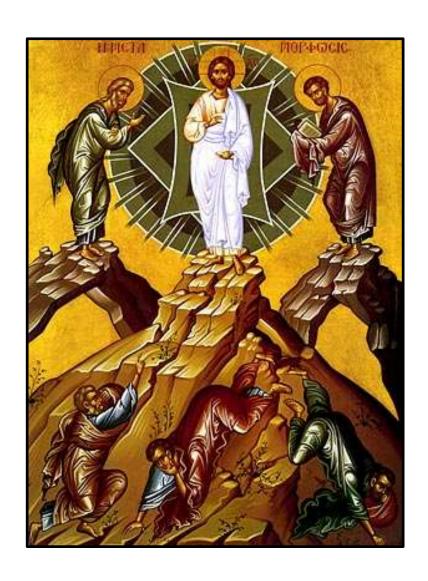
Last Sunday after Epiphany

**14 February 2021** 

Please note that it is currently mandatory to wear a mask inside all church buildings.



#### **PRELUDE**

Setting: Parish Eucharist Dudman

## **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

The bell rings as we gather together.

# HYMN Christ, whose glory fills the sky

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only light, sun of righteousness, arise, triumph over shades of night; dayspring from on high, be near; day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn if you seem not close to me; joyless is the day's return, till your mercy's beams I see, till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief; more and more yourself display, shining to the perfect day.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

The President welcomes the congregation in suitable words

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## We sing together

Lord, have mercy; Lord have mercy; Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOULTION**

Deacon: Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

## Silence is kept

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of lie;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The President pronounces absolution, and the people respond Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The President says

Let us pray.

The community may pray silently, before the President "collects" the communal prayer in the prayer of the Church for the day.

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

# First Reading

A reading from the second book of Kings

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew

near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

2 Kings 2:1-12

Reader For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

#### Psalm 50:1-6



The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. *Response*.

Our God comes, and does not keep silence, before whom is a devouring fire, round about whom is a mighty storm. God calls to the heaven above and to the earth, that the people may be judged: Response.

'Gather to me, my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!' The heavens declare God's righteousness, for he himself is judge! Response.

## **Second Reading**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the church in Corinth

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.

For it is the God who said

'Let light shine out of darkness',

who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;

perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

always carrying in the body the death of Jesus,

so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.

So death is at work in us, but life in you.

2 Corinthians 4:3-12

Reader For the Word of the Lord

**A11** Thanks be to God

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia This is my Son, my beloved: listen to him Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Deacon The Lord be with you All And also with you

**Deacon** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

All Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.

And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus,

Rabbi, it is good for us to be here;

let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'

He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!'

Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Mark 9:2-9

Deacon For the Gospel of the Lord,
All Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

#### **HOMILY**

Silence is kept

#### The Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

#### All stand

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son], who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Prayers are offered for the world, the Church, for our local community, those sick or "in any other adversity", and we remember the faithful departed.

President: Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

All stand.
The Greeting of Peace is introduced with these or other suitable words.

We are the body of Christ **His Spirit is with us.** 

The President says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** 

We greet one another with a sign of peace.

# OFFERTORY HYMN Let all mortal flesh keep silence

During the singing of this hymn, the table is laid and our offerings received

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand. Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descending comes, our homage to demand. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of heaven now incarnate in the body and the blood, he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven streams before him on the way, as the Light of light descending from the realms of endless day comes, that pow'rs of hell may vanish, as the shadows pass away.

At his feet the six-wingèd seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The President continues with a prayer recalling God's saving acts, culminating with:

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. The prayer continues recalling the Supper our Lord shared with his disciples, until the deacon says:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer concludes with a triumphant song of praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

# Agnus Dei is sung:

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

The President invites people to the Lord's Table in suitable words.

Motet: O nata lux Tallis

After all have received the sacrament, silence is kept.

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The President offers a prayer, ending with

Father,
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.

## **HYMN**

How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; Your face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.

Fulfiller of the past Promise of things to be, We hail your body glorified And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, We see your kingdom come; We still would hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.

How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; But since you bid us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

## THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

#### **POSTLUDE**

Concerto in G major movt 1 J.S. Bach BWV 592

## FROM THE VICAR

Last Sunday we explored how, in times of waiting, the people of Israel learned a little more about the God they worshipped; and how, in our own times of waiting, when we realise we're not quite as 'in control' as we might like to imagine, we too can learn to see the world, ourselves and our relationship with God a little differently.

In the last few decades, the Church has taken to using this last Sunday before Lent as a time to read the gospel of Jesus' transfiguration. The Feast of the Transfiguration is one of the great feasts of the Church, but because it falls on August 6, that means it can be 'lost' in the middle of a working week. This move to reading the transfiguration narrative on a Sunday at least means we can focus again on the remarkable insights – literally – this feast brings; even if *not* keeping it on 'Hiroshima day' (August 6), the anniversary of the dropping of the first atomic bomb, means we can miss the tragic overshadowing of the brilliant light.

