



How can
Advent offer you
opportunities to
celebrate community
and connectedness?

Third Sunday of Advent

This Advent we acknowledge the importance of community and connectedness.

... Aboriginal understanding of the individual is in relation to the family, the community, the tribe, the land and the spiritual beings of the lore and dreaming... The person is not seen as separate, but in relationship to and with others. (vpssc.vic.gov.au).

Advent invites us to celebrate community and our connectedness to all of creation. The child dancing in Elizabeth's womb is symbolic of the dance within each person's heart and within all the universe... when I greet another person or any element of the universe with hospitality – that is, with welcome and acceptance, with wonder and awe – I am bonded... and the dance goes on. (J. Rupp. *The Star in My Heart*. 1990. p.21).

The journey of Jesus' birth was shared with a community of welcome, relationship, hospitality and love.

IMAGE SOURCE: "THE GIFT" BY REV ROBYN DAVIS

Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit... (Luke 1:39-41)

COMPASSION JUSTICE RESPECT HOPE

About the Artwork



The Gift

Robyn has combined rich colours, simple figures and elaborate dot work to create this striking nativity scene in which the wise men are depicted as emus. The track surrounding the scene develops branches leading to Christ, symbolic of the journey we can all take towards God.

I see my paintings as a spiritual gift. It enables me to bring the word of God into area where it would not normally be. I believe God puts stories as pictures into my head, so He needs to be acknowledged as the true artist.
Aunty Robyn Davis (*Our Mob, God's Story*. 2017. p.100).

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby... an angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them.... The angel said to them “Do not be afraid I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord...” (Luke 2:8-12)

The greatest gift of all!

Artist note:

I wanted this painting to shine with joy. For the viewer to see the great promises of God. To see the colours of the rainbow, the promise of grace, understanding and peace on earth. To see a future filled with hope.

Robyn trained in European style art and now prefers to do contemporary Aboriginal art which depicts her cultural identity and background. Her clan totem is the platypus and her personal totem the sand goanna, giving her strong connections to the land and the water, which feature in most of her works. She has a strong Christian faith (ordained in 2009) and believes that God has given her this gift as he gives all of us gifts. You will find a small gold cross in each of her paintings to acknowledge this. God bless.

This is a print of an original piece of Aboriginal art and as such all rights belong to the artist,
Robyn Davis, Wadi Wadi Nations.