



Christ Church
YOUR VILLAGE CHURCH

1 DECEMBER 2019

READINGS

Romans 13:11—14

Matthew 24: 36—44

A VERY SPECIAL WELCOME TO ANY VISITORS THIS MORNING

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope

Gracious God

For those, like Farazia, who dare to hope for a better way

All: We give you thanks

For those who are bringers of light

All: We praise you

For the relentless pursuit of this hope

All: We light this candle

Amen

One candle is lit from the Advent/Christmas wreath



GOSPEL READING Matthew 24: 36—44

³⁶ "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

⁴² "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

ELLERSLIE CHRISTMAS PARADE

There will not be a morning tea after today's service so everyone can put on their costumes and move quickly to the BP service station to join the Ellerslie Christmas Parade. The parade starts at 11.00am and remember we (and the donkey!) are leading the parade again this year.

OUR REGULAR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER MEETINGS

Bible Study Groups:

- ◆ First Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm: Next meeting 4 December.
- ◆ Alternate Saturdays at 4.00pm: January meeting dates to be confirmed. Enquiries to Judith 021 102 9180.

Evening Prayer Group: Third Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm.

Next meeting date: 18 December

Morning Prayer: Held every Wednesday at 8 am - everyone welcome.

All groups meet at the church.

INDABA 2.

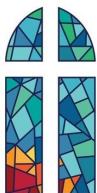
This year St. Matthias, and St Philip's are our Indaba partners. Our last combined event is a Carol service at St. Philip's on **15 December** at 7.30pm

AUCKLAND CITY MISSION CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Mission is again running its Christmas appeal for gifts and non-perishable food. However we focus on collecting Christmas gifts as we already regularly donate food throughout the year.

Gifts for all ages are welcome (rather than just children's toys) and a list of gift ideas is on the next page. A special bin is placed at the back of the church for your donations. As the gifts need to be sorted you don't need to wrap them now. The last day for your donations will be next Sunday, December 9 so the gifts can be processed and distributed well in time for Christmas

Thank you for supporting this appeal.



Contact

General Enquiries:

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Gift Donation Ideas

Donations of new, unwrapped gifts for all ages and genders are hugely appreciated. In general, the Mission suggests a budget of \$10-\$20 to spend on a gift for someone in need this Christmas. While gift donations should be left unwrapped, the Mission is always grateful for donations of tape and wrapping paper! **No clothing is required.**

Here are a few gift ideas that have made Christmas special for Mission families in previous years. (Age groups highlighted blue are particularly needed).

Age	Gift Idea
Infant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rattle • Teething ring • Cardboard book • Night light • Bath toy
2-4 y/o	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath toy • Wooden puzzle • Soft toy/Duplo set
5-7 y/o	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puzzles/Lego Sets • Dolls/Action figures • Fancy dress • Truck/Tea set
8-10 y/o	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft set • Lego Sets • Yoyo/Board game/Knucklebones
11-13 y/o	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pencil case and other stationery items • Book • Gift Voucher e.g. Prezzy Card, Warehouse or Westfield voucher • Jewellery/Sunglasses/Cap
14-17 y/o	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer/rugby ball/netball/basketball • Jewellery • Toiletries • Wallet • Gift Voucher eg Prezzy Card, Westfield or Warehouse voucher
Adult parents/caregivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family game (eg: Jenga, Monopoly, etc) • Toiletries • Reusable water bottle/thermos • Gift Voucher eg Prezzy Card, Westfield or Warehouse voucher
Elderly men and women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toiletries • Slippers • Tinned biscuits • Scarf/Boxed handkerchiefs • Gift Voucher eg Prezzy Card, Westfield or Warehouse voucher
Stocking Fillers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair Accessories, kid's drinking bottles, stationery, matchbox toys, chocolate coins, candy canes



OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER AT 7.30 PM
COMBINED CAROL SERVICE AT ST PHILIP'S
92 Saint Heliers Bay Road, St Heliers**

**CHRISTMAS DAY AT 9.30 AM
HOLY EUCHARIST HERE AT CHRIST CHURCH**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL NOT BE A
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH**

