



## News Letter

4th November 2022 (Advent 2) No 44



### *What Does the Second Week of Advent Candle stand for?*

**Peace** is a central theme of the advent season but the main focus of the second week of Advent. One of the prophecies about Jesus calls him “the Prince of Peace” ([Isaiah 9:6-7](#)). When the angels appeared to the shepherds, they ended their message by saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests” ([Luke 2:14](#)). When Simeon saw baby Jesus in the temple, he thanked God that he could now die in peace for he had seen the Messiah ([Luke 2:29-33](#)).

#### **What Does Peace Really Mean?**

Peace is one of those words that people use a lot, but they don't always explain it very well. Depending on which religion or philosophy that people follow, their definitions of peace may be highly different. In some Eastern religions, finding serenity or inner peace means believing that everything dies, all is nothing. Since we get very different ideas of what peace is depending on who we talk to, it's important as Christians to understand how the Bible describes peace.

In Hebrew, the word for peace is shalom. Throughout the Bible, shalom is used in several ways. When people are feeling physically well, others say that they “are shalom” ([Genesis 29:6](#)). People who have shalom with God have his protection and blessing ([Numbers 25:12](#)). People who have friendships with each other or have recently reconciled, such as when 11 tribes of Israel ended a feud with the tribe of Benjamin ([Judges 21:13](#)), have shalom with each other. There are hints in the Old Testament that shalom with God is to be an inner state that comes from trusting in him ([Isaiah 26:3](#)).

#### **How Does Jesus Bring Peace?**

Jesus talked about peace on several occasions. During the Sermon on the Mount, he taught that peacemakers are blessed and will be called God's sons ([Matthew 5:9](#)). At the same time, he warned his disciples that he had not come to bring peace to the world, that in fact, he would divide people ([Matthew 10:34-36](#)). Then at the Last Supper as he told his disciples that he would leave them soon, Jesus comforted them by saying, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid” ([John 14:27](#)). Clearly, the peace that Jesus offered was not typical.

As his followers learned when Jesus died and then rose from the dead, he did not bring peace by overthrowing governments. Instead, he brought peace for Jews and Gentiles ([Romans 10:12](#)), by dying for them. He became a sacrificial lamb, dying for humanity's sins once and for all ([Hebrews 9:12](#)). In doing so, he made peace between humanity and God ([1 John 2:2](#)).

Therefore, everyone who believes in Jesus' divinity and resurrection ([Romans 10:9](#)) achieves peace with God. Their sins are paid for, and they gain eternal life ([John 3:16](#)).

READ MORE [HERE](#)

### *Advent Week 2 Prayer*

Lord Jesus, we are all tempted to live without peace. It is not easy for us to remember that our peace is ultimately found in our status as believers, like your children. Help us to see the times when we have lived without peace and forgive us for our transgression. Set our minds on you, that we may remember you are the prince of peace, and our security comes from you alone. Teach us that this peace is inward, everlasting, and can exist regardless of our circumstances. In whatever way you believe is best, teach us how to live in that peace every day. We ask for that in your holy name, Amen.



## Second Sunday of Advent

# Peace through food rations



Karen McGrath/Act for Peace

It's been 11 years since the civil war broke out in Syria with thousands of families still living in neighbouring countries like Jordan. But as the cost-of-living increases, many refugee families are struggling to earn enough money to put food on the table.

Act for Peace's local partner, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), supports Syrian refugees by providing vital food rations along with psychosocial care. **Please give today.**



**CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)**



The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188



Jenny and Grant Collins off to a soggy start at walking pace...

## GREAT VIC BIKE RIDE

Sat 26 Nov – Sun 4 Dec 2022

Last chance to join our 2022 adventure!



Thanks to Viv Zoppolato and Facebook for these pics



I thought this was about bike riding!

VICTORIA CHORALE & ART OF SOUND ORCHESTRA

# CHRISTMAS Celebration

CONDUCTED BY **MARIO DOBERNIG**

SAINT-SAENS CHRISTMAS ORATORIO	SOPRANO AMANDA HARGREAVES
HOLST CHRISTMAS DAY	MEZZO SOPRANO SYRAH TORII
JAMES FIVE AUSTRALIAN CAROLS	TENOR BEN GLOVER
FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROLS	BARITONE BAILEY MONTGOMERIE
	CLARINET ROBERT SCHUBERT

Click [HERE](#) for bookings

10 DECEMBER 2022, 5PM  
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL  
FLINDERS ST, MELBOURNE  
TICKETS \$35 - \$60  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CDJFV>

VICTORIA CHORALE  
0438 071 001 EARLYBIRD DISCOUNT UNTIL NOV 27

[ulurustatement.org](http://ulurustatement.org)

**Walk with us. It's time.**  
Support a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the constitution.

## The Uluru Statement

How far have we come since 2017?

