

**We are called to be evidence of  
God's love breaking into the world**

Nambour Uniting Church

37-39 Coronation Avenue, Nambour QLD 4560

## **Rev Maile Molitika - Minister's Message**

### **"The joys and concerns of Christmas"**

As we move closer to Christmas, we don't want to hear bad news from members of our family. In fact, we want to enjoy Christmas with our love ones and friends. It is unfortunate that for some people, Christmas is a sad time rather than a happy time. It is said that hospital rooms are more likely to be filled to capacity at this time of the year than any other period.

Perhaps many young people will be affected by alcohol and drugs, usually behind the steering wheel causing accidents to end up in hospital. Some family will experience troubles through alcohol abuse instigating domestic violence and ending up in the hospital too.

The problems, and dark sides, of Christmas can be real when people can't control their behaviours. At Christmas time many are deprived of the joys of family relationships because of deaths that have been taken place or because great distances separate them from members of their families. No matter what happens in the festive season, there is always a dark side to the celebration of Christmas and it will affect so many people, pray for them. However, on the positive side of Christmas, it is a time of joy and happiness for those who have prepared themselves for this great celebration. One of the Gospel readings for Christmas comes from Luke 2:10 - But the angel said to them, "**Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.**" This is the ultimate good news of Christmas, the angel communicated it to the shepherds. Jesus came into the world to bring great joy. He came to communicate love. He came to make peace possible. To truly experience the joy of Christmas, we must recognise and respond to the reason for the season.

For some people, the "holiday" aspect is far more important to them, it is a break from work and they can't see beyond that. But for those who have focused on the significance of Christmas, despite the situations they are in whether it was a sad or happy time, they manage to have joy and peace during Christmas.

**Joy is an inward condition of the heart that comes about as we recognise the greatness, the graciousness, and the goodness of God.**

Let us all remember that Christmas is not only a special day, it is part of our lives.

Van Dyke quotation really sums it up. "**Christmas living is the best kind of giving.**"

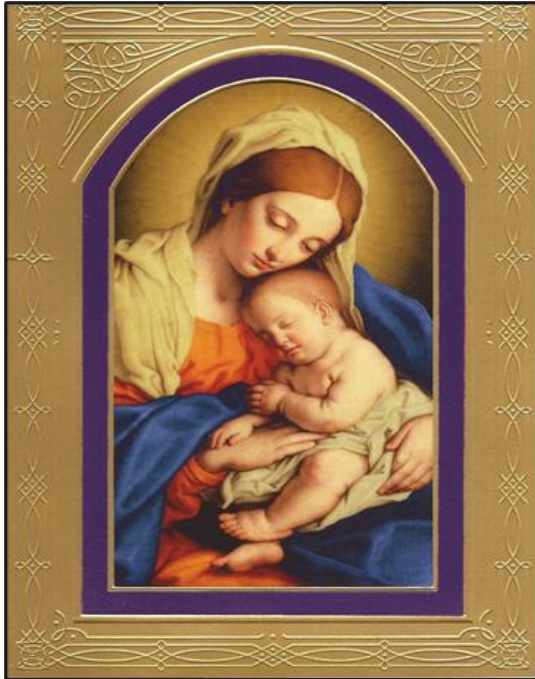
We can make this 2025 Christmas a very special Day, if we as a family and community make a positive step forward this year. Make a special Christmas gift by stepping forward in a positive way to make a difference in this hostile world.

**I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and joyful 2026.**

**Grace & Peace, Rev Maile**

# Suffering Innocents

## (The dark side of Christmas)



*"Open your mouth for the dumb,  
for the rights of the unfortunate...  
and defend the rights of the  
afflicted and needy"*

(Proverbs 31:8-9, NASB)

NOTE: This reflection was originally written at Christmas 1996, but had never been published. This look at Christmas is from a different, rarely discussed angle. My article is somewhat provocative, but seeks to reflect on a sad reality. I feel that the time has come to reflect once again on this tragic event and update it.

### **"Madonna and Child"**

by Giovanni Battista Sassoferrato

\*image scanned from a Christmas card.

It is Christmas once again and the shops, the TV, the streets are full of colourful decorations and music. It is a time for joy and celebration, for family gatherings and feasting. One could hardly imagine that there is anything wrong with the world: but there is!