It is appropriate to think about the transfiguration. In Mark's gospel, as in Matthew and Luke, it comes as Jesus is heading towards Jerusalem, and to all he knows awaits him there. As we prepare to begin Lent, and the concentration that season brings on our Lord's suffering, Passion and death, it is helpful for us to hear, as those three disciples did, what will be required of those who choose to follow Jesus all the way to his cross. More than that, however, it takes up that exploration of new ways of seeing we touched on last week. The Orthodox Church (and our own remarkable Bishop Michael Ramsey) have reminded us that, as he is transfigured, the disciples see Jesus as he *truly* is: bathed in the Uncreated Light that, as we say in the Creed, he is – 'Light from Light'. In other words, for a brief moment on that mountaintop, Peter, James and John are shown the reality of Jesus, a reality that can sometimes be obscured by their – and our – 'ideas' of what a Messiah or God should look like.

On the mountain-top, we are shown that the full effulgence of Jesus' glory cannot be separated from his coming death, and his resurrection. Human understandings of what is 'glorious' are completely re-written, re-imagined, in Jesus. It really is an entirely different way of 'seeing the world'; and it is a way of seeing that Lent prepares us for more deeply.

BIBLE READINGS:  1st Sunday in Lent	21 February 2021
Genesis 9: 8-17	1 Peter 3:18-22
Psalm 25: 1-10	Mark 1:9-15

## NOTICES

## LENT IS (ALMOST) UPON US!

Lent begins remarkably early this year - in fact, during the coming week. To that end, there will be additional liturgies during this week. Please see:

## Tuesday, 16 February

5:00pm	Evening Prayer for Shrove Tuesday (the Lady Chapel); followed by
5:30pm	Burning of palm crosses to prepare for Ash Wednesday;
	followed by
6:00pm	'Fat Tuesday' (Mardi Gras) 'libations', in light of Carnivale
-	('farewell to meat'!)

Given the continuing Covid limitations, the traditional Pancake Tuesday in the Vicarage garden will not be possible this year (roll on 2022!).

Nevertheless, we will still meet to prepare some ashes for Ash Wednesday by burning last year's palm crosses. If you have those at home, bring them along.

The eating of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday developed so that excesses of flour, milk, butter and other sweet things (that would be 'given up' during Lent) could be eaten up. In France, this was the time for eating up all the 'fat' things, hence it was 'Fat Tuesday' - Mardi Gras. And, in Italian and Spanish speaking places, this day marked the 'farewell to meat' - Carni Vale - until Easter. While we can't eat pancakes this year, we can certainly have a celebratory 'drink' to mark the 'using up' of things we may not ordinarily have during Lent. There is quite a bit of sparkling wine left from the Vicar's installation and last Sunday: let's not leave it around during Lent but 'use it up' on this night.

## Ash Wednesday, 17 February

8:00am Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

9:00am Morning Prayer

10:15am Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

7:30pm Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes and hymns

## LENT STUDY GROUPS

There will again be a series of Lent Study Groups this year. We will explore Rowan Williams' remarkable book *Christ on Trial*, in which each week we examine one of the gospel's 'Passion narratives'. The book therefore provides helpful insights into the Scriptural riches of the accounts of our Lord's trial and passion, while also exploring (as the subtitle of the book makes clear) 'how the gospel unsettles our judgement.

Books should be available on Friday, 19 February from the office, or from Brenda after a service on Sun 21 February.

Cost of each book is \$35.00 Please bring exact cash, if possible, when you collect your book.

We plan to offer four different days / times / locations for the Groups. They will each meet once a week for 1 hour.

## The options are:

Tuesdays at 7:00pm in Ormond, starting on 23 February

Wednesdays at 3:00pm at 'Menzies', starting on 24 February

Thursdays at 10:45am, in the church, immediately after the 10:15am service, starting on 25 February

Sundays at 3:30pm, in the church, prior to evening service, starting on 21 February if books have arrived on time, or on Sun 28 February.

PLEASE LET BRENDA KNOW BY EMAIL, OR AFTER A SERVICE TODAY, OF YOUR INTENTION TO ATTEND A GROUP with your preference of day / time, plus an acceptable alternative if possible. It is hoped that the groups will be finalised by Friday 19 February.

#### **PEW BULLETIN**

With Covid restrictions being eased, St George's is now able to accommodate up to 100 people in Church on any day. You will need to register on arrival via the QR system using your mobile phone or sign in at the door; (mobile phone preferred). Copies of the pew bulletin will be available in hard copy at each service.

## ONGOING COVID REQUIREMENTS

As we continue to follow both State Government and Diocese regulations regarding Covid 19 restrictions, we are unable to enjoy refreshments yet, have sides persons, full choir or a full complement in each sanctuary party. We will observe minimal singing in Church for the present.

Covid Safe Officers [CSOs] continue to be required at all services to maintain our compliance. If you, or any one you know, would like to train as a CSO, particularly for Sunday 8.00am or 5.00pm services, please let me or Brenda know.

