

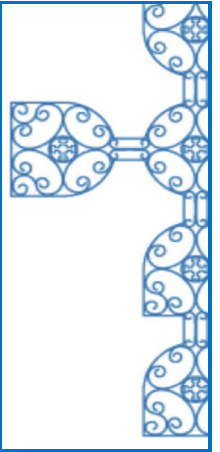
# St Chad's Anglican Church

## The Baptism of our Lord

10 January 2021

### Our Vision

Growing Faith, Building Community, Serving Needs via  
Inspiration! Imagination! Cooperation!



### *✍ Julie's Jottings...*

As we look to a new year of ministry at St Chad's, here are some (perhaps common sense) observations from the Church of England on "The Habits of Growth." In growing parishes there are:

1. Growth-minded priests - Priests who want to see their churches grow and are prepared to lead in this direction. For them, growth is part of their mindset. Their leadership often sees much continuity with previous practices, but they are also prepared to make changes where necessary.
2. Maximising resources – where churches own assets (particularly property) they are actively managed and income is secured where possible – flats are not left empty, rents are reviewed, halls are let out. Even parishes in deprived areas can have a surprising number of property assets. Congregations are also encouraged to give to the church through stewardship campaigns.
3. Building leadership capacity – the priest recognises that they cannot do everything and seeks to encourage volunteering from the congregation, takes on interns where possible, accepts help from retired clergy and recruits staff where resources allow. (We reflect on this point further below).
4. Hospitality – Sunday services are deliberately designed to be welcoming to newcomers, with a well-run service of worship and with visitors being greeted, children and families accommodated and refreshments served at the end.
5. Children welcome – all of the growing churches have activities on Sundays and during the week which are designed for children and young families, including Sunday school, choir clubs and Messy Church.

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## COVID SAFE

The State Government have asked all people to SIGN IN via the QR Code when they enter St Chad's. If you have a smart phone, please use the code at the door. Alternatively, please ensure your name is on the attendance list.

## The Season of Epiphany

The gospels for the Sundays of the Season of Epiphany all include an account of Jesus' manifestation as the Son of God, or as Messiah. Beginning with the magi who see Jesus as the future King, the Sundays include various miracles and events where Jesus shows his glory.

As we read through Mark's Gospel this year, we hear the stories of Jesus' baptism and the witness of the dove and voice from heaven, Jesus calling the disciples and their seemingly instantaneous following, and then the wonderful words of the 'Sermon on the Mount' which is broken into smaller portions each Sunday, before the Season culminates with the story of Jesus' transfiguration on the Sunday before Lent commences. Each story helps us see who Jesus truly is, that the child who was born at Bethlehem is not just an ordinary child, but he is truly God's Son incarnate. Each story also helps us to understand who God calls us to be as followers of Christ and his teaching.

The number of Sundays after Epiphany varies depending on the timing of Easter. This year, Easter falls on April 4 and so we have six Sundays before Ash Wednesday on February 17.

## FIRST READING Genesis 1. 1–5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

*Commentary: This passage answers the question: how did the world come to be? But, being written long before the dawn of modern science, it is obviously not, and cannot be, **scientific** in our terms. Even so, it is valuable. We ask: did life arise when elements in the primeval ooze by pure chance formed DNA? Even if our answer is yes, we maintain that, behind all of creation, is a transcendent being (supernatural and involved in earthly affairs) whom we call God.*

## PSALM 29

## SECOND READING Acts 19. 1–7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in

the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.’ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

*Commentary: The “disciples” of John whom Paul found at Ephesus did not know the scriptures, for the Spirit is mentioned in the Old Testament. They had been baptised into the belief that when we admit our fault and promise to amend our ways (“repentance”), God will forgive us. Paul tells them that the one of whom John spoke, “who was to come after him”, is already here: he is Jesus; in him they should believe – as a natural consequence of following John. They are baptised into the church, and when Paul lays hands on them, are empowered by the Holy Spirit, with particular spiritual gifts (speaking in tongues and prophecy). Apollos and the twelve both come to accept Christ, one through the scriptures and the witness of a couple, the twelve through hearing the good news from Paul and others. We do not know whether Apollos was baptised; he may have been an effective messenger for Christ, perhaps outside the church.*