Yes, it is Christmas, and true believers will focus on the incarnation of a small babe in a manger. There is nothing more heart-warming than the birth of a child. But if you dig a little deeper into the biblical narrative you will find that there is something quite sinister happening as well. Through the overt paranoia of one person, King Herod, hundreds of innocent male infants were intentionally and cruelly killed. (The Christian liturgical calendar remembers the Slaughter of the Innocents on 28th December. Matthew 2:16.) Yet, in all our frenetic celebrations we so easily forget this shocking tragedy. It is not pretty! Yet how ironic: the very birth of the One who had come to save us from all that dehumanises and destroys God's beautiful creation is being mocked by one of the worst expressions of human cruelty imaginable.

Yes, it is Christmas 2,025 years later, yet for all the long history of knowing God's grace, for all the progress which has been made with knowledge and science, we are still confronted with the enigma of joyous celebration being mocked by our modern voracious lust for dominance, pleasure and power, regardless of the cost to others. Many may have hoped that technology might have saved us, but it has not and cannot. Innocents, particularly children, are still suffering all over the world. Who comes to your mind?

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At the time of writing, our news is dominated by two wars, in the Ukraine and in the Middle East (Israel, Gaza, Iran). In these conflicts we have seen helpless and innocent children mercilessly maimed or killed. Their deaths may be described as "collateral", but they are in fact suffering from the paranoid abuse of power by political leaders - sadly, all adult men!

A challenging book for you to read: S. Grant "Murriyang: song of time", BUNDYI Press, 2024

Stan Grant is an indigenous Australian journalist who personally witnessed the horrors of war in Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Gaza, and describes its graphic impact on him.

I also grieve over the suffering of innocent children in family breakdowns. Thousands of innocents here in Australia are suffering the trauma of domestic conflict, separation of parents and custody battles. It is not their fault that the relationship has broken down: they are quite innocent, yet suffer from their parents failure to live together in harmony. For many children, Christmas will be deeply painful. Even worse are those children who suffer from twisted minds who exploit and abuse them for their own personal satisfaction.

I grieve for the innocent indigenous children of the "stolen generation", removed from their natural parents in infancy and suffering cultural displacement in institutional care. The emotional and psychological damage has never healed. Again, these children were innocent victims of someone else's agenda and that from a culture completely foreign to them.



Carving of an Indigenous infant by Pat Larkin, Palmwoods Garden Village Flower Show, 2025. Tragically, it was exactly the same story in Canada with their treatment of indigenous Indian children.

See website, St Eugene Resort: Ktunaxa Interpretative Centre, Cranbrook, B.C, Canada.

The list could go on. I do not want to be a 'wet blanket' in our rightful celebrations of Christ's Advent, but I do believe that we would honour his coming far better if we spent a little time thinking about those who may be suffering innocently at this time. Hopefully we could go even further to do something concrete and practical to help alleviate their pain.

So, this Christmas, let us take a little time out to reflect and re-evaluate ways of bringing hope, peace and some joy into the lives of the oppressed and vulnerable among us.

Let us not forget the innocents of Bethlehem, lest we be drawn into our own oppressive systems which perpetuate the sin of Herod.

**Rev Graham Warne**

# QUIRKY ACTUALITIES ABOUT CHRISTMAS

## 1 How did Christmas songs become carols?

Pagan solstice songs were replaced by Christian hymns, with the term "carol" initially referring to a dance. Around 1223 St. Francis of Assisi used simple songs to tell the story of the Nativity Scenes, spreading these joyful "canticles" in the common language throughout Europe. Over centuries, these celebratory songs evolved to become intrinsically linked to the Christmas season, with modern favourites emerging in the 19th century. The earliest carol was written in 1410, about Mary and Jesus.

## 2 Who was the inspiration for Scrooge?

Charles Dickens created his classic character Scrooge after seeing the gravestone of **Ebenezer Scroggie** while filling in time on a lecture visit to Edinburgh in 1842. The novelist misread the surname on the gravestone as Scrooge, writing a fantastic tale of redemption.



## 3 Who stuffed the first Christmas stocking?

Christmas stockings allegedly evolved from the story of three sisters who were too poor to afford a marriage dowry and were, therefore, doomed to a life of prostitution. They were saved, however, when the wealthy Bishop Saint Nicholas of Smyrna (the precursor to Santa Claus) (creeping down their chimney) generously placed gold coins in their stockings.

