

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF
ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS
CHRISTCHURCH



The First Sunday of Advent
30 November 2025

From the Vicar...

Dear friends,

It is that time again when we can greet each other with Happy New (liturgical) Year! And so, greetings on this first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of another Church year. Despite all that is happening around us Advent is in fact a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (adventus) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time.

It cannot be determined with any degree of certainty when the celebration of Advent was first introduced into the Church. The preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord was not held before the feast itself existed, and of this we find no evidence before the end of the fourth century, when, according to Duchesne [Christian Worship (London, 1904), 260], it was celebrated throughout the whole Church, by some on 25 December, by others on 6 January. Of such a preparation we read in the Acts of a synod held at Saragossa in 380, whose fourth canon prescribes that from the seventeenth of December to the feast of the Epiphany no one should be permitted to absent themselves from church (take note!).

The readings and liturgies of Advent not only direct us towards Christ's birth; they also challenge the modern reluctance to confront the theme of divine judgement present in the scriptures:

The Four Last Things – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – have been traditional 'themes' for Advent meditation, mainly springing from the selected readings for each Sunday of Advent. The characteristic note of Advent is therefore expectation, rather than penitence, although the character of the season is easily coloured by an analogy with Lent.

The anticipation of Christmas under commercial pressure has also made it harder to sustain the appropriate sense of alert watchfulness, but the fundamental Advent prayer remains 'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come' (1 Corinthians 16.22). Church decorations are sometimes simple and spare, and purple is the traditional liturgical colour. We 'fast' from the Gloria so that we might join the Angels in ever more joyful praise on Christmas Eve and proclaim 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

In the northern hemisphere, the Advent season falls at the darkest time of the year, in the southern hemisphere it is in reverse, and the natural symbols of darkness and light are seen through a different lens throughout Advent and Christmas. The lighting of candles on an Advent wreath was imported into Britain from northern Europe in the nineteenth century and was quickly adopted by many churches, now becoming common practice. I hope that through this Season of watchfulness the spirit of God will be at work in us all, preparing our hearts to welcome the Christ Child in our midst.

God Bless,



Father Jordan

Copies of the music for the mass setting and hymns are available from the Sides People.

The First Sunday of Advent

30 November 2025

Celebrant 8.00 am: Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Celebrant 10.00 am: Fr Robert Jamieson **Organ:** Paul Ellis

Sidespeople: Kathleen Campbell, Maria Light

Organ: Wachet Auf JS Bach

Mass Setting: St Mary's Mass Anthony Caesar

Introit Hymn: Advent Prose 501

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness,
Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee.

**Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and
let the skies
pour down righteousness.**

We have sinned,
and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us,
because of our iniquities.

**Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and
let the skies
pour down righteousness.**

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen:
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that
can deliver out of my hand.

**Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and
let the skies
pour down righteousness.**

Comfort ye,
comfort ye my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud
thy transgressions:
Fear not, for I will save thee:
For I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

**Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and
let the skies
pour down righteousness.**

Greeting:

In the name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you. **The Lord bless you.**

The Mass of the day is introduced and the people are invited to call to mind their sins.

God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith and are themselves forgiving.

In silence we call to mind our sins.

**Merciful God,
we have sinned in what we have thought and said,
in the wrong we have done,
and in the good we have not done.
We have sinned in ignorance:
we have sinned in weakness:
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry.
We repent and turn to you.
Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake,
and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.**

**Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.
Christe, eleison. Christe, eleison.
Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.**

Through the cross of Christ, ✠ God have mercy on you, pardon you, and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

Let us pray .

God of hope, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; so that that on the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: *(sit)*

Isaiah 2:1-5

Johann Williams

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: 122

R. I was glad when they said to me: Let us go to the house of the Lord.

I was glad when they said to me: Let us go to the house of the Lord. And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

There the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. There are set thrones of judgement, the thrones of the house of David. **R.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: may those who love you prosper. Peace be within your walls, and prosperity within your palaces. **R.**

For the sake of my kinsfolk and companions I will pray that peace may be with you.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will pray for your good. **R.**

Second Reading: (*sit*) Romans 13:11-14

Thomas Visakan

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: (*stand*)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you

The Lord bless you

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Praise and Glory to God

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Fr Jordan Greatbatch

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ the Word.**

Sermon:

Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Affirmation of Faith:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, (*all genuflect or bow*)
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became fully human. (*stand*)
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
and has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection ☩ of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer and Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Our help is in the name of the Lord. ✠

Who made heaven and earth.

The Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified, pour out your blessing upon this wreath and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive your abundant grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Advent Wreath is blessed and lit.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Stir up your might, we beg you, O Lord, and come, so that we may escape through your protection and be saved by your help from the dangers that threaten us because of our sins. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Intercessions: Margaret Maclagan

Rest ✠ eternal grant unto them, O Lord:

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. **Amen.**

**Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you,
blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

At the Peace all may exchange a non physical greeting with those near them.

E te whanau, we are the body of Christ.

By one spirit we were baptised into one body.

Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace:

Amen. We are bound by the love of Christ.

Offertory:

Gloria Moyle, Dorothy Burrows

The Preparation of the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share
in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Offertory Hymn: 7

Hills of the North, rejoice,
Echoing songs arise,
Hail with united voice
Him who made earth and skies:
He comes in righteousness and love,
He brings salvation from above.

Lands of the East, arise,
He is your brightest morn,
Greet him with joyous eyes,
Praise shall his path adorn:
The God whom you have longed to know
In Christ draws near, and calls you now.

Isles of the Southern seas,
Sing to the listening earth,
Carry on every breeze,
Hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew,
His word is sure, his promise true.

Shores of the utmost West,
Lands of the setting sun,
Welcome the heavenly guest
In whom the dawn has come:
He brings a never-ending light
Who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey on,
Songs be in every mouth,
Lo, from the North they come,
From East and West and South:
In Jesus all shall find their rest,
In him the sons of earth be blest.

Pray, sisters and brothers,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty One.

**May the Lord receive the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Accept, Lord, our offerings,
chosen from among your many gifts,
and let this present expression of our reverence
become for us the pledge of eternal redemption.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.	God's Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.	We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is right indeed,
it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord,
almighty Father, everlasting God,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise
through Christ your only Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.
Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him,
with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing.....

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father.
Send your Holy Spirit,
that these gifts of bread and wine
which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ,
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

On the night before he died, your Son Jesus Christ took bread;
when he had given you thanks, he broke it,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them, and said:
Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins;
do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Glory to you, Lord Christ: your death we show forth;
your resurrection we proclaim; your coming we await.
Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.**

Therefore, loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,
his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation.
Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ,
our great high priest.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere, now and for ever. Amen.**

As Christ teaches us we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Kua ākona nei tātou e tō tātou Ariki,
ka īnoi tatou:

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tau e pai ai,
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara,
Me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.
Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,
me te korōria,
Āke ake ake. Āmine

Eucharistic Ministers: Jenny Daniels, Carol Fraser

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Gifts will come from the Lord, a flowering from the land.

This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Happy are we who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Communion, leave your seat by the side aisle and come down the central aisle. You are encouraged to use the hand sanitiser.

Anthem: Lift up your heads

Johann Fraylinghausen

Communion Hymn: 1

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu, Saviour of us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.

At thy great name, exalted now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heaven and earth shall own
That thou art Lord and King alone,

Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race
With healing gifts of heavenly grace.

To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From every onslaught of the foe,

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to evening-tide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

Let us pray.

Lord our God, grant that in our journey through this passing world we may learn from these mysteries to cherish even now the things of heaven and to cling to the treasures that never pass away. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. **Amen.**

Notices

Blessing:

The Lord be with you. **The Lord bless you.**

Christ the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path, and may the blessing of God almighty, ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended. Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

Final Hymn: 3

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Organ Voluntary: Postlude in C

Henry Smart

7.00 pm Advent Lessons and Carols

Please pray for...

The Sick:

Fr Geoff Paterson, Jo Burnside, Ann Jinman, Terry & Betsy McKay.

