



# ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

## *“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”*



[roseville.unitingchurch.org.au](http://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au)



@530worship



@rosevilleuniting

## ADVENT IS UPON US

This year we're following the tradition of starting advent with a week remembering the prophets; those prophets in the Hebrew scriptures who spoke promises from God that the early Church came to identify as being fulfilled in Jesus, and, in particular, John the Baptist, who himself was identified as the fulfillment of prophecy:

The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God'

As we enter into advent, I always feel that my style of writing fails to do justice to the Mystery of Christmas; it seems to me that the incarnation is a statement of poetry, not of prose. I'd love to write poetry (or rather, I'd love to write poetry that is worth reading!), but the next best thing is to read it. So I've been reading poems about John, and thought I would share this sonnet (I have a particular liking for sonnets...)

Midsummer night, and bonfires on the hill  
Burn for the man who makes way for the Light:  
'He must increase and I diminish still,  
Until his sun illuminates my night.'  
So John the Baptist pioneers our path,  
Unfolds the essence of the life of prayer,  
Unlatches the last doorway into faith,  
And makes one inner space an everywhere.  
Least of the new and greatest of the old,  
Orpheus on the threshold with his lyre,  
He sets himself aside, and cries "Behold  
The One who stands amongst you comes with fire!"  
So keep his fires burning through this night,  
Beacons and gateways for the child of light.

Chris

## Sunday December 1st

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Holy Communion with Chris Goringe**  
**Organist: Robert Bevan**  
*In person and online...*
- 11.00am **Healing & Wholeness Service**
- 5.30pm **Worship Service with Chris Goringe and Sonia Powell**  
*In person and online...*

### Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Jeremiah 33: 14-16  
Psalm 25: 1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13  
Luke 21: 25-36

## What's on this week...

- Tue: Kids Playtime 10.00-11.30am
- Wed: Social Games 1.00-3.00pm
- Fri: Spark 7.00-9.30pm
- Sat: Christmas Party from 5.00pm

## Sunday December 8th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**  
**Organist: Sean Weatherley**  
*In person and online...*
- 11.00am **2nd Cuppa**
- 5.30pm **Worship Service with Chris Goringe and Sonia Powell**  
*In person and online...*

### Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Malachi 3: 1-4  
Luke 1: 68-79  
Philippians 1: 3-11  
Luke 3: 1-6

## Links

[Service live \(or replay\) streaming](#)

[Zoom \(for meetings\)](#)

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

## Upcoming events:

**Saturday 7th December:** Christmas Party at the Powell's from 5.00pm

**Thursday 12th December:** Reflective Christmas 6.00pm

**Sunday 15th December:** Service of Lessons and Carols 9.30am

**Sunday 22nd December:** Shared Meal 5.30pm

**Tuesday 24th December:** Christmas Eve Service 9.00pm

**Wednesday 25th December:** Christmas Day Service 9.30am

## Join us in prayer....

In our small group this week Amanda led us in a deep and very real discussion about prayer. Prayer is such a mystery, and yet we keep praying, each in our different ways, and hopefully learning as we go. May we grow in truth, wisdom, and compassion as we pray – and may God's kingdom come on earth, as in heaven.

One of the prayers that came up in the conversation is a prayer structure that can be helpful for children and adults alike – the "1 teaspoon prayer" – "1TSP". The 1TSP sections are "I love you", "Thank you", "Sorry", "Please". Here is a simple version of a 1TSP prayer for us to pray this week, and please add to this prayer anything that is on own your heart.

God, **we love** you – a small reflection back of your love for us and your love for our world that you created and that you are reconciling to yourself.

God, **we thank** you – for your gifts to us large and small, for the acts of kindness we see in strangers, and for the exciting direction of this church that we talked about in our congregational meeting last weekend.

God, **we are sorry** – we all make mistakes, sometimes deliberately, and as a human race we mess things up on a grand scale. We ask for your forgiveness and for your help to do better.

God, **please** be at work in specific situations we care about. We pray for people struggling with change, loss, and challenge, and for those who care for them. We pray for the coming recruitment effort as our church seeks an additional part-time minister. We pray that as our church looks to install a battery, that this will genuinely help as one small part of a worldwide movement to care for our planet and its climate.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sonia

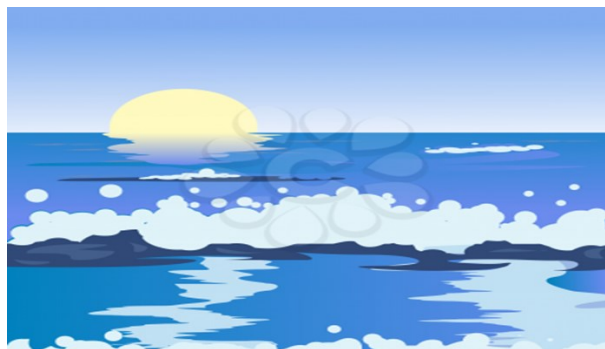
### Christmas Party

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Arrive any time from 5.00pm – 9.00pm

At the Powell's

28 Kitchener Road Artarmon

Bring a plate of finger food to share and something to drink. RSVP (text or email helpful but not essential) Sonia



## SUMMER @ SIX

If you would like to host one of these gatherings during January talk to Chris or Cath.



## Roseville Ministry Contacts

### Office Address

7a Lord Street  
PO Box 44, Roseville 2069

### Church Office

Cath Pinchin 9416 5185  
office@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

**Office Hours** Typically Tue, Wed and Fri

**Website** roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

### Minister

Rev. Dr. Chris Goringe  
0402 012 418

### Congregational Chairperson

Sue Drury

### Direct Giving

Carrick Martin  
0418 978 480

### Asylum Seeker & Refugee Support

Gwyn Denton gwyn@dentons.id.au

### Church Council Chair

Pauline Callan  
0417 419 671

### Church Council Secretary

secretary@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

### Treasurer

treasurer@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

### Safe Church Officer

Di Knowles 9498 4736