

Services – Sunday 3 December, 2023

Advent 1

9.30am Five Dock

Preacher: Rev Wattson Pualilo

Reading: Titus 2: 11-15

Theme: "Hope for Possession"

We are glad to have you with us today in worship.

It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.



DIARY DATES

Monday Bible Study will not meet this week.

The **Minutes** of the recent Worship Committee, Property and Administration Committee and Church Council are available on the notice board at the rear of the Church.

Sunday 10 December – 2nd Sunday of Advent
All are invited to share in a **Congregational Christmas Morning Tea** following Service.

Monday 11 December 2023 at 3pm in the Church
Monday Bible Study (last Bible Study for this year)

Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

Theme: The visit of the Magi

Church Rosters

The rosters for Church duties and Meals on Wheels volunteers for January to June 2024 will be available this month..

Upcoming Services

Sunday 17 December: Lessons and Carols

Sunday 24 December: 4th Sunday of Advent

Monday 25 December: Christmas Day Service **9am**

Sunday 7 January: New Year Service

Sunday 21 January: Day of Mourning

Sunday 28 January: Australia Day service

Sunday 18 February: First Sunday in Lent

Giving at Christmas

The Christmas Day offering will be received for Wesley Mission, Christmas Bowl and Exodus Foundation. Envelopes are available. Gifts may be returned on Christmas day or any Sunday.

Wednesday 24 January at 11.30am

Property and Administration Committee

Sunday 25 February 2024 after Service

Church Council – Written reports covering Nov 2023 to Feb 2024 from the Minister, Treasurer, PAC, Congregation and Pastoral Carers Group. Reports

to be at the Church Office by Wednesday 14 February for distribution Sunday 18 February 2024.

- The Church Office is closed from 20 December 2023 to 23 January 2024
- The Childcare Centre will be closed from 22 December 2023 to 8 January 2024
- Our Minister is on leave from 8 to 22 January 2024

Uniting Act2 Project Report

The Church Council has considered the report recommendations raised in the Uniting Act2 Project and have forwarded our comments to the relevant authorities.



Praise and Prayer Points.

“For unto you a King is born ...”

Hello everyone, I cannot believe that I am already writing my last piece for the end of the year newsletter here at FDDR. It's December already and the year has certainly moved on so quickly that we sometimes do not realise just how quick time disappears, or the more I get older the quicker the year seems. It is the latter.

As I sit here contemplating on the things that occurred and have taken place this year, the boxes that were ticked and those that weren't, what came and went, the joys and the sorrows, the achievements and the disappointments, that which brought unity and those which caused separation, a world that continues to reveal all of its brokenness each year and what beauty that has left.

I continue to pray that as we approach this coming Christmas and heading into the New Year, may the Lord continue to have his way over his people. I pray and hope that God will eventually bring about peace and healing into an already lost and dying world.

The world right now desperately needs to hear God's voice and guidance through his Word (the Bible). Many of us are looking forward to celebrating Christmas with family or with friends this year, but for some, Christmas is a very lonely and sad time. So, let us spare a thought for those who are doing it tough this Christmas in whatever situation or adversity they may be going through right now.

Christmas is a time not only to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but also a time to pause and to reflect, to be grateful and to give thanks to God for what has been. Despite all that is currently happening around us, in our homes, in our community, in our country and throughout the world, God is still good.

May you all experience the true love of God and his peace this Christmas.

Love and Blessings from the Pualilo family.