

What's on at St Margaret's

DECEMBER Diary Dates

SUNDAY	17 th	9.25am	Quiet time – candle lit
		9.30am	Sunday Service
MONDAY	18 th		
TUESDAY	19 th		
WEDNESDAY	20 th		
THURSDAY	21 st	10.30am- 12 noon	Church Office Open
		7.30pm	Choir Practice
		7.30pm	Band Practice
SATURDAY	23 rd	4.00pm – 6pm	Messy Church
SUNDAY	24 th	9.25am	Quiet time – candle lit
		9.30am	Sunday Service

INFORMATION: : RELIEVING MINISTER: Sarah Tomilson
Phone 0433 508 315 Email: sorch100@hotmail.com
CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:
Chairperson: Marj Hookey 9726 7286 Secretary: Robert O' Shea 9735 2393

24TH DECEMBER

<u>Reader:</u>	Katharine Davies	<u>Ushers:</u>	Jan Down & tba
<u>Tea Station</u>	Pat & Clive	<u>Sound Desk</u>	Stephen White
<u>Power Point:</u>	Franklyn Parrent	<u>Chapel Cleaning</u>	Marj Ho0okey

ELDERS Would Elders please note there will be no December meeting although Elders will still be involved in their pastoral work in the congregation.

TERRA CYCLE - RECYCLING PROGRAM – toothpaste tubes boxes, brushes etc plus any make up containers now have a new container – THE PURPLE BIN - Jorga and Chloe now have over 2000 items to send away (worth \$20 which they are donating to RYDA) Please continue to save these items – put them in the one bin.

If you would like to take part in the Helping Hand Christmas gifts, unwrapped toys, books gifts for any age, or Christmas food would be welcome and shared out among the folk struggling this Christmas. Just leave under the tree ready for delivery. Thank you so much. Merle

NOTICES If you have an item of interest for the notices please WRITE THE DETAILS ON PAPER & give to either Robert or Marj who will be sharing the notices in the next few weeks. (ILLNESS, SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES , ETC.

If you have a mobile phone or computer capable of emails, you or someone you know might like to receive our **Weekly Reflection and Notice Sheet** to stay in the loop. Speak to Franklyn or ring 0405802797.

RYDA Christmas Certificates

The 2017 Gift Certificates to support RYDA are now available.

Look for a display at morning tea, or Visit the web page

<http://www.blackdouglas.com.au/ryda/chrgift.htm>, or

Ring Doug: 0401 177 775

An information sheet is also available to include with the gift to provide the receiver with background about RYDA.

FOOD FOR WESLEY & HELPING HAND. Please continue to remember those in our community who, because of personal circumstance, must seek support. The food items we collect for them to give to those in need are greatly appreciated.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (Advance Notice)

25th February 2018 is the date of the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Annual Reports are requested by 24th January 2018 and can be emailed to jimoshea@bigpond.com or handed in at the office.

Elections for Elders and Church Councilors will be held at the Annual Meeting.

Nominations will open on Sunday 21st January and close at 9:30a.m. on Sunday 11th February.2018.

Yvonne Spicer, Ngun Liam and Robert O'Shea (Church Council) and Karen White (Elder) have completed their term but are eligible for nomination together with any member or member in association of the congregation.

Please give this important matter your prayerful consideration.

Robert O'Shea Secretary

MESSY CHURCH

This year Christmas Eve is on a Sunday when the Chin community use the church most of the afternoon so Church Council has decided to hold our all age 'Messy church' event from 4-6pm on Saturday 23rd December.

The children will be involved first with craft activities then Sarah will lead a short service and the event will conclude with a sausage sizzle.

We will have some fun activities for the children that are different to any they have done before.

Volunteers to assist supervise a simple craft activity are needed – (a sample of the activity will be available along with instructions.) (5 or 6) needed no later than 3.45 pm on Saturday.

A helper to prepare the BBQ and cook sausages would also be welcome.

Most of all start telling your family about Messy Church and invite them along. Please let Marj know as soon as possible if you can help.

The Church Office is open on Thursday mornings 10.30am – 12 Noon telephone number 9723 7323 Notices can be emailed to stmargarets@netspace.net.au by 10.30a.m. each Thursday

Over 65 years of the Christmas Bowl

It began on Christmas Day 1949, when a minister named Rev Frank Byatt in Victoria placed a simple empty bowl on the table before him. He humbly asked his friends and family to contribute what they felt the cost of the meal had been. Rev Byatt asked that they consider their own good fortune in being able to share a Christmas meal together in comfort and safety. And he invited them to share God's blessings of love and friendship in the form of a gift to people who had fled the horrors of World War Two and were suffering as refugees. - See more at:

<http://www.actforpeace.org.au/System/Christmas-Bowl/Homepage#sthash.6FNeGEDB.dpuf>

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL ENVELOPES- If you have not yet received one they will be in the pews today. Last year we donated \$1600 to this appeal.

December 17 – Third Sunday of Advent:

Sowing seeds is an act of anticipation which should culminate in a joyful harvest. But years of drought left Joyce, a farmer in Zimbabwe, reaping nothing but pain and suffering. Now, thanks to your support through the Christmas Bowl, Joyce has learnt new drought-resistant farming techniques. Please give to the Christmas Bowl today to help other farmers like Joyce feel joy at harvest-time.

ADVANCE NOTICE CHRISTMAS SERVICES.

Saturday 23rd December 4- 6pm Messy Church

Sunday Christmas Eve 24th 9.30am only.

Monday Christmas Day 25th 9.30am.