



NEXT SUNDAY: 18TH DECEMBER – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Grace Lutheran Church, Clontarf

8:30am Worship

Grace Lutheran College Chapel, Rothwell

**5:30pm Worship
Fellowship Meal to follow**

The church is a safe place responding to sexual abuse complaints. Copies of the LCA Safe Place are available in the office or visit www.lca.org.au/safe-place--child-safe-2.html
To report a complaint, freecall 1800 644 628 number, or email:
report.abuse@safeplace.lca.org.au or mail LCA Safe Place PO Box 519 Marden SA 5070.

Pastor	Mark Brinkmann	Ph: 3283 3305 (home) Mob: 0499 014 189 PastorMark@gtps.qld.edu.au
Family Ministry Chaplain	Danielle Robinson	Mob: 0402 725 901 DanielleR@gtps.qld.edu.au
Grace Ministry Team	Desley Dyer	Ph: 3885 2330
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gracelutheran.org.au	www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranChurchRedcliffe	

Sunday Bulletin

OUR MISSION: To know Christ and to make Him known

11TH DECEMBER 2016 - Third Sunday of Advent

WELCOME! A warm welcome to all of you as we worship together today. May God bless and strengthen you in every way.

VISITORS! A special welcome to you. We hope that you feel at home with us. Please join in a cuppa and fellowship after the service.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord, listen to our prayers.
Come to us in your kindness,
and lighten the darkness of our hearts.
For you live and reign
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Happy Birthday!

Tuesday Enid Middleton (special)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Monday Robert & Fay Head

Wednesday Doug & Dorothy Fraser

DATE CLAIMER

Sun 18 Dec	2:00pm	Christmas Tree decorating
Sat 24 Dec	7:00pm	Christmas Eve, Grace College Chapel
	11:00pm	Worship at Maine Road
Sun 25 Dec	8:30am	Christmas Day Service
Sun 8 Jan	10:00am	Mainly Music Ministry Meeting

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS: Please send contributions for the Bulletin to church@gtps.qld.edu.au by Thursday noon.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jesus told His disciples: 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see. The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised.' In the knowledge of the true healing Christ has brought into this world, let us pray for the world, the church, and our local needs.

We pray, saying: *LORD, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.*

In our prayers:

- peoples in lands of drought and desert that as Isaiah prophesied of water and joy, people may know relief and the joy that comes from true faith in Christ;
- * all farmers preparing for harvest, for safety and joy in this work, and a thankful heart to God for all His gifts;
- * the blind, lame, deaf, or suffering from any other disability, and all who help people with disabilities, that they know the strength and joy that comes from the Lord;
- * nations, and leaders of nations, that they strive for strong, respectful and trusting relationships in mixed-faith societies, that in spite of their religious differences and disagreements, people of different faiths can peacefully live and work together;
- * Christians suffering discrimination and persecution, especially in the Middle East and North Africa, the cradle of Christianity; as also Christians in Indonesia including the ethnic Chinese Christian Governor of Jakarta, Basuki 'Ahok' Tjahaja Purnama on 'blasphemy charges against Islam'; and that we always may respond with grace and love and thereby transform the hearts of those who seek to oppress Christianity;
- * all preparing for Christmas, that in the commercialism of our world the true message of Christ may heard, hearts would be led to true faith;
- * all preparing for holidays, that holy days may be kept, and people travel in safety;
- * the holy Church of God that we are patient, humbly reading and studying and praying God's Word;
- * all Church leaders including LCA Bishop John and LCAQD Bishop Paul, and all Pastors, that in the lead up to Christmas hearts are focused on Christ, and there is joy and strength and blessing in their work;
- * all who seek to serve including volunteers in congregations, as also the young people of LYQ who serve in various ways, including at Summer Camps;
- * local Christian Congregations (including: Peace Community and Peninsula Presbyterian Church) and local ministries including Bible Society groups (and preparation for 200th anniversary of the Bible Society in 2017);
- * our 'Community of Grace': for preparations for special worship celebrations including Christmas Worship Services; Education Sunday (29th January, including the installation of David Radke, Trudy Moala, and Karina Flanagan), and District Synod in 2017; and for preparations for the establishment of a 'Mainly Music Playgroup' in 2017;
- * all preparing for Baptism (Oliver Brinkmann, baptised at Springfield Lakes, 11th December), First Communion (including Abby Crew next Sunday, 8:30am), Confirmation, or Marriage;
- * the sick, and all recovering from surgery or illness, (including Melindie Hunt)
- * the housebound that they may know God's gracious presence;
- * all who mourn the death of loved ones;

ADVENT DINNER Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the Advent Dinner last Saturday evening. A special thank you to Donna and Fleur for the entertaining program which encouraged all generations to be involved in fellowship together.

CHRISTMAS ACTION APPEAL (ALWS) Your help directly supports our sister Lutheran Church in PNG to deliver practical local community care. The Australian Government is providing a 3:1 Grant as part of its overseas aid package that adds \$3.00 to each \$1.00 you give. Australian Lutherans have supported work in PNG for more than 130 years. ALWS aims to offer cost effective solutions and you may be sure that administrative costs are kept to a minimum and tax deductible options are available. Brochures are available today and your donation can be placed on the offering plate in the envelope provided.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Danielle is seeking some people who can help with Bible Reading and prayer, as well as people who are happy to be 'interviewed' during a very short 'play' during the service to give their version of what Christmas means to them. Interested? Please contact Danielle.

MAINLY MUSIC A huge thank you to all of those whose hearts have been stirred to support the new mission initiative of our church by serving in our mainly music ministry. A one hour meeting will be held on Sunday, 8th January in the church hall after morning worship (10am start) to discuss the various requirements of team member contributions and to allocate appropriate roles to team members given our gifts and abilities as parts of the body of Christ. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please let Danielle know so she can forward you a questionnaire to help assess where you can best serve in this ministry and a suitable role can be allocated to you.

BAYSIDE COOMUNITY CARE It's that time of the year again when we ask the congregation for a small donation of Christmas treats. These are placed into the free food parcels issued by Bayside Community Care during the last two Fridays prior to Christmas. Any such Christmas donations can be left in the basket upon entering the church. Thank you for your wonderful support.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH The setting up of the Christmas tree and any other interior decorating will take place Sunday 18th Dec at 2pm. Any help is gratefully received.

LLL INTEREST CHANGE NOTICE The LLL has advised interest rate on Savings Accounts is now 2.50% per annum from 1 December 2016. This interest rate applies to all LLL interest bearing Savings Accounts. The impact of Reserve Bank Cash Rate reductions in May and August 2016 mean the LLL can no longer hold the 2.75% per annum interest rate which has applied since 1 December 2015. Despite this change in the interest rate, you are reminded that the LLL Savings Accounts 'at call' rate is still very competitive in the market place. We thank you for your assistance in this matter and for your ongoing support of the LLL.

PLACE FOR RENT 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, recently renovated, 12 month lease. Suit professional couple or professional friends. Congregation or Lutheran schools employees preferred. Contact: Geoffrey and Ruth Butler. For more info and some pictures, see the poster on the notice board.