



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds ...

28 November 2021

First Sunday of Advent

A generous faith community – centred on Jesus, seeking wisdom for life and acting with compassion – in the heart of Grafton since 1842.

Welcome to our worship this morning as we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Church year.

President

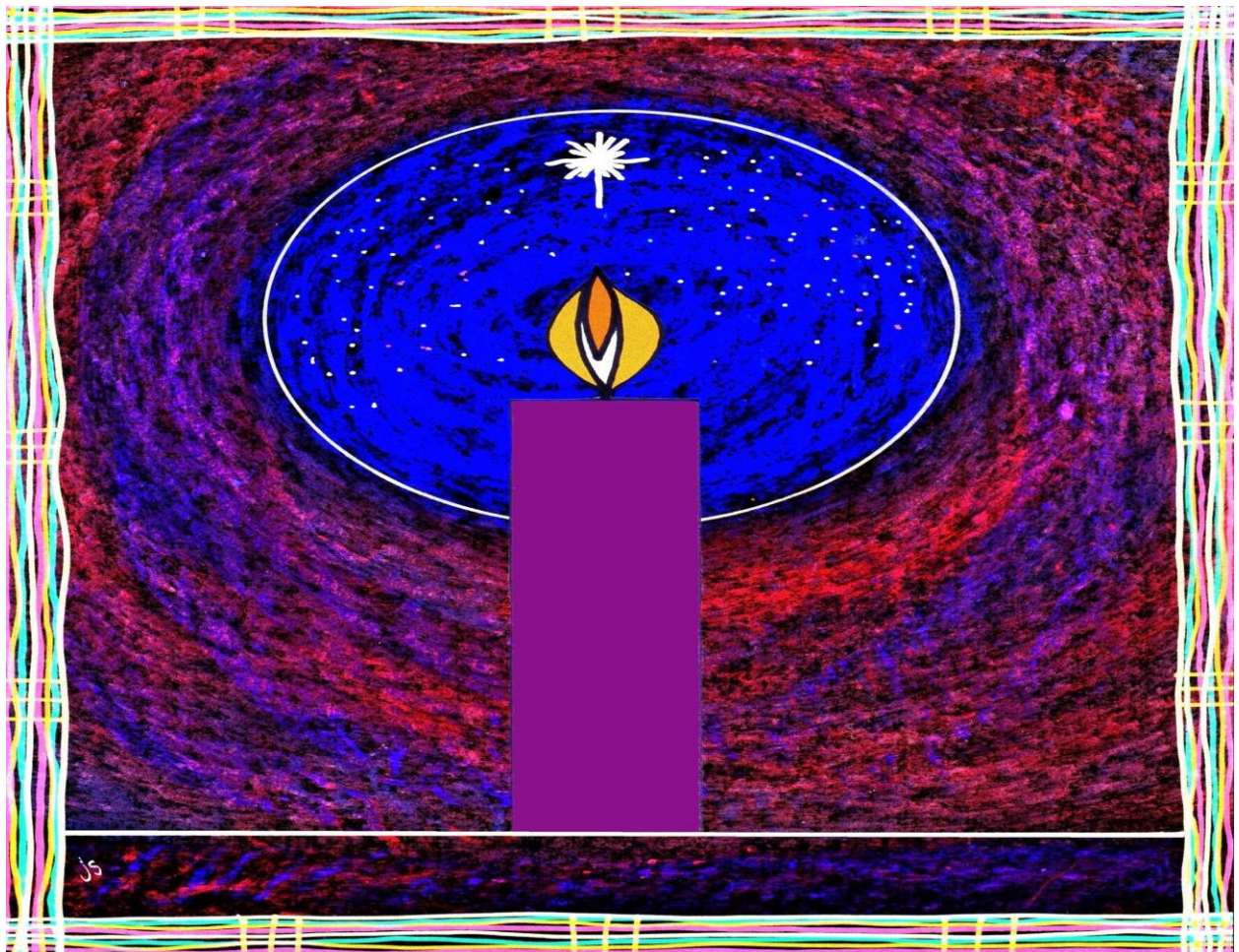
The Right Revd Dr Sarah Macneil

Assisting Clergy

The Reverend Ian Chaplin

Director of Music

Mr Robert Eather



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Introit

Choir

Verbum Supernum – Plainsong

Entrance Hymn

The Advent of our God TIS [271]

The advent of our God
with eager prayers we greet,
and singing hasten on his road
his coming reign to meet.

The everlasting Son
was born to make us free;
and he a servant's form put on
To gain our liberty.

Let Zion now arise
to greet her infant king,
and gladly take with thankful heart
the peace he comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light
he soon will come again,
his scattered people to unite
with them in heaven to reign.

Then evil flee away
before the rising dawn,
Let our old nature day by day
God's image still put on.

Praise to the Incarnate Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit ever One,
to all eternity.

Charles Coffin 1676-1749
Tr. John Chandler 1806-76

Invocation and Greeting

The presiding minister greets the people.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of Approach

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts at Christmas,
be King of our lives today.
Amen.**

The Advent Wreath: First Sunday of advent

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is hope.

