



# 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 24 December 2023*

**ADVENT IV & CHRISTMAS**



Mary: Love Forever Being Born

## **Services Today**

**9.00am: Eucharist**

Presider: *The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer*

Preacher: *The Reverend Gary Atherton*

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

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

## **Dear Parish Family**

And so, this is Christmas. Or Advent IV in the morning, and Christmas Eve on Sunday afternoon. It has been quite the year, for us as a parish, and for myself and my family personally, and I am deeply thankful for the incredible commitment and work, love and prayers, of everyone who has shared life with us in the parish community. We have laughed and grieved, celebrated, rejoiced, and pondered and prayed. And throughout it all, we have steadfastly proclaimed the God's love for all.

A reminder that the Cathedral Office will reopen on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January. During the office closure, please contact myself or Fr Gary directly – our contact details are in the pewslip.

**THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN** to Suzanne Evans and her team of helpers for transforming the Cathedral with stunning decorations. Please take the time to admire them.

**BAMAGA:** Thank you to David Banney, Rosemary Ponnekanti, and Bianca Ponnekanti, who shared of their experience of making music in the Top end. If you missed hearing them last weekend, you can read about their trip in the blog

<https://topendmusiccomdomainonly.wordpress.com/> and hear the Cape York Suite here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9R2Ng7qeyHk>

**ONE EUCHARIST SUNDAYS:** **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December AND Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> December until Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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! **Our next pewslip will be for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**CLEANING BEE:** Please help clean the Cathedral for Christmas! Join us on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 me (my mobile number and email are in the pewslip) and let me 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: Looking for last minute gifts?** The Cathedral Shop has many excellent gifts for Christmas, including beautiful nativity sets and Christmas decorations and cards for sale. Please shop local and support our shop!

**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 by Christina Rossetti. I have been meditating on her words for a few months now, pondering how, in the words of Hal David, with music by Burt Bacharach, what the world needs now, is love, sweet love. Love, of course, is what the world has now, incarnate in Christ. Rossetti, writing over a century ago, reminds us that love is not only the sign, but gift and our plea.

On behalf of David, Thomas and Elizabeth, I wish you a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

### ***Love Came Down at Christmas***

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus:  
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
Love shall be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and to all men,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.

*Christina Rossetti 1830 - 1894*



*Please note as the office is closed for Christmas there will not be a pew sheet next week, January 31, for that reason we include 2 prayer lists and 2 reading sheets this week.*

**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 have been donated by-**

**Nicolette, Hilary and Andrew THOMAS in loving memory of  
Nicolette's parents MARTIN and MARY MALLEY**

**We would also like to thank the following  
people for their very generous donations-**

**ANN TAYLOR  
LLOYD PEAKE  
And AN ANONYMOUS DONOR**

**As Summer is here (sometimes), please  
think about bringing water with you to  
church as it can get quite warm inside.**





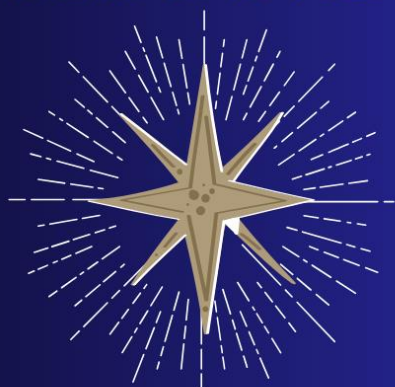
## *Music this Sunday*

**Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Hymns - 272, 302, 411, 288**

**Rosemary Ponnekanti (organ)**

**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**



## Dear Fantastic Community Lunch Team,

An enormous thank you to all who ensured the Christmas Lunch for our guests was a very happy, resounding success, especially our Dean Katherine, who welcomed our guests into the Cathedral and after an extremely busy morning, not to mention the week, served our guests and was seen mopping the floor at the conclusion, Father Gary and Karen Atherton, the very generous donors, The Wanderer's Rugby Club, along with our very faithful students from NGS, who despite their holidays were with us working hard as they do and our kitchen assistance, Daniel Morrissey and Matthew Whatson, who provided the beautiful background music and our wonderful colleagues Orange Sky who were as busy as always attending to the laundry in the Cathedral Carpark and Baker's Delight the Junction, who supplied the bread. A very special thank you also must go to Mr Ross Woolven, who was the donor of 12 extremely generous hampers for the most needy of our guests. Ross was with us for the occasion and along with Father Gary discreetly handed the hampers to the very appreciative recipients.

