

**THIS WEEK: 3 – 9 December**

Monday	3 December	<i>Francis Xavier, priest &amp; missionary (d. 1552)</i> 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:00pm Evening Prayer
Wednesday	5 December	<i>Andrew, Apostle &amp; Martyr</i> 9:00pm Morning Prayer 10:00am Eucharist 5:00pm Evening Prayer
Thursday	6 December	<i>Nicholas of Myra, bishop (d. c.342)</i> 5:00pm Evening Prayer
Friday	7 December	<i>Ambrose of Milan, bishop &amp; teacher (d. 397)</i> 8:30am Morning Prayer 5:00pm Evening Prayer
Saturday	8 December	<i>Conception of Mary</i> <i>Richard Baxter, pastor &amp; spiritual writer (d. 1691)</i> 10:00am – 3:00pm Farewell Archdeacon Gail, St Mary's Ballina
Sunday	9 December	8:00am Advent Study, Bangalow 9:00am Eucharist, Bangalow 10:45am Parish Council



ABOVE & BELOW: Magdalen College, Oxford, United Kingdom.



**THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF BANGALOW**

All Souls' Bangalow  
St Aidan's Eureka

We welcome all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation or religion.

1 Ashton Street  
Bangalow NSW 2479  
T 6687 1046  
MO 0488 561 539  
souls\_all@yahoo.com.au  
bangalowanglican.com.au

**The First Sunday of Advent — 2 December 2018**

As we gather for worship, we acknowledge the Bundjalung Nation, traditional custodians of this land.



**GOD OF ABUNDING LOVE, YOU CALL US TO LIVE IN HOLINESS AND PEACE. MAY WE GROW EVER CLOSER TO YOU EACH DAY AS WE PREPARE FOR YOUR COMING AMONGST US. WE ASK THIS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.**



Bangalow Anglican Church

**SERVICE TIMES**

Bangalow		
Sunday	9.00am	Eucharist
Wednesday	10.00am	Eucharist
Eureka	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	11.00am

**PARISH GOALS**

- to pursue a social justice agenda
- to offer hospitality
- to support the spread of the Gospel in schools
- to maintain environmental care

**THIS SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER 2018 – ADVENT 1**

*Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-38*

**NEXT SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER 2018 – ADVENT 2**

*Malachi 3:1-4; Song of Zechariah; Philippians 1:1-11; Luke 3:1-6.*



**THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF BANGALOW**

Rector	Fr Matthew Smedley	6687 1046	souls_all@yahoo.com.au
Hon Assoc Priest	Fr Doug Bannerman	0418 182 450	annedoug16@bigpond.com
Licensed Lay	Joan Davies	6685 3287	
Ministers	Julieanne Sinclair	6688 4130	
Rector's Warden	Patricia Ellis	6687 0441	pbellis2@bigpond.com
	☪ Honorary Secretary		
Op Shop	Kath Amor	6687 2228	Mon - Fri 10:00am-3:00pm Sat 9:30am-12:30pm

## Be vigilant

We may be able to control our own personal practices, but we will never be able to control how other people observe the weeks leading up to Christmas. We can ensure we omit the Gloria during Advent but people will still sing and play Christmas songs in their homes and social gatherings. And it will be difficult to encourage others to spend more time in quiet prayer than in shopping for gifts and going to Christmas parties. As much as we want all Christians to keep prayerful, sober watch in anticipation of the coming of the Lord, we cannot become 'Advent Police,' because the exhortation to vigilance goes both ways. We, too, must be vigilant that our behaviour and attitudes help us "increase and abound in love for one another and for all" (1 Thess 3:12). As those who help shape the unique spirit of Advent in our communities, let us help one another be attentive to God's presence all around us so that our hearts may not become drowsy from our anxieties.

## God's action

It should be a rather exhilarating thought that the moment of creation is now – that if, by some unthinkable accident, God's attention slipped, we wouldn't be here. It means that within every circumstance, every object, every person, God's action is going on, a sort of white heat at the centre of everything. It means that each one of us is already in a relationship with God before we've ever thought about it. It means that every object or person we encounter is in a relationship with God before they're in a relationship of any kind with us. And if that doesn't make us approach the world and other people with reverence and amazement, I don't know what will.

