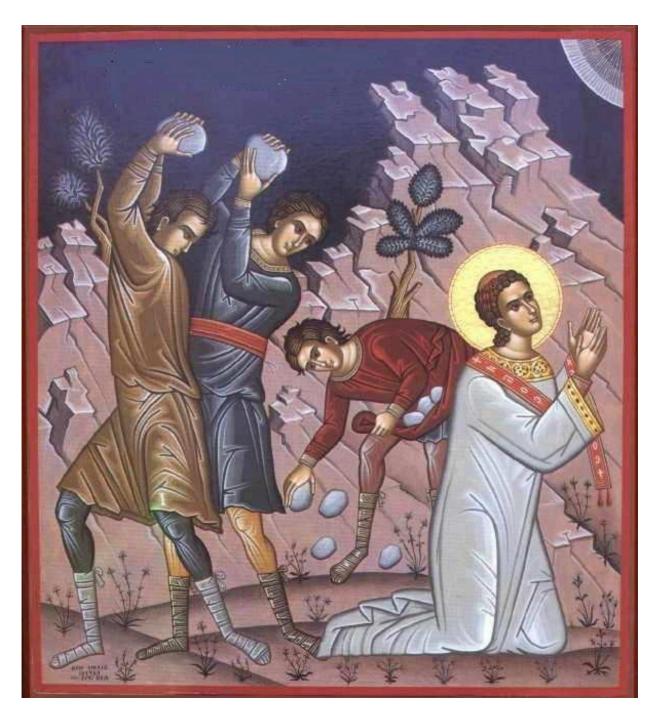


# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Martyrdom of St Stephen, Deacon and Protomartyr

7 May, 2023

Hymns (8:00 a. m.):

Hymns and Setting (10:00 a.m):

103; see below; 286

103; see below; 286

Parish Eucharist by Michael Dudman (1938–94)

Before the service, speak with God; during the service, let God speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

The service may be followed from p. 119 in An Australian Prayer Book (with seasonal additions pp. 154–5)

Sentence: 'Return now to the shepherd and guardian of your souls!'

c.f. 1 Peter 2:25

## **Collect**

Everlasting God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55–60

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!'

But they covered their ears,

And with a loud shout all rushed together against him.

Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice,

'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# PSALM 31:1-5; 15-16 (8:00 a.m.)

# Response: Let your face shine on your servants [and we shall be saved].

- I. In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness:
- 2. Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

R.

3. Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

R.

- 4. Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.
- 5. Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth....

R.

- 15. My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
- 16. Make your face shine upon your servant; and in your loving kindness, save me.

R.

#### at 10:00 a.m.

Chant: William Crotch (1775-1847)

- I. To you, Lord, have I come for shelter: let me never be put to shame.
- 2. O deliver me in your righteousness : incline your ear to me and be swift to save me.
- 3. Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me : for you are my high rock and my stronghold.
- 4. Lead me and guide me for your name's sake:

  bring me out of the net that they have secretly laid for me,
  for you are my strength.
- 5. Into your hands I commit my spirit : you will redeem me, O Lord God of truth....
- 15. While they plot together against me : and scheme to take away my life.
- 16. But in you, Lord, have I put my trust: I have said 'You are my God.'

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:11–25

A reading from the first letter of Peter:

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish.

As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honour everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honour the emperor.

Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh. For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL John 14:1–14

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

## Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

# And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

# Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus continued speaking to the disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?'

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me. I

f you know me, you will know my Father also.

From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.'

Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, a

nd you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

# **Offertory Hymn**

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
 Saviour, Master, King!
 Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
 hear us as we sing:

Refrain: Yours the glory and the crown,

the high renown, the eternal name.

- 2. Word incarnate, truth revealing, Son of Man on earth! power and majesty concealing by your humble birth: Refrain
- 3. Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated, victim crucified! death is through the cross defeated, sinners justified: Refrain
- 4. Priestly king, enthroned for ever high in heaven above! sin and death and hell shall never stifle hymns of love: Refrain
- 5. So, our hearts and voices raising through the ages long, ceaselessly upon you gazing, this shall be our song: Refrain

Words: Michael Saward (1932–2015) Music: John Barnard (b. 1948)

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

# For the Anglican Church

We pray for Converge International; The Diocese of Bathurst; St Philip's Mount Waverley; St Aidan's Strathmore; St Michael's North Carlton; St Luke's Vermont; All Saints' St Kilda.

#### For all in need

May all who are in trouble, in need or sickness find peace and refreshment in you. We pray for: Angus; Ann; Anne; Coral; Heather; Ivan; Jenny; Joan; John & Margaret; Judy; Keith & Erica; Peter; Ron; Ron and those we name before you now in the silence of our hearts.

## For the Faithful Departed

We remember those who have died recently: Rowland Baldwin; John Fraser Scott; and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Edgar Chandler; Myra Lesley Douglas; Phyllis Ramsden; and Peggy Shannon.

## During communion, the Choir sings the following anthem:

Zadok, the priest, and Nathan, the Prophet, anointed Solomon King, and joyfully approaching they cried, 'God save the King! For ever, and ever, God save the King! Alleluia!'

Words: I Kings 1:38–39 Music: Henry Lawes (1596–1662)

## Following the Prayer after Communion and notices, we stand to sing:

- God save our gracious King, Long live our noble King, God save the King!
   Send him victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, God save the King!
- 2. Thy choicest gifts in store
  On him be pleased to pour,
  Long may he reign:
  May he defend our laws,
  And ever give us cause
  To sing with heart and voice,
  'God save the King!'