#### **GOSPEL Mark 1. 4–11**

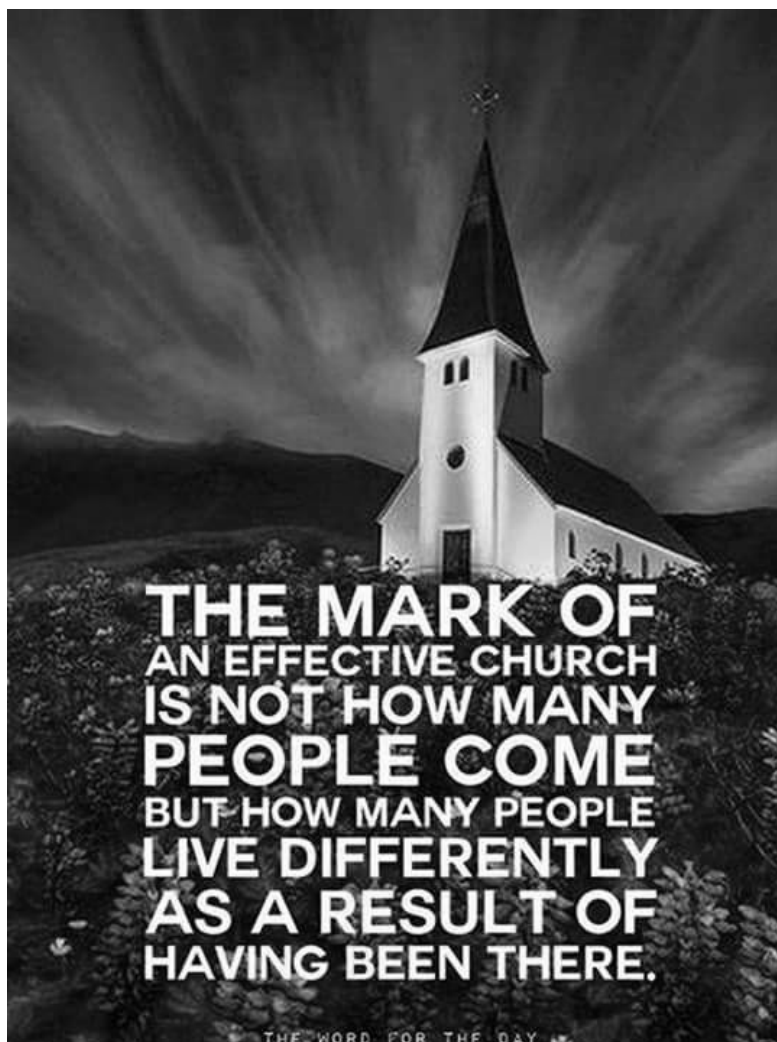
John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

*Commentary: Mark’s gospel begins with the ministry of Jesus. His purpose is not to write a story but to proclaim this mysterious Son of Man—Son of God. In today’s reading, Mark introduces us to the one who has been sent by God to prepare the way of the Lord as Isaiah wrote of him - John the Baptizer. John is the last of the great prophets of the First Testament. Mark is writing not for Jewish readers, but for Romans, hence the detailed description of many Jewish customs. Immediately following Jesus’ baptism, Jesus departs into the wilderness for a time of reflection and fasting before commencing his ministry.*

6. Open to working with local partners – most of these churches work closely with their primary school or a local nursery or are part of Citizens UK (four out of seven of the parishes are members of Citizens UK). They are connected into their local community and work alongside others where there is mutual benefit; they are part of the 'give and take' of local community life.
7. Midweek encounters – all of the churches run or host activities during the week which lead to encounters between the priest and church members and people who are not church-members and where there is the possibility of conversation and relationship. This is more than just letting out the church hall to another group, these are activities with a 'missional mindset', usually serving a local need and with time for conversation. Typical examples are 'stay and play' activities for parents and children, craft clubs and choirs. Such activities ensure that the church is 'porous' through the week – providing scope for people outside of the church community to become involved with it on its 'edges'.

I hope that these reflections, albeit from the Church in England, might stir us as we seek to continue to engage in mission and ministry and to grow, in faith build community, and serve needs in 2021.

