

A celebration of Holy Baptism in Holy Communion



First Sunday After Christmas 29 December 2024

GATHERING AND PREPARATION

The people stand when the Entrance Hymn is announced. **Entrance Hymn**

TIS 313 Good Christians all, rejoice

Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; listen well to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today, ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now! Christ is born today, Christ is born today.

Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you hear of endless bliss, Jesus Christ was born for this; he has opened heaven's door and you are blest for evermore; Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this.

Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save, calls you one and calls you all, to gain his everlasting hall; Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save.

John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt.

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

The priest greets the people in these words:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

There is one Body and one Spirit;

there is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of all.

The priest continues:

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When he had risen from the dead, he commanded his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

We have come together today to obey that command.

Baptism with water signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit. In baptism, the promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us. We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal.

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their children for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their children in the faith and practice of the Church. In due time these children should make their own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

So we welcome you, Chloe & Harriet with your sponsors (Godparents) and family. We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know God's love and faithfulness for ever.

The priest says:

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confirm that we need forgiveness. Let us pray.

A pause for reflection.

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image.

Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death.

Rescue us from slavery to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

The priest says:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and keep you in life eternal. Amen.

The Hymn of Praise (Gloria in excelsis)

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, In the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

The Collect

The priest says: Let us pray

God of community,

whose call is more insistent than ties of family or blood: may we so respect and love those whose lives are linked with ours

that we fail not in loyalty to you, but make choices according to you will; thorough Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

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

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord from heaven:
 - O praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all his angels:
 - O praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon:
 - praise him, all you stars of light.
- 4 Praise him, you highest heaven:
 - and you waters that are above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
 - for he commanded and they were made.
- 6 He established them for ever and ever:
 - he made an ordinance which shall not pass away.
- 7 O praise the Lord from the earth:
 - praise him, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, mist and snow:
 - and storm-wind fulfilling his command;
- 9 Mountains and all hills:
 - fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts of the wild, and all cattle:
 - creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples:
 - princes, and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens:
 - old folk and children together.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
 - for his name alone is exalted.
- 14 His glory is above earth and heaven:
 - and he has lifted high the horn of his people.
- 15 Therefore he is the praise of all his servants:
 - of the children of Israel, a people that is near him. Praise the Lord.

Second Reading Colossians 3.12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

All stand for the Gospel reading.

The Gospel

Luke 2.41-52

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia, alleluia, 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.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great

anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon: The Very Reverend Naomi Cooke

THE PRESENTATION

The priest invites the sponsors of the candidates to present them

We welcome Chloe & Harriet who have come to be baptised. I invite their sponsors to present them now.

The sponsors answer:

We present Chloe to be baptised.

We present Harriet to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing these children for baptism?

We will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of these children?

We are.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage these children in the life and faith of the Christian community?

We will, with God's help.

THE DECISION

The priest says to the sponsors:

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

Sponsors I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen**.

The priest continues:

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with all your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

The priest says to the congregation:

You have heard these, our brothers and sisters respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers:

We will.

The priest says Let us pray

Grant, merciful God, that these children may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in them. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in them. **Amen**.

Give to these children's sponsors and family the desire to share with them what you have revealed in your holy gospel. **Amen**.

May they know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May they proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ. **Amen**.

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ. **Amen**.

THE BAPTISM

The priest comes to the place where the water for baptism is, and begins the thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom, and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks, that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom.

Thanks be to God.

The priest continues:

And now we give you thanks that you have called Chloe & Harriet to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that they who are to be baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May they die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

The priest says to the baptismal sponsors. (Godparents and Parents)

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

The priest says to the congregation:

This is the faith of the Church.

The congregation responds:

This is our faith:

We believe in one God:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The priest baptises Chloe saying:

Chloe Gisela, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The priest baptises Harriet saying:

Harriet Grace, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

AFTER BAPTISM

When the child has been baptised, the priest makes a cross on her forehead, saying:

Chole/Harriet, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Live as a disciple of Christ:

fight the good fight,

finish the race,

keep the faith.

and the congregation responds, saying:

Confess Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, look for his coming in glory.

The priest says:

God has brought you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

The congregation responds:

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

The priest continues:

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation responds:

We therefore receive and welcome you as a member with us of the body of Christ, as a child of the one heavenly Father, and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

All stand

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Greeting of Peace is exchanged.

Offertory Hymn:

TIS 328 Joseph, your love of life

Joseph, your love of life brought an engagement promise to love and share your life with Mary; thus did great Love come from the love between you: God with us, Jesus.

Joseph, you stayed with Mary, strangely pregnant; fears fled when in a dream god's holy anger told you to cherish wisdom born of Mary, naming him Jesus.

Joseph, your son's birth, hidden in a cow-shed, left only you as midwife for the birthing. You helped and guarded Mary as she laboured. bringing us Jesus.

Joseph, your anxious caring set you dreaming, dreams full of warning, dreams of death and danger, Trusting your spirit, you were quick and acted, saving your Jesus.

Joseph, you loving presence and protection prompted you son to share with his disciples his name for love most freeing, deep and faithful: 'Abba, dear father'.

