



Fifth Sunday in Lent

21 March 2021

*We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet.
We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, acknowledge their continuing spiritual connection to Country, and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.*

All pew sheets, music sheets or any other papers used must be taken home for further use or disposal.



8:00 am

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.
whose mercy endures 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 say together

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

*During Lent, the ancient Hymn of Praise, Gloria in excelsis, is omitted.
Instead, we say together another ancient refrain, the Trisagion:*

Holy God, **holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

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 and for the season, to which the people respond:*

Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the prophecy of Jeremiah:

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—
a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.
But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,
says the Lord:
I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts;
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other,
'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord;
for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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

Psalm 119:9-16

Response: I will not forget your word, O Lord

How shall the young keep their path pure:
unless they hold to your word?
I have sought you with my whole heart:
let me not stray from your commandments.
I have treasured your words in my heart:
that I might not sin against you. **R**

Blessed are you, Lord God:
O teach me your statutes.
With my lips I have been telling:
all the judgements of your mouth;
And I find more joy in the way of your commands:
than in all manner of riches. **R.**

I will meditate on your precepts:
and give heed to your ways;
For my delight is wholly in your statutes:
and I will not forget your word. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews:

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest,
but was appointed by the one who said to him,

‘You are my Son,
today I have begotten you’;

as he says also in another place,

‘You are a priest for ever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.’

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications,
with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death,
and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered;
and having been made perfect,
he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,
having been designated by God a high priest
according to the order of Melchizedek.

About this we have much to say that is hard to explain,
since you have become dull in understanding.

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone
to teach you again the basic elements of the oracles of God.

You need milk, not solid food; for everyone who lives on milk,
being still an infant, is unskilled in the word of righteousness.

But solid food is for the mature,
for those whose faculties have been trained by practice
to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:5-14

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

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

If a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies,
it bears much fruit.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Deacon The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’

Philip went and told Andrew;

then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

Jesus answered them,

‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.

Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—

“Father, save me from this hour”?’

No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name.’

Then a voice came from heaven,

‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder.

Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’

Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.

Now is the judgement of this world;

now the ruler of this world will be driven out.

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’

He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

John 12:20-33

Deacon For the Gospel of the Lord

All **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

Silence is kept

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.

For the Anglican Church

The Church of England; The Diocese of Wangaratta (Bp Clarence Bester, Clergy and People); Diocesan Finance; Parish of St Hilary's Kew/St Silas' North Balwyn and St Augustine's Mont Albert North; St Paul's Frankston.

For all in need

Jenny, Margaret, Sam, Milroy, Coral, David, Tony, Paul, Christine, Lei and her family, Keith, Peter, Ann, Leon, Erica, Josh, Eric, and members of the Parish in hospital facing surgery or recovering from an illness.

For the Faithful Departed

We pray for Arthur Emery, Jillian Gosper, Alastair Reginald Stephen, Maria Mercer, Howard Jenkins, Mary Newton, Laura Gregory, Violet Mansell, Robert Howard, Margaret (Peg) Horsburgh, Marie Perry, Estelle Gregory, Helen Lillas McGee, Myrtle Hill and Dianne Mercer *whose anniversaries of death we remember this week.*

When the Intercessor has finished offering the Prayers of the People, the President collects the intercessions of all:

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.**

Let us pray:

**We do not presume
to come to your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Silence is kept

Let us then ask for mercy, 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 life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The President pronounces absolution, and the people respond
Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

All stand.

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

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

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.

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, 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:

Dying you destroyed our death,

Rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The prayer concludes with a triumphant acclamation:

**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 said:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us your peace.**

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

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
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*The President pronounces God's blessing, to which all respond
Amen.*

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 22 March	9:00am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Tuesday 23 March	9:00am 9:15am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer (Zoom) ID: 892 3909 9817, Password: SGM3144 or you can connect by putting into your search browser the following, https://us02web.zoom.us/j/892 3909 9817 Evening Prayer
Wednesday 24 March <i>Oscar Romero, Martyr and Bishop</i>	9:00am 5:00pm 7.00 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer Lent Study Group
Thursday 25 March <i>The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Eucharist, followed by Lent Study Group Evening Prayer
Friday 26 March	9:00am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Next Sunday <i>(Palm Sunday)</i> 28 March	8:00am 10:00am 3:30pm 5:00pm	Holy Eucharist with Distribution of Palms Holy Eucharist with Procession and Distribution of Palms Lent Study Group Eucharist with <i>Lectio Divina</i>

