

## Christmas Devotion

### The Comings of Christ

The Christmas story.... A baby changed the course of human history, many missed the true meaning of Christmas, some Jews missed their Messiah, many like us get so busy we missed the important message and others missed it completely because they leave out or do not have the baby at all... Are you engaging with the story of Christmas?

The Christmas story is ...

Is history ..... Is His story ...

Whose story? Christ's story ....

The story begins.....Sshh shh sshh...

There is a new born baby in the manger....

Ssh sshh sshh The waiting is over...

'God is with us...Emmanuel'. He came 2000 years ago...

#### The Prophecy – The First Coming

*"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you."* Isaiah 60:1-2

*For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end.* Isaiah 9:6

#### The birth of baby Jesus foretold

*God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be*

*great and will be called the Son of the Most High. ...His kingdom will never end." "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ... For no word from God will ever fail." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her. Luke 1: 26-35, 37-38*

#### The Birth of Jesus

*In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. Luke 2:1,3*

*So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger. Luke 2:4-7*

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

*All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (God with us). Matt 1:22*

This is only part one

Part two is coming.... More waiting...

Have you heard?

#### Jesus' second coming

*He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority... After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently*

*up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking in to the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:7, 9-11*

Prophecy by the prophet Joel:

*"In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.  
Even on my servants,  
both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.  
I will show wonders in the heavens  
above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.  
The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the coming of the great and  
glorious day of the Lord.  
And everyone who calls on the name  
of the Lord will be saved.'*

Acts 2:17-21

The Advent Season is a reminder to us of Jesus' coming, he came as a baby in the first advent and stepped into human history with us. He will be coming again as the King of Glory in the second advent and we wait in anticipation for his return. The theme of 'Someone is Coming' in both advents has already been foretold many thousands of years ago in prophecies.

His story continues... the King of Glory...Our Lord Jesus Christ is coming!

This Christmas I invite you to take time out and engage with the Christmas story and find out where you fit in in His story...

His story... The gift of salvation... is the Christmas story.

Chew Nang, Pastoral Care Worker



### From the General Manager

Once again Christmas is upon us as we remember the reason we celebrate the birth of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ.

We have had an eventful year with the appointment of many new staff to care for the increasing number of residents. We still have a few vacancies for permanent residents, if you are aware of anyone requiring a place; please refer enquiries to our Reception staff on 9795 7566.

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting and Annual Village Resident's meeting was held on the 18th November 2017. It was encouraging to hear of God's ongoing blessings to our Association and Village over the past year.

### Celebration

We are celebrating Christmas with parties being held for the residents in the different areas of the facility as well as a staff Christmas party on 8th of December which was enjoyed by all.

### Volunteers

An afternoon tea was prepared by our Leisure and Lifestyle staff for the many volunteers who assist us throughout the year. They were presented with a gift and a Certificate of Appreciation to show our appreciation for the work they do. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Georgina on 9795 7566.

On behalf of the Management and Staff, I would like to wish you all a Blessed Christmas and New Year. Thank you for your support since I started in this role in April and I ask for your continued prayers for 2018.

**Dirk Schurink**

*The Management and Staff at Outlook Gardens  
would like to wish you all a  
Happy Christmas  
and best wishes for 2018!*



### From the Residential Services Manager

I would like to take this opportunity to pass on our best wishes to our residents and their families during the festive season. We hope you find great happiness by sharing the most important things in life and all that you love.

Soon 2017 will be behind us and on reflection it was a very busy and challenging year. We had two unannounced accreditation visits, which went very well. We greatly appreciate the positive comments that were given by residents and families to the accreditation agency. Our services are designed to serve the community and we appreciate your feedback and support.

In the Aged Care industry, it is a challenge to recruit and retain staff. A number of our long serving team members retired this year and other staff members left to seek new opportunities after completing further study.

