

# ST AGNES<sup>†</sup>

## ANGLICAN CHURCH

### Third Sunday after Epiphany (Australia Day)

26<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly is a welcoming and hospitable faith community, celebrating God's compassion and love for all. As an Anglo-Catholic church, our faith, worship and community life finds its ultimate expression in encounter with the Risen Christ in Scripture and Sacrament. Together we are committed to growing in spirituality and service as disciples of Jesus, glorifying God and serving our local community.

You can find out more about us at [www.saintagnes.org.au](http://www.saintagnes.org.au).

#### The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes

114 Booran Road Glen Huntly VIC 3163  
03 9571 6616  
[secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au)

#### SERVICES IN JANUARY

##### Sunday

9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint John's)  
9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint Agnes')

*8am and 6pm Sunday services at Saint John's resume in February together with the return of our Parish Choir after their break in January.*

##### Weekday Eucharists

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes') Resumes Feb.  
10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

#### Vicar

Fr. Alex Ross  
0431 308 703  
[vicar@saintagnes.org.au](mailto:vicar@saintagnes.org.au)  
(Day-Off: Monday)

#### Associate Clergy

Fr. Ken Hewlett  
Bp. Brad Billings  
Fr. Mick Potter  
Adn. Colleen O'Reilly  
Fr Luke Hopkins

#### Churchwardens

John Hooper 0416 185 005  
Anne Kerin 0411 587 180  
Robert Buckmaster 0437 014 090

#### Director of Music

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

*We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this place and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all and on which we worship the God of all Reconciliation and Hope*

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*Text marked with  is sung to the Mass Setting by Michael Dudman. Please stand when the bells are rung. The National Anthem and the Opening Hymn are sung.*

## AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

Australians all let us rejoice,  
For we are one and free;  
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;  
Our home is girt by sea;  
Our land abounds in nature's gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare;  
In history's page, let every stage  
Advance Australia Fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.

## OPENING HYMN

1. Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
great David's greater Son;  
hail, in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to let the captive free,  
and take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with help and mercy  
to those who suffer wrong,  
to raise the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong,  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls condemned and dying  
were precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth,  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth;  
before him on the mountains  
shall peace the herald go,  
and righteousness in fountains  
from hill to valley flow.

4. Kings shall fall down before him,  
and gold and incense bring;  
all nations shall adore him,  
his praise all people sing;  
to him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.

5. O'er every foe victorious,  
he on his throne shall rest,  
from age to age more glorious,  
all blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand for ever,  
that name to us is love.

*James Montgomery 1771-1854 alt*  
*TIS 275*

✠ 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.**

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 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.’ Jesus said ‘This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God’s forgiveness.

**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.

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 COLLECTS

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you: mercifully accept our prayers, and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bounteous God, we give thanks for this ancient and beautiful land, a land of despair and hope, a land of wealth and abundant harvests, a land of fire, drought and flood. We pray that your Spirit may continue to move in this land and bring forgiveness, reconciliation, and an end to all injustice; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah

[8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10]

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law

before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

[19]

The heavens declare the glory of God:  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;

**One day tells it to another:**

**and night to night communicates knowledge.**

There is no speech or language:  
nor are their voices heard;

**Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:**

**and their words to the ends of the earth.**

There he has pitched a tent for the sun:  
which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,

and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.

**Its rising is at one end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to their farthest bound:  
and nothing is hidden from its heat.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul:  
the command of the Lord is true,  
and makes wise the simple.

**The precepts of the Lord are right,  
and rejoice the heart:  
the commandment of the Lord is pure,  
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever:  
the judgements of the Lord are unchanging,  
and righteous every one.

**More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold:  
sweeter also than honey,  
than the honey that drips from the comb.**

Moreover, by them is your servant taught:  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**Who can know their own unwitting sins?:  
O cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,  
lest they get the mastery over me:  
so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence.

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation  
of my heart be acceptable in your sight:  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. [12:12-31]

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand. A Gradual hymn is sung*

## GRADUAL HYMN

**1. God has spoken by his prophets,  
spoken his unchanging word,  
each, from age to age proclaiming**



God, the one, the righteous Lord.  
In the world's despair and turmoil  
one firm anchor holds us fast:  
God is king, his throne eternal,  
God the first, and God the last.

2. God has spoken by Christ Jesus,  
Christ, the everlasting Son,  
brightness of the Father's glory,  
with the Father ever one;  
spoken by the Word incarnate,  
God from God, ere time began,  
Light from Light, to earth descending,  
God, revealed as Son of Man.

3. God is speaking by his Spirit,  
speaking to our hearts again,  
in the age-long word expounding  
God's own message, now as then,  
through the rise and fall of nations  
one sure faith yet standing fast;  
God still speaks, his word unchanging,  
God the first, and God the last.

*George Wallace Briggs 1875-1959 alt*  
*TIS 158*

## GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

'The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives.' **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

[4:14-21]

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

*The Sermon is followed by a time of reflection*

## **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.**

*All stand.*

## **GREETING OF PEACE**

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We greet each other with a sign of peace.*

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

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

- 1. Lord of earth and all creation,  
let your love possess our land:  
wealth, and freedom, far horizons,  
mountain, forest, shining sand:  
may we share, in faith and friendship,  
gifts unmeasured from your hand.**
- 2. People of the ancient Dreamtime,  
they who found this country first,  
ask with those, the later comers,  
will our dream be blessed or cursed?  
Grant us, Lord, new birth, new living,  
hope for which our children thirst.**
- 3. Lord, life-giving healing Spirit,  
on our hurts your mercy shower;  
lead us by your inward dwelling,  
guiding, guarding, every hour.**

**Bless and keep our land Australia:  
in your will her peace and power.**

*Michael Rayner Thwaites 1915-  
and Honor Mary Thwaites 1914-93  
TIS 672(ii)*

## **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  
are 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.**

*The priest breaks the bread while the Agnus Dei is sung*

**♪ O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us 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. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.*

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*Notices may be given here.*

*The priest prays the 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 pronounces this blessing:*

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; 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**

## CLOSING HYMN

1. O Thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
That all thy Church might be for ever one,  
Grant us at every Eucharist to say  
With longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'  
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
One through this Sacrament of unity.

2. For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;  
Make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
By drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:  
Thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
One through this Sacrament of unity.

**3. We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
Back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
Back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:  
Soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**4. So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
May we be one with all thy Church above,  
One with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
One with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
More blessed still, in peace and love to be  
One with the Trinity in Unity.**

*William Turton (1856-1938)*  
*TIS 521 / NEH 302*

*The organist plays the Postlude*

*Please join us for Morning Tea.*

## NEWS & NOTICES

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AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ LUNCH – SUNDAY 26 JANUARY – ST JOHN'S  
All are invited to join in the Gazebo at Saint John's Finch Street for a BBQ Lunch for Australia Day 26 January, which this year falls on a Sunday. All are welcome to gather from around 11:30am with lunch to begin around 12noon. Please bring a plate of salad or dessert. Please note this special lunch is in lieu this month of the regular 'Vicarage Lunch'. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, decoration, and food co-ordination – to help please put your name and number on the list at the back of the church, or contact Churchwarden Robert Buckmaster on 0437 014 090. All are welcome – do invite a friend or neighbour!

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