

THE FESTIVAL OF ALL SAINTS

2 November 2025



The holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever.

(Daniel 7:18)

A REFLECTION ON ALL SAINTS DAY

from a Sermon of St Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153)

Of what profit to the saints are our praise and the honour we pay them? Of what use is this Feast day, or why does it mean anything to the saints? What do they care about earthly honours when their heavenly Father fulfilling the true and faithful promise of his Son, has raised them to glory? What does our commemoration mean to them? The saints have no need of honour from us; neither does our devotion add the slightest thing to what is already theirs. Clearly, when we venerate their memory, it is serving **us**, not them. But I tell you, when I think of them, I feel myself inflamed by a tremendous longing to be with them.

Calling the saints to mind inspires, or rather arouses in us, above all else, a longing to enjoy their company, which is desirable in itself. We long to share in the citizenship of heaven, to dwell with the spirits of the blessed, to join the assembly of patriarchs, the ranks of the prophets, the council of apostles, the great host of martyrs, the noble company of confessors and the choir of virgins. In short, we long to be united in happiness with all the saints. But our dispositions change. The Church of all the first followers of Christ in its glory awaits us, and we turn aside. The saints lovingly call us to be with them, and we are indifferent. The host of the redeemed await us, and we ignore them.

Come, let us at long last spur ourselves on. We must rise again with Christ, we must seek the world which is above and set our mind on the things of heaven. Let us love and long for those who love and are longing for us, hasten to those who are waiting for us, and ask those who look for our coming to intercede for us. Our hope should be not only for fellowship with the saints, but also hope to possess their joy. While we desire to be in their company, we must also earnestly seek to share in their glory. Do not imagine that there is anything harmful in such an ambition as this; there is no danger in setting our hearts on such glory.

When we commemorate the saints we are inflamed with another yearning: that Christ our life may also appear to us as he appeared to them, and that we may one day share in his glory. Meanwhile, of course, Christ is displayed, not as he truly is, but as he became for our sake. Would it not be shameful for a member to live pampered, when the head is crowned with thorns; when the purple robe is put upon him not in honour but in mockery? When Christ comes again, his death shall no longer be proclaimed, and we shall know that we also have died, and that our life is hidden with him. The glorious head of the Church will appear and his glorified members will shine in splendour with him, that is, when he transforms this lowly body anew into such glory as belongs to himself, as its head.

So, let us strive to attain this glory with a passionate desire and an ambition that is entirely praiseworthy. And, that we may rightly hope for it and strive for such blessedness, the prayers of the saints are eminently desirable, that what we cannot attain by our own unaided efforts may be granted by God's grace, and our sanctification aided by their intercession.

The service may be followed from p. 119 in An Australian Prayer Book (APBA – the green book)

Sentence:

Blessed are you when people hate and revile and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven.

Luke 6:22-23

Collect

We praise you, heavenly Father that you have knit together your chosen ones in one communion and fellowship in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**.

FIRST READING

Daniel 7:1–3, 15–18

A reading from the prophecy of Daniel:

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon,
Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed.

Then he wrote down the dream:

I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another....

As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me.

I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: 'As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever—for ever and ever.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149

Response: My mouth, O God, shall speak of wisdom.

- I. Alleluia! Sing to the LORD a new song; sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.
- 2. Let Israel rejoice in his maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.
- 3. Let them praise his name in the dance; let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.
- 4. For the LORD takes pleasure in his people and adorns the poor with victory.
 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them be joyful on their beds.
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- 5. Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand;
- 6. To wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples;
- 7. To bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron; to inflict on them the judgement decreed; this is glory for all his faithful people. Alleluia!

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:11-23

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A reading from the letter to the Ephesians:

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named,

not only in this age but also in the age to come.

And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 6:20–31

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus looked up at his disciples and said:

- 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.
- 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.
- 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

- 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
- 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.
- 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.
- 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Church

The Church of the Province of West Africa; The Diocese of Tasmania; St James', Thornbury; Christ Church, Dingley; Melton Dinka Congregation; and Beaconhills College.

We pray on this International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church for one in seven Christians worldwide who are persecuted for their faith.

For all in need

We pray for: Alison; Angus; Ann; Ann; Ashton; Coral; George; Katherine; Murray; Neil (and Cynthia and family); Peter; Roger (and +Kate and family); and those we name before you in the silence of our hearts.

We also remember all students sitting and preparing for VCE and other examinations.

For the Faithful Departed

We pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: Betty Coles; Mavis Jane Cook; George Terrell (Sam) Crowl; Moen Djismoen; Norma Djismoen; Dorothy Wilma Gibson; Paul Grainger-Smith; Isabel Gray; Daphne Howard; Iris Ingham; Robert Loyer; Elizabeth (Beth) Knight; Lilian MacKenzie; Frederick Moss; Megan Proctor; Charles Sexton; and Hugh Were.