## 4 Why is the partridge in a pear tree?

The legend surrounding the penultimate lyric in *The Twelve Days of Christmas* is that the partridge is a symbol of Jesus and the pear tree refers to the tree of life that is the cross.

## 5. Why do we celebrate Christmas on December 25?

In A.D. 350, Pope Julius I, bishop of Rome, proclaimed December 25 the official celebration date for the birthday of Christ.

## 6 What's all the fuss about eggnog?

Eggnog, a popular drink most likely originated from England. Some say the term derived from **egg and grog**, a common term used for a drink made with rum. Eventually, that term was shortened to **egg'n'grog**, then **eggnog**. Some 'eggnog aficionados' say the drink is made up of cream, sugar, whipped eggs, brandy, rum, whisky, bourbon and vodka.

**Ever had eggnog like that!?!**

## 7 What is the association with turkey and Christmas?

In medieval England, the main course for Christmas was either a peacock or a boar. By the early 1600s the turkey had begun to replace tougher meats at major Tudor banquets held by the powerful. Unsurprisingly, the corpulent King Henry VIII was the first English monarch to have turkey for Christmas. It soon became the bird of choice in households across that country.

## 8 Christmas elves?

Christmas elves - Santa's little helpers - are often depicted as green or red clad with pointy ears and pointy hats. They were first introduced in 1856 by Louisa May Alcott, American author of *Little Women*, who completed but never published a book entitled, *Christmas Elves*.

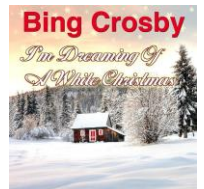


### 9 Where does the image of Santa wearing a red suit come from?

“St Nick” had appeared in numerous illustrations and poems wearing a scarlet coat. He was, however, often portrayed as a tall, gaunt and sometimes frightening figure. In 1931 Coca-Cola needed to promote their soft drink during winter (the "off" season for soft drinks). It was then that they commissioned an artist to create the jovial Santa we all know. The result? A rotund, happy man with the big rosy cheeks, twinkling eyes and white beard that we recognise today (and drinking a bottle of Coke). Do you remember the advertising campaign and photo above?

### 10 What's the best-selling Christmas song?

It is estimated that Bing Crosby's *White Christmas*, penned by Irving Berlin, is the best-selling single of all time, with over 100 million sales worldwide.



### 11 Why does Rudolph have a red nose?

Scientists say they finally solved the eternal puzzle of Rudolph's beacon of a nose. Researchers now say his hooter beams because it is richly supplied with red blood cells to stop it freezing and to help with the exertion of delivering presents to good children around the globe.

### 12 Where does the term YULETIDE originate from?

A Yule log is typically burned during the twelve days of Christmas (December 25 to January 6). Some scholars suggest that the word yule means "revolution" or "wheel," which symbolises the cyclical return of the sun. A burning log or its charred remains is said to offer health, fertility, and luck as well as the ability to ward off evil spirits.

### 13 What's the biggest-grossing Christmas movie?

It warmed our hearts and made us laugh with its slapstick humour. And it launched Macaulay Culkin into the movie stardom. **Home Alone** is the biggest Christmas movie ever, raking in \$533 million globally. Jim Carrey's **Grinch** comes in at two, bringing in \$260 million, with **Home Alone 2** coming in third.

### 14 What do the Christmas colours symbolise?

The traditional three colours of Christmas are green, red, and gold. Green has long been a symbol of life and rebirth; red symbolises the blood of Christ, and gold represents light as well as royalty.

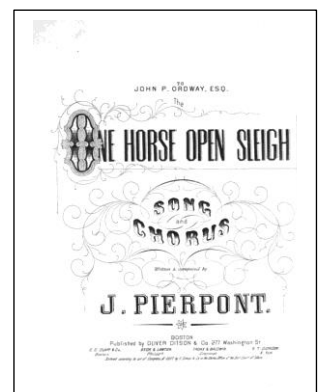
### 15 Who wrote Jingle Bells?

**Jingle Bells** is an American song and one of the most commonly sung Christmas songs in the world. It was written by **James Lord Pierpont**.

