FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Carols Service

6pm Sunday 29 November 2026

CHURCH 17 HILL 88 ANGLICAN SYDNEY



Fear not

for I AM with you

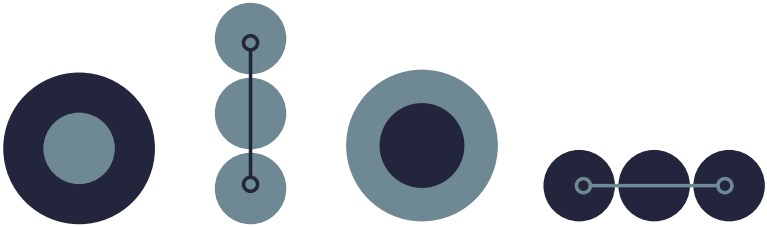
Welcome to Church Hill

6pm Sunday 29th November 2026

CHURCH · HILL · St. Philip's ANGLICAN

For all information on the life of our church and city, plus links to our Online Connect Card and other forms and more, scan the QR code or go to **https://linktr.ee/churchhillanglican**.

Keep up to date by subscribing to our weekly news email at: **bit.ly/churchhillnews**



Growing In Growing Up Growing Out Growing Through

By 2030, by the grace of God, Church Hill Anglican will be:

Growing In vibrant community.
Growing Up into maturity in Christ.
Growing Out with impact for the Kingdom.
Growing Through generational renewal.

PRAYER FOCUS

Galeas in Malta

Carols at the Pub

SRE at The Con *Christmas Seminar 7 December*

Vulnerable children and families living in poverty *And the work of Compassion*

Church Hill giving *Give thanks for all offertories made during the week, pray for wise governance.*

BIDDING PRAYERS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Please stand when the ministers come in

In the name of God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, we welcome you: grace to you and peace.

As we meet to celebrate anew the coming of God's kingdom, we hear revealed the mystery of God's loving purpose for us – how that when we were far off, he met us in his Son and brought us home; how he humbled himself to take our human nature, that we might share his divine glory.

Let us then so celebrate this coming with our carols and hymns of praise, that our lives may be charged with his life; that we may bear witness to his glory and so bring light to those who sit in darkness. So first we pray for all who at this time especially need his pity and protection: the sick in body, mind or spirit; those who suffer from loss of dignity or loss of hope; those who face the future with fear, or walk in the shadow of death.

May God, of his grace and mercy, grant to all his people a new trust in his good providence and a new obedience to his sovereign word, for to him is most justly due all glory, honour, worship and praise, world without end.

Please be seated or kneel

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

My brothers and sisters, we enter today the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Supper, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ.

Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

READING 1

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. [2] Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
[3] And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. [4] God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. [5] God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

Please stand

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

1. 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, and have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

2. O that birth for ever blessed
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving
Bore the saviour of our race,
And the babe, the world's redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore.

3. 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.

4. 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 in concert sing,
Evermore and evermore.

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
Aurelius Clemens Prudentius 348-c 413
Tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66
Henry Williams Baker 1827-77 and others
Public Domain

Please be seated

READING 2

Psalm 43

[1] Vindicate me, my God,
and plead my cause
against an unfaithful nation.
Rescue me from those who are
deceitful and wicked.
[2] You are God my stronghold.
Why have you rejected me?
Why must I go about mourning,
oppressed by the enemy?
[3] Send me your light and your faithful care,
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy mountain,
to the place where you dwell.
[4] Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my joy and my delight.
I will praise you with the lyre,
O God, my God.

[5] Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Saviour and my God.

Please stand

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

3. O come, thou key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery.

4. O come, thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.

5. O come, thou day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

VENI EMMANUEL
Anon., Latin c. 13th cent.
Tr. John Mason Neale (1818-66)
Public Domain

Please be seated

READING 3

Psalm 97

The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad;
let the distant shores rejoice.
2 Clouds and thick darkness surround him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
3 Fire goes before him
and consumes his foes on every side.
4 His lightning lights up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.
5 The mountains melt like wax before the Lord,
before the Lord of all the earth.
6 The heavens proclaim his righteousness,
and all peoples see his glory.

7 All who worship images are put to shame,
those who boast in idols—
worship him, all you gods!

8 Zion hears and rejoices
and the villages of Judah are glad
because of your judgments, Lord.
9 For you, Lord, are the Most High over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
10 Let those who love the Lord hate evil,
for he guards the lives of his faithful ones
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
11 Light shines on the righteous
and joy on the upright in heart.
12 Rejoice in the Lord, you who are righteous,
and praise his holy name.

