



# WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

## PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS TAKES TIME

REV DAVID RIETVELD

We live in an instant society. We are impatient and expect things now. We want an end to suffering and recovery now; good food – but still fast; our online orders to arrive the next day; we are annoyed to be stuck in traffic, or at the lights.

We have lost the sense of the journey. Of the season of preparation and expectation that makes the arrival all the more meaningful.

Take spiritual pilgrimages for instance. A good part of the reason for the crusades was to allow middle ages Christian pilgrims to safely journey to sacred sites in the Promised Land. In the OT, all Jews had to walk to Jerusalem at least once, and up to four times per year if they could afford it.

We now equate a spiritual pilgrimage with Islam. But they are part of our spiritual heritage. And they are a great example of a season of preparation and expectation making the arrival more meaningful.

Christmas day can be overwhelming. Food, family, church, presents, and travel to name a few of the commotions.

Advent then is a reminder that preparing your heart and soul for Christmas takes time. It's still not too late! Take time to re-read the first half of Matthew or Luke. To meditate and pray regularly. Listen to the lyrics in Christmas Carols. Read nativity books to your kids. Watch a Christian Christmas movie again (Yes again – how many times have you watched Love Actually?).

2020 has been about as slow as modern life gets. How are you using the gift of time to prepare for Christmas?

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# THAT'S A WRAP

Last week saw the final gatherings for Connect Kids Unleashed and The City Youth for 2020. It's been a big year, with many changes due to COVID but it was great to finish the year together on site.

Connect Kids Unleashed finished the year off with a Christmas party where we enjoyed some fun games and activities, played on the jumping castle and ate food together. It has been a wonderful term answering many tough questions, such as, 'Why doesn't Jesus answer my prayers', and continuing to teach the kids about a God who deeply loves everyone.

The Connect Kids Leadership team will be celebrating the year by finishing with a Christmas Party this Saturday night.

The City Youth concluded 2020 with a Christmas celebration dinner called Deck the Halls. A night of friendship and thanksgiving. Celebrating together the great, though tough, year it has been and the miracle of God becoming a man, entering into our mess, to save us from our sins.

Jamie is thanking the committed youth leaders by taking them out for dinner this Friday evening.

Join us in giving thanks to God for the faithful leadership of our youth and children by these volunteers. Thank you for your prayers and support throughout 2020.





# CONGRATULATIONS

Our best wishes go to Sebastian Siegl and Jael Rietveld on their engagement! We'll be praying for you as you prepare for marriage.



# WELCOME XAVIER

On Thursday last week, Katie and Phil Commins celebrated the birth of their son Xavier Jaxon Commins. Xavier was born 10th Dec weighing 3.2kg and measuring 50cm long. Katie and he are both doing well. Xavier's big sisters, Abigail and Georgia, are so excited to welcome him home and are besotted with him. Join us in giving thanks for Xavier and pray over him as he grows.



# SAFE MINISTRY



Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help. Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email [safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au](mailto:safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au) or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



## IT'S TOOL TIME

Christmas is in 8 days! As the year draws to a close, we also prepare for next year.

Starting Thursday 31st December renovations will commence at the Ministry Centre. We'd love your help. Come down and join David Rietveld as he and the team take on the tools. Not sure if you can help? We need people to take trailer loads to the tip, painters, people who have carpentry skills, as well as general labour. Find the reno schedule on the last page and see when you can help.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Many think our Cemetery is sold out, this is not the case. There are still burial plots available for sale. Early 2021 there will be a price restructure and we'd like to give our DAC members the opportunity to buy before the price increase.

There are a number of double depth graves available for sale, as well as a few Niches in the current wall. If you'd like to purchase a grave site or Niche before the price increase you'll need to complete the paperwork and pay in full by the end of March 2021.

If you are interested in organising a grave site or Niche give Hilary a call and arrange a time to chat, 0405 282 790.





# PRAYER FOR TODAY

We beseech you, Lord, to pour your grace into our hearts; so that, as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ through your word, we may be brought to understand the reason for the suffering and death of your one and only Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### THOSE MOURNING

Pray for Trevor and Jill Pearce as they grieve the death of Trevor's father, Philip Pearce. Pray for Madison, Chloe, Caleb and Georgia as they mourn their grandfather.

### PREGNANT WOMEN

Amy M (10am), Loren A (7pm), and Kasey D (10am).

### VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Helen S, Bruce M, Diana M, Kath H, Ella H, Jean D, Lorna B-W, Glenys N, Barbara B, Barbara L. Reg B moved into St Luke's Village Care Home, pray he will settle well.

### 8AM/2PM

Shirley S - struggling with health issues; Pat W and son, Antony and Antony's fiancée - all struggling with health issues; Colleen Yan - rehab; Maureen (Op shop customer) - cancer; Daphne C's daughter, Joanna, has a rare condition and needs urgent surgery. Daphne C's neighbour has Leukemia - undergoing treatment.

### 9:30AM

Robin B - pray for freedom from pain.

### 10am

Ruth D good news, all clear. Alexis L, Sharon S, Sylvia M all home recovering. Carol A - recovering at home; Paul B - Ruth D, Alexis L, Sharon S, Sylvia McG, - all home recovering. Paul B, Phillippa S, Wendy E, Elizabeth L, Ronnie VK, Michael E, Janelle S, Michele S - all ongoing conditions and treatments. Tayah L (child) - surgery on Tuesday for tonsils and adenoids. Recovering.

### 7PM

Shaina J son, Roman - results in, with more tests in 6 months, pray for more answers and good health while monitoring and waiting. Pray for good results Billy H - chemo treatment. Gary M - ongoing health problems. David G - pain whilst recovering from surgery.



# HOLIDAY CHURCH RENO SCHEDULE

Start time 9am. Knock off about 3pm.

DATE	TASK	EQUIPMENT	SKILLS
<b>Thur 31 Dec</b>	Concrete pole	Hole digger, concrete mix	Labour
<b>Mon 4 Jan</b>	Café tables install umbrella	Steel round sleeve, grinder, hammer drill, bolts, chemset	
	Dismantle old stage, screen	Pinch bar, trailer for tip run	
	Prep for painting	Spac, sanders	
<b>Wed 6 Jan</b>	Café tables make temp table top	Ply or other, hole saw, track saw, sander	Joinery
	Framing	Framing gun, timber	Carpentry
	Undercoat far triangle wall	Spray gun, paint	Spray painting
<b>Mon 11 Jan</b>	Framing	Framing gun, timber	Carpentry
	Install infill panelling	Saw, drills, spray gun	Carpentry
	topcoat far triangle wall	Spray gun, paint	Spray painting
<b>Wed 13 Jan</b>	Install infill panelling	Saw, drills, spray gun	Carpentry
	topcoat for stage wall	Spray gun, paint	Spray painting
<b>Mon 18 Jan</b>	Install new front screen	Saw, drills, spray gun	Carpentry
	Install infill panelling	Saw, drills, spray gun	Carpentry
	topcoat side stage wall	Spray gun, paint	Spray painting
<b>Wed 20 Jan</b>	Install infill panelling	Saw, drills, spray gun	Carpentry
	Prep and cut in for arch's	Sander, paint brush	Painting
<b>Mon 25 Jan</b>	Final fitout	Saw, drills, nail gun	Carpentry
	Prep and cut in for arch's	Sander, paint brush	Painting
<b>Wed 27 Jan</b>	As needed		