

SCOTS' *weekly*

NEWSLETTER OF THE SCOTS' CHURCH MELBOURNE

Friday, 20 December 2024

From the Minister's Desk

Dear friends,

Lou and I are back from our holidays, fresh and ready for the Christmas season. It was a good break, with time in Queensland, followed by a week in Bali (first timers!) and then a few days with our grandchildren visiting us here.

Many thanks to Justin for taking care of things in my absence. I've heard nothing but positive reports.

Tonight (if you're reading this in your Friday email!) we're presenting Handel's magnificent Messiah – in a way, it's presented as our annual gift to the city. If you haven't been for a while, why not come along... and enjoy the new coloured floodlights at the front of the church for some extra Christmas spirit!

This Sunday, it's **Nine Lessons and Carols**. Please remember that the Offering this week (and cash in the Christmas Tree envelopes) will be boosting our support for the Flemington Mission Christmas Appeal. I warmly commend this work to you - see the details below.

On Christmas Eve, Arthur will be leading our 11.30pm service; and I'll be on deck for Christmas Morning at 10am. In keeping with the occasion, my message will be brief, and a little light-hearted, because I know many of you love to take the opportunity to bring family members along who may not be 'in the church habit.' (If you've ever seen "Thank God You're Here" you might catch the word play in my title!)



On **Sunday 29th December**, Arthur will be preaching at both morning and evening services.

The office will be closed across the Christmas-New Year week. If you have any urgent pastoral needs during that time, **don't hesitate to call Arthur on 0468 882 570.**

As our last Friday newsletter for the year, and the wrap up for our fourth year at Scots', **Louise and I wish you the very best of wishes for a blessed Christmas Season as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour.**

We are always mindful of the privilege of serving in your midst.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Phil', written in a cursive style.

Phil Campbell
Senior Minister
The Scots' Church Melbourne

SCOTS' NEW CAR PARKING SYSTEM

As a reminder, we have transitioned to a new free parking system. Please follow the new system outlined below or our video tutorial: <https://youtu.be/565O3e0hzFo>.

Please note that free parking is only available on Sundays.

1. TAP YOUR CREDIT CARD WHEN YOU ENTER THE CARPARK

When you first arrive, tap your credit or debit card at the car park gate. You will not be charged.

2. OBTAIN YOUR VALIDATION RECEIPT



Before you leave the church, collect a validation receipt from the Welcome Desk.

3. SCAN THE VALIDATION RECEIPT AT THE CARPARK BOOM GATE



When you leave the carpark, SCAN THE VALIDATION RECEIPT FIRST.

4. TAP YOUR CREDIT CARD AT THE CARPARK BOOM GATE



AFTER YOU SCAN THE VALIDATION RECEIPT, tap the credit or debit card you used to enter. If the validation receipt has been scanned, you will not be charged.

Exit the car park as normal. If you have problems, use the call button on the unit to speak to an operator.

SCOTS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIARY DATES

Office Closure – The Office will be closed from the 25th December to the 1st January.
Re-opening on the 2nd January

Christmas at Scots'

Sunday 22 December 11am – Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Tuesday 24 December 11.30pm – Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday 25 December 10am – Christmas Day Family Service (No ScotsCity 5pm Service)

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MALCOLM SIMPSON – FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Last week we were saddened to let you know of the death of Malcolm Simpson on 7th December at Blue Cross, Western Gardens, Sunshine. Malcolm and his wife Nan had been members for many years but had been unable to attend for some time due to health issues. Sadly, Nan passed away some three months ago. Our thoughts and prayers are with their son Stephen and his wife Amber, the wider family and their many friends.

Malcolm's funeral will be held at Scots' Church, at 10.30 am on Friday 27 December 2024.



FLEMINGTON MISSION CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Our Mission Committee wants to take this opportunity to remind you of the fantastic work being done in our own backyard by the Flemington Mission. It's a joint activity of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and Scots' Church, though Scots' provides most of the hands and hearts that provide the hours of labour and genuine care for the community. Most weeks, around 100 food hampers are distributed to those in need.

We want to give this great work a Christmas "Boost", so **in conjunction with our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on 22 December, we're going to load up the church Christmas Tree with our cash contributions to the work of the mission in 2024.** Envelopes will be available in the pews and at the welcome desk on Sunday 22 December for you to attach to the tree or place in the offering. The PayWave machines will be configured to receive your special donations too.