Please stand

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

2. Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

3. Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

HYFRYDOL
Charles Wesley, 1707-88
Public Domain

Please be seated

READING 4

Isaiah 60

"Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
2 See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
3 Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

4 "Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.
5 Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
6 Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.
7 All Kedar's flocks will be gathered to you,
the rams of Nebaioth will serve you;
they will be accepted as offerings on my altar,
and I will adorn my glorious temple.

8 "Who are these that fly along like clouds,
like doves to their nests?
9 Surely the islands look to me;
in the lead are the ships of Tarshish,
bringing your children from afar,
with their silver and gold,
to the honour of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendour.

10 "Foreigners will rebuild your walls,
and their kings will serve you.
Though in anger I struck you,
in favour I will show you compassion.
11 Your gates will always stand open,
they will never be shut, day or night,
so that people may bring you the wealth of the nations—
their kings led in triumphal procession.

[12] For the nation or kingdom that will not serve you will perish;
it will be utterly ruined.

[13] "The glory of Lebanon will come to you,
the juniper, the fir and the cypress together,
to adorn my sanctuary;
and I will glorify the place for my feet.
[14] The children of your oppressors will come bowing before you;
all who despise you will bow down at your feet
and will call you the City of the Lord,
Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

[15] "Although you have been forsaken and hated,
with no one traveling through,
I will make you the everlasting pride
and the joy of all generations.
[16] You will drink the milk of nations
and be nursed at royal breasts.
Then you will know that I, the Lord, am your Saviour,
your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.
[17] Instead of bronze I will bring you gold,
and silver in place of iron.
Instead of wood I will bring you bronze,
and iron in place of stones.
I will make peace your governor
and well-being your ruler.
[18] No longer will violence be heard in your land,
nor ruin or destruction within your borders,
but you will call your walls Salvation
and your gates Praise.
[19] The sun will no more be your light by day,
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you,
for the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.
[20] Your sun will never set again,
and your moon will wane no more;
the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your days of sorrow will end.
[21] Then all your people will be righteous
and they will possess the land forever.
They are the shoot I have planted,
the work of my hands,
for the display of my splendour.
[22] The least of you will become a thousand,
the smallest a mighty nation.
I am the Lord;
in its time I will do this swiftly."

Choir

THE ANGEL GABRIEL

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary',
Most highly favoured lady,
Gloria!

2. 'For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
Most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
Most highly favoured lady,
Gloria!

4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady'.
Gloria!

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE
Basque carol paraphrased by Sabine Baring-Gould 1834-1924
Public Domain

READING 5

Revelation 1:1-20

The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, [2] who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. [3] Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

[4] John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, [5] and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, [6] and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

[7] "Look, he is coming with the clouds,"
and "every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him";
and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him."

So shall it be! Amen.

[8] "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

[9] I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. [10] On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, [11] which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

[12] I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, [13] and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. [14] The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. [15] His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. [16] In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

[17] When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. [18] I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

[19] "Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. [20] The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Please stand

ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake, and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the king of kings.

2. Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
Make straight the way for God within;
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
Where such a mighty guest may come.

3. For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.

4. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth and let thy light restore
Earth's own true loveliness once more.

5. All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent doth thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

WINCHESTER NEW
C. Coffin. Translated J. Chandler and Compilers
Public Domain

Please be seated

READING 6

Luke 12:35–40

35 "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, 36 like servants waiting for
their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they
can immediately open the door for him. 37 It will be good for those servants whose master
finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have
them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. 38 It will be good for those servants
whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward
daybreak. 39 But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the
thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40 You also must be ready,
because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

SERMON

Rev. Justin Moffatt

Do Not Be Afraid Of Jesus

Please stand

THE KING SHALL COME WHEN MORNING DAWNS

1. The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light triumphant breaks;
When beauty gilds the eastern hills,
And life to joy awakes.

2. Not as of old, a little child
To bear, and fight, and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun,
That lights that morning sky

3. O, brighter than the rising morn,
When he, victorious rose,
And left the lonesome place of death,
Despite the rage of foes;—

4. O, brighter than that glorious morn,
Shall this fair morning be,
When Christ, our King, in beauty comes,
And we his face shall see.

5. The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light and beauty brings;
Hail! Christ the Lord; thy people pray
Come quickly, King of kings.

MORNING SONG/DARE
John Brownlie
Public Domain

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.

