



Advent

JOY



Third Sunday of Advent: Joy in the Wilderness

The third candle of Advent burns with the theme of joy, yet this week's readings challenge us to understand joy not as mere happiness, but as something far more profound and resilient. Isaiah paints a stunning vision: the wilderness blooming, the desert crocus bursting forth in abundance. These aren't just pretty images — they're promises that God brings life where there was death, celebration where there was mourning. Joy begins when we dare to believe that barren places in our lives can flourish again. Yet Matthew introduces us to John the Baptist, languishing in Herod's prison, wrestling with doubt. Even this great prophet, who prepared the way for the Messiah, questioned whether Jesus was truly the one. John expected a messiah of judgment and fire; instead, Jesus brought healing and mercy. In his darkness, John needed reassurance. Jesus responds by pointing to the evidence: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and good news comes to the poor. This is the joy of Advent — not the absence of suffering or doubt, but the presence of God's transforming power working through our questions and pain. We can trust that God is making all things new, even in the wilderness.

Serving Christ together,
Rev'd Sizwe Ngcobo



WELCOME
TO CHURCH
stagnes.org.za



Sunday

14 December 2025

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-12
Matthew 11:2-11

07h30 Eucharist

Celebrant & Preacher
Rev'd Mary Hotchkiss

Synaxist
Michelle Carless

Readers
*Penny McGregor &
Gay Gardiner*

Welcomers
7h30 Team

09h00 Eucharist

Celebrant & Preacher
Rev'd Mary Hotchkiss

Worship Leader(s)
*Shanelle & Shardenay
Thompson*

Readers
*Maggie Langenberg &
Rosemary Clark*

Welcomer(s)
*Maggie Langenberg &
Margie Clarence*

11h00 Zulu

Celebrant & Preacher
Rev'd Sizwe Ngcobo

Synaxist & Gospel
Rev'd Nkanyiso Ngcobo

Reader(s) & Welcomers
Bernard Mizeki Guild

Advent is not just about preparing for the baby in the manger, but for the return of Christ who was present, active, and prophesied in the very first words of Scripture.

Advent

SERIES @18H30
JESUS IN THE BEGINNING
Genesis 11

Week 1: Dec 1

The Promise
בראשית
Bereshit

Week 2: Dec 8

The Character
ברא אלהים
bara Elohim

Week 3: Dec 15

The Rescue
השמים
Ha' shamayim

Week 4: Dec 22

The Covenant
ואת הארץ
V'et Ha'aretz



Advent Series: Jesus in the Beginning

This week of our Advent journey, we lift our eyes to **Ha'shamayim** — the heavens — and discover a breathtaking truth: long before the birth in Bethlehem, long before shepherds heard angels sing, the heavens

themselves were proclaiming the story of our rescue. They also whisper something deeper: the God who spoke galaxies into being is the same God who stepped into human history to save us.

Carols & Nine Lessons

The beloved tradition of *Carols and Nine Lessons* dates back to 19th-century England, where the Church gathered to trace the story of our salvation - from Genesis to the Gospels - through Scripture and song. Each lesson leads us deeper into the unfolding promise of Christ, while the carols give voice to the world's longing and joy at His coming. It is one of the most beautiful services of the Christian year, bringing families, friends, and our whole parish together around the light of Christmas. We warmly invite you to join us this Sunday at 3 pm for this uplifting celebration of Scripture, music, and hope. Come and share in the wonder of the season with us.

The church office will be closed from Dec 18th until Jan 6th 2026.

BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THIS WEEK

- 13-Dec Philemon
- 14-Dec Hebrews 1-3
- 15-Dec Hebrews 4-6
- 16-Dec Hebrews 7-9
- 17-Dec Hebrews 10-13
- 18-Dec James 1-3
- 19-Dec James 4-5



Bible in 365 Days



with deepest
sympathy

to Felicity, James, George
and family, in the death
of their father Jon Morgan

May his soul rest in peace.

with deepest
sympathy

to Rory Simpson & family
in the death of his sister
Robin Simpson

May her soul rest in peace.