We expect a few challenges in 2018 as the Australian Government will be changing the Accreditation Process and Funding Instrument for Aged Care. As per our efforts throughout previous years, we will endeavour to overcome these challenges and provide what is required.

In the past few months we successfully implemented a new software system 'Manad' that enables us to manage resident's records more efficiently.

Congratulations to staff member: Raijelli Billing on the news of her pregnancy with her second son due February 2018. Congratulations also to staff members who are completing further study, furthering both their knowledge and experience in Aged Care.

We are very grateful to our volunteers that come to the facility to visit residents. This can make this period of festivity even more enjoyable for those who don't have their loved ones near them. We would like to extend an invitation for even more volunteers to come and visit. If this is you, we'd like to hear from you!

And finally, if families have questions about their loved one's care, please do not hesitate to email [nursing@outlookgardens.com.au](mailto:nursing@outlookgardens.com.au) or call us on 9795 7566.

**Inna Emelianova**





# Aged Care Happenings



Outing to  
A Touch of Dutch  
in Berwick



Men's  
end of  
year  
BBQ



Sinterklaas came to visit



Thank you  
to all our  
wonderful  
volunteers!



# Village News



During the month of November, we rejoiced with Anne Suk on her 95th birthday and to Helen Schrijver on her 94th birthday. Congratulations to both of these lovely ladies.

In September we enjoyed an outing overlooking the bay at the beautiful Mornington Golf Club. Then in November, we went to Wings & Fins Restaurant where we could dine on lovely food and take in the spectacular views of Westernport Bay and French Island or watch the aircraft come and go from Tooradin Airport. Both were good memorable times together.

Our kiosk, which is open every Thursday morning will close on 14th December and re-opens 18th January 2018.

The last Monday weekly carpet bowls activity is on 18th December and will resume on 15th January 2018.

The Community Centre Committee wishes the Village Residents, Aged Care Facility Residents & Staff a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful new year.

Janny, Nel and Barbara.



## The Podiatrist

is at Outlook Gardens on  
16th January,  
27th February,  
24th April,  
5th June  
Bookings can be made through Reception.  
Ph. 9795 7566

## Merry Christmas from the Laundry staff!



If Residents get new clothes for Christmas, please remember to leave them at Reception for labelling.

If Residents are missing any clothing items, please come and check the lost property collection.



## Seasons Greetings from the hairdressers

**Melina** will be working on 19, 20, 27 Dec, 3 Jan and back to normal on 9 January.

**Alex** will be working on 21 Dec and then back to normal schedule on

Reception and Administration will be closed on Christmas day, Boxing day and New Years Day.

Looking forward to another great year in 2018.



## Pastorally Speaking

A warm welcome to all our newly settled residents in both the Aged care facility and the village, we pray that your new environment can be a place of community where you can make new friends and neighbours.

We extend our greetings to all respite residents who are staying with us. We hope that your time here is enjoyable and that our community is a blessing to you.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to all who are struggling with ill health, may God be your source of strength through this challenging time.

Our condolences and prayers go out to all the residents in the community, their families and friends who are grieving for the loss of love ones. May you all be comforted by our loving God's love, peace and strength throughout this sorrowful time. We are thinking of the families of Cornelis van Leeuwen, Dale Oorloff and Ken Carr.

## "Are you ready for Christmas?"

*"Ready for Christmas," she said with a sigh  
As she gave a last touch to the gifts piled high...  
Then wearily sat for a moment AND READ  
Till soon, very soon, she was nodding her head.  
Then quietly spoke a voice in her dream,  
"Ready for Christmas, what do you mean?"  
She woke with a start and a cry of despair.  
"There's so little time and I've still to prepare.  
Oh, Father! Forgive me, I see what You mean!  
Yes, more than the giving of gifts and a tree.  
It's the heart swept clean that He wanted to see,  
A heart that is free from bitterness and sin.  
So be ready for Christmas - and ready for Him.*

*(Taken from girlfriendsingod.com)*

**Chew Nang, Pastoral Care Worker**