Advent 1 [26 (A&M 2013)]

**Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray;
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
Changed for gladness on that Day.**

The candle is lit.

"We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield." (Psalm 33:20)

Eternal God, as we await the coming of our saviour, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world, through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath

Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God,
whose promises stand unshaken through all generations:
renew us in hope,
that we may be awake and alert
watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ,
our Judge and Saviour,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Jeremiah 33.23-26

The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: Have you not observed how these people say, 'The two families that the Lord chose have been rejected by him', and how they hold my people in such contempt that they no longer regard them as a nation? Thus says the Lord: Only if I had not established my covenant with day and night and the ordinances of heaven and earth, would I reject the offspring of Jacob and of my servant David and not choose any of his descendants as rulers over the offspring of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes, and will have mercy upon them.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 25.1-10

Choir

Of David.

- ¹ *To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*
- ² *O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.*
- ³ *Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*
- ⁴ *Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.*
- ⁵ *Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.*
- ⁶ *Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.*
- ⁷ *Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!*
- ⁸ *Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.*
- ⁹ *He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.*
- ¹⁰ *All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.*

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3.9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gospel

Alleluia.
Lord show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 21.25-38

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

In joyful expectation of his coming we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Murray our Bishop, Sarah our Dean locum tenens, Ian and Camellia our Priests and Grant our Deacon together with all the baptised in this parish. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for those in public life, those working in the media and all involved in policy development and public administration. Before you may all rulers stand in silence.

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter. We pray for all those impacted by the current global pandemic, and especially for health workers and medical researchers. Within our local community of faith Bill Johnston, Joy Baldwin, Reg Bultitude, Cheryl Cook, Sue Cotter, Kathryn Douglas & Margaret Duff. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We pray for Rex Gow & Stan Mussared who died recently, giving thanks for their legacy and seeking comfort for their family. We remember especially at this time Elsie Hale, Ivy Sweetman, Neville Smith, Gordon Child, Gary Dow & Ken Kingsley. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Let us pray the Cathedral Prayer together:

Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage and prayer. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The president says

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78 & 79

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY

Hymn

The Advent of our God [TIS 288]

**Not the powerful, not the privileged,
not the famous in the land,
but the no-ones and the needy
were the first to hold God's hand.**

**Not a well-established family
with an heirloom christening shawl,
but a homeless, wandering couple
parented the Lord of All.**

**Not, at first, to little children,
nor to those whose faith burned bright,
but to adults, stalled in darkness,'
angels brought God's love and light.**

**God, determined to be different
from the standards we think best,
in his choice of friends and family,
lets forgotten folk be blessed.**

**Not obsessed by our achievements,
worldly wealth or family tree,
may we, in and with God's chosen,
find our fondest pedigree.**

John L. Bell, 1949–

The gifts are brought to the Lord's Table.

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who was looked for by the prophets,
heralded by the Baptist
announced by an angel,
born of the Virgin Mary,

And revealed at last to men and women of every race.
By his death on the cross
and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Christ Church Mass (Philip Mathias)

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The celebrant breaks the bread.

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

***Agnus dei* (Lamb of God)**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus hearer of our sins have mercy on us.
Jesus redeemer of the world, grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

The celebrant says

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Holy things for holy people.
Broken things for broken people.

Communion Anthem

O Come, O come Emmanuel (Veni Emmanuel) – Plainsong

Notices

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The president says

God for whom we wait,
we thank you that you have fed us
with the bread of life
and the cup of salvation.
As we joyfully await your Son,
keep us ever watchful
that we may be ready to stand before him
on the day of his coming.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Blessing

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Veni Emmanuel – Noel Rawsthorne

The order of service is according to *A Prayer Book for Australia*, copyright 1995, the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation; published under the imprint of Broughton Books, and reproduced with permission. Hymns are from *Together in Song*, and are reproduced with permission under CCLI Licence No. 1966. Some liturgical texts are from the *Common Worship* website of the Church of England. Used with permission. The prayers for the lighting of the Advent Wreath are by the Revd Matthew Kozlowski.

From Bishop Sarah & Father Ian

We were delighted to be invited back to Grafton to fill in at the Cathedral through Advent and Christmas. Thank you to Bishop Murray for this invitation and for the opportunity it gives us to spend time in a place and among people that we grew to love in the years we lived here. We look forward to catching up with as many people as possible and hope that we will see you in the Cathedral some time over the next few weeks. A huge thank you to all the Cathedral staff for their warm welcome and helpfulness.

As we prepare to welcome Jesus, born as one of us, may we take time to reflect on the great gift of God's love, in our lives.

ADVENT AT THE CATHEDRAL

Today we commence a new Church Year, with the season of Advent.

Advent extends across the four Sundays prior to Christmas.

The liturgical colour for Advent is purple, representing the call of God's kingdom on our lives, as purple was associated with the Emperor in Ancient Rome.