For our prayers

Janet Deavall, Che-rene Pines, Celia Wright, Katherine Roberts, Pippa Bromley-Gans, Shakira, Angus & Mila Martyn, Nick John, Alpha Zulu, Ingrid Pines, Alastair Martyn, Alf Murie, Wandile Malinga, Noah Atkins, Brian & Lorraine Acker, Mlekeleli Majola, Andy Parker, Brenna Stoffberg, Dawn Peters, Neil Brown, Sheila Walker, Dawn Botha, Jonathan McDonagh, Hayden Jackson, Norma Bashford, Hugo Misselhorn as well as the Glen, Jackson, Chaplin, Masoka, Brammer, Stuart, Dlamuka, Smith & Malinga families.

CAROLS
Liturgy

14 Dec @3pm



Click or scan the QR code to download the service



Wednesday

17 Dec 2025 @10am

Genesis 49:1-2, 8-10
Psalm 72:1-8
Matthew 1:1-6a, 17

Celebrant

Rev'd Gill Padoa

Preacher
Synaxist

Louise Beghin
Philip Lanz

Happy Birthday

13/12 Hugh Paterson

14/12 Thulani Madela

14/12 Niyanda Scott

15/12 Kgabane Melato

15/12 Uphendulwe Sisilana

16/12 Rose Bernhard

16/12 Jan Brazier

16/12 Pippa Bromley-Gans

16/12 Wesley Morgan

19/12 Buhle Bhengu

19/12 Llewellyn Evans

19/12 Zama Ndlovu



THANDANANI
SEWERS GUILD

Thursdays 12:00-14:00

WE NEED

SEWING TEACHERS

Dallas Kirby on 084 206 3962

MEN'S
BREAKFAST

Thursdays @06h30 am



A STORY OF GRATITUDE AND GOD'S GRACE

The Journey of Lindelani Njapha

This week our parish was blessed with a profound witness to the spirit of Christmas through the journey of Lindelani Njapha, who first came to St Agnes in a time of deep need and found support through our Foodbag Ministry. Over time, he not only received assistance but became a cherished member of our community, faithfully attending our Eucharist services and finding a spiritual home among us. Recently, Lindelani shared the joyful news that he has secured employment at a packaging company in Springfield, but what

moved us even more deeply was his response to this blessing - he returned to the church carrying tins of food, wanting to contribute to the very ministry that once supported him. With a humble heart, he expressed his desire for others to receive the same kindness he had experienced, embodying the meaning of Christmas in its purest form through gratitude, generosity, and renewed hope. His gesture reminded us of the one leper in Scripture who turned back to thank Jesus for his healing, revealing a heart transformed by God's love working through community. As a parish, we give thanks for Lindelani's remarkable journey from need to belonging to blessing others, and we pray that his story inspires us all to become instruments of Christ's compassion this Advent and Christmas season - truly, to God be the glory.

THE
CAROLS AND NINE LESSONS
OF
CHRISTMAS

SUN, 14 DEC 2025 @15H00
 St Agnes Church, 53 Abelia Road, Kloof

COMBINED
Baptism
SERVICE

REGISTRATION FORM
Click or scan the QR code to open the form

SUN, 21 DEC 2025 @08H00
 St Agnes Church, 53 Abelia Road, Kloof



Christmas Eve
 WEDNESDAY, 24 DEC 2025 @18H00

MERRY CHRISTMAS

THU, 25 DEC 2025 @08H00
 St Agnes Church, 53 Abelia Road, Kloof

FoodPantry

FOOD PANTRY APPEAL

Our church food pantry is in need of clean, reusable containers to pack and distribute food to those in our community who need it most. We are requesting donations of:

Please drop off your donations at the church office or place them in the food basket at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity and support of this vital ministry.



Used bread bags for packaging mealie meal, samp, rice, and other dry goods



Half-size bags (approx. 30 x 15cm, with no holes) for sugar, tea, salt, and similar items



Plastic screw-top bottles particularly peanut butter & mayonnaise jars, as well as half-size bottles of any kind



All items should be clean and in good condition. These simple donations make an enormous difference in our ability to serve families with dignity and care.



St Agnes Ministry Calendar!

Dec 2025 - Dec 2026 Now Available!

