

ST AGNES[†]
ANGLICAN CHURCH



CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

9PM Tuesday 24 December 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Please stand when the bells are rung.

The ministers enter as the Opening Hymn is sung.

**1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.***

**2. God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.***

**3. See how the shepherds, summoned to His cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.***

The Nativity Scene is censed and blessed

Let us pray that God our Father will bless this crib,
and that all who worship his Son,
born of the Virgin Mary,
may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this night your Son Jesus Christ
was born of the Virgin Mary
for us and for our salvation:

bles ✠ this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that
holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith and
receive the fullness of life he came to bring,
who is alive and reigns for ever. **Amen.**

**4. Lo! Star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
We to the Christ Child bring our hearts' oblations
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.***

**5. Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger,
We would embrace Thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.***

**6. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest;
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.***

Translated F. Oakley, Arranged. D. Willcocks

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

♪ Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: ✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen

you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

♪ **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**
**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**
**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**
**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Good and gracious God, who gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Saviour of all, lying in a manger: on this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please sit.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

[9.2-7]

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it

with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 96

O sing to the Lord a new song:
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his holy name:

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations:
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised:

he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are mere idols:
it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Majesty and glory are before him:

beauty and power are in his sanctuary.

Render to the Lord, you families of the nations:
render to the Lord glory and might.

Render to the Lord the honour due to his name:

bring offerings and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness:
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Say among the nations that the Lord is king:

he has made the world so firm

that it can never be moved;

and he shall judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad:

let the sea roar, and all that fills it:

**Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them:
then shall all the trees of the wood
shout with joy before the Lord;**

For he comes, he comes to judge the earth:
he shall judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

[2.11-14]

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gradual Hymn and Gospel

GRADUAL HYMN

**1. Out on the plains the Brolgas are dancing
Lifting their feet like warhorses prancing:
Up to the sun the woodlarks to winging
Faint in the dawnlight echoes their singing
Orana! Orana! Orana! To Christmas Day.**

2. Down where the tree-ferns grow by the river,
There where the waters sparkle and quiver,
Deep in the gullies Bell-birds are chiming,
Softly and sweetly their lyric notes rhyming -
Orana! Orana! To Christmas Day.

3. Friar-birds sip the nectar of flowers,
Currawongs chant in wattle-tree bowers;
In the blue ranges Lorikeets calling -
Carols of bushbirds rising and falling -
Orana! Orana! To Christmas Day.

'Orana' – Aboriginal word meaning 'Welcome'
Words by John Wheeler
Music by William G James.

GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

I proclaim to you good news of great joy:
today a Saviour is born for us, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. [2.1-20]

Glory ✠ to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because

he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Sermon is followed by a period of reflection as the organist plays Prelude from Partita no.1 in B flat major by J S Bach

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together stand to affirm the faith of the Church.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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 with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Prayers are offered for the Church and for the world. Each petition ends with...

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

The final petition for all the faithful departed ends...

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

GREETING OF PEACE

Please stand

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A collection is taken to support the life and mission of the parish.

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Silent night, holy night:
all is calm, all is bright
round the virgin mother and child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night:
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing, 'Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.'

3. Silent night, holy night:
wondrous star, lend your light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ our Saviour is born,
Christ our Saviour is born.

Joseph Mohr 1792-1848
tr. John Freeman Young 1820-85 alt
TIS 311

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest continues in thanksgiving...

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

♪ **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.**

The priest continues with the prayer of consecration...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

♪ **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues...

... we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

♪ **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

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

We who are many are one body:

For we all share in the one bread.

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

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

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

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Happy are those 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 who seek Christ in this sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.

You are welcome to receive both the consecrated bread and wine.

Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Notices may be given here.

The priest prays a post-communion prayer, followed by

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

The priest says this blessing

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen

The Closing Hymn is sung.

CLOSING HYMN

**1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all you nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.**

*Hark the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings:
mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

*Hark the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

*Charles Wesley 1707-88 and others
TIS 303/NEH 26*

The organist plays the Recessional, Toccata in G Major by Theodore Dubois

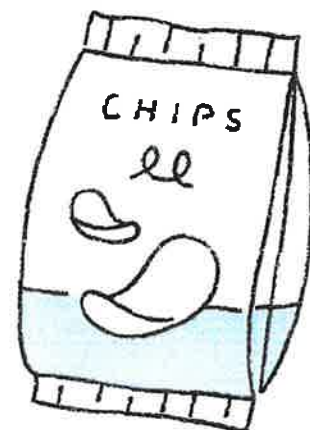
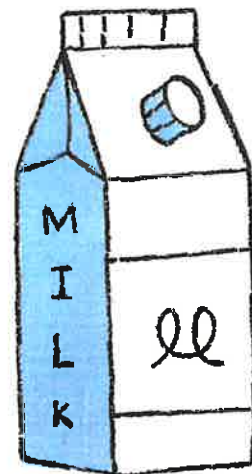
Anglicare Victoria - Dixon House