A common symbol for Advent is the advent wreath with its four coloured candles and a central white candle. As we light each successive candle at the first service of week, we offer prayers for different spiritual blessings.

Sunday, 28 November • First Sunday of Advent

9.00am Christ Church Cathedral: Sung Eucharist

11.00am All Saints, Lawrence: Eucharist

Sunday, 5 December • Second Sunday of Advent

9.00am Christ Church Cathedral: Sung Eucharist

Sunday, 12 December • Third Sunday of Advent

9.00am Christ Church Cathedral: Sung Eucharist

11.00am All Saints, Lawrence: Christmas Eucharist

Sunday, 19 December • Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.00am Christ Church Cathedral: Sung Eucharist

6.00pm Christ Church Cathedral: Nine Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Friday, December 24 • Christmas Eve

5.00pm Christ Church Cathedral: Children's Christmas Service

11.00pm Christ Church Cathedral: Midnight Mass

Saturday, December 25 • Christmas Day

9.00am Christ Church Cathedral: Eucharist

Sunday, December 26 • Feast of the Holy Family

9.00am Christ Church Cathedral: Eucharist



CHRISTMAS BOWL

Over the next several weeks we are encouraging everyone associated with the Cathedral to make a special gift to the annual Christmas Bowl appeal. This project commenced in 1949 with the simple suggestion that people donate the cost of one place at their family's Christmas Dinner to assist those in need. Due to the on-going impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on church events, this year there is the option of making an online gift while still linking your gift to the Cathedral's total amount raised.

For details of how to make an online gift, please use this link which includes a code for Christ Church Anglican Cathedral Grafton:

<https://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au/50732>

We also have gift envelopes in the Cathedral and at the office, for those who prefer to make their gift that way.

First Sunday of Advent



Megie Anggita/CWS

Hope for families in Indonesia

Central Sulawesi was hard hit by a huge earthquake and tsunami in 2018. Since then, farms which families rely on for food have been affected by floods, drought and the COVID-19 pandemic. Women are learning to make organic fertiliser and pesticides to help them grow their own food to feed their families. This Christmas Bowl, you are helping communities adapt to climate change and withstand financial hardship when disasters strike. **Please give today.**



Christmas Bowl

CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

Cathedral Parish Directory www.graftoncathedral.org.au		
Acting Dean	The Right Revd Dr Sarah Macneil parishoffice@graftoncathedral.org.au	6642 2844
Canon Pastor	The Revd Canon Camellia Flanagan, TSSF priest@graftoncathedral.org.au	0417 928 914
Associate Priest	The Reverend Ian Chaplin	6642 2844
Deacon	The Reverend Grant Sparks deacon@graftoncathedral.org.au	0418 995 535
Director of Music	Mr Robert Eather music@graftoncathedral.org.au	0458 093 292
Parish Office	Ms Linda Butler parishoffice@graftoncathedral.org.au	6642 2844
Cathedral Bookshop	bookshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	6642 3958
Cathedral OpShop & Cathedral Pantry	The Revd Grant Sparks (OpShop) Ms Moe Jones (Cathedral Pantry)	6642 1906
Prayers for those in need		

Joy Baldwin
Reg Bultitude
Cheryl Cook
Sue Cotter
Kathryn Douglas
Margaret Duff

Gail Gilmore
Gladys Gray
Fay Kelly
Ruth Kingsley
Bill Johnston
Joan Marr
Roy Ford

John McAnally
Kay Metcalfe
Henry Mills (baby)
Eileen Rogan
Muriel Shepherd
Tammy Uren
Jessie Usher

Remembering those who have died

Recently departed: Rex Gow and Stan Mussared

Year's Mind: Elsie Hale, Ivy Sweetman, Neville Smith, Gordon Child, Gary Dow & Ken Kingsley.

Cathedral Prayer

Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage and prayer. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.

Around the Parish this Week

Today

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am – Cathedral Live Online:

<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>

10.30am – Parish Council

11.00am – All Saints Church, Lawrence

Weekdays

Morning Prayer & Evening Prayer will continue to be said at 8.30am and 5.30pm. **You are welcome to join us any time you are free.** Simply use the following link:
<https://tinyurl.com/edac3xz5>

Cathedral Office 9.00am-4.00pm

Cathedral Bookshop 9.30am-3.30pm

Cathedral OpShop 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cathedral Pantry Mon, Tue & Thr

Wednesday worship 10.00am

Please ensure that we have your email address and mobile number so we can reach out to you with information, news and pastoral support.

If you need pastoral care or other support, please call either Bishop Sarah, Canon Camellia, Father Ian or Deacon Grant.

PLEASE MAINTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF VIGILANCE AND PERSONAL HYGIENE AS WE SEEK TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS

Next Sunday

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am – Cathedral Live Online:

<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/this-sunday>



Please visit the Cathedral web site for the latest news, additional information, and the text of sermons as well as video recordings of many special moments in our life as a faith community:

www.graftoncathedral.org.au