One of the greatest Christian minds ever, Thomas Aquinas, said in the thirteenth century that we should never think of creation as an event, with a before and after, or as a change in circumstances – as if first there was a chaotic mess, then God came along and organised it, which was a popular view in the ancient world. Creation is an action of God that sets up a relationship between God and what is not God. Eternally, there is just God – outside time because he doesn't get better or worse, or change in any way. And time begins when God speaks to call into being a world that is different and so establishes a reality that depends on him. It depends on him moment by moment, carried along the current of his activity. Behind and beneath everything we encounter is this action. We may look at something that seems unmoving and unchanging, like the pillars of a cathedral or the peaks of a mountain, but what is within and beyond it is an intense energy and movement. The scientist, of course, will tell us that at the heart of every apparently solid things is the dance of the subatomic particles. The theologian ought to be delighted that this sort of talk puts movement and energy at the centre, but will want to add that at the heart of the subatomic particles is an action and motion still more basic, beyond measure and observation – the outpouring life from God.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small,

In all life thou livest, the true life of all

says the hymn ('Immortal, invisible'), and it says it all.

Rowan Williams, *Tokens of Trust: An Introduction into Christian Belief* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2007), pp. 35-36.

## PARISH NOTICES

- ★ The Reverend Canon Zoe Everingham has announced her resignation as Rector of the Parish of The Bellinger with her final services in the Parish being on Christmas Day 2018.
- ★ Advent Studies have commenced and will continue on Sunday mornings at 8:00am in the Chapel and conclude at 8:45am. The resource we will be using is Tom Wright's "Advent for Everyone: A journey through Luke."
- ★ Our Christmas fliers with details of our Christmas Services are now available for you to distribute amongst your neighbours, friends – and wherever you might like to leave them!
- ★ The Diocese is planning to give Archdeacon Gail a gift to say thank you for her many years of faithful service and is providing the opportunity for parishes, organisations and individuals to make a monetary contribution to this gift. Your contribution will not only enable the purchase of a suitable gift but will also emphasise that it is truly representing best wishes from across the Diocese. To make a contribution to the gift for Archdeacon Gail, please deposit directly into the following AFGD account by midday on Friday 7 December.  
Account name: Gail's Gift  
BSB: 705-077  
Account number: 00041100
- ★ Please continue to pray for parishes seeking new incumbents: Coffs Harbour, Kingscliff, Mullumbimby, Nambucca Heads, South Grafton, and Tweed Heads.

✠ Matthew

## Prayers

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Anglican Communion — The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury), The Rt Rev'd Carlos López-Lozano

Australia — Diocese of Adelaide: Archbishop Geoff Smith, Bishop Tim Harris, Bishop Chris McLeod, Clergy and Laity

Diocese — Registrar/General Manager Chris Nelson, Diocesan Accountant Terry Luce, Assistant Accountant Darrin Johnstone, Insurance & Accounts Jenny Brock, PA to Bishop & MDO Maree Collett, PA to Registrar Kaytrina Jessup, Admin Assistant Linda Predo, Archivist (Volunteer) Bev Knox; Parish of Ballina: Ven Matthew Jones, Rev'd Cathy Ridd, Rev'd Richard Brown, Rev'd Ivan Shepherd, Rev'd Margaret Davis, LLMs John Bryen, Fran Legge, Pat Kerr, Amkela Malaba, John Phillips, Ros Rowe

Please pray for those who are sick, lonely, homeless, refugees and asylum seekers

Anniversaries of Death — Lilian Frances Connell, Emily Ellis, Baby King (infant), Frederick Gordon Wilmot, Trish Gefken, Pauline Hall, Margaret Phoebe Ransley, Charles Rose, William Henry Reading, Emily Adelaiade Victoria Rice, Robert Edward Brausdon, Hazel Heather Jamison, Robert Harold Eyears, Elizabeth Viva Coles