



# Christ Church Cathedral and St Peter's Hamilton

52 Church Street, Newcastle  
148 Denison Street, Hamilton



*Welcome to worship today, especially all who are visiting*  
*Weekly News Sunday 17 December 2023*

## ADVENT 3



Photo Credit: Catholic Church England and Wales, Gaudete Sunday, Our Lady of Grace & St Edward

### Services Today

**8.00am:** Eucharist

Presider: *The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer*

*In place of sermon: Music in the Top End*

**10.00am:** Choral Eucharist

Presider: *The Reverend Gary Atherton*

*In place of sermon: Music in the Top End*

**6.00pm:** Choral Evensong

Officiant: *The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer*

*In place of sermon: Music in the Top End*

**You Tube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXyas2uhJUNOnDetOpPdUOg>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchcathedralnewcastle/>

## *Dear Parish Family*

GAUDETE! The Third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday, drawing the name from the Latin for 'Rejoice', which is the first word in the Latin introit for this Sunday. My favourite version of this is by Steeleye Span <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDc2FD-vy8M> We light the rose candle, a sign of our rejoicing. In many places rose vestments are worn on this Sunday. The Cathedral does not have a set of rose vestments, so I might have to look for some pink shoes 😊

In this 'short Advent', it seems that 'night is flying', as we sing in the hymn (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5QqoSOUyEr8>). Next Sunday is Advent IV in the morning, and Christmas Eve in the afternoon. Consequently, we're continuing the season of 'finals'. Mainly Music had a wonderful final day for the year, and the Cathedral Office will close on Wednesday at midday 20th December. If you need to contact the office urgently, please call my mobile number.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jacqui and Phil Weston on the birth of their son, Julian Felix Weston this week. Much love and prayers and blessings at this time.

THANK YOU to Suzanne Evans and her team of helpers for wonderful decorations in the Cathedral.

BAMAGA: On Sunday 17th December, David Banney, Rosemary Ponnekanti, and Bianca Ponnekanti, will share their experience of music in the Top End, and we will hear the Bamaga Suite, composed as part of this trip. Please encourage others to come and hear about this trip.

ONE EUCHARIST SUNDAYS: Sunday 24th December AND Sunday 31st December will both be 'One Eucharist Sundays'. There will only be one service in the morning at the Cathedral at 9.00am on both of these Sundays.

ST PETER'S HAMILTON: There will be no Services at St Peter's Hamilton from Wednesday 20th December until Tuesday 2nd January.

CATHEDRAL DAILY EUCHARISTS will continue, except on Public Holidays.

As a Parish Community we are committed to the ongoing work of being a safe, welcoming, inclusive, and affirming place for all. We are committed to the journey of Makarrata – reconciliation with First Nations peoples. Thank you also for your ongoing prayers for our LGBTQIA+ community, at this time when their validity and identity continues to be challenged and questioned.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING...

**NEWS:** This is our parish pewslip. If you have news, or items for the pewslip, please send them to Sharon in the parish office. We love contributions!

**COMMUNITY LUNCH:** is in the Cathedral on Sunday, following the 10.00am Eucharist. Are you able to help with setting up or bringing rested hands and feet back around 1.00pm to help clear away? Please contact Suzanne Evans or Andrew Traill if you can assist.

**CLEANING BEE:** Please help clean the Cathedral for Christmas! Join us on Saturday 23rd December for an hour or two, to help prepare for Christmas worship.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Would you be willing to assist in welcoming people to worship over Christmas? Nothing says welcome more than a smile and a friendly greeting. We need welcomers for all our Christmas Services. Please contact the Office and let us know at which service you can help.

**COVID AND ATTENDING WORSHIP:** COVID is on the rise again! The aged care residences in our parish require us to wear masks at all times. Please continue to be mindful of COVIDSafe practices as we gather, and to be mindful of our own health and vulnerabilities as well as those in our community. Please strongly consider wearing a mask in places, including church, where you feel you are not able to adequately maintain physical distancing.

**CHRISTMAS RESOURCES:** The Cathedral Shop has many excellent resources and gifts for Christmas, including beautiful nativity sets and Christmas decorations and cards for sale. Please shop local and support our shop!

**SAMARITANS CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** Details for how to support the Samaritans Christmas Appeal are in the pewslip.