Joseph, your spirit gives us hope and vision when life is crisis, chaos, or destruction: may we, like you, find, growing up among us,

Christ's loving presence.

Patrick George Michaels (1954)

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 priest says

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, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

In your Word made flesh

you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,

to give knowledge of your glory

in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

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 neverending praise:

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

The Lord's Prayer

The priest says: As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread and says:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

All the children of God have a place at God's Table. Anyone who would normally receive Holy Communion in their own Christian tradition is welcome to receive the Sacrament(bread & wine) with us here today. Those who prefer to receive a personal blessing from the priest rather than Holy Communion are invited to come forward and simply cross their arms in front of them so the clergy know their desire. Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

Communion Music

Of the Father's love begotten — Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The priest says:

God of heaven, dwelling among us, we thank you for feeding us with this holy food. By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh that as his body in the world we may bring your presence to all people.

All say together:

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.

Notices

Mission Hymn

TIS 290 Of the Father's love begotten

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessèd when the virgin, full of grace, by the Spirit's power conceiving bore the saviour of our race, and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers and sages sang of old with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word; now he shines, the long-expected: let creation praise its Lord evermore and evermore.

In the heights of heaven adore him, angel hosts his praises sing, all dominions bow before him and extol our God and king; let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice together sing evermore and evermore.

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius 348-c.413tr. John Mason Neale, Henry Williams Baker and others

THE BLESSING

All stand.

The priest then blesses the congregation:

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

The priest says:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

Corde Natus — Philip Moore (1943-)

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The Interment of the Ashes of Brian & Sue Holley

Family & friends please proceed out to the Memorial Gardens.



Grace and peace from the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,

and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

John 11.25-26

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38-39

The minister may say

God our creator, giver of life and all that is good and true, we thank you for the life of your servants, Brian & Sue. Preserve among us the good of their example, and keep us in the way of truth, until we come to your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

As the ashes are interred in a prepared place, the minister says

God our Father,

in loving care your hand has created us,

and as the potter fashions the clay you have formed us in your image.

Through the Holy Spirit you have breathed into us the gift of life.

In the sharing of love you have enriched our knowledge of you and of one another.

We claim your love today, as we commit these remains of Brian & Sue to their resting place, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life.

The congregation may join with the minister in saying

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

The minister reads these verses of Scripture.

Listen, I will tell you a mystery!

We will not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15.51–53

THE PRAYERS

The minister says

God of hope, grant that we, with all who have believed in you, may be united in the full knowledge of your love and the unclouded vision of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

2 Corinthians 13.14



TAIZE PRAYER SERVICES

8.30AM FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Grafton Cathedral



Cathedral Parish Directory			
<u>www.graftoncathedral</u> .org.au			
Dean	The Very Reverend Naomi Cooke dean@graftoncathedral.org.au	0404 137 149	
Deacon	The Reverend Grant Sparks deacon@graftoncathedral.org.au	0418 995 535	
Licenced Lay Minister	Mrs Robyn Vicary robyn.vicary@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 2844 u	
Director of Music	Mr Robert Eather music@graftoncathedral.org.au	0458 093 292	
Parish Office	Ms Linda Butler parishoffice@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 2844	
	Parish Office reopening January	13	
Cathedral	bookshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 3958	
Bookshop	Bookshop reopening January 21		
Cathedral	Ms Linda Butler	02 6642 2844	
OpShop	OpShop reopening January 13		
Prayers for those in need			
Joy Baldwin Sue Cotter Gail Gilmore Allen Madden Margaret Kay Amy McArdle	Ruth Kingsley John McAnally Elaine Stephenson Roy Ford John McFarlane	Kay Metcalfe Mervyn Kingsley Aneta Jones Grace Clague Kahla Clague	

Remembering those who have died

Recently Departed: Margaret Kay

Year's Mind: Clemency Purvis, Elaine Wade, David Maunder, John Moorhead,

Barbara Donovan, David Pereira, Peggy Scott, Doreen Grebert & Beryl Power

CHRISTMAS CLOSING TIMES

PARISH OFFICE – Closing 5.00pm Monday 23 Dec, opening 8.30am Monday 13 Jan OPSHOP – Closing 4.00pm Friday 20 Dec, opening 10.00am Monday 13 Jan BOOKSHOP – Closing 3.30pm Friday 20 Dec, opening 9.30am Tuesday 21 Jan

Around the Parish this Week	
Today	FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 9.00am – Cathedral Live & Online: www.graftoncathedral.org.au/livestream
Weekdays	There will be no Wednesday services until February 2025. There will also be no regular Morning & Evening Prayer in the Cathedral or via Zoom.
	Please ensure that we have your email address and mobile number so we can reach out to you with information, news and pastoral support.
Next Sunday	THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD 9.00am – Cathedral Live & Online: www.graftoncathedral.org.au/livestream
Birthdays this coming week	Happy birthday to: Betty Gilbert & Dianne Foulstone Happy Wedding Anniversary to David & Dianne Foulstone
	Cathedral Prayer

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.