Let's journey together with purpose, faith, and joy as we seek to know Jesus and make Him known throughout 2026!

Click or Scan the QR code to download your copy



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031 764 2037
www.stagnes.org.za

Parish Ministry
Calendar

2025
VISION

TO KNOW JESUS
AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

The Church of the Holy Spirit

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
07h30 Eucharist Service 09h00 Worship Service 11h00 Zulu Service 17h00 Evensong Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 24:36-44 CHORAL Evening Advent Series	18h30 Monday Advent Series 1 Advent Series	08h30 Staff Meeting & Prayer 2 Advent Series	10h00 Eucharist Service 3 Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 15:29-39 St. Agnes Choir & Ministry, etc.	11h00 AWF Christmas Tea 4 Office Closed	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 5 Day of Goodwill	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 6 Term 4 Public Schools Close
07h30 Eucharist Service 09h00 Worship Service 11h00 Zulu Service 17h00 Evensong Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	18h30 Monday Advent Series 7 Advent Series	08h30 Staff Meeting & Prayer 8 Day of Reconciliation	10h00 Eucharist Service 9 Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22 SINGO Term 4 Private Schools Close	11h00 AWF Christmas Tea 10 Office Closed	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 11 Day of Goodwill	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 12 Term 4 Public Schools Close
07h30 Eucharist Service 09h00 Worship Service 11h00 Zulu Service 17h00 Evensong Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	18h30 Monday Advent Series 13 Advent Series	08h30 Staff Meeting & Prayer 14 Day of Reconciliation	10h00 Eucharist Service 15 Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	11h00 AWF Christmas Tea 16 Office Closed	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 17 Day of Goodwill	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 18 Term 4 Public Schools Close
08h00 Combined Baptism Service 19h00 Eucharist Service 20h00 Worship Service 21h00 Zulu Service Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	18h30 Monday Advent Series 19 Advent Series	08h30 Staff Meeting & Prayer 20 Day of Reconciliation	10h00 Eucharist Service 21 Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	11h00 AWF Christmas Tea 22 Office Closed	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 23 Day of Goodwill	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 24 Term 4 Public Schools Close
07h30 Eucharist Service 09h00 Worship Service 11h00 Zulu Service 17h00 Evensong Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	18h30 Monday Advent Series 25 Advent Series	08h30 Staff Meeting & Prayer 26 Day of Reconciliation	10h00 Eucharist Service 27 Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	11h00 AWF Christmas Tea 28 Office Closed	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 29 Day of Goodwill	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 30 Term 4 Public Schools Close
07h30 Eucharist Service 09h00 Worship Service 11h00 Zulu Service 17h00 Evensong Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	18h30 Monday Advent Series 31 Advent Series	08h30 Staff Meeting & Prayer 32 Day of Reconciliation	10h00 Eucharist Service 33 Isaiah 31:1-3 Psalm 122 Matthew 11:21-22	11h00 AWF Christmas Tea 34 Office Closed	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 35 Day of Goodwill	06h00 Friday Morning Prayer 36 Term 4 Public Schools Close
Liturgical Colours used in the Calendar: White: Green: Red: Purple			The Church Calendar			
WHITE/GOLD Advent & Epiphany Green Lent & Easter Red Pentecost & Trinity Purple Advent & Epiphany			The Church Calendar tells the story of Jesus – from Advent's expectation to Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time – guiding believers through seasons of preparation, celebration, mission, and growth. It uses colours (purple, white/gold, red, green) to mark the spiritual focus of each season and to shape the rhythm of worship.			

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

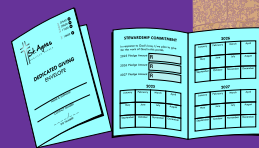
Serving Generously and Giving Sacrificially

- 1 EFT GIVE ONLINE Electronic
- 2 GIVE IN SERVICE Offering
- 3 LEAVE A Bequest

WAYS TO GIVE



- 4 GIVE WITH zapper
- 5 DEDICATED GIVING Envelopes



Bank Details

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zapper
The rewarding way to pay



Lectinary
Advent 2025 - December 2026
Year 4
The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

2026 Lectonaries

are available
from the front
office at R40 each