*Julie*



## COVID Marshals

In accordance with an SA Government directive  
**John Bryant, Nigel Daw, Gay Gardner, Jeff Oake, Marie Sloan,  
Madeleine Stocks and Julie Worrall**

have completed training and are now accredited  
to oversee the COVID precautionary measures in the parish.

All Parish Councillors have been asked to complete the training to ensure we have more 'hands on deck' when we need them. Parishioners are also invited to be accredited through the online course on the SA Government website.

### **Sunday 24 January at 9.30am - BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING**

Please take an invitation and hand it onto your family and neighbours who have students of any age or are teachers and support staff in any of our schools. We are inviting them to church on Sunday, with their backpack, school bag, briefcase or any significant item they use for school for a special blessing before they prepare to go to school for the first time or return as a 'veteran'.

*This will be the first of our new intergenerational service where we worship together as a parish family, as usual, All Are Welcome!*

### **Sunday 31 January - A "Welcome" to The Revd Jeff Oake**

We all know Jeff but we wanted to make a bit of a special service the start of his new role in the parish. **On Sunday 31 January, we will have a bring a plate breakfast between the services...** that means, those who normally come to 9.30am are asked to come about 8.30 and those who normally come to 8.00am are asked to stay until about 10.00am. We will share breakfast and some fellowship together and have shortened worship times at both 8.00am and 10.00am that day.

### **CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS**

We are trying again... Our centenary celebrations are scheduled for **Sunday 14 February at 4.00pm** followed by drinks in the garden. Invitations will be sent again in the coming week for this new date and hopefully we will be able to welcome the Governor of South Australia and our Archbishop for this wonderful celebration.

**TIME CAPSULE** - If you didn't get a form last week, please collect a form today to take home and consider as we prepare some for our next Time Capsule, which will be buried when we have the service. If you have other ideas of what could be included in the time capsule, please speak to Gay Gardner, Jo Prosser, Marie Sloan, Meriel Wilson or Julie Worrall so they can be gathered in plenty of time.

### **LENT STUDY BOOK**

While I know Lent is still some time away (it doesn't start till 17 February), we are planning some study group using a book called **"Surprise the World!" by Michael Frost**. If you

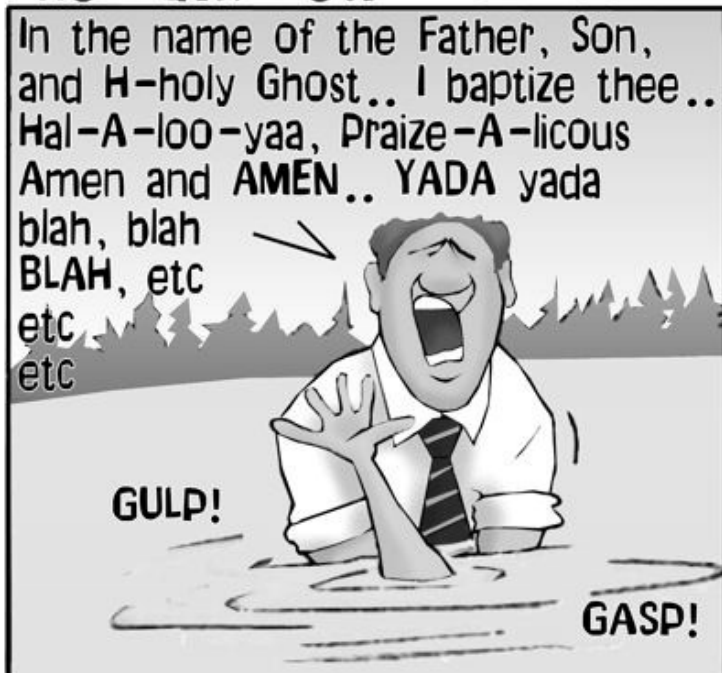
would like a **HARD COPY** of the book (about \$12), please include your name on the list in the narthex. You can also get this as an e-book or as an audio book if you'd prefer to find it online. More details will be available soon about study groups.

**FREE DAILY REFLECTION/MEDITATION** – If you are looking for a daily reflection guide to get you thinking about your relationship with God in a new way, Jeff and Julie recommend Richard Rohr and the Center for Action and Contemplation ([cac.org](http://cac.org)) they can send you a daily reflections and/or podcasts to your inbox.