SCOTS' ON SUNDAY

10am Prayer

We meet before the morning service in the Westpac Function Room (mezzanine level). All are welcome!

11am service



This will also be streamed live on YouTube.
Please join <https://youtu.be/-YUG0kbnNHU>
or visit scotschurch.com/service-info for details.

11am KidsChurch

Our Kids' Ministry is in recess and will resume on the 2nd February 2025.

3.30pm Book Group

Our Book Group is in recess and will resume in Semester 1 2025

5pm ScotsCity service

Please join us in the Werner Brodbeck Hall (Ground Floor Assembly Hall) next to the main church building.

Freewill Giving

Planned giving, electronically or via envelopes can be arranged with Reception

By electronic transfer to BSB **083 004**, Account number **630 327 585**

By cheque made out to The Scots' Church Melbourne, posted to 1/156 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

By the tap and pay terminal in the foyer. (You can make multiple taps if the preset amount is insufficient.)

By credit card over the phone, telephone the office on 9650 9903 (leave a message and we will call you back)

SCOTS' THROUGH THE WEEK

Tuesday Evening Small Groups

Our Tuesday Small Groups meeting is now in recess and will resume in Semester 1 2025.

Daily Bible Readings

Please join us in reading the bible daily over the course of a year. Here is the chart and we will update it weekly for you.

December 2024				
Saturday 21 Dec.	Joshua 11	Ps. 144	Jer. 5	Matt. 19
Sunday 22 Dec.	Joshua 12-13	Ps. 145	Jer. 6	Matt. 20
Monday 23 Dec.	Joshua 14-15	Ps. 146-147	Jer. 7	Matt. 21
Tuesday 24 Dec.	Joshua 16-17	Ps. 148	Jer. 8	Matt. 22
Wed. 25 Dec.	Joshua 18-19	Ps. 149-150	Jer. 9	Matt. 23
Thursday 26 Dec.	Joshua 20-21	Acts 1	Jer. 10	Matt. 24
Friday 27 Dec.	Joshua 22	Acts 2	Jer. 11	Matt. 25

We thank the Gospel Coalition in Partnership with Crossway for the Daily Devotions list.

Scots' Church Podcast

If you've missed any of our Sunday teaching programs, why not follow our new audio podcast? It's called ScotsCast, and it's available online through Spotify. (Access is free - you won't need an account.) Audio podcasts are excellent when you're driving, exercising, or just have a moment to sit and listen.

Spotify: <https://spoti.fi/3nOFHXP>

Apple Podcast: <https://apple.co/3Paztxa>

How to Contact Us

Telephone and after-hours answering service: 9650 9903 (leave a message if unattended)

Email: reception@scotschurch.com

Website: www.scotschurch.com

Website - St. Stephens and the Mission: www.scotschurch.com/flemington-mission

SCOTS' PRAYER NOTES

Pastoral

- Please pray for those grieving their loved ones, including the family of Malcolm Simpson. Malcolm passed away on December 7th at Blue Cross, Western Gardens, Sunshine. Frances Sykes, who died on December 15th at Kalkee Nursing Home in Belmont, Geelong, and the sudden loss of Bruce Evans' brother-in-law, Douglas Grant, on Tuesday, December 17th in Sydney. May the peace and comfort that only God can provide through His Son, Jesus, be with the bereaved families, relatives, and close friends.
- Please continue to pray for the Lord's strength, comfort, and peace for those mourning their recently departed loved ones. This includes Jill McGillicuddy, who grieves the loss of her dear sister Jaqueline, and Ann Truong, who has recently lost her beloved husband Wayne.
- Also, pray for individuals facing health challenges at home, in rehabilitation, or in aged care facilities, including Barry Kilmartin, Graeme Shaw, Eileen Marshall, Mirella Keast, Lauris Murnane, and Ruth Bath. Give thanks for God's ongoing strength, peace of mind, and swift recovery.
- Please pray for our seniors in the church community, including Rae Anstee, Brenda Johnson, Yvonne Sullivan, Coral Harlock, Jill McGillicuddy, and many others. Pray that their faith in Jesus will bring them joy, strength, and peace.

Shalom

Litha Heshusius