BIBLE READINGS: Palm Sunday	28 March 2021
Gospel of the Palms: Mark 11: 1–11 Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-18	 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14.1-15.27

FROM THE VICAR

A couple of weeks ago, when we heard in a reading from Exodus the familiar words of the ten commandments, I said that perhaps we might pray, as we used to say at the end of hearing all the commandments read: ‘Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.’ Archbishop Cranmer, and those who helped him in compiling our *Book of Common Prayer*, had (I’m certain) this morning’s reading from Jeremiah in mind. Jeremiah looks forward to a day when the LORD will, indeed, ‘write my law on the hearts’ of the people.

At first sight this looks excellent, something that is good, lovely and wonderful – a time when we will no longer need to learn or be taught God’s ways, when we ‘shall all know’ God, and when God will ‘forgive our iniquity and remember our sin no more.’ But within Jeremiah’s prophecy, and certainly in the readings from the letter to the Hebrews and John’s gospel, there are some ‘shadows’ behind this vision of wonder and reconciliation. Yes, God *will* do all this for God’s people. But why does God need to do that? Because the covenants that God made with our ancestors – the covenant God made first with Noah, then with Abraham, then through Moses and the people of Israel – we humans have broken all of those covenants! Indeed, we continue not to live up to our side of God’s loving relationship with us.

That is why, the writer of the letter to the Hebrews says, Jesus had to offer up ‘prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears’ to the God he calls ‘Father’. And, though he was a Son, for our sake he did what we could never do: ‘learned obedience’ – and he did that through suffering and death.

And the same ‘shadow of the cross’ is there in the gospel of John. Last week, we heard Jesus tell Nicodemus that, just as Moses had lifted up the serpent (when the people in the wilderness grumbled against God, and broke the covenant with God), so he will be ‘lifted up’. The ‘hour’ of Jesus’ ‘glory’ that has now come is to be a glory that comes from and through the crucifixion, and Jesus’ death.

The ‘new covenant’ God offers is wonderful, miraculous and much to be embraced. But we need to remember that it comes at a great cost to God in his Son. We will know and recognize God because we will see him revealed as one of us: the Word made flesh, Jesus, who endures suffering and death. And promises that, for us, this new covenant also involves the commitment to serve and follow him – even if that means ‘hating our life in this world’, and the way this world operates. Dare we follow? Dare we embrace this offering of a new covenant that transforms our whole being?

NOTICES

LENT STUDY GROUPS

Continue this week at the following times and places:

Wednesdays at 7:00pm in Ormond

Thursdays at 11:00ish, in the Parish Centre, immediately after the 10:15am eucharist

Sundays at 3:30pm, in the Parish Centre, prior to evening service

‘COVID19 NORMAL’ REGULATIONS

The restrictions and rules for services often change in these times of Covid19 pandemic.

Please continue to observe all the current guidelines:

- **If you feel unwell, you must not attend church.**
- **It is mandatory to wear a mask, covering your mouth and nose during all singing.**
- **Sanitising of hands is mandatory as you enter AND as you leave the church.**
- The density quotient of **2** sq m per person, can only be used if **everyone registers electronically** prior to the start of the service. This allows **102** to attend the service, making a total of **120** including choir, clergy, servers etc. The 2 sq m spatial distancing rule means ensuring a minimum of an elbow's distance at all times.
- When people do not register electronically, prior to the start of a service, we are required to use the density quotient of **4** sq m per person. This allows only **51** people to attend and they must sit in alternate pews, maintaining a distance of 1.5m.
- You are reminded that shaking hands, hugging, kissing or any other kind of physical contact is not permitted **at any time**, with anyone not in your immediate family/household.
- There will be no passing around of the collection bowl to avoid multiple handling the bowl. The collection bowl/s are placed at the door as you arrive for your offering.
- Communion will remain in one kind only, that is no sharing of a common cup, for the foreseeable future.
- All Pew Sheets are single use only. Please do not leave them in the church or on site after the service, rather take them home for re-use or disposal.
- Please note that whilst we have multiple services some days and the premises are again being hired out again, the church, parish centre and offices are cleaned and sanitised following WorkSafe pandemic guidelines, so you can be assured of the cleanliness of the buildings and furnishings.