It is an unsettled question where and when Pierpont originally composed the song that would become known as "Jingle Bells". It was published under the title "**The One Horse Open Sleigh**" in September 1857.

It is reported that Piermont wrote the lyrics at the local saloon one evening.

Although it has no original connection to Christmas, it became associated with winter and Christmas in the 1860s and 1870s in the United States of America.



# SEVEN DAILY PRAYERS FOR SEVEN DAYS

DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026

More than once this year, your home may be filled with family and friends,  
and you may gather around a table piled high with food.  
Celebrate the occasion with a mindful Christmas prayer.

In fact, celebrate the entire season with thoughtful and thankful Christmas prayers  
that remind us all of the true meaning of the love of Jesus our Lord and Saviour.  
May these prayers set the tone for the most gracious Christmas of all, Amen!



**Pray aloud at any time, or with a soft voice,  
in the morning, and at dinner time,  
the Lord will answer each prayer, one at a time.**



## Day 1 Sunday Prayer

My dear Lord God, Lord of All, we give you thanks for your abundance, and for all the great things you have given us, especially the birth of Your Son. We ask your blessing upon our family and friends. We also pray that in your great mercy, you would look kindly upon all those in need during this Christmas time.

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ my Lord, Amen.

## Day 2 Monday Prayer

My dear Lord God, don't let anyone miss You this Christmas season, please be at our table when we sit to eat and celebrate your birth. Be with all those who believe in your love, also be with all who have no understanding of your great presence. Help all of us to simplify our activities and traditions so we can focus the celebration on Your birth. Thank You for being the Prince of Peace, and I ask You for that peace to reign in our hearts. Thank You for the simple but life-changing message of Your love.

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

## Day 3 Tuesday Prayer

My dear Lord God, you have poured upon us the light of your Word, please grant that the same light inflaming our hearts, that we may shine forth in our lives through Jesus Christ our Lord, reminding us to be compassionate and to love our neighbours.

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Continued next page...

CHURCH EMAIL

FACEBOOK

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

WEBSITE

[nambouruca@gmail.com](mailto:nambouruca@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church](http://www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church)

[nambouruca.youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

[nambouruniting.org.au](http://nambouruniting.org.au)

**Sunday Services are available on the Nambour Uniting Church Website and youtube  
(2024/25 services unavailable due to ongoing works in our Church auditorium)**

The website also contains Mission Possible photos, word study, reflections, stained glass windows and more.

Thanks to Don Heaton for recording those Services, and Ian Brown for our great website

#### **Day 4 Wednesday Prayer**

My dear Lord God, Your name is still called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, and The Prince of Peace. As Your children, we cry out for justice, and a new awareness of Your love. We choose by faith to make the good news of great joy a reality in our own lives, so others can see us as lighted trees of life. We know one day every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that You are Lord. And we also know that peace on earth can only come when hearts find peace with You. You are still our Joy. You are still our Peace. You are no longer a babe in the manger, You are Lord of Lords and King of Kings. And we still celebrate You as Lord - this Christmas and always.

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### **Day 5 Thursday Prayer**

My dear Lord God, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door on hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift, and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Jesus Christ brings, and teach us to be happy, loving souls with clear hearts. May Christmas make us happy to be Your children, and let us go into each evening with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven.

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### **Day 6 Friday Prayer**

My dear Lord God, bless with your abundant grace this our Christmas tree as a symbol of joy. May its evergreen branches be a sign of your never-fading promises. May its colourful lights and ornaments call us to decorate our home and our world with abundant love. May the gifts that surround this tree be symbols of the gifts we have received from the Tree of Christ's Cross. Holy Christmas tree within our home, may Joy and Peace come and nest in your branches and in our hearts.

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### **Day 7 Saturday Prayer**

My dear Lord God, thank You for coming to earth so You could redeem me. You love me so much, and I am so grateful for that love. Without You, I would still be lost and in sin. But because of everything You have done for me, today I am free; my life is blessed; Jesus is my Lord; Heaven is my home. I will be eternally thankful to You for everything You did to save me!

I pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY PRAYER**

My dear Lord God, my Creator, I offer this humble prayer on Christmas Day. We come to worship with a song of thanks in our hearts – a song of redemption, a song of hope and renewal. We pray for joy in our hearts, hope in our God, love to forgive, and peace upon the earth. We ask for the salvation of all our family members and friends, and we pray your blessings on all people. May there be bread for the hungry, love for the unlovable, healing for the sick, protection for our children, and wisdom for our youth. We pray for the forgiveness of sinners and abundant life in Christ. Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power, Amen.

**Nambour Uniting Church in Australia  
Advent & Christmas 2025**

**30th November - Advent 1 *Candle of Hope* 9AM**

The Empty Christmas Tree: our focus is on Frontier Services,  
please leave your monetary donations in the box under the tree

**7th December –Advent 2 - *Candle of Peace* 9AM  
Holy Communion**

The Empty Christmas Tree: our focus is on Frontier Services,  
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**14th December – Advent 3 - *Candle of Joy* 9AM**

The Empty Christmas Tree: our focus is on Frontier Services,  
please leave your monetary donations in the box under the tree

**20th December – Christmas Carols 3PM**

Daytime Christmas Carols for everyone

**21st December - Advent 4 - *Candle of Love* 9AM**

The Empty Christmas Tree: our focus is on Frontier Services,  
please leave your monetary donations in the box under the tree

**24th December – Christmas Eve Service 7PM**

Come, worship and enjoy singing carols and hymns,  
hear the Word of the Birth of Jesus, Lamb of God.

**25th December – Christmas Day 8AM**

***Christ Candle is lit, unwrap Joy, embrace Jesus Our Saviour***

The **NeXus** between our mission and our spiritual power  
is the gathered congregation.  
While God comes to us by His Spirit  
thus transforming us by his grace,  
we are drawn into precious fellowship with each other.  
As a congregation gathers for worship, it is being strengthened,  
then sent out again for a missional purpose.  
In times such as these, this copy of **Nambour NeXus**  
is provided so that you may have resources  
to assist you in your personal or household worship of God,  
to assist you in growing your faith,  
and to encourage your concern and prayers for others.

# CHRISTMAS TREES

## Why do we put up trees at Christmas?

Evergreen plants were a symbol of life for ancient cultures in Egypt and Rome. It became common to decorate the evergreens for the Greek festival of Saturnalia, and the trend was incorporated in early Christian life. This tradition turned into the modern Christmas tree in 16th-century Germany.

## Which country had the world's most expensive tree?

The most expensive Christmas tree was decorated in the United Arab Emirates in 2010 at an estimated cost of over \$11 million. (How many mouths can be fed with \$11M)

## Tallest Christmas Tree

**Artificial 2016, Colombo, Sri Lanka:** A 72.1-metre (236-feet) artificial tree held the record for the largest artificial Christmas tree, notes Guinness World Records.

**Cut (real) 1950, Seattle, Washington:** A 67.36-metre (221-feet) Douglas fir was the tallest cut Christmas tree ever, according to Guinness World Records.

Other notable tall trees;

**Dortmund, Germany:** The tree at the Dortmunder Weihnachtsmarkt is a unique structure made of 1,700 individual spruces, standing at 45 metres (147.6 feet).

**Rio de Janeiro, Brazil:** The world's largest floating Christmas tree measured 85 metres (278 feet 10 inches) tall in 2007, reported Guinness World Records.

**AND .... kissing under the mistletoe?** Myths about kissing under the mistletoe go back to the Greek festival, Saturnalia. Others say it a tradition that stems from the Druids, Celts and the Norse. The Druids actually believed the mistletoe plant had great powers of love. The plant itself is actually a parasitic shrub, attaching to the host tree through a structure at its base, projecting a slender root enabling the parasite to penetrate the tissues of its host. Through this root the mistletoe plant extracts water and nutrients from the host. There are hundreds of species which mostly live in tropical regions.

**Here's a tip: Keep on kissing – it is fun!!!**

## DIRECT DEBIT/TRANSFER

To make your offering using

## DIRECT DEBIT/TRANSFER

you will need to go to your bank;

or use the internet banking service.

You will need the following information:

**Bank: ANZ**

**BSB: 014010**

**Account No: 286751378**

Thank you all for being generous people. May your giving become the power of love in the world.