Charles Barltrop, Claire & John Preston, Lois Peters, Denis Coulter, Betty Mechen, Suzanne Keys, Ghislaine Brewer-Quirke, Lesta Smithson, Pamela Hindin-Whitewood, John Bertken, Peter Easterbrook, Anne Fenton, David & Sandra, Philip Souter, Deb Smith, Andrew Lawson, Ashley Forman.

Anniversaries: (Sun) John Pilkington (Mon) Brigid Moorhouse
(Tues) David Buzzard (Wed) George Julius, John Moyle
(Sat) Samuel Cuming

NOTICES

THIS WEEK

Needlework— Tuesday 7.00pm at Joy's home, Christmas DVD night and supper.

Contact :Ros Calvert 0272428282 for details.

Meditation Group—Wednesday 12.00 noon in the church. Contact: Therese Aitchison 0212516282.

Bible Study— Thursday 11.00 am, Parish Lounge.

Pray the Rosary—Thursday 12.00 noon.

Parish lunch—12.00 noon Pegasus Arms, 7 December. RSVP to Ros Calvert 0272428282 by Wednesday 3 December .

Inasmuch Basket—please continue to donate staple household groceries to support the work of the City Mission. The Outreach would like any donated sun hats and sunscreen.

TONIGHT



Please join us at 7.00pm for Advent Lessons and Carols.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

21 December 2025

7.00pm—The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

24 December 2025—Christmas Eve

4.00pm—Children's Crib Service

11.00pm—Christmas Carols

11.30pm—Midnight Mass

25 December 2025 —Christmas Day

8.00am—Low Mass

10.00am—High Mass

Health & Safety Regulations: In an emergency, use the closest exit and assemble in the drop-off zone. In an earthquake, drop down and shelter behind or under a pew, covering your head. Follow instructions.

NEXT WEEK**The Second Sunday of Advent****7 December 2025**

8:00 am Mass	Celebrant: Fr Robert Jamieson	Server: Jack Barrie
10.00 am Mass	Celebrant: Fr Jordan Greatbatch	
	Preacher: Fr Robert Jamieson	
Servers:	SD: Fr Peter Williams	MC: Jack Barrie
	Th: Thomas Visakan	Cr: Michael Graveston
	Ac: Robert Calvert-Griffin, Georgia Caughey	
First Reading:	Kate Churchill	Isaiah 11:1-10
Second Reading:	Ros Calvert	Romans: 15:4-13
Gospel:	Fr Robert Jamieson	Matthew 3:1-12
Eucharist Ministers:	Fr Peter Williams, Jane Evans	
Sides people:	Joy Coulter, Jane Evans	
Intercessions:	Barbara Moreton	
Offertory:	Jenny and Peter Daniels	
Morning Tea:	Richard Thompson, Pat Pilkington	
Sacristan:	Toni Stewart	
Sacristy:	-	
Livestream:	Kathleen Campbell	
Flowers:	Toni Stewart	
Evensong Readers:	Taizé	
Evensong Server:	Taizé	

CONTACTS

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Parish Bank Acct:	St Michaels Churchwardens A/c no - 03-0855-0263594-000		
Postal Address:	PO Box 4022, Christchurch Mail Centre, 8140		

PASTORAL CARE TEAM COORDINATOR—Gloria Moyle 0274355347

**The Anglican Parish of
St Michael and All Angels,
Christchurch**

This Sunday First Sunday of Advent—30 November 2025

8.30 am **Low Mass**
10.00 am **High Mass**
7.00 pm **Advent Readings and Carols**

Monday **St Andrew, Apostle, Martyr**
No Mass

Tuesday Feria
12.35 pm Mass
2.00 pm Funeral Mass—Bruce Steel

Wednesday Francis Xavier, Missionary
12.00 noon Meditation Group
12.35 pm Mass

Thursday Feria
11.00 am Bible Study
12.00 noon Rosary Group
12.35 pm Mass
6.00 pm Study Group

Friday Feria
12.35 pm Mass

Saturday Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

Next Sunday Second Sunday of Advent—7 December 2025

8.00 am Low Mass
10.00 am High Mass
7.00 pm Taizé

Online Services

Sunday 10.00 am facebook.com/SMAAChristchurch
Solemn Mass