

End of Year Parish Dinner, Thursday 20 December – The end of year parish Pot Luck Dinner will be held at Bruce and Diana's place, 13 Lawrence Carter Drive, Bombay from 6.00pm. Bring your own choice of meat or fish dish, or salad, or dessert, and BYO drink.

Next Sunday Morning – 9.30am Service at St. Peter's the first part of our service will include a reading by our Young People's Group of the play **Jesus' Thirtieth Birthday** in which Jesus' family and friends remember the events of that first Christmas night...

THIS WEEK 9-16 December

Sunday 16 December

9:30am Holy Communion at St Peter's in the Forest Bombay

Readings: Zephaniah 3: 14-20; Philippians 4: 4-7; **Luke 3: 7-18**

7pm Carol Service at St Mary on the Hill Pokeno

Contacts

Priest in Charge: The Revd Andrew Beyer ph. 09-236 0870
Mobile 0274 508 389, email apbeyer49@gmail.com

Assistant Priest: The Revd Bruce Owen ph. 09-294 6629
Mobile 021 681962, email brucebowen64@outlook.com

Wardens: George Trounce ph. 09-298 2920
Marcia Anderson ph. 09-294 8268

Vestry Sec. Beverley Berwick ph. 07-826 3730

Vestry Treas. Margaret Overdevest ph. 09-238 1877

Parish Admin. Diana O'Brien ph. 09-236 0199
eric.diana.obrien@xtra.co.nz

St Peter's in the Forest, Bombay - St Mary on the Hill, Pokeno - St Jude's,
Mercer - Maramarua - Mangatangi/Miranda - Kaiaua
www.bombay-pokeno.org.nz

~ You are welcome to take the Tidings with you ~

Tidings

for the Bombay-Pokeno Anglican Church
worshipping at Bombay, Pokeno, Mercer and Kaiaua

www.bombay-pokeno.org.nz

9 December 2018

2nd Sunday in Advent

Welcome & Gathering

A very warm welcome to you, and especially to any visitors, as we gather to praise and worship God this morning.

Advent Week Two

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

God our creator who forms us and calls us to fullness of life; inspire our joyful and boundless celebration of the presence of your son, Jesus, in our lives – from the songs of the angels at Bethlehem to his quiet compelling presence with us day by day – we offer our thanks and praise. Amen.



Theme

And You, Child

Today's service can be found in the New Zealand Prayer Book.

Sentence of the Day

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 21: 28*

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God,
John the Baptist prepared your way:

**help us hear your word to us;
and give us the grace to respond;
through Jesus Christ our Lord
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

Celebrating Common Prayer: A Version for Aotearoa, New Zealand, & Polynesia

Readings: Malachi 3: 1-4; Philippians 1: 3-11; **Luke 3: 1-6**

Reflection

Today we celebrate the second Advent theme of joy. Joy is an interesting word. These days it is not used as much as it might have done in the past. The dictionary gives us a range of choices – delight, great pleasure, happiness, gladness, jubilation and more. In fact joy is all about a positive state of mind. As we move rapidly towards Christmas, that special celebration of the birth of Christ, it is appropriate that we express feelings of joy.

Any celebration is a joyous occasion. We celebrate, we rejoice, we are happy. The season of Advent is all about the preparation for the coming of Christ, the Son of God. There is joy in that. Yet for many the coming of Christmas is far from a season of joy. For many tight budgets do not allow for presents and Christmas dinner, leading to stress and disappointment. The expectation of having to provide for Christmas for family lead some to over spend their credit cards, losing any joy to stress. And for others Christmas is just another reminder of those no longer with us.

Yet in spite of that, and the pressures on us, all let us not forget what this time of year is all about. We as Christians need to stand up and be counted and 'put Christ back into Christmas' lest the real message of love joy, hope and peace be lost forever. Have a great week.

Blessings, **Bruce**

Prayers Bidding: Dear Lord:
 Response: **Hear our prayer.**

The congregation are invited to sit after the offertory hymn for the Great Thanksgiving Prayer.

During the week please remember in your prayers – In our intercessions we pray for our three Tikanga Church and our Bishops, Bishop Ross and Assistant Bishop Jim, and Bishops Kito and Winston. We pray for all ministry units and chaplaincies in our Diocese. We pray for our country and for those who hold leadership roles and positions of responsibility. In particular we pray for those who are unwell or in need and for those who provide support to them. We pray too, for the faithful departed and for those who grieve.

The Manurewa Anglican Parish Foodbank Programme continues to welcome your contributions of food to support families in need.

NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Pokeno Community Meet and Greet – the final gathering for the year will be this Thursday December 13th from 10am at the Pokeno Community Hall – all welcome to the festive Christmas lunch – please bring a wrapped \$5 gift for redistribution by Santa Claus.

Pokeno Christmas Parade – Friday 14th December from 6.30pm starting at the Great South Road and McDonald Rd corner and parading through town. All are welcome to join in and our Carol Singers will have a role. Contact: Allen Grainger 021 858 133

Gold Card Wanderers Monday 17 December – Our last trip of the year will be to the Esplanade Hotel, Devonport for lunch. Meet at Papakura Station by 9.45am for the 9.54 train to Britomart.