Postlude: Marche Hèroïque

A. Herbert Brewer (1865–1928)

# **READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 17:22–231 Psalm 66:7–19
1 Peter 3:8–22 John 14:15–21

# **NOTICES**

**Book group** will meet in the North room **tomorrow**, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. to discuss this month's book, *Infinite Splendour* by Sofie Laguna. All welcome

Spiritual Café also meets tomorrow Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 6:30 p.m.

Our speaker will be The Reverend Dr Elizabeth Smith AM. Her topic will be "Creativity: inspiration, discipline, gift." We hope you will join us at Giorgio's Restaurant for a meal and conversation.

**Book Launch** this Wednesday afternoon (from 2:00 p.m.) for the Memoir of our long-standing and much loved parishioner, John Perry. This will be in the Hall, and parishioners are warmly invited to attend, and contribute to an afternoon tea. Please discuss with Sandra Morgan.

No Reflections on the Lections this Wednesday evening, sadly, owing to the Vicar's unavailability.

Bryan Elmes would like to thank St George's parishioners for the prayers and well wishes which accompanied his stepping down from active chaplaincy at Cabrini Hospital: "It has been an active and fulfilling part of my life and I give thanks for the opportunity to serve in your name and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who inspires us all."

**St Alban's** was very happy indeed to receive \$760 in vouchers last week from us, especially as there were 102 families who signed up last Monday for assistance!

# The Reverend Dr John Fraser Scott, AO

The Requiem Eucharist for our dear brother in Christ John will be held on **Tuesday May 23 at 2:00 p.m.** Please continue to pray for Douglas, Rachel, Tess and all the family in this time of grief.

Ageing and wellbeing seminar: Enhancing our resilience. Wednesday May 10th, 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m. at St John's, Toorak.

Refreshments provided. For further information contact the Revd Dr Wendy Crouch on 9826 1434 or email: assistantpriest@saintjohnsanglican.org

**Pre-Synod meeting**. Victorian Anglicans Together will hold a meeting concerning this year's Synod in St George's Centre from 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 3. This is a vitally important meeting for our elected members of Synod, but others who are interested in the future direction of our Diocese are also warmly invited to attend. The meeting will be chaired by Michael Shand, KC, and there will be a brief presentation by Mr Colin Reilly on the recent 'Kigali Statement' released by members of GAFCON.

In that statement, members of GAFCON have rejected the four traditional 'Instruments of Communion' of the Global Anglican Communion: The Archbishop of Canterbury; the Anglican Consultative Council; the Lambeth Council; and the Primates' Meeting. This has significant ramifications for our Church in this Diocese – especially as the number of Melbourne Anglicans aligning themselves with GAFCON appears to be

growing.

**Pew sheet contributions and notices** kindly need to be submitted to the office by close of business on Tuesday.

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

Weekdays Monday – Saturday	8:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
<u>Day</u>	Morning Prayer in Chapel and by	Evening Prayer Zoom (details below)
Monday,8 May Julian of Norwich, mystic (d. 1417)	Psalm 89:1–18 Exodus 31 John 12:20–33	Psalm 89:19–38 Judges 2:6–23 I Corinthians 7:12–24
Tuesday, 9 May	Psalm 89:39–53 Exodus 32:1–14 John 12:34–43	Psalm 91 Judges 3:7–21 I Corinthians 7:25–35
Wednesday, 10 May	Psalms 92; 93 Exodus 32:15–35 John 12:44–50	Psalm 94 Judges 4 I Corinthians 7:36–40
Reflections on the Lections, 7:30 p.m.		
Thursday, II May	Psalms 95; 96 Exodus 33:1–17 John 13:1–11	Psalms 97; 98 Judges 5:1–18 I Corinthians 8
Holy Eucharist at 10:15 a.m.	Acts 15:7–21 Psalm 96:1–6 John 15:8–11	
Friday, 12 May	Psalms 99; 100 Exodus 33:18–34:10 John 13:12–20	Psalm 103 Judges 5:91–31 I Corinthians 9:1–14
Saturday, 13 May	Psalms 101; 102:1-11 Exodus 34:11-24 John 13:21-35	Psalm 102:12–28 Judges 6:1–24 I Corinthians 9:15–27
Next Sunday, 14 May Sixth Sunday in Easter	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist & Meditation

Morning Prayer

8:30 a.m., Monday - Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09

Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m., Monday - Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRIdmIXWDQ4Zz09

**Reflections on Lections** 

7:30 p.m., Wednesday

Meeting ID: 868 9252 3142; Passcode: 744866

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86892523142?pwd=M1czZ1JRempKL0hrQThORXBFeFFBdz09



Our sincere prayers are offered for Their Majesties The King and Queen on the occasion of their Coronation.

The Church of England has published the following prayers, which you may like to use today and in the coming week:

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and all who are in authority under him; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O God, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love: Grant unto thy servant CHARLES, our King, the Spirit of wisdom and government, that being devoted unto thee with his whole heart, he may so wisely govern, that in his time thy Church may be in safety, and Christian devotion may continue in peace; that so persevering in good works unto the end, he may by thy mercy come to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gracious God, in company with our King, we rededicate ourselves to your service. Take our minds and think through them, take our lips and speak through them, take our hearts and set them on fire with love for you and your kingdom; that here we may have your peace, and in the world to come may see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# PARISH DIRECTORY

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# **CHURCH OFFICE**

Adrian Chong

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# **WARDENS**

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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.