## Minister

Rev Maile Molitika 0425 378 174

## Pastoral Care Ministry

Rev Graham Warne 5478 9747

## Nambour Congregation Chairperson

Ian Woodward 5441 1069

## Church Council Officers

Ian Woodward - Chair

Helen Staines - Secretary

Alison Hall - Treasurer

**Church & Office:** 5441 1135

37 Coronation Drive NAMBOUR QLD 4560

PO Box 1100, NAMBOUR, Q 4560

Office: open most Tuesdays and Thursdays  
9.30AM to 12noon or so. Jimmy 04113 314 306

## Aussie Movie Review

Published [4 December 2024](#)

AN AUSSIE MOVIE CHRISTMAS 2024



### A SUNBURNT CHRISTMAS (2020)

Over the last few years streaming service Stan has been providing us with Aussie flavoured Christmas movies This one was directed by Christiaan Van Vuuren.

Fiona Raley (Ling Cooper Tang), a widow with her three children Daisy, Tom and Hazel (played by newcomers Lena Nankivell, Eaden McGuinness and Tatiana Goode) live on a small property in drought stricken rural South Australia. Like most residents in the area, they are struggling to make a living. With Dad recently passed away and Mum slowly losing the plot, it is 14-year-old Hazel who shoulders the burden, managing the failing farm and keeping her younger siblings from careering completely off the rails.

Enter Daryl (Daniel Henshall) dressed in a Santa Claus suit. Turns out he is an escaped prisoner searching for a bag of cash that has been left on the property. Daisy the youngest believes he is the real thing.

Daryl enlists the kids assistance to find it. Can he reciprocate their kindness and help the family pull off a Christmas miracle? Or will fellow crim Dingo (Sullivan Stapleton) also looking for the same bag come and spoil the party. Well, their world is turned upside down in ways they could never have imagined...

A Sunburnt Christmas is an entertaining feel-good film which thankfully doesn't wallow in mawkish sentimentality like some of its US counterparts. It definitely captures a true blue Aussie Christmas right down to the soundtrack, which includes the Paul Kelly classic "How to Make Gravy".

Where to watch: Streaming on Stan. Ch 9 sometimes screen as well.

[Greg Murphy](#)

Admin

Paul Kelly classic "How to Make Gravy"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FozoWgvh-m4>

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# DAILY BIBLE READINGS DECEMBER 2025

Vanderbilt Divinity Library's Revised Common Lectionary  
*CLICK on the underlined readings for each day  
to access the daily verses on the Bible Gateway website*

