

Joyful People+Christ's Love

Newsletter December 2021 Issue



Refugees: La Sagrada Familia, by Kelly Latimore via kellylatimoreicons.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE IS NOW HELD IN PERSON!

AND online worship resources are still available on our website.

www.boroniapark.uca.org.au

CONTACT DETAILS:

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Church office opening hour: Thursday 10AM to 2PM

BORONIA PARK UNITING CHURCH

Readings and Prayers for weekly spiritual practice

Day	Bible Readings	Churches Together Prayer Cycle	World Cycle of Prayer	
12 December Advent 3 JOY	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	Life Congregational Church (Hunters Hill Congregational Church)	Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam	
19 December Advent 4 LOVE	Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45	St Charles Borromeo and Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish	China, Hong Kong, Macau	
25 December Christmas Day	Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:8-20	Uniting Church congregations, faith communities, chaplains in the City of Ryde Zone	-	
26 December Christmas 1	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52	Villa Maria Holy Name of Mary and St. Peter Chanel	Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan	
2 January 2022 Holy Name of Jesus	Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	Glades Hill Presbyterian Church and Kalos Korean Church	The stateless, refugees, asylum seekers	
9 January Baptism of Jesus	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	Anglican Parish of Hunters Hill - All Saints and St. Mark's	For those who are under persecution because of their faith in Christ	

Dates for your Diary:

The church office will be open from Thursday 11 November. The office hour is from 10AM to 2PM every Thursday. (The Minister will be on leave from Wednesday 5 January to Tuesday 18 January 2022.)

[SAVE THE DATE]

Carols in the Carpark – Wednesday 8 December, 6pm Mystery Bus Trip – Saturday 18 December. See Margaret Treble. Blue Christmas Eve Gathering – Friday 24 December, 6pm Christmas Day Service – Saturday 25 December, 9:30am

Church Sunday Worship Roster

* All elders are on duty of pastoral care ministry for your need.

Date	Lead	Screen and Sound	Bible Reading	Kid's Talk	Prayers of the People
12 December	Sunday School Presentation The Minister	Joshua Yeon	Michelle & Jayden Lam	Sunday School	Sunday School
19 December	The Minister	Carmen Lam	Daniel Yeon	-	Jenny Warren
24 December	Christmas Eve The Minister	/i	Christy Kim	-	Phoebe Kim
25 December	Christmas Day The Minister	Daniel Voon	Joshua Yeon	-	Robyn Harvey
26 December	The Minister	Justin Han	Robyn Harvey	-	Barnabas Joo

Prayer Requests

Elders and the minister will continue holding all the members and their family near and far. If you want them to pray for your current circumstances and issues, please let them know. All information you share with is confidential.

- * For those who works at the frontline in order to maintain the life with Covid-19 pandemic as easing restrictions.
- * For parent/s who always take a great care of child/ren, their education at both school system and alternative pathway and well-being.
- * For our youth group members and Sunday School students, especially those who help them to increase God's purpose in life—Margaret Maxwell, Lenny Lee. Pray for young people's spiritual wellbeing and their questioning faith and life.

A Christmas message from the Minister of Boronia Park Uniting Church, Reverend Seung Jae Yeon to all members, families, and the Boronia Park community

In ancient African culture – it would be common practice to visit a wise man or woman, if they were feeling a little flat, lost or perhaps just not at their best. The wise person might ask them four simple questions:

When was the last time you danced?
When was the last time you sang?
When was the last time you told a story?
When was the last time you sat alone in stillness?

In many ancient cultures, dancing and singing were known to be ways to greater vitality. It was felt that such practices actually inspire the soul, and better connect us to the divine and sustaining forces of life.

Attributed to Steve Mitten

To be honest, I am not a dance person. But I move my arms and legs, hips, and shoulders if music is on. When I was little, Michael Jackson's songs and music videos could make me dance. He was my dancing king, and a hero. Especially when he danced 'the moonwalk', it got me crazy. I copied him, dancing in ridiculous movements before my friend and family. I recall my parents and sister were laughing and looked happy when I danced. But sometimes my dancing or body movement can embarrass those viewers like my wife and children, but it doesn't matter. I dance. No, I move.

I call it a dance for myself and for my soul. And BTS, the most famous boy band in the world, says, "Don't need to talk the talk, just walk the walk tonight. 'Cause we don't need permission to dance." (From *Permission to Dance*) Yes, there is no permission to dance, sing, tell a story, and sit alone in stillness. When was the last time you danced with somebody and sang with friends? When was your last time you shared a story that was meaningful, or sat alone

in stillness in order to seek to find who you really are? While you are singing carols, and listening for a bible story this evening, I may ask you to take a little time to connect or reconnect to an important event that could keep asking us all human beings, "What really brings joy to this world?"

There was a God-bearing family. But they were poor. They carried a newborn baby, visiting husband's hometown called Bethlehem to register the birth of his son. The father, Joseph led their donkey and the mother, Mary who embraced the baby rode on the donkey. They took such a long and lonely trip with their helpless baby, Jesus. No one provided shelter for the family. No room for the newborn king. No one knew their baby Jesus would get entire human being such joy that this world cannot give, a joy to make a better place for many including us.



Dorothy Day and The Holy Family of the Streets by Kelly Latimore (Retrieved from kellylatimoreicons.com)

Because of the birth of Jesus, all churches can sing carols and give praise to the newborn king. Because of the birth of Christ Child, and his life on earth and beyond, entire human race may celebrate the hope, peace, joy and love of Christmas this time of year. Most of all, because of the life and the life everlasting found in Jesus Christ, we can have a meaningful and gracious life today that we can dance in wind or favourite tunes, sing your number one song, share a story that has formed or transformed you and await in stillness the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas.

This month, we would listen for the bible stories of Jesus' birth and how people received him two thousand odd years ago. We would sing carols and listen to favourite singers singing our favourite Christmas songs which will bring joy to us all. This season — Advent and Christmas has us all a purpose to bring the joy of Christmas to you and your kin. But nothing stops us to keep this season called Christmas great and meaningful for ourselves, our families, communities of heart and the world. To be honest, the Covid-19 pandemic is so real.

If you or your loved ones are feeling a little flat, lost or perhaps just not at their best, I would happily ask this question:

When was the last time you invited Jesus Christ into your heart?

This Christmas, may you dance, sing, share your story with family and friends whether you are happy, sad or protesting over the Pandemic. I do really want us to be less stressed and then express our feelings appropriately. And especially admire yourself when you dance. I will dance with you all in Spirit. There is one thing that I encourage you to act this Christmas. Sitting alone in stillness is not always giving us back good things. If you know someone near or far from you who sit along all day in his/her room, give them a call, text message, email or letter saying that you are thinking of them and loving them so much. This may give joy to us all who grow and live in this village called Boronia Park.