The following restrictions are still being enforced, whilst in the church or on the property:

- Face masks are now again mandatory in Church. It is recommended there is no loud singing and masks be worn during singing.
- Sanitize your hands-on arrival and immediately prior to leaving the property
- Sign-in in the place you are using: Vestry, Office, or at the Parish Centre entrance for those on site generally eg in the garden, or in the South Transept if using the church.
- When on the property, but not attending a service, sign-in using the red headed sheet
- Please note the requirement to clean all areas and items you have personally touched or used whilst on site. Disinfectant wipes, of the stipulated grade, are provided for your use
- Those using the Vestry ... please be mindful that the space only allows a maximum of two people at any one time.

## MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Many in the parish have asked about the recommencement of Morning tea following the 10am service. The matter has been discussed by the Parish Council and the conclusion was that Morning tea is a great idea and should be resumed; but how is the issue. We need many volunteers and at this stage have few. Therfore with the Covid restrictions, Morning tea cannot resume until we have many more volunteers. A new coordinator needs to be found and a team of volunteers. The volunteers are involved in setting up, serving and cleaning up afterwards. Please speak with one of the wardens if you are willing to volunteer. As soon as we have some idea of numbers of volunteers, a meeting will be called to discuss hopeful implementation.

#### LOOKING FOR A FABULOUS TENOR!

To maintain our choral tradition through the Holy Week and Easter services, we need a tenor to join us. The commitment includes a major rehearsal on Tuesday 30th and rehearsals + services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday Vigil (evening) and Easter Day. There is a significant amount of material - so you will either need to be familiar with the standard repertoire, or an extremely competent reader. The choir is friendly and supportive - do let me know after the service today if you are interested in discussing further what is needed.

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

The Church office is now open during the following times:

## Monday-Friday - 9:30am-12:30pm

If visiting the office, please observe all protocols relating to Covid 19 including signing in and sanitizing your hands.

## A FINAL NOTE FROM THE VICAR

I remain remarkably touched and grateful for all that was done to make last Sunday a fitting 'ending' to the celebrations that began on Wednesday evening. Thank you to the many who contributed so much time and planning; and for the generous welcome from so many. I feel remarkably blessed to be here, and to travelling with you through this coming Lent, and onward as we grow together in our 'in-sight' to the God who loves and calls us.





The fourth Sharwood Lecture in Church Law will be delivered in Melbourne and Sydney by the Honourable Justice Debra Mullins AO

# Will the ties that bind break under the strain? The future for the constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.

This topic is relevant in light of the current issues facing the Anglican church after the Commonwealth legislative reforms permitting same-sex marriage and the recent Appellate Tribunal decisions in regard to the blessing of marriages, including same-sex marriages, and clergy discipline. The lecture will not be limited to these issues, but they will be used to highlight the broader issues with the current constitution and explore what the future could be for the constitution and the Anglican Church of Australia.

The fourth Robin Sharwood Lecture will be delivered by the Honourable Justice Debra Mullins AO. Justice Mullins is a judge of the Court of Appeal of the Supreme Court of Queensland. Since 2014 she has been the Chancellor of the Diocese of Brisbane, having previously served as Deputy Chancellor since 2004. Justice Mullins is the Chair of the Church Law Commission of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia.

Date:	Tuesday 16 March 2021	
Time:	7.30pm, followed by light refreshments	
Location:	The Craig Auditorium, Gateway Building, Trinity College, 100	
	Royal Parade, Parkville VIC 3052	
Cost:	Free admission, but bookings are essential	
RSVP:	By COB Friday 12 March 2021 Click here to RSVP	
Enquiries:	Matilda Sholly   events@trinity.unimelb.edu.au   03 9348 7527	

Today 14 February	8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	Holy Eucharist – The Vicar Holy Eucharist – The Vicar Eucharist with Meditation – The Vicar
Monday 15 February	9:00am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
'Shrove' Tuesday 16 February	9:00am 9:15am 5:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer (Zoom) Evening Prayer Burning of Palm Crosses 'Pre-Lenten libations'
Ash Wednesday 17 February	8:00am 9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm 7:30pm	Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes Morning Prayer Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes Evening Prayer Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes and hymns
Thursday 18 February	9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Eucharist Evening Prayer
Friday 19 February	9:00am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Next Sunday 1st Sunday in Lent 21 February	8:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	Eucharist – The Assistant Curate Eucharist with Hymns – The Assistant Curate Eucharist with Meditation – The Vicar

# **ZOOM SERVICES AT ST GEORGE'S, MALVERN**

# Tuesday, 16 February 2021

9.15am Morning Prayer: ID: 848 2361 2412, Password: SGM3144 or you can connect by putting into your search browser the following, https://us02web.zoom.us/j/848 2361 2412

#### PARISH DIRECTORY

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, VIC 3144



## **VICAR**

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

Day off: Monday Phone: tbc

Email: vicar@stgeorgesmalvern.org

## **ASSISTANT CURATE**

The Reverend Brenda Williams Works: Sat - Tues and Thurs

Phone: 0481 162 667

Email: curate@stgeorgesmalvern.org

## HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Bill Michie

## **ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Elizabeth-Anne Nixon

Email: music@stgeorgesmalvern.org

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

Nisha O'Brien

Monday-Friday 9:30am-12:30pm

Phone: 9822 3030

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#### WARDENS

Jenny Weller-Newton 9570 7731 Judy Mallinson 0414 752 957 Ravi Renjen 0412 399 897