- Monday, December 01, 2025: [Psalm 124](#); [Genesis 8:1-19](#); [Romans 6:1-11](#)  
Tuesday, December 02, 2025: [Psalm 124](#); [Genesis 9:1-17](#); [Hebrews 11:32-40](#)  
Wednesday, December 03, 2025: [Psalm 124](#); [Isaiah 54:1-10](#); [Matthew 24:23-35](#)  
Thursday, December 04, 2025: [Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19](#); [Isaiah 4:2-6](#); [Acts 1:12-17 & 21-26](#)  
Friday, December 05, 2025: [Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19](#); [Isaiah 30:19-26](#); [Acts 13:16-25](#)  
Saturday, December 06, 2025: [Psalm 72:1-7 & 18-19](#); [Isaiah 40:1-11](#); [John 1:19-28](#)  
Sunday, December 07, 2025: [Second Sunday of Advent](#) [Isaiah 11:1-10](#); [Psalm 72:1-7 & 18-19](#);  
[Romans 15:4-13](#); [Matthew 3:1-12](#)  
Monday, December 08, 2025: [Psalm 21](#); [Isaiah 24:1-16a](#); [1 Thessalonians 4:1-12](#)  
Tuesday, December 09, 2025: [Psalm 21](#); [Isaiah 41:14-20](#); [Romans 15:14-21](#)  
Wednesday, December 10, 2025: [Psalm 21](#); [Genesis 15:1-18](#); [Matthew 12:33-37](#)  
Thursday, December 11, 2025: [Psalm 146:5-10](#); [Ruth 1:6-18](#); [2 Peter 3:1-10](#)  
Friday, December 12, 2025: [Psalm 146:5-10](#); [Ruth 4:13-17](#); [2 Peter 3:11-18](#)  
Saturday, December 13, 2025: [Psalm 146:5-10](#); [1 Samuel 2:1-8](#); [Luke 3:1-18](#)  
Sunday, December 14, 2025: [Third Sunday of Advent](#) [Isaiah 35:1-10](#); [Psalm 146:5-10](#);  
[Luke 1:46b-55](#); [James 5:7-10](#); [Matthew 11:2-11](#)  
Monday, December 15, 2025: [Psalm 42](#); [Isaiah 29:17-24](#); [Acts 5:12-16](#)  
Tuesday, December 16, 2025: [Psalm 42](#); [Ezekiel 47:1-12](#); [Jude 1:17-25](#)  
Wednesday, December 17, 2025: [Psalm 42](#); [Zechariah 8:1-17](#); [Matthew 8:14-17 & 28-34](#)  
Thursday, December 18, 2025: [Psalm 80:1-7 & 17-19](#); [2 Samuel 7:1-17](#); [Galatians 3:23-29](#)  
Friday, December 19, 2025: [Psalm 80:1-7 & 17-19](#); [2 Samuel 7:18-22](#); [Galatians 4:1-7](#)  
Saturday, December 20, 2025: [Psalm 80:1-7 & 17-19](#); [2 Samuel 7:23-29](#); [John 3:31-36](#)  
Sunday, December 21, 2025: [Fourth Sunday of Advent](#) [Isaiah 7:10-16](#); [Psalm 80:1-7 & 17-19](#);  
[Romans 1:1-7](#); [Matthew 1:18-25](#)  
**CHRISTMAS**  
Monday, December 22, 2025: [Luke 1:46b-55](#); [Isaiah 33:17-22](#); [Revelation 22:6-7 & 18-20](#)  
Tuesday, December 23, 2025: [Luke 1:46b-55](#); [2 Samuel 7:18 & 23-29](#); [Galatians 3:6-14](#)  
Wednesday, December 24, 2025: [Nativity of the Lord - Proper I](#)  
[Isaiah 9:2-7](#); [Psalm 96](#); [Titus 2:11-14](#); [Luke 2:1-20](#)  
Thursday, December 25, 2025: [Nativity of the Lord - Proper II](#)  
[Isaiah 62:6-12](#); [Psalm 97](#); [Titus 3:4-7](#); [Luke 2:1-20](#)  
Thursday, December 25, 2025: [Nativity of the Lord - Proper III](#)  
[Isaiah 52:7-10](#); [Psalm 98](#); [Hebrews 1:1-12](#); [John 1:1-14](#)  
Friday, December 26, 2025: [Psalm 148](#); [Wisdom 4:7-15](#); [Acts 7:59 to 8:8](#)  
Saturday, December 27, 2025: [Psalm 148](#); [Proverbs 8:22-31](#); [1 John 5:1-12](#)  
Sunday, December 28, 2025: [First Sunday after Christmas Day](#) [Isaiah 63:7-9](#); [Psalm 148](#);  
[Hebrews 2:10-18](#); [Matthew 2:13-23](#)  
Monday, December 29, 2025: [Psalm 20](#); [Jeremiah 31:15-22](#); [Luke 19:41-44](#)  
Tuesday, December 30, 2025: [Psalm 20](#); [Isaiah 26:1-9](#); [2 Corinthians 4:16-18](#)  
Wednesday, December 31, 2025: [Psalm 20](#); [1 Kings 3:5-14](#); [John 8:12-19](#)

# DAILY BIBLE READINGS JANUARY 2026

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*CLICK on the underlined readings for each day  
to access the daily verses on the Bible Gateway website*

Thursday, January 01, 2026: [Holy Name of Jesus](#) Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; [Galatians 4:4-7](#);  
[Philippians 2:5-11](#); [Luke 2:15-21](#); [Ecclesiastes 3:1-13](#);  
[Revelation 21:1-6a](#); [Matthew 25:31-46](#)

Friday, January 02, 2026: [Psalm 20](#); [Genesis 12:1-7](#); [Hebrews 11:1-12](#);

Saturday, January 03, 2026: [Psalm 72](#); [Genesis 28:10-22](#); [Hebrews 11:13-22](#);

Sunday, January 04, 2026: **[Second Sunday after Christmas Day](#)** [Jeremiah 31:7-14](#);  
[Sirach 24:1-12](#); [Psalm 147:12-20](#); [Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21](#);  
[Ephesians 1:3-14](#); [John 1:1-18](#)

