



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

15 December 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST

## Zephaniah 3:14-20 (NLT)

<sup>14</sup> Sing, O daughter of Zion;  
shout aloud, O Israel!  
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> For the LORD will remove his hand of  
judgment  
and will disperse the armies of your  
enemy.  
And the LORD himself, the King of Israel,  
will live among you!  
At last your troubles will be over,  
and you will never again fear disaster.

<sup>16</sup> On that day the announcement to  
Jerusalem will be,  
“Cheer up, Zion! Don’t be afraid!”

<sup>17</sup> For the LORD your God is living among  
you.  
He is a mighty saviour.  
He will take delight in you with gladness.  
With his love, he will calm all your fears.  
He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.”

<sup>18</sup> “I will gather you who mourn for the  
appointed festivals;  
you will be disgraced no more.

<sup>19</sup> And I will deal severely with all who have  
oppressed you.  
I will save the weak and helpless ones;  
I will bring together  
those who were chased away.  
I will give glory and fame to my former  
exiles,  
wherever they have been mocked and  
shamed.

<sup>20</sup> On that day I will gather you together  
and bring you home again.  
I will give you a good name, a name of  
distinction,  
among all the nations of the earth,  
as I restore your fortunes before their very  
eyes.  
I, the LORD, have spoken!”

## Philippians 4:4-7(NLT)

<sup>4</sup> Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it  
again—rejoice!

<sup>5</sup> Let everyone see that you are considerate  
in all you do. Remember, the Lord is  
coming soon.

<sup>6</sup> Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray  
about everything. Tell God what you need,  
and thank him for all he has done.

<sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God’s peace,  
which exceeds anything we can  
understand. His peace will guard your  
hearts and minds as you live in Christ  
Jesus.

## Other Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 12:2-6

Luke 3:7-18



## JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world; the Lord is come;  
Let Earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry Heart prepare him room,  
And Heav'n and nature sing. X3

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns,  
Let men their Songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy. X3

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found. X3

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love. X3 ~ Isaac Watts

Joy is the holy fire that keeps our purpose  
warm and our intelligence aglow. ~ Helen Keller

Joy is not in things; it is in us. ~ Richard Wagner

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus



### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Peter Battle, who is unwell.
- We pray for the people who find Christmas a time of sadness or isolation.
- We give thanks for Jesus' coming.
- We pray for the members of our Parish, and of the other Tamworth Parishes, who are unwell or recovering from injuries at the moment.
- We pray for all of the children who will receive an Operation Christmas Child box, and for their families and communities.

### Meg's Musings

At the moment our house is a hive of activity as our bathroom was demolished, and is being renovated so that it is usable for Laurie when he returns home.

On Monday we were without water for several hours.

On Tuesday the electricity was off for a few hours.

These are minor inconveniences in the big scheme of things - but a reminder of how much we rely on "the basics".

There is one "basic" that we can always rely on - God.

He never gets turned off, or disappears. He is there for us - yesterday, today and forever.

*Blessing from Meg*



Don't let the past steal the present. This is the message of Christmas:

We are never alone.

~ Taylor Caldwell

**22 December 11am Peel Valley Christmas Service** at West Tamworth.



**24 December 7:30pm Family Christmas Service** at Tamworth City



**24 December 11pm Midnight Communion Christmas Serviced** at Southside.

**25 December 9am Christmas Day Service** at Southside.

**Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville**

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.



### LET THERE BE KINDNESS AT CHRISTMAS

Let there be kindness at Christmas, for one and all,

Let others know the dove of peace has come to call.

Let others see that with you, Christmas can be kind,

Leave spoonful of joyfulness for others to find.

Distribute your smiles, let them float to those around,

So when the smiles reaches them, happiness is found.

Let there be understanding at Christmas this year,

Let others know that your forgiveness is now here.

Let others see that with you, hate does not belong,

That with you, they will once more find hope and feel strong.

Open up your heart, and let them know that you care,

And that when tomorrow comes, you will still be there.

~ © Jenny Maryl



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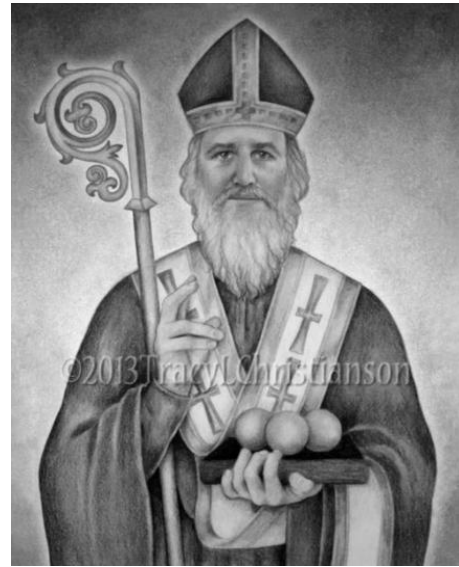
As the festive season approaches, one iconic figure emerges from the pages of history to warm our hearts - Saint Nicholas. Beyond the jolly red suit and snowy white beard, the story of Saint Nicholas weaves a rich tapestry that transcends time, connecting us to the true spirit of Christmas. The legend and the man behind the magic.

**The Origins of Saint Nicholas:** Saint Nicholas, born in the 3rd century in the coastal town of Patara, in what is now Turkey, was an early Christian bishop. Raised in a devout Christian family, he inherited a substantial fortune upon the death of his parents. Known for his kindness and generosity, Saint Nicholas became a legendary figure during his lifetime, earning a reputation for secret gift-giving, particularly to those in need.

**The Most Famous Act of Kindness:** One of the most famous stories associated with Saint Nicholas recounts his secret gift-giving to three impoverished sisters. Lacking dowries, the sisters faced a bleak future. Moved by compassion, Saint Nicholas tossed three bags of gold through their window during the night, ensuring they had the means to marry. This selfless act became the cornerstone of his legacy as the patron saint of children, sailors, and, of course, gift-giving.

Saint Nicholas's legacy continued to grow, and his reputation as a miracle worker and protector spread throughout the Christian world.

~ stakora



**Peel Valley Congregation .....**  
**19 January, 2025 Country Gospel**  
**Breakfast at Hallsville.**

Peel Valley Congregation in recess til .....

**26 January 11am West~ Rev Sam Sadrata**



**PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION**

Our goal: "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Minister: Rev Geoff Flynn 0421 338 202

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush



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# Joyful Journey to Serenity

Try to decode the message. Each letter in the phrase has been replaced with a random number. The message is based on *Philippians 4:4-9*.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1				5			8				12								20						

18 05 10 15 09 03 05    09 14    20 08 05

12 15 18 04    01 12 23 01 25 19

19 05 05 11    16 05 01 03 05

## Heavenly Word Hunt Word Search

Solve the puzzle with the word bank below. Puzzle based on *Philippians 4:4-*

A B C D R E J O I C E E F  
 I J K L M N P R A Y E R O  
 R S T U V W E C A E P X Y  
 B C D E F G H L O R D I J  
 M N O P Q A L W A Y S R S  
 V W X Y Z S K N A H T A B  
 E F G H I G U A R D S J K  
 N O P Q R T H I N K S T U

**LORD    GUARDS    REJOICE**  
**PRAYER    ALWAYS    THANKS    THINK**  
**PEACE**

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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