



## From Rev Canon Maree

† **Holy Communion:** Home communion will be given today. Please pray for our extended faith community.

Rev Canon Maree



### Also this Week:

Wed	9am 10-12	Morning prayer Lollypops playgroup
Thurs		SRE in our schools.
Friday		Reverend Maree's day off

### † Mission for December - Samaritans

Readings for next week 9/12/18	Malachi 3, 1-4	Song of Zechariah. APBA p.10 or page 425
	Philippians 1, 1-11	Luke 3, 1-6

Samaritans is our local support service and is no stranger to our community. They operate exclusively throughout the Central Coast, Hunter Valley and Mid-North Coast regions of NSW as well as in Mudgee, Central Western NSW.

Advent services for Samaritans Praise, Prayer and Proclamation is on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> December at St Marks, 7 Norfolk Street, Islington .RSVP [mail@samaritans.org.au](mailto:mail@samaritans.org.au)

Mothers Union Christmas Service is on Tuesday 4 December at 11am, followed by lunch.

Newcastle Tudor Singers Friday 6th December at 7.45pm Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton.

Christmas Services – Bishop Peter's visit 23<sup>rd</sup> December (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent). Christmas Eve family and friends service 7pm followed by supper with St Nicholas in the hall. Christmas Day 9am traditional service with communion.



# ANGLICAN PARISH OF LAMBTON

St John the Baptist  
Lambton  
2 DECEMBER 2018

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## Today's Scripture Readings – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33, 14-16	Psalms 25, 1-10
1 Thessalonians 3, 9-13	Luke 21, 25-38

### ADVENT 1

I would love to think that this time of Advent, of preparing, could be a time of thanksgiving and looking forward. America has Thanksgiving and it's a real time of celebration of family and friends. I was with my American girlfriend one year at Thanksgiving and it was just so positive and forward thinking. We loved it.

The theme for today's gospel is images of great cosmic upheaval, with signs in the sun, moon and stars. The great thing in all of this "apocalyptic" language is the Son of Man, i.e. Jesus will appear, with power and great glory.

So, there is a waiting, and I don't know about you but waiting is not an easy thing to do. Even if we can't find words for what we are waiting for, I think we are waiting, and I want to wait with a positive and open heart.

A very old advent prayer goes "give us grace . . .that we might cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light".

We who live much of the time with darkness in the world, with shootings, break-ins, and cosmic upheavals, still look with hope and thanksgiving for the light. And the light has already come, so we wait not in vain but for his return.

This waiting is not a passive thing, or pious or churchy, but a positive and thankful time.

For we all know that Christ has come! That He brings healing and hope. Rev Maree