

Rosters



Readers (Castlemaine)

21 Dec: Helen Johnstone

Morning tea (Castlemaine)

21 Dec: Thirla Frankling, Peter Cole

28 Dec: Linda Rowe, Annie Hunter

4 Jan: Margaret Boyle, Helen Johnstone

11 Jan: Karyn Moloney, Bev Straw

18 Jan: Lorna Burton, Margaret Rees Jones

25 Jan: Lyn McCredden, Terry McCredden

Flowers (Castlemaine)

21 Dec: Fay White

No flowers 28 Dec and all of January

Counting money (Castlemaine)

21 Dec: Marilyn Thompson, Bev Straw

28 Dec: Peter Cole, Jim Foley

4 Jan: Stephen Connelly, John Boyle

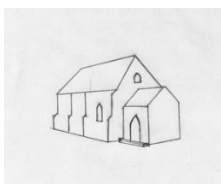
11 Jan: Barbara Wayn, Lyn Ellery

18 Jan: Karyn Moloney, Thirla Frankling

25 Jan: Marilyn Thompson, Bev Straw

Elders on duty

Dec: Martha Ruth Hills, Peter Cole



Readers (Harcourt)

21 Dec: Solway

25 Dec: George

28 Dec (Hymns of Praise): Diane

4 Jan: Bob

Cleaning, morning tea (Harcourt)

Dec: Jan & friends

Jan: Marie & friends

Flowers (Harcourt)

Diane

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Front pic: Red-necked stint, Joyce's Creek, 4 Dec 2025. Photo by Geoff Park, [Natural Newstead](#).



Castlemaine District Uniting Church

consisting of the churches of Castlemaine and Harcourt
and the faith communities Sipwell and Yandoit Sacred

Parish Minister

Rev Sarah Tomilson

Phone: 0433 508 315 (not Monday)

Castlemaine District Uniting Church recognises that we
meet on Dja Dja Wurrung Country. We acknowledge
their Elders with respect and pray for reconciliation and
justice for all First Peoples.

21 December 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Rev Sarah Tomilson

9am at Harcourt Uniting Church

10.30am at Castlemaine Uniting Church

Christmas Day services

8.30am at Harcourt

9.30am at Castlemaine

Carol/hymn singing services on 28 Dec

Services will be led by the community, with
Sarah back on 4 January 2026



Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

This week

Sun 21st: **Yandoit carol service**, Yandoit Bush Church, 7pm

Tu: **Advent meditation**, C'maine Chapel, 8am

Tu: **Prayer meeting**, C'maine Church, 11am

Tu: **Advent study**, C'maine Chapel, 4.30–6pm

Thurs: **Christmas Day**

Fri: **Peace vigil labyrinth walk** at Christ Church Anglican, 5pm, a joint Anglican and Uniting Church initiative

Prayer

We hold in prayer and love: George Milford and family, Helen Johnstone, Merle Jenkins, Jim & Janet Trudgeon, Brendan Walker, Keith Loiterton, Robyn Yeoward, Karyn Moloney, Bev & Wes Campbell, Ian & Alleyne Hockley, Adrian & Alison Pegler, Baby Perry & his family.

Please let Sarah know if you wish to be removed from the prayer list. If you know of someone in need of prayer, please speak to Sarah or one of the elders. Also, always ask permission before suggesting someone for the prayer list. Thank you, Sarah

Bondi

We pray especially for our Jewish friends after the horrific events in Bondi last Sunday. As we enter the last week of Christmas, the week of love, may we continue to pray love into places of despair, grief, violence and hate. May we hold all our friends of faith close, of all traditions, remembering those who tragically lost their lives and those most affected. May God's healing presence be with you all. Blessings, Sarah



Uniting Christmas cards

Many thanks to members of Castlemaine and Harcourt congregations for purchasing [Uniting](#) Christmas cards. The sum of \$420 has been forwarded to [Uniting](#) to assist those in need.



Diane Dooley (L), Rev Sarah (R) and Jan Jenkins (not in pic) represented the Parish at the opening of the Harcourt miniature railway

Share the joy

Your giving through the Christmas boxes and some generous donations has enabled Castlemaine District Uniting Church Parish to donate \$5,000 to Castlemaine Church of Christ's community Christmas project. Upon receiving the gift, Pastor Michael of the Church of Christ said it was an extraordinarily kind and generous contribution to the Christmas project. Pastor Michael said "By working through the district schools, the church has identified about 140 needy families, each of whom will be given hampers, food vouchers and petrol vouchers. The all-up cost of these Christmas gifts is about \$15,000... Thank you for partnering with us in this important Christian work."

Coffee cup challenge

Many of us have coffee and tea with friends as we celebrate Christmas. Please consider putting some change from these happy occasions into your Coffee Cup money box (or any container). Through the Coffee Cup Challenge, Castlemaine District Uniting Church Parish members continue to offer comfort and hope to those facing crisis. Your compassion empowers [Uniting](#) to provide strength and support to those who need it. Thank you for being part of the Coffee Cup Challenge. Your kindness is brewing change. Marie T

News sheet holiday

This is the final news sheet for the year. Expect normal service to resume towards the end of January 2026.