**LIVESTREAM:** The Livestream is back! The easiest way to connect to the livestream is through the cathedral YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXyas2uhJUNOnDetOpPdUOg>

The sacrament is administered in both kinds. You are welcome to receive in one or both kinds. We ask that you do not intinct (dip) the host.

Finally, this week's poem is a reference to our Gaudete Sunday theme. The words "joy is supposed to slither through/ the cracks of your imperfect life/ that's how joy works" were a reminder for me to look for the joy in the everyday. This week I have been blessed with some unexpected moments of pure joy, which have refreshed my soul, at time when there feels to be much brokenness. I love the use of the word "slither", subverting the imagery of the snake in Genesis 3, reminding us that the incarnation is joy for a broken world.

## JOY

Joy does not arrive with a fanfare  
on a red carpet strewn  
with the flowers of a perfect life  
joy sneaks in  
as you pour a cup of coffee  
watching the sun  
hit your favourite tree  
just right

and you usher joy away  
because you are not ready for her  
your house is not as it should be  
for such a distinguished guest

but joy, you see  
cares nothing for your messy home or your bank balance  
or your waistline

joy is supposed to slither through  
the cracks of your imperfect life  
that's how joy works

you cannot truly invite her  
you can only be ready  
when she appears  
and hug her with meaning  
because in this very moment  
joy chose you.

Donna Ashworth

**With my thanks and prayers,  
Dean Katherine**

*Ps: Please share this email with others who would like to hear news of the parish.  
To receive our weekly mailings, please contact the Cathedral Office  
[cathedral@newcastlecathedral.org.au](mailto:cathedral@newcastlecathedral.org.au) to be placed on the email or mail out list.*



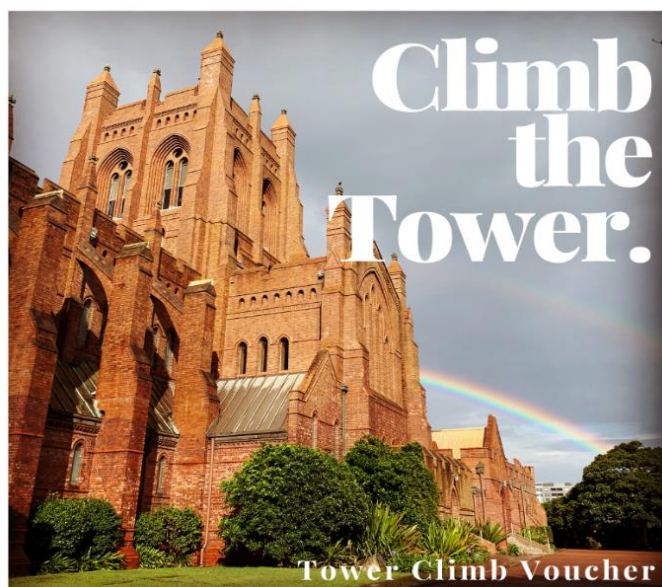
***The flowers in the Cathedral today have been donated by***

Graham and Anne Vimpani in loving  
memory of their mothers

**PHYL VIMPANI and BETTY STRACHAN**  
and **HORRIE VIMPANI**



**Shout out for those attending services over  
Christmas. We are very much in need of  
volunteers to welcome visitors and take  
up the offertory over the festive season.  
Please help if you can.**



**Need a last minute  
Christmas gift?  
Tower Climb Vouchers are  
available from the Cathedral  
office and shop. \$10pp,  
something different for those  
who are hard to buy for.**



**As the weather appears to be warming up  
for summer please think about bringing  
water with you to church.**



### **Looking for accommodation**

Patricia is coming to work in a research job with the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney and is looking for accommodation in Newcastle. A single older woman, she was hoping a parishioner may have a roomy one bedroom, a self-contained part of a house, or a granny flat she could rent. Close to public transport would be helpful. Please contact the Cathedral office if you can help – 49 29 2052.