**A PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN VOICE** - promoting a progressive and engaged Christianity. A Progressive Christian Voice (Australia) is a group of Christians who wish to contribute to public debate by promoting a generous and future-focused understanding of the Christian faith. They have a wide range of articles on contemporary issues and you are invited to become a member of this national group. More information can be found at [www.progressivechristians.org.au](http://www.progressivechristians.org.au)



### The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



**BGC WARNING: Long Prayers & Baptisms don't mix.**



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## *This Week at St Chad's...*

### **January**

**Sunday 10** 8.00am Eucharist

9.30am Eucharist

***Morning tea for Helen Spring and Peter Dutton***

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

*No Eucharist during January*

*Julie at St Barnabas College*

Friday

*Julie's day off*

Saturday

**Sunday 17** 8.00am Eucharist, **Second Sunday after Epiphany**

9.30am Eucharist



## *Prayer Points for this month:*

### *Our Parish:*

We pray for our parish as we celebrate 100 years of ministry in the Fullarton area and for wisdom, creativity, and courage as we look to mission and ministry in the future through St Chad's.

We pray for preparations for students and teachers returning to school and for all young people who wait for the results of their studies or commence new roles and study courses this year.

We pray for everyone who is fearful for the future and anxious about making plans for this coming year.

### *The World:*

We pray for the world as it continues to face the corona virus challenge. We give thanks that Australia is in the position it is and pray for a sense of generosity as we deal with countries who do not have the resources we have to respond.

We pray for the leadership of the world's nations and for all in authority.

We pray for all those fearful of the weather and the dangers that come with it.

### *Our years mind:*

Doris Ledger; Eileen Laurie; Alfre Dick; Barbara Fairbrother; David Mitchell; Lillian Ross; Isabella Heath and Violet Higgs.



## St Chad's Contact Details

**Church Address:** 14 Cheltenham St, Fullarton 5063 (PO Box 306 Highgate 5063)

**Telephone:** 08 8271 4044

**Email:** office@stchads.org.au

**Website:** www.stchads.org.au

**Like us on Facebook:** www.facebook.com/StChadsAdelaide/

**Priest:** Julie Worrall priest@stchads.org.au 0419 779 968

**Priest's Warden:** Gay Gardner: 8271 5236

**People's Warden:** Meriel Wilson: 0414 630 726 (text only)

**Treasurer:** Jenny Goddard: jhokin7@bigpond.com

**Pastoral Care Contact:** Nigel Daw: 0412 756 720

**Prayer Ring:** Wendy Retsas: 0458 779 723

**Parish Recorder (Planned Giving Co-ordinator):** Nigel Daw: 0412 756 720

### Readings & Roster for today - The Baptism of our Lord,

	8.00am	9.30am
Genesis 1.1-5	D Bulloch	---
Acts 19.1-7	I Richards	J Goddard
Mark 1.4-11	J Worrall	J Worrall
Intercessions	L Hallahan	G Hillman
<b>Sides Persons:</b>	J Prosser	C Milne/J Goddard
<b>Welcome:</b>		L Barteletti
<b>Morning Tea:</b>		C Milne/K Oake
<b>Sacristan</b>	M Sloan	G Gardner
	<b>Flowers</b>	

### Readings & Roster for next Sunday - The Second Sunday after Epiphany

	8.00am	9.30am
1 Samuel 3:1-10	M Wilson	---
1 Corinthians 6:12-20	A Barrett	A Clarkson
John 1:43-51	J Worrall	J Worrall
Intercessions	M Sloan	V Clarkson
<b>Sides Persons:</b>	J Prosser	L & J Barteletti
<b>Welcome:</b>		A Clarkson
<b>Morning Tea:</b>		V Clarkson
<b>Sacristan</b>	G Button	C Bryant
	<b>Flowers</b>	

### Sunday Worship:

**8:00am** Prayer Book Communion service followed by morning tea

**9:30am** Informal setting with hymns, songs, communion and activities for children, followed by morning tea.

**Thursdays 10:30am** Morning Prayer with Communion (in recess during January)

**Music lessons** are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday's of the month from 11.15am.

Please be respectful and avoid entering our worship space at this time.