It was a sumptuous meal consisting of Tomato Soup (red for Christmas), Roast Turkey, Roast Beef, Roast Chicken and a delicious glazed ham, along with Christmas Pudding and custard for dessert. Our guests numbered 95, each receiving a gift bag of Christmas treats delivered by St. Nicholas. Thank you St Nicholas for visiting our guests,



It has been an enormous privilege to have been part of this incredible team and so in this final email, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to you all, especially for the support you have provided. Over the past 18 months we have added several new initiatives, the goal being to provide our guests with some of the pleasures we take for granted. Whenever I have put forward a new initiative to you, your response has always been the same, "yes and what can I do". Absolutely no challenge has been too great for you and it has always been accompanied by a smile and you all so easily complement each other.

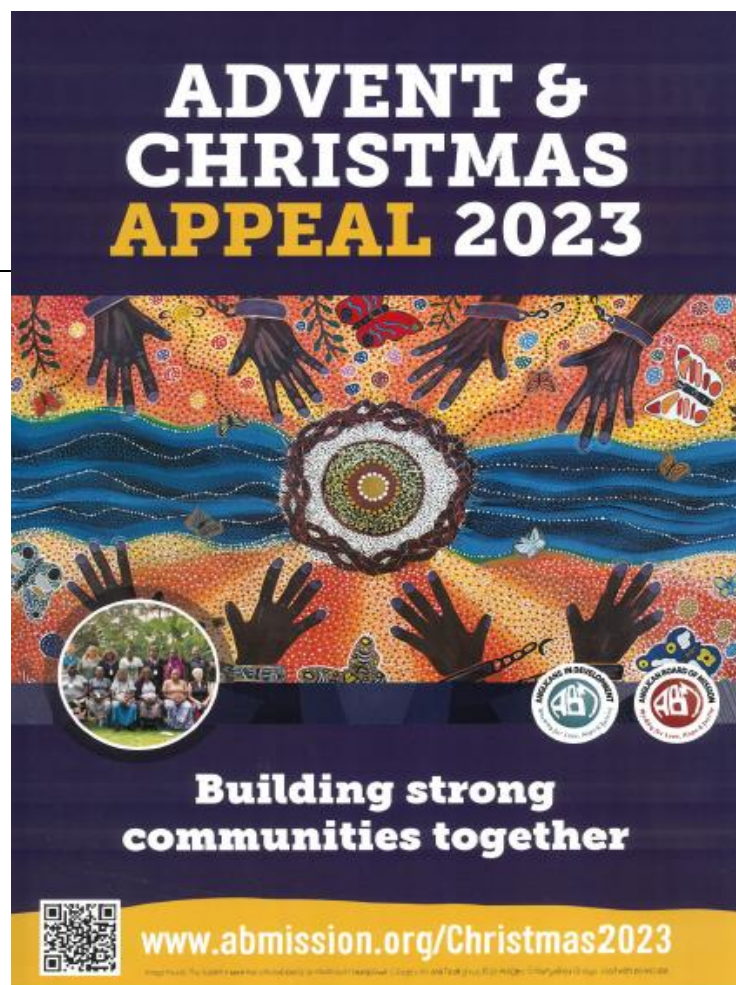
It would be remiss of me not to make special mention of two members of our team and I hope you will forgive me for doing so as I owe them such enormous gratitude. They are Dr Alan Parsons (and the school in general) along with Thomas, who has been by my side all the way. There have been times when Thomas must have shuddered when I have said to him "I have an idea". Along with acting as my sounding board, he has taken the role of guiding the young members of our team and has done a brilliant job. Thank you Thomas.

The Community Lunches resume on SUNDAY JANUARY 28<sup>th</sup> 2024.

In closing, Andrew, Thomas and myself wish you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas and a fabulous 2024 and as you continue to serve God through this ministry, may you receive many blessings.

Suzanne and Andrew

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**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.



**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

## ***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 January 21 and 28  
and February 4 and 11.*

## 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 will be Sunday 28 January 2024.***

## 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 SERVICES UNTIL JANUARY 2, 2024**

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.

**RECOMMENCING TERM 1, 2024**



## 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.

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

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

Monday 25 December		Christmas
Tuesday 26 December		Public Holiday
Wednesday 27 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am - Eucharist	The Bishop
Thursday 28 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am - Eucharist	The Dean
Friday 29 December	8.00am - Morning Prayer 8.30am – Eucharist	The Dean

## **SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 31 December 2023 AT THE CATHEDRAL First Sunday after Christmas**

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

**6.00pm** Said Evening Prayer  
*The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer*

## 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 25 December <b>CHRISTMAS</b>	6.00am	No Morning Prayer
Tuesday 26 December <b>STEPHEN</b>	6.00am	The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer
Wednesday 27 December <b>JOHN</b>	6.00am	The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer
Thursday 28 December <b>HOLY INNOCENTS</b>	6.00am	The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer
Friday 29 December <i>Thomas Becket</i>	6.00am	The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer
Saturday 30 December <i>Josephine Butler</i>	6.00am	The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer

***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