



ANGLICAN PARISH OF LAMBTON

**St John the Baptist
Lambton
10th January 2021**

Locum: Reverend Sally Malfroy Phone: 49656482/0401195635 Email: surprisetownsally@gmail.com	Rector's Warden: Daphney Whelan Phone: 49 525 526 New priest as of March The Rev'd Kate Heath
Address: 18 Morehead Street, LAMBTON NSW 2299 Website: www.lambtonanglicanparish.com.au Parish Email: admin@lambtonanglicanparish.com.au <u>Our Parish is on Facebook</u> BSB 705-077- Account No 40391	

SERVICE TIME

9AM SUNDAYS

Today's Scripture Readings – The Baptism of our Lord

Old Testament – Genesis 1:1~5

Psalm - 29

New Testament – Acts 19:1~7

Gospel – Mark 1:4~11

Readings for next week

2nd Sunday after Epiphany, 17th January 2021

Old Testament – 1Samuel 3:1~10

Psalm – 139: 1~5, 12~18

New Testament – 1 Corinthians 6:12~20

Gospel – John 1:43~51

From your Locum Priest Rev'd Sally Malfroy

Hello Everyone

How quickly the new year begins, and the old year slides away. We are probably particularly glad to say 'goodbye' to 2020, with all the challenges and disruptions and anxiety that living with 'the Virus' brought us. It did however have some perhaps unexpected and surprising blessings.

We have become, I think, much more aware of how precious are our connections with others. When we haven't been able to see those we love, we have realised how special they are, and how much we need them! (Even if they drive us crazy sometimes!) Hopefully we can carry this awareness into 2021. Can we, do you think, live more gratefully, more conscious of our blessings, and more careful to treasure *all* the relationship in our lives? Perhaps we can realise that for these connections to deepen and grow, we need to nurture them to keep them healthy.

My prayer for us here at St John the Baptist at Lambton is that we will all commit ourselves to helping our church community of faith stay vibrant and connected as we prepare to welcome Rev'd Kate and her family among us in March. I pray that we may really treasure each other, and nurture each other's faith through this next year, whatever it holds for us.

Grateful thanks now from me, to Fr Paul Robertson, taking the services on both 17th and 24th January. I will be here for the last time on 31st January, after which Fr Paul has generously agreed to be Locum priest until Rev'd Kate arrives.

The Lord be with you all. Rev'd Sally

REGISTERING FOR ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY WORSHIP

This is supposed to be mandatory. Please ring Jim Parslow 4952 5203 or 0402 073 880, or text him on that number, with your name and phone number if you intend coming to church. Thank you everyone.

GOOD NEWS!

Following a meeting of the Incumbency Appointment Board the Bishop is pleased to announce that the Rev'd Kate Heath has accepted his invitation to be the next Priest in the Parish of Lambton.

Kate trained for ministry in the Diocese of Newcastle and after Ordination served in the Parishes of Woy Woy and Taree. Kate then became the Priest in the Parish of Coburg West in the Diocese of Melbourne, where she has served for nine years.

Kate is married to James, and they have two children – Emily who is three years old and William who is one year old.

Kate will commence in the Parish of Lambton on 2nd March next year. The appointment is for 0.8 of full time in the Parish.

Arthur Copeman – Archdeacon of Newcastle

SYNOD ELECTION MEETING

This was held after church on 13th December, and you now have 3 fabulous people to represent the Parish at Synod next year.

Thank you to Jim Parslow, Bronwyn Lewis and Sandra Curtis for coming forward to be elected for this significant ministry to the Parish. May God bless you all.

NAME BADGES

To assist Rev'd Sally in remembering your names, could you please wear a name badge each week? (doesn't have to be church one.) Maybe keep it in the car, easier that way not to forget it! This will make things easier for your new priest, too, to learn who you all are, so much more quickly than relying solely on memory.

Need a new badge?

There is a sheet in the porch on which to write your name, as you wish it to appear on the badge. (*ie, Jen if you prefer to be called this, rather than Jennifer.*) An order will be placed soon.

MASKS

Please remember to wear your mask each week, and remember the message about distancing from each other, even with your mask on. Yes, we do need to keep this up!
Clergy and readers are also now required to wear a mask.

SINGING

A new directive now means we are not allowed to sing at all, even behind our masks.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Please keep a shopping trolley length between you and the next person.

TAKING COMMUNION

We are now required to stay seated throughout the service, which means that Rev'd Sally will bring communion to us as we remain seated.

NO MORNING TEA

As per our usual custom, there will be no Morning Tea through January. You are also asked not to linger outside, but if you are briefly standing and talking to your friends, please remember the shopping trolley distance between you, and masks on!

MAINLY MUSIC has met for the last time for the year. For it to be up and running for 2021, a team of at least 6 helpers, including a leader and IT person, is needed. They will need to plan for the year during January, ready to start in February. Can you help? If so, could you let Rev'd Sally know asap, so we know whether this is going to be a viable ministry, given that at this stage **Playgroup** is also likely to come back next year too.

NEW ORGAN

Thank you Don for organising the 'new' organ. It is sounding great. Help in paying for it is much appreciated! Perhaps in an envelope in the plate marked 'New Organ?' Grateful thanks to those who have been contributing. Treasurer Jim is very grateful.

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER

There will be no Morning Prayer through January, as per our usual custom.

ROSTERS - always necessary to keep our Church functioning smoothly.

CLEANING ROSTER

Rev'd Sally was shocked to find how few people are on this roster! Many hands make light work (and less often needing to be on the roster.) The few people doing it very often are getting tired, and have been doing it for years! **Please can YOU consider giving them a hand?** Once a month, or 6 weeks, would be such a help. The Parish is not in a financial position to pay someone, so please..any new volunteers? Speak to Revd Sally. Thank you!

READING ROSTER

New rosters are available in the porch. Please collect yours if you know you are on it! and PLEASE, if you are unable to be here on your day, and arrange for someone else to read for you, **PLEASE tell the person replacing you, to let the Welcomer or Server, or priest, know that they will be reading. It can cause some awkward pauses when we do not know if someone is going to read when rostered person is obviously not in church!**

SERVING ROSTER

_If you feel drawn towards assisting at the altar, please speak to Rev'd Sally. You would receive the training needed, and it is a lovely ministry.

COUNTING ROSTER

Every week the Collection needs to be counted. Always 2 unrelated people counting together. Again, the parish could well do with a few extra people to assist with this. That way, the same people do not need to do it every week. Please speak to Jim Parslow, your Treasurer, or ring him (4952 5203) to find out what you need to know.

Rev'd Sally says 'thank you' for prayerfully considering whether you can do any of these things. It would be such a help to your new priest.

WELCOMERS

There will be a short meeting after service on January 31st for all who are or want to take part in this important ministry.

PRAYER FOR NEW PRIEST

As you prepare for your new priest, Rev'd Kate Heath to come in March, perhaps you might use the following as part of your daily prayers:

Bountiful God,

Thank you for Reverend Kate, chosen to be our new priest.

May she be for us a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments; an encourager who will equip us, your people, for ministry and enable us to fulfill our calling.

As we prepare to welcome her and her family among us, give us warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Mission for January

The National Home Mission (Anglican Outback Fund)

The purpose of the National Home Mission is to support the church throughout Australia and in particular those dioceses which because of remoteness, lack of resources, missionary opportunities or new development are in need of external assistance.

We can support this mission by praying and giving generously.