Come, O Lord, comfort the souls of your servants.
Even so, Lord, come.

O Lord Jesus Christ, come
at evening time, with light,

and in the morning, with your glory,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

He who receives our prayers says:

Surely, I come quickly.
I am the root and offspring of David,
I am the bright and morning star.
Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

As we await our coming Saviour,

go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please wait until the ministers leave

Church Hill Christmas Events Calendar

For all the details for these events head to ***www.churchhillanglican.com/whats-on***

Sunday 29 November	Advent Carols Service	6pm at St Philip's Church
Monday 30 November	Carols at the Pub	5:30 for 6:30pm at The Hero of Waterloo
Wednesday 2 December	Women's Weekly	10:30am at The Garrison Church
Sunday 6 December	City Care Christmas Lunch	Set up from 12pm at St Philip's Church
Sunday 13 December	Community Carols	4pm at The Garrison Church
	The 8:30am service at St Philip's will be the only other service on 13 December	
Sunday 20 December	Lessons and Carols Service	6pm at St Philip's Church
CHRISTMAS EVE	Thursday 24 December *4pm BORN IS THE KING at The Garrison Church* *8pm Holy Communion; 11pm Carols By Candlelight at St Philip's Church*	
CHRISTMAS DAY	Friday 25 December *9:30am Holy Communion at St Philip's Church* *9:30am Christmas Family Service at The Garrison Church*	

NOTICES

Rivendell 2027

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Rivendell, Church Hill Anglican's annual weekend away is a time of peace, community and restoration. Friday 26 to Sunday 28 February 2027 at The Collaroy Centre. The link for Rivendell 2027 Registrations can be found in Church Hill Links.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

Acknowledging that all people are made in the image of God and loved by him, we are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children. We:

1. listen to children,
2. treat them with respect, and
3. identify risks early to prevent harm.

Giving

Taking your place in the life of this church (financially)

If you belong to and benefit from Church Hill, please take your part in contributing financially to the ministry of the church in this city. The most intentional way to give is to give online, to the bank account listed below. To set up a direct payment from your credit card, complete the form by scanning this QR code.

CHURCH HILL GIVING ACCOUNT

Account Name: **Church Hill Anglican**
BSB: **032000** Account No: **810878**
Reference: **Giving + your service**
(8:30am/10:30am/4pm/6pm)

CURRENT OFFERTORIES

August 2026:	$51,793 (Budget $55,343)
September 2026:	$51,530 (Budget $55,343)
October 2026:	$58,713 (Budget $55,343)
YTD 2026:	**$541,206 (Budget $553,430)**

Useful Information

PARKING

Limited visitor parking on the northern side of St Philip's can be accessed from Clarence Street. Free parking is available on Sundays in the underground car park at No. 1 York Street for swipe card holders. Entry via Clarence Street, from 7:30am to 10:00pm each Sunday. Contact the Church Hill office to order a swipe card.

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO PARKING AT 1 YORK STREET

For your safety please enter and exit the carpark via the lobby and lifts, or fire stairs. ***No pedestrian access via the driveway ramp.***

YOUR COMFORT

Our toilets are located in the Parish Hall

YOUR BABY

All babies are welcome. There is baby friendly space in the west porch and baby change facilities in the accessible bathroom.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Emergency evacuation procedures: Please leave the church in an orderly manner via the south door towards Jamison Street, or as directed by a member of staff. Please see the staff if someone asks you for money, or makes you feel uncomfortable, or if you see an unattended bag.

FIRST AID

Automatic External **Defibrillators** (AEDs) are located in the West Porch of St Philip's Church and outside the kitchen in the Parish Hall.

YOUR SAFETY

Church Hill has a No Tolerance approach to any form of domestic and family violence. We are committed to being a church family where people feel safe. If you or someone near you is in a situation of domestic and family violence, we are here to listen, ready to believe you and make ourselves available to support you. Please contact Hayley Tate or Justin Moffatt. In addition, you can call 1800 RESPECT, a 24/7 telephone service that provides information, counselling and support. All support is confidential.

STAFF

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0403 569 502
justin@churchhillanglican.com

Rt. Rev. Rob Forsyth
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Kylie Stanton (Office Administrator FT)
02 9247 1071
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PARISH COUNCIL

The Church Hill Parish Council meets 10 times annually. To contact the Parish Council email pcsecretary@churchhillanglican.com

WARDENS

Malcolm Beard, Ian Thompson and Ross Whelan
wardens@churchhillanglican.com

CONTACT DETAILS

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