USE OF NAME BADGE

If you are using your name badge in church (and the Vicar is most grateful for those who are doing so as a help to him), COVID regulations require you to take this home at the end of each service and to bring it back for use at the next service you attend. Unfortunately, the name badge cannot be left in the church.

If you do not have a name badge and would like one, please let Brenda know after any service.

CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND MACO DONATIONS

St George's hopes to provide modest scholarships (ideally for one singer per part), so that younger singers can be brought to experience the joys and wonders of the Anglican musical tradition. Donations to fund such scholarships are best made through the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation, as this enables the donations to be tax-deductible. Donations can be made via the link below:

<https://www.melbourneanglican.org.au/maf-donation-page>

Please note the following:

Under 'Select the Fund you wish to donate to', select MACO

Under 'Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation Inc (MACO)', select St George's Malvern - Music Fund

ST GEORGE'S SOUND SYSTEM

McLean Sound undertook a recalibration of the sound system in the past week. Any feedback will be gratefully received after today's liturgies. We are continuing to explore a radical 'simplification' of the system and equipment. We give hearty thanks to Ron Tayles, who has looked after the current system for many years. A new team is being prepared, and will be in place when a new, more simplified system is installed.

VISIT TO BISHOPSCOURT GARDEN

During Open Gardens Victoria weekend, the garden of Bishopscourt at 20 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne, the home of Archbishop Freier, will be opened to the public on 27th and 28th March from 10.00am to 4.30pm.

There will also be Devonshire teas, tours on Sat 2.00pm and Sun 11.00am; propagated plants and books on Bishopscourt for sale.

Entry \$10, Students \$6, under 18s free.

Bookings essential via TryBooking www.trybooking.com/BOVOL

The Activities Group is being advised of this opportunity and will be emailed a copy of the flyer from Bishopscourt. Anyone else requiring the flyer or wishing to be added onto the Activities Group list, please email your request to Charles Tegner - ctegner@bigpond.net.au *Charles Tegner*

MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL

Baz Luhrmann's revolutionary film is now a Broadway sensation. Nominated for 14 Tony Awards® and featuring over 70 songs in a new musical extravaganza, it opens in August 2021 at Melbourne's Regent theatre.

St George's Activities Group has already been advised of this musical and we have a strong response for tickets. Those of you not already in the Activities Group are welcome to put your names forward for the quantity of tickets required. Let me know if you would like to receive a copy of the Broadway review.

Moulin Rouge the Musical is receiving rave reviews from New York and promises to have an enthusiastic following when it comes to Melbourne. I would like to have an idea as to how many of us would like to participate in a group booking of tickets (which allows a 12% discount), and whether we prefer a matinee afternoon performance on a weekday or a Saturday.

(Saturday tickets are usually slightly more expensive.)

We usually select central tickets mid stalls. I do not yet have ticket prices so your interest in participating is not binding. I will let you know price details when they are to hand, and receive your confirmation. At present I just need to know numbers. *Le Moulin Rouge* was, and takes place in, an 1899 Paris nightclub. Baz Luhrmann's production will be spectacular.

Please forward expressions of interest to ctegner@bigpond.net.au

Charles Tegner

PALM CROSS MAKING

Ewan and Sandra Morgan will be conducting a Palm Cross Making session on 26 March 2021 – 2.00-4.00pm in St George's Hall.

COLLECTION FOR ST ALBAN'S

Non perishable items are being collected for St Alban's. Please bring your donations on Sunday, 28 March - 8.00am service.

Helen Baddeley

COLLECTION FOR ST MARK'S, FITZROY

Non perishable items are being collected for St Mark's, Fitzroy. Please bring your donations on Sunday, 28 March - 10.00am service.

Ewan and Sandra Morgan

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CHURCH OFFICE

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