Men's Group next meeting 22 January St Mary's Singers next rehearsal 30 January Craft Group meets 16 December, then not again until 3 February. Threshold Choir next practice 4 February Coffee & Conversation at Lennox next meet 27 February

Coffee 'n' Chat next meeting tba

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday 15 December 8am Lennox Head 10am Ballina

Tuesday 17 December 10am St Andrews Village

Wednesday 18 December 10am Ballina

Friday 20 December 7pm Nine Lessons & Carols

> Sunday 22 December 8am Lennox Head 10am Ballina

Tuesday 24 December 6pm Family Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday 25 December 7.30am Beachside Christmas Lennox Head 9am Christmas Ballina

ON EVERY WEEK

Mondays 9.30 am except Public Holidays Craft Group – In recess after 16 December

Thursdays 10.30 am Coffee 'n' Chat – Ballina in recess

Thursdays 2pm St Mary's Singing Group in recess

CONTACT US

<u>Rector</u> The Rev'd Cathy Ridd 0427 836 988 revridd@gmail.com Days off: Friday & Monday

Assistant Curate The Rev'd Mandy Larkin 0460 872 944 mandylarkin08@gmail.com Days off: Friday & Saturday

Parish Office

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Website www.anglicanballina.com.au

Facebook Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans

GIVING OPTIONS

By Direct Debit or online BSB: 705077 Acc: 00040134

In Person Gifts can be placed in offertory box during services

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) Advent and Christmas Appeal 2024. This Advent and Christmas, share peace and hope by supporting ABM's work with disadvantaged children in Sri Lanka and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Sydney, providing them with life-changing educational opportunities.