# *Music this Sunday*

## **8am - Eucharist**

Hymns - 268, 271, 281, 275

Gerard Nicholls (organ)

## **10am - Choral Eucharist**

Introit - Laetentur Caeli (Zielinski)

Setting - Missa Ego Flos Campi (Padilla)

Psalm 126 (Jackson)

Anthems – Cherubic hymn (Chesnokov)

Hymns - 268, 271, 281, 275

Gerard Nicholls (organ)

## **6pm - Evensong**

Preces and Responses - Ayleward

Magnificat and Nunc dimittis (Gibbons)

Anthem - Cherubic hymn (Chesnokov)

Psalm 18:1-6, 48-50 (18:1-6, 48-50)

Hymns – 265, 264, 266

Gerard Nicholls (organ)

## **Music notes**

Choosing music for a Cathedral is a never-ending job for any Music Director, and the aim is always to amplify and illuminate the message of the scriptures for any given service. Sometimes it's easy, and sometimes it is not. Sometimes the challenge is finding even a single hymn or anthem to match the readings. At other times - even more challenging - the problem is choosing what to leave out! Advent is such a time - like Lent, Easter and Christmas, it is a season that has inspired composers and poets throughout the world and over many centuries to produce words and music of utmost beauty.

Each Sunday in Advent has a special purpose - the first two Sundays prepare us to wait for Christmas, while the fourth Sunday focuses on the role of Mary in the Christmas story. The third Sunday is 'Gaudete' Sunday (= 'to rejoice'). Unlike Lent, which is a uniformly sombre preparation for Easter, Advent takes us through a wide range of experiences and emotions, and today we 'rejoice' in the knowledge of what is to come - we wait for Christmas not passively, but with excited expectation. To help us, today's music ranges from the brilliant and boisterous to the profound. Our Mass setting is a striking work from 17th century Mexico, following the style of European contemporaries such as Monteverdi. Set for two separate choirs, the music will fill the Cathedral with rich harmony and rhythmic zest. Our introit has a very similar style, also for double choir, and coming from the same era, but from Poland rather than from Mexico.

It is a setting of part of Psalm 96, foreshadowing the coming of Jesus: Sing to the Lord a new song (the Psalms set for Christmas services are Psalm 96, 97 and 98 - it is definitely worth reading these wonderful texts in the leadup to Christmas). Our anthem for morning and evening comes from the Russian Orthodox tradition, composed by a magnificent composer, little known in the west - Pavel Chesnokov (1877-1944). Taken from the Eucharistic liturgy, the text joyfully places us in the company of heaven:

*We who mystically represent the Cherubim,  
and who sing to the Life-Giving Trinity the thrice-holy hymn,  
let us now lay aside all earthly cares  
that we may receive the King of all,  
escorted invisibly by the angelic orders.  
Alleluia*



## Top End Music

Come and hear David Banney, Rosemary Ponnekanti, and Bianca Ponnekanti reflect on their experiences of music in the Top End. Hear the Tope End Suite composed as part of this trip. Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December, during the 8.00am, 10.00am, and 6.00pm services. Read more about the trip here: [topendmusic.com](http://topendmusic.com)

## THE TRIVIA NIGHT



Photo credits Alison Hamilton

**A fun night had by all and great success for the choir fundraising.  
Thanks to all who supported this event.**





**Cathedral  
Cleaning Bee  
9.00am  
Saturday  
23 December**

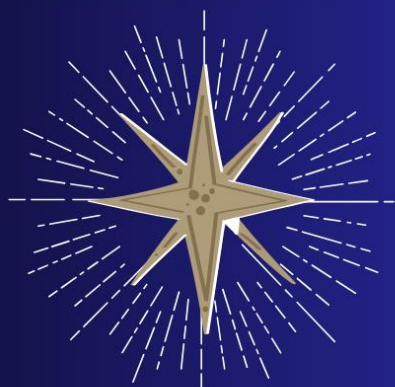
*Christmas  
Day  
at St Peter's  
Hamilton*

**9.00AM  
HOLY EUCHARIST**

[www.newcastlecathedral.org.au](http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.au)

**(02) 4929 2052**

**CHRISTMAS AT  
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
NEWCASTLE**



**JOY TO THE WORLD**

**CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2023  
FAMILY SERVICE 5:00 PM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2023  
NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS 7:30 PM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2023  
'MIDNIGHT' MASS 10:30 PM**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERTOS FROM 10:00PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023  
HOLY COMMUNION 7:00 AM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023  
FESTAL MASS FOR CHRISTMAS 9:00 AM**