## EPIPHANY

Monday, January 05, 2026: [Psalm 72](#); [Joshua 1:1-9](#); [Hebrews 11:32 to 12:2](#);

Tuesday, January 06, 2026: **[Epiphany of the Lord](#)** [Isaiah 60:1-6](#); [Psalm 72:1-7 & 10-14](#);  
[Ephesians 3:1-12](#); [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

Wednesday, January 07, 2026: [Psalm 72](#); [1 Kings 10:1-13](#); [Ephesians 3:14-21](#);

Thursday, January 08, 2026: [Psalm 29](#); [1 Samuel 3:1-9](#); [Acts 9:1-9](#);

Friday, January 09, 2026: [Psalm 29](#); [1 Samuel 3:10-4:1a](#); [Acts 9:10-19a](#);

Saturday, January 10, 2026: [Psalm 29](#); [1 Samuel 7:3-17](#); [Acts 9:19b-31](#);

Sunday, January 11, 2026: **[Baptism of the Lord](#)** [Isaiah 60:1-6](#); [Psalm 72:1-7 & 10-14](#);  
[Ephesians 3:1-12](#); [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

Monday, January 12, 2026: [Psalm 89:5-37](#); [Genesis 35:1-15](#); [Acts 10:44-48](#)

Tuesday, January 13, 2026: [Psalm 89:5-37](#); [Jeremiah 1:4-10](#); [Acts 8:4-13](#)

Wednesday, January 14, 2026: [Psalm 89:5-37](#); [Isaiah 51:1-16](#); [Matthew 12:15-21](#)

Thursday, January 15, 2026: [Psalm 40:1-11](#); [Isaiah 22:15-25](#); [Galatians 1:6-12](#)

Friday, January 16, 2026: [Psalm 40:1-11](#); [Genesis 27:30-38](#); [Acts 1:1-5](#)

Saturday, January 17, 2026: [Psalm 40:1-11](#); [1 Kings 19:19-21](#); [Luke 5:1-11](#)

Sunday, January 18, 2026: **[Second Sunday after the Epiphany](#)** [Isaiah 49:1-7](#); [Psalm 40:1-11](#);  
[1 Corinthians 1:1-9](#); [John 1:29-42](#)

Monday, January 19, 2026: [Psalm 40:6-17](#); [Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28](#); [Acts 8:26-40](#)

Tuesday, January 20, 2026: [Psalm 40:6-17](#); [Isaiah 53:1-12](#); [Hebrews 10:1-4](#)

Wednesday, January 21, 2026: [Psalm 40:6-17](#); [Isaiah 48:12-21](#); [Matthew 9:14-17](#)

Thursday, January 22, 2026: [Psalm 27:1-6](#); [1 Samuel 1:1-20](#); [Galatians 1:11-24](#)

Friday, January 23, 2026: [Psalm 27:1-6](#); [1 Samuel 9:27-10:8](#); [Galatians 2:1-10](#)

Saturday, January 24, 2026: [Psalm 27:1-6](#); [1 Samuel 15:34 to 16:13](#); [Luke 5:27-32](#)

Sunday, January 25, 2026: **[Third Sunday after the Epiphany](#)** [Isaiah 9:1-4](#); [Psalm 27:1, 4-9](#);  
[1 Corinthians 1:10-18](#); [Matthew 4:12-23](#)

Monday, January 26, 2026: [Psalm 27:7-14](#); [Judges 6:11-24](#); [Ephesians 5:6-14](#)

Tuesday, January 27, 2026: [Psalm 27:7-14](#); [Judges 7:12-22](#); [Philippians 2:12-18](#)

Wednesday, January 28, 2026: [Psalm 27:7-14](#); [Genesis 49:1-2, 8-13 & 21-26](#); [Luke 1:67-79](#)

Thursday, January 29, 2026: [Psalm 15](#); [Deuteronomy 16:18-20](#); [1 Peter 3:8-12](#)

Friday, January 30, 2026: [Psalm 15](#); [Deuteronomy 24:17 to 25:4](#); [1 Timothy 5:17-24](#)

Saturday, January 31, 2026: [Psalm 15](#); [Micah 3:1-4](#); [John 13:31-35](#)