2 DIXON ST, CLAYTON

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

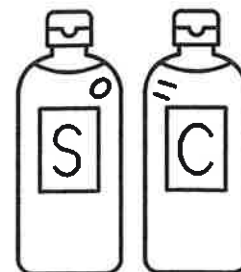


- BISCUITS: SAVOURY OR SWEET (180-250G)
- SPREADS (220-500G): HONEY, JAM, VEGEMITE, PEANUT BUTTER
- WHITE SUGAR / RAW SUGAR (500G-1KG)
- TINNED FRUIT (400-825G)
- TINNED TUNA (90G-425G)
- LONG LIFE MILK-FULL CREAM (1LT)
- PASTA SAUCE (500G)
- COFFEE (50 OR 100 G)
- PLAIN / SELF RAISING FLOUR - 1KG
- TINNED / CHUNKY SOUPS
- INSTANT NOODLES
- SCHOOL SNACKS

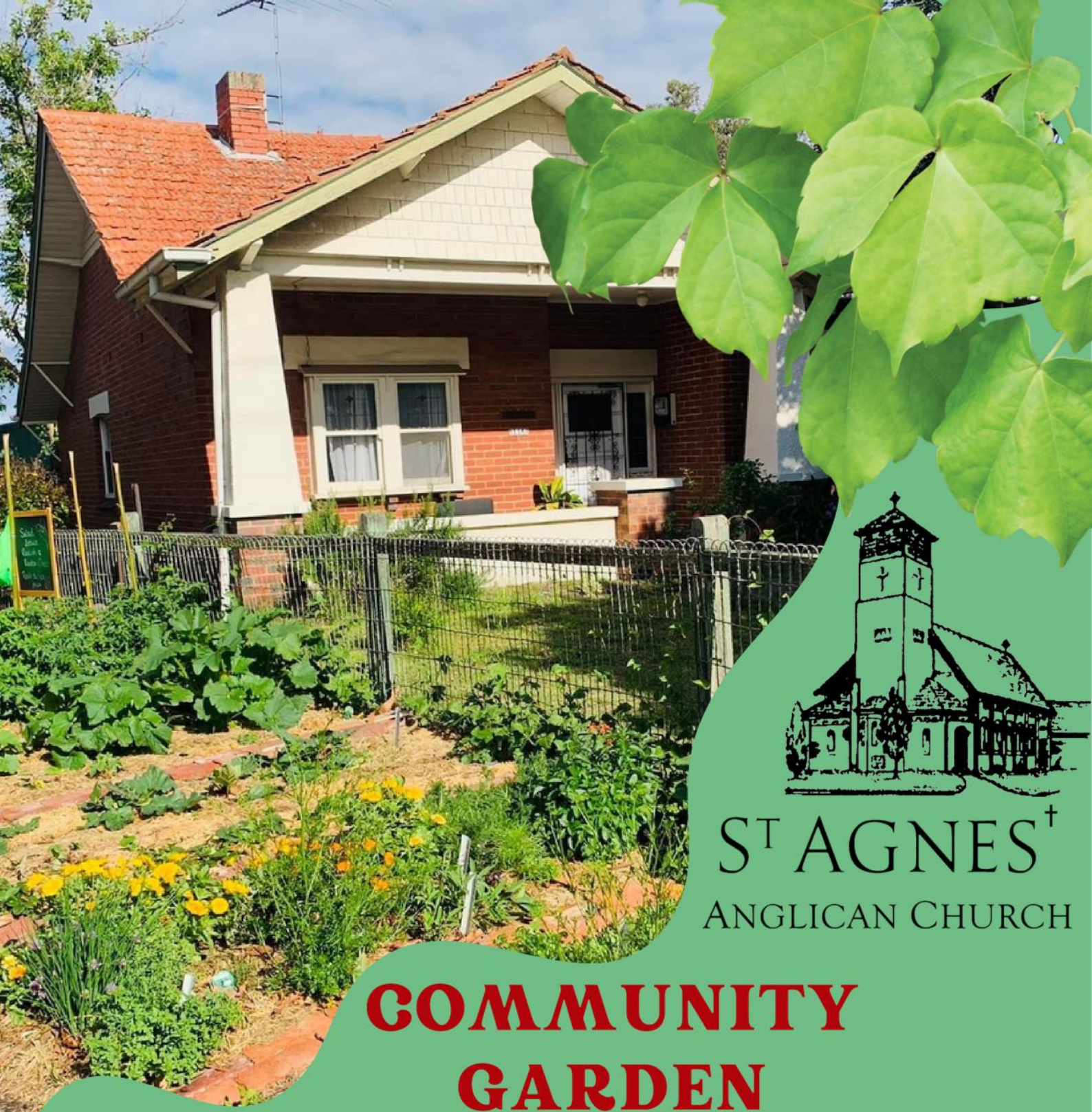


HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- DISHWASHING LIQUID
- TOILETRIES: SOAP, BODY WASH, BODY LOTION
- TOILET ROLL, SHAVER
- SHAMPOO/CONDITIONERS
- SANITARY NAPKINS



PARTICIPATE BY DONATING!



ST AGNES[†]
ANGLICAN CHURCH

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Come and contribute to our Community Garden at Saint Agnes' Anglican Church – 114 Booran Road, Glen Huntly.

All are welcome to take something – or plant something – and help with watering and regular garden days.

To find out more and join the Garden Group call Carole on 0416 971 309

WWW.SAINTAGNES.ORG.AU

ST AGNES[†]

ANGLICAN CHURCH



Church

Open for

Prayer &

Rest

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