**52 CHURCH STREET NEWCASTLE NSW  
WWW.NEWCASTLECATHEDRAL.ORG.AU  
(02) 4929 2052**



Samaritans

# Christmas Appeal



[www.samaritans.org.au/donate](http://www.samaritans.org.au/donate)



## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023



**Building strong communities together**



[www.abmission.org/Christmas2023](http://www.abmission.org/Christmas2023)

## ONE EUCHARIST SUNDAYS AT THE CATHEDRAL ALL AT 9.00AM

**NOVEMBER**  
**26**

Christ the King - Patronal Festival  
Celebrate together at 9.00am.  
Morning Tea afterwards.

**DECEMBER**  
**24**

Sunday Morning - Advent 4  
Eucharist at 9.00am.  
Christmas Services in the afternoon.

**DECEMBER**  
**31**

New Year's Eve - Sunday 9.00am.  
Come and give thanks for all that has  
been, and pray for the New Year.



## What are we waiting for? *Three studies for Advent*

*Advent, we are told, is a time of waiting. But what exactly are we waiting for?  
Please join us for study, prayer and fellowship as we prepare to celebrate Christmas.*

**7.30-9.00pm**  
**Wednesdays in Advent**  
**(December 6, 13, 20)**

*Venue: 6 Burke St, New Lambton  
(Home of David and Catherine Banney)*

All are welcome - if you could let us know that you are  
coming that would be helpful, but not essential:  
[dabanney@gmail.com](mailto:dabanney@gmail.com)





## ***Cathedral things to remember...***

***Although the weather is warmer, it can be cold and damp for the homeless, please donate new socks if you can.***



***We are still collecting suitable material for the wonderful team who make beautiful blankets to comfort the homeless. Please leave material if you have any.***

***Donate to the Cathedral's restoration, buy and lay a paver for your furry friend.***

***Contact the office for details.***



***Anytime you can spare a little food for the CCC pantry and Samaritans it would be hugely appreciated.***

## Donations for Flowers

To donate flowers in memory of a loved one or as a thank-offering, please advise Suzanne Evans on 4955 9170 and place your donation in an envelope listing the date for display and include a message and place in the wall safe.

*Flowers are required for CHRISTMAS and December 31, also January 7, 14 and 21.*

## CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY LUNCHES

The Cathedral Community Lunches Program continues to offer a hot meal **every second Sunday at 12.30pm** from the Horbury Hunt Hall.

**Thankyou** to the dedicated volunteers who are ensuring this important outreach program continues to operate.

***The next Community event will be our Christmas lunch this Sunday 17 December in the Cathedral.***



## Electronic Giving

If you are one of the very generous people who donate electronically to the Cathedral, sometimes this needs to be “reset” with your financial institute. Several people have dropped off not knowing there was an issue with their bank.

**EUCCHARISTS at CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
and ST PETER'S HAMILTON**

**CATHEDRAL**

**8.00am and 10.00am**

**Monday – Friday 8.30am**

**ST PETER'S**

**Tuesday and Thursday 11.00am**

**NO THURSDAY SERVICE DEC 21**

Newcastle Cathedral mainly music is a fun group for children aged 0 to 5 years and their parents or carers. Each session incorporates action songs and games that help to develop gross and fine motor skills, language and creativity.

The cost is \$5 per family –  
your first session is free!

10:00am to 11:30 every Thursday during school  
terms in the Cathedral.



## Stewardship

Thank you for your ongoing faithful financial support of the mission and ministry of the parish. With no opportunities for additional fund raising, your giving is greatly appreciated. In this time, the best way to exercise our stewardship, to support the work of the parish, is through electronic giving. Our stewardship is an expression of our thankfulness to God, offering as we have received.

**Name: Electronic Giving Account BSB: 705-077 Account: 00040917**

**(please include all 8 digits)** Please include your Initial & Surname in the reference line, if required. Please ask the sidespersons at the Cathedral or St Peter's if you would like a set of stewardship envelopes. If you would like information on how you can contribute to the Music Fund, Missions, and other ministries, please contact the parish office so we can share those details with you. Thank you for your generosity, which supports ministry now and in the future.