A series of 4 studies on Sundays at 4pm

October 2	What does it actually say? A reflective reading of the statement.
October 16	A Voice enshrined in the Constitution How close have we come?

Final session - Sunday 4th December 4pm  
Oakleigh Uniting Church  
154 Drummond St Oakleigh  
**"Truth - can we lift the veil of denial"**

Contact Robert Johnson 0418 998 561 [robertjohnson@bigpond.com](mailto:robertjohnson@bigpond.com)  
John Rickard 0437 958 488 [jmrick@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jmrick@bigpond.net.au)



**CROSSLIGHT** is available on the internet - click on the following link or the **CROSSLIGHT** image to view online. [www.crosslight.org.au](http://www.crosslight.org.au)

Print copies of **CROSSLIGHT** are available at the entrance of the Black Rock Uniting Church.

## Prayers of the



The family of Bill Williams  
Joyce Carpenter  
Pam Campbell  
Rosemary  
Joyce Curnow  
Virginia (Nan's friend)  
Bronwyn  
Sally

*We pray for all in need especially -*

Stuart *as he struggles with addiction*  
Jenny and Janine Bartholomeusz  
Betty Kneen  
Gloria, Samson & Family  
Barb Loosemore and brother  
Susan Bartell  
Anita and Kingsley

Rosemary & Bob  
Isobel Churchward  
Gemma and Teresa  
Sybil Bond  
Grace Fairbank

*We give thanks for those whose prayers have been answered..*

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS:** Thanks to everyone who have continued to make their weekly offering.

**Envelopes:** If you wish your offering to be specifically for Cheltenham, please place it in an envelope marked "Cheltenham" and place it in the offering bowl at church.

**Direct Debit:** Cheltenham / Mentone members note that direct payments can now be made to our new Westpac account at Southland, **BSB number is 033 358, Account Number is 664 881**

Payee "Uniting Church in Australia Cheltenham Mentone Parish Council"

The former Commonwealth Bank - BSB 06 3119, Account Number 1014 1206 - is still active for the time being.

**Cheltenham-Mentone Members:** Please bear in mind that although we are worshipping at Black Rock, the expenses of electricity, water, insurance, maintenance and Minister's stipend are still ongoing at Cheltenham.

### SOCIAL COLLECTION DEPARTMENT:

**BayCISS** - collection of goods by Graeme & Joan Wood has recommenced. Leave goods with them at 66 Bernard St. Cheltenham, or call them on 9555 0462  
**Would those wishing to donate to BayCISS before Christmas please include a few items of Christmas fare, such as shortbread, mince tarts, puddings, cakes, etc.**

**Emerge** - Financial help is the best way to help - Cheques to - GPO Box 420 Melbourne VIC 3001 or donate via the website [www.emergesupport.org.au](http://www.emergesupport.org.au)  
Emerge welcomes vouchers for supermarkets or art materials which children could use at home - materials, pencils, colouring books etc. Margaret Bode is happy to collect items if you leave them at her home, 16 Monaco Street Parkdale. **Donations in an envelope marked EMERGE may be left in the collection plate.**



**OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL:**



Click on the YouTube logo to view a selection of **over 50** sermons and service preludes

*Editor's pick -  
Click on image to view*



**Church on the Internet - Sunday 10am (virtual doors open 9:45 am)**

If you don't have Zoom on your computer/laptop/iPad/Smartphone, click on <https://zoom.us/support/download>  
Then click on this link below or the "Sunday Church" image to join our Service -  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85247373230?pwd=WIM2UHJEemFWS3RScnNqM3puaGdZdz09>

Otherwise open Zoom and enter the following - **Meeting ID: 852 4737 3230 Passcode: 836844**  
You can also join on your phone by dialling **03 7018 2005** and entering the above meeting details.



Laughter is the best ...

My cup of coffee reminding me why I shouldn't have a donut to go with it!!!



**Accidentally stepped on my husband's foot:**  
"Sorry."

**Accidentally stepped on my dog's paw:**  
"Oh my God, I'm so *SORRY!*  
Are you ok buddy? I'm *SO, SO* sorry.  
I didn't mean to hurt you.  
I *LOVE* you. You want a treat?  
You're the best boy, yes you are."

Seeing a **Spider** isn't a problem.



It becomes a problem when it **Disappears!**

