

TODAY is Christmas Day. The staff team would like to thank everyone for their ministry in 2016 and wish everyone attending Kiama Anglican Churches a happy, holy and safe Christmas and New Year. We all look forward to continuing to serve Jesus and one another together in 2017.

COMING WEEK:

- > **The church office is now closed and will reopen on Monday 16 Jan 2017.** If you need to speak to a member of the staff team during this time please either ring and leave a phone message so someone can return your call, or call Rod Harding directly on the mobile number below.
- > **Correction on Women Together @ KAC bookmark** date is Monday 24 July 2017.

COMING MONTH(S):

- > **Blue Haven Service:** next service on **Thu, 05 Jan 2017, 2:30pm.**
- > **Summerlife Team is on site from 27 Dec 2016 to 06 Jan 2017.**
- > **Red Cross Blood Bank is on the Showground site, Wed 28 to Fri 30 Dec.**
- > **Kiama Show is on Fri 27 Jan to Sat 28 Jan 2017.** The KAC site is used for Show parking and hence will be packed out. If you are able to help out to collect admission donations to Anglicare please contact the Office or Richard Maitland.
- > **Thank you / Welcome lunch: Sun 05 Feb 11:45am.** Patio lunch to thank Rod and Deb and to welcome Michele & Rachel as they commence their new roles.
- > **Alan and Helen Woods (CMS): 12-17 Feb 2017.** Alan & Helen will be at services on Sun 12 Feb and then at Growth Groups during the week, as well as at MSG at 2:30pm on Wed 15 Feb
- > **Anglican Aid "WaterWorks for a Thirsty World!": 18 Feb. Breakfast** with Henry Olonga (Zimbabwe's first black international cricketer) in the Church Point Centre. Cost \$15, so keep the date! RSVP to the Office.
- > **2017 Offertory envelope packs** are now available for you to pick up. Alternatively why not set up a regular EFT to the church bank account shown below.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Parish Operating Account
 Offertory Budget for 2017 \$495,700
 Required weekly Offertory \$ 9,533
 to meet budget.

NEW BANKING DETAILS

A/C Name: Anglican Church Kiama
BSB: 032 689 A/C Number: 211284

MINISTRY TEAM

SENIOR MINISTER
Rev Steve Stanis
 4232 2066 | 0429 928 001
 steve@kiamaanglican.org.au
 (Rest Day Tuesday)

ASSOCIATE MINISTER
Rev Rod Harding
 0411 331 167
 rod.harding@kiamaanglican.org.au
 Wednesday, Thursday &
 Sunday

CHILDREN & FAMILIES MINISTRY
Deb Baker
 4232 2066
 deb@kiamaanglican.org.au
 (Rest Days Thursday & Saturday)

ASSISTANT MINISTER
Rev Christopher Anstiss
 4232 2066 | 0403 678 602
 christopher.anstiss@kiamaanglican.org.au
 (Rest Day Thursday)

YOUTH MINISTRY
Steve Inman
 0429 147 938
 steveinman@kiamaanglican.org.au
 (Rest Day Tuesday)

OFFICE (Temporary)
Michael Birrell
 4232 2066
 office@kiamaanglican.org.au
Office Hours: 9am-2pm (Mon-Wed)
9am-3pm (Thu-Fri)



Our Vision:

"Dependent upon God, we seek to be inspired, equipped and enabled to walk the journey of faith in Jesus Christ, so that each of us..."



...intentionally shares Jesus' message and love reaching out to all people in our local and global communities."
 Matthew 28:19-20

Welcome!

Christmas Eve: Steve Inman 6pm, 11pm
Christmas Day: Christopher Anstiss 8am, 9am
Rod Harding 8:30am

Christ is Born

Christmas (AAPB p186-188)

Bible Readings:	Luke 2:1-20	(NIV 1014)
	Matthew 2:1-11	(NIV 956)
	Titus 2:11-14	(NIV 1182)
	Matthew 1:18-25	(NIV 955)

Welcome to everyone visiting to celebrate Christmas with us today.

KAC website:
<http://www.kiamaanglican.org.au>



Unto us a child is born—Isa 9:6

CHRISTMAS

To everyone who comes to church at KAC (Christchurch, St Paul's, Church Point Centre) over the Christmas weekend, and to everyone else in Kiama who doesn't – happy Christmas!

