



## Don't miss the truth of Christmas

This is our second pandemic Christmas. We have learned a new vocabulary – words like social distancing, self-isolating and now omicron.

What else have we learned?

Lockdown certainly forced us to consider the essentials of life – some of us even took up bread-making. There's something basic about that - we humans have always broken bread to share and connect with each other.

Jesus came into the world and told his disciples “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry...” Jesus is no mere man. He is the one whom God has sent into the world to be our life - the source of our life.

I hope there will be food to share on your Christmas table – and people you love around it. We have missed that so much during lockdown.

But don't miss the truth of Christmas. See who Jesus really is. He says to us this Christmas – come, believe, and trust in me. May you have a safe and happy Christmas.

**Kanishka Raffel**  
**Archbishop of Sydney**  
**Christmas 2021**

# Church News

## Merry Christmas

We're delighted that you could join us for Christmas. We pray that you might be encouraged by God to see the world his way, and to understand Christmas as a time of rejoicing for the miraculous gift of God with us, Emmanuel.



## Hope Explored

Hope Explored is an informal and relaxed three-week course for you to discover the hope of a future that is better than you could ever imagine. Open to everyone.

Register at [oakflatsanglican.com/hope-explored](https://oakflatsanglican.com/hope-explored).

## 5pm Service

Our 5pm service will be taking a break, and will resume from **Sunday, 30th January 2022**.

## Term 1 2022 Rosters

The rosters for all those serving will be emailed next week. Please make sure you check your inbox to find out when you are serving.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and the many different ways you serve our church family. Please contact the office if you have any questions or need to make a change.

## Pursell family on holidays

Sam, Susan and the family will be taking a much deserved break from **Monday 3rd January to Sunday 16th January**. Our Wardens (Dave Crook, Andy Peters and Peter Taylor) will be the point of contact during this time.

## Birthdays

26th Sherida Findell  
Pam Moore  
29th Rhys Faulconbridge

## Financial Update

(YTD 23 December 2021)

**Income \$206,332**

*(includes Government grants worth \$30,375)*

**Expenses \$188,001**

**Difference \$18,331**

## The people who are serving us

9am	25th Dec	9.30am	26th Dec	9.30am	2nd Jan
<b>Welcomer:</b>	A & M Peters		H Mills		J Klasson
<b>Bible Reader:</b>	J Mills		G Taylor		P Moore
<b>Prayer Leader:</b>	D Young		V O'Regan		P Taylor
<b>Morning Tea:</b>	N/A		B Mayhew/ G Taylor		C Bonnici/ M Klasson
<b>Meal Clean Up:</b>	N/A		P Taylor		V O'Regan

**Saturday Cleaning:** P & G Taylor/C Bonnici

**Mowing:** J Klasson/A Peters

# Prayers

## CURRENT PRAYERS

### People in need

Bob & Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga & John Covetz, Dave & Jan Crook, Sherida & Gary Findell, Auriel & Barrie Hadley, Raija & Robert Hannam, Joy Meyer, Pam Moore, Charlie October, Paduch family, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Sandra & Hanno Stanojevic, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Greg & Sue Vickery, Chris & John Wilson.

### Christmas

Give thanks and praise for Jesus coming to Earth as a human. Pray that for all of us to respond to the Gospel message with humility, thankfulness and joy.

Especially pray for those who struggle at this time of the year, as it can be a hard, lonely and grief-stricken time.

### COVID-19

Ask that God would be merciful and slow the spread of the new Covid variant in the community. Pray that with the rules coming back into effect, that people would comply and be cooperative to help slow the spread. Pray that God would grant Australian & world Governments and others in authority wisdom in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### For our world

Pray for all who are suffering pain, hardship and bereavement from bushfire, drought, warfare, persecution, Coronavirus and other disasters around the world, continuing to remember the people of Afghanistan.

### Holidays

Pray for good rest and refreshment with family and friends at Christmas time and over the holiday period.

Contact our Prayer Coordinator, Geoff Kyngdon with any prayer requests or if you wish to be part of the prayer chain. He can be contacted on either 0417 044 565 or [geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com).

## REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 3 OF 4)

### Government

The Premier and NSW politicians.

### World Focus

The continent of Asia.

### Mission Partners

Stewart Continuing Ministries - training leaders of the persecuted church in ministry.

### Organisations We Support

Youthworks and the Bible Society.

### Word Ministry Training

Ministry Training and Development (MT&D) and the Ministry Training Strategy (MTS).

### Staff and Senior Leadership

Wardens and Parish Councillors.

### Children and Youth Ministry

Kids' Church.

### Adult Ministry

Seniors (Prime Time).

### Local Evangelism

Outreach to emergency services and community groups.

### Members unable to attend church

Those house-bound or living in nursing homes including Bob & Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Audrey Ford and Lily Lyddiard.

### Local Public Schools

Oak Flats Public, Balarang Public and Oak Flats High.

# Information about our Church

## Your kids are welcome

Children are welcome to stay with you during church. Kids church starts roughly 15 mins into the 9:30am service (during school terms).

You may also take your child to the Cry Room at the rear of the church to watch us live on a TV.

## Check out our bookstall

View our quality selection of Christian books for sale at the bookstall located at the rear of the church.

## Join a small group

Our midweek small groups are great for connecting with others. To join a group, contact the office.

## We are filming church (9:30am service only)

For those unable to attend, we are streaming and recording video at [live.oakflatsanglican.com](http://live.oakflatsanglican.com). You may be filmed.

## Kids and Youth programs

In school terms, we offer a range of midweek programs for toddlers, children and youth.

## COVID Safety Practices

Changes announced by NSW health mean that **masks must now be worn inside at church** on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and throughout January). The usual exemptions apply.

All other rules remain unchanged at this stage:

- **QR code check-in** is mandatory at church.
- There is no limit to numbers on site.
- Doors and windows will be open to maximise ventilation.
- Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m where possible.
- Hand sanitiser is still easily accessible.
- **Please stay home if you are unwell, even if your symptoms are mild.**

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**Elvanto member website:** [oakflatsanglican.elvanto.com.au](http://oakflatsanglican.elvanto.com.au)

**Minister:** Rev Sam Pursell - 0417 711 314 - [sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Parish Administrator:** Miss Valerie O'Regan - 0408 271 189 - [val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Office Hours:** Mon & Fri: 9am-5pm

**Wardens:** Dave Crook - 0404 337 502; Andy Peters - 0414 799 001; Peter Taylor - 0448 190 946

**Pastoral Care:** Rhonda Slocombe - 0400 679 703 - [rhonda.slocombe@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:rhonda.slocombe@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Prayer Coordinator:** Geoff Kyngdon - 0417 044 565 - [geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com)

**Safe Ministry Representative:** Harley Mills - 0409 562 932 - [harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com](mailto:harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com)

## GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

**Name:** Oak Flats Anglican **BSB:** 633 000 **Account:** 164 385 841

# Songs of Christmas 4: Simeon's Song

Luke 2:21-40

Sam Pursell • 25<sup>th</sup> December 2021

1. The Promise of Christmas

2. The Fulfilment of Christmas

3. The Praise of Christmas

***Boxing Day...***

'What happened next? Jesus at the temple' • Luke 2:39-52 • Geoff Kyngdon

# What happened next? Jesus at the temple

Luke 2:39-52

Geoff Kyngdon • 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

1. Truly Man (v40)
2. Truly God (v41-48)
3. Truly committed to His calling (v49-52)

***Next Sunday...***

*Summer Psalms* • Psalm 130 • Sam Pursell