# Family Christmas Service



wear nativity or Christmas clothes

**5pm**  
**Sunday 24th December**

Christ Church Cathedral  
Newcastle



[www.newcastlecathedral.org.au/](http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.au/)



Christ Church Cathedral Families



4929 2052



52 Church Street



*The Newcastle Tudor Singers  
present*

## *Favourite things*

*Christmas music we love*

*Dr Anne Millard, director  
with Marcia Wall, piano  
Patricia Woods, soprano  
The Hunter Bell Ringers*

*17 December 2023*

*@ 2pm*

*Sacred Heart Cathedral*

*Tickets \$15 and \$10*



Artwork by Roy Wall



## **SERVICES DURING THE WEEK IN THE CATHEDRAL**

**All services in the St Christopher Chapel. Please enter through the transept doors.**

Monday 18 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am – Eucharist	The Rev'd Gary Atherton
Tuesday 19 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am - Eucharist	The Rev'd Dr Julia Perry
Wednesday 20 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am - Eucharist	The Bishop
Thursday 21 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am - Eucharist	The Rev'd Mel Nelson
Friday 22 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am – Eucharist	The Dean

## **SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 24 December 2023 AT THE CATHEDRAL Advent IV**

**9.00am:** Eucharist  
Presider: *The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer*  
Preacher: *The Reverend Gary Atherton*

## **ONLINE SERVICES THIS WEEK**

The Weekly and mid-week Eucharists and the Morning and Evening offices continue to be distributed online via **You Tube** and **Facebook**

We encourage you to share these resources widely during this time.

**You Tube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXyas2uhJUNOnDetOpPdUOg>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchcathedralnewcastle/>

Monday 18 December	6.00am	The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer
Tuesday 19 December	6.00am	The Reverend Angela Peverell
Wednesday 20 December	6.00am	Archdeacon Arthur Copeman
Thursday 21 December THOMAS	6.00am	The Reverend Canon Andrew Eaton
Friday 22 December	6.00am	The Reverend Amanda Brockwell
Saturday 23 December	6.00am	The Reverend Nicole Baldwin

***We have taken measures to ensure that the Cathedral is a safe environment for all.***

***All who work with children or youth have completed Safe Ministry Training and all clergy, staff and volunteers are subject to strict employment measures such as working with children checks. The Cathedral is committed to being a place where survivors of abuse experience care and support. For a confidential discussion, please call or email the***

**Director of Professional Standards 1800 774 945**

**[dps@newcastleanglican.org.au](mailto:dps@newcastleanglican.org.au) or  
[survivorsupport@newcastleanglican.org.au](mailto:survivorsupport@newcastleanglican.org.au)**



## CLERGY

### DEAN OF NEWCASTLE

The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer  
[katherinebowyer@newcastleanglican.org.au](mailto:katherinebowyer@newcastleanglican.org.au)

0407 201 693

### PRIEST AT ST PETER'S, HAMILTON

148 Denison Street  
The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer  
[katherinebowyer@newcastleanglican.org.au](mailto:katherinebowyer@newcastleanglican.org.au)

0407 201 693

**Associate Priest** - Monday and Tuesday

The Reverend Gary Atherton  
[associate\\_priest@newcastlecathedral.org.au](mailto:associate_priest@newcastlecathedral.org.au) 0458 498 679

## OFFICE

PO Box 221 NEWCASTLE NSW 2300  
Email: [cathedral@newcastlecathedral.org.au](mailto:cathedral@newcastlecathedral.org.au)  
Website: [www.newcastlecathedral.org.au](http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.au)

Ph: 4929 2052

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tue-Thurs: 9.30am–4.00pm, Fri: 9.30am-1.00pm

**Office Administrator:** Sharon Dyett

## STAFF

**Dean's Verger:** Matthew Watson  
[verger@newcastlecathedral.org.au](mailto:verger@newcastlecathedral.org.au)

**Director of Music:** David Banney  
[music@newcastlecathedral.org.au](mailto:music@newcastlecathedral.org.au)

**Family Ministry Co-ordinator:** Veronica Butcher  
[familyministry@newcastlecathedral.org.au](mailto:familyministry@newcastlecathedral.org.au)

## WARDENS

**People's:** Peter Smith, Graham Vimpani



@Newycathedral