What a special time of year this is. For most of us, Christmas is when we get together; when we celebrate values of peace, relationship, togetherness and harmony; when we share gifts and expressions of love and concern for one another; when we both provide and enjoy hospitality at one another's homes; and when we do our best to smile, to be gracious and forgiving, and to maintain the sense of peace and well-being that seems to come at Christmas.

And in a town like Kiama, Christmas stands for even more. There are holiday-makers, day visitors, tourists passing through, such that the Blowhole(s), the cafés, the parks and beaches – and especially Terralong St – are so much more crowded than they are at other times of the year. Kiama is bustling and busy, traffic moves slowly through the main thoroughfares, the footpaths are shoulder to shoulder ... and we are reminded that summer and Christmas have come again!

Some of us get grumpy, because it takes 10 minutes instead of just 2 to drive from Manning St to Woolies, and when we get there, there's nowhere to park ... or because we can't find a spare table at our regular café. How much worse would it have been for that young man and his teenage wife (who was heavily pregnant and about to give birth), when they arrived in Bethlehem and found there was no room for them in town! It wasn't the peak of tourist season, but it might just as well have been ... they were excluded, shut out, nowhere to go – until they found a friendly inn-keeper, who offered them a couple of hay-bales to sleep on and a roof over their heads, if they were prepared to share it all with a bunch of cows and sheep. Sounds just like Jamberoo!!

Before we whinge and complain about all the visitors in town, we ought to pause and think again of Christmas, and the whole meaning caught up in the baby who was born in such humble circumstances. He was given the name 'Jesus' because he would save his people from themselves and their rejection of God. He was referred to as 'Immanuel', because he was the embodiment of the concept of 'God with us'. He was the one who would become known as the 'Christ', 'Messiah', the Son of David, the Son of God, fulfilling the plan and purpose of God since before the world was created.

This is the person of Jesus, the reason for Christmas, and the one at the heart of our celebration this weekend. His example was to love, accept, forgive and show grace to ALL with whom he came in contact ... and he calls us to do likewise, especially to the strangers, the unknowns ... the visitors who come to Kiama at Christmas. At KAC we want to welcome ALL who come to visit our town and share with us the many good things we all enjoy about this place.

If you are a visitor this weekend, you are very welcome. We hope you catch a glimpse of Jesus as you join with us to celebrate Christmas this year.

Rod.

PRAYER FOCUS

Christians Celebrating Christmas

Praise God for his faithfulness in keeping his promise to send a King and Saviour to his people – Jesus Christ the Lord.

Pray for Christians celebrating Christmas all over the world and especially in Kiama. **Pray that** their celebrations will be centred on your Son Jesus, and full of the love, joy, hope and peace that he brings.

Pray for Christians around the world who cannot celebrate Christmas out of fear of persecution. **Pray that** they may feel God's strength and comfort especially today. **Pray for** their perseverance and faith under trial.

Pray for the safety of all travelling to family and friends today and throughout this holiday season.

Those in need

Pray for those for whom this season is difficult: Those facing family conflict and relationship breakdown, those mourning the loss of a loved one, those facing financial strain and unemployment, those feeling isolated and lonely. **Pray that** God may have compassion on these people. **Pray that** amidst their trials they may find the lasting love, joy, hope and peace that only Jesus can bring.

PRAYER GROUPS

Thursday 2pm

Minnamurra Prayer Group
Contact Janet King 0438 483 572

Friday 10am Ladies Prayer Group

Contact Margaret Beazley 4232 2618

Prayer Chain requests contact

Jo Bailey phone 0424 466 935, email
praying@kiamaanglican.org.au

A Christmas Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for giving us your one and only much-loved Son to be born of the virgin, Mary, and take on our nature. We thank you that through Jesus we have a fresh start and new life with you having been made your children even though we don't deserve it. Please strengthen and renew us daily by the power of your Holy Spirit to trust you and live lives that please you. We ask this through this same Lord Jesus Christ, ever one God, now and forever. Amen.

People to Pray for...

Comfort and Healing:

Fay Browne, Dianne Allen, Warren Divers, Guy Marriot, Grahame Scarratt, Elisabeth Vickery.

Hospitals

Aileen Thomas (Wollongong Private)

Still Needing Prayer:

Gary Bennett, Daphne Jeffrey, Des Sherlock, Laurelle Watson

Thank you:

Daphne Wilson and the Wilson family wish to thank everyone for their support, cards and prayers, since Keith died.

Come let us

Adore

Him



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Summerlife 27 Dec to 06 Jan 2017

Leaders In Training (LIT) 21-25 Jan 2017

Youth groups are on summer break until 03 Feb 2017