Scripture Readings next week Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Haggai 1:15b–2:9 Psalm 145:1–5, 17–21 2 Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17 Luke 20:27–40

Roster for today All Saints		Roster for tomorrow The Commemoration of the	
9.00 a m. Holy Eucharist		Monday 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist	
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		Profiday 0.	p.m. Tioly Eucharise
Sides-person	Campbell Paine	Sides-person	Miriam Cherry Leigh Mackay
Acolyte	Ravi Renjen	Acolytes	Pam Felgate Judy Mallinson Malcolm Tadgell(TH)
Eucharistic Assistants	Judy Mallinson Bryan Elmes	Eucharistic Assistants	Leigh Mackay Betty Renjen
Intercessor	Leigh Mackay	Intercessor	Meg Winter
Readers	Betty Renjen Hamish Tadgell	Readers	Judy Wright Coral Gordon
I 0:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist			
Sides-persons	Geraldine Powell Melissa Carson		
Acolytes	Pam Felgate TBC Malcolm Tadgell(TH)		
Eucharistic Assistants	Malcolm Tadgell Ewan Morgan		
Intercessor	John Stewart		
Readers	Ray Lester Geraldine Powell		
Morning Tea	Robyn Whitehouse Suzanne Lennie		
Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist			
Sides-person	Pam Felgate		
Reader	Pam Felgate		

Roster for next week

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

9 November 2025

8:00 a.r	m. Holy	y Eucharist
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Sides-person Coral Gordon

Acolyte Bryan Elmes

Eucharistic Miriam Cherry Assistants Leonie Bird

Intercessor Malcolm Tadgell

Readers Leonie Bird

Charles Tegner

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sides-persons Suzanne Lennie

Tim Lennie

Acolytes Jenny Macpherson

Vincent Amos

Eucharistic Robyn Whitehouse

Assistants Ray Lester

Intercessor Muriel Porter

Readers Gavin Watson

Suzie Hill

Morning Tea Sibella Guest

Robin Barrett

Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sides-person Andrea King

Reader Andrea King

Of your charity, **please continue to pray** for those in long term need or sickness: His Majesty the King; Angus; Ann; Geoff; Ivan; Jane; Jenny; Joan; Liza; Mary; Roma; Sarah; and Simon.

The Week Ahead

Monday	All Souls 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist		
Friday	Martin Luther (d. 1546) and other Continental Reformers		
Saturday	Saints, martyrs, missionaries and teachers of the Anglican Communion		

A reminder that the Daily Offices (Morning and Evening Prayer) are prayed in St Martin's Chapel each Monday – Saturday at 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. respectively, and can be joined via Zoom at:

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 the Lections 7:30 p.m., Wednesday

Meeting ID: 868 9252 3142; Passcode: 744866

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

Notices

John Mallinson would like to express his very great appreciation and thanks for the wonderful morning tea in his honour last Sunday, and for the many people who attended including those from the 8:00 a.m. congregation. He is also most grateful for the support received over this past year, especially from the choir and clergy.

The commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls), will occur tomorrow evening, Monday, November 3 from 6 p.m.

Annual Meeting 'Season'

According to the *Parish Governance Act, 2013* of the Diocese of Melbourne, the Churchwardens hereby give formal notice that the Annual General Meeting of the Parish of St George, Malvern, will take place following the 10:00 a.m. eucharist on **Sunday, November 23**.

In order for that meeting to be duly constituted, the following notices are also issued:

- 1. The Parish Electoral Roll will be reviewed in the coming week and, if necessary, amended by Thursday November 6, and published from **Sunday November 9**.
- 2. Nominations to the office of Church Warden (2 to be elected); for membership of the Parish Council (6 to be elected); and for membership of the Parish Incumbency Committee (2 to be elected) should be made in writing to the Parish Secretary or the Vicar by Tuesday, November 18.

Each nomination (collect appropriate forms from the back) must be signed by at least two members on the parish electoral roll, and must also include the written consent of the person nominated.

Pledge Giving: An important message from Parish Council

St George's is reliant on the generous giving of all parishioners to ensure its ongoing financial viability. **The Parish is** entirely self-funded.

Figures for the month of September reveal the stark reality:

Total income: \$45,306 and Total expenses: \$57,076

This is a significant deficit of \$11,770. Unfortunately, it is fairly typical of our monthly financial position, ignoring any extraordinary expense items that may occur.

Looking to the future the Parish has substantial repairs and maintenance to undertake on the church building to address damp issues. It is also committed to taking on an Assistant Curate next year after Father Jeremy has departed. These will add extra cost to the Parish.

For this reason, Parish Council is requesting that all current pledge givers consider their current pledge undertakings and look to increase them in a substantive way. We also request that those who have not yet made an annual pledge and are contributing via the open plate to consider seriously committing to our annual pledge programme. (Offerings are then payable weekly/monthly/quarterly or annually in advance). These contributions are critical to the financial management of the Parish. We are forecasting total expenses for next year of **over \$800,000**. Whether you attend weekly or less often Parish expenses remain the same.

We are richly blessed by the foresight and generosity of many who preceded us here. They have provided a beautiful church in which to worship every week, with gardens, grounds and other buildings. We all enjoy a wonderful Parish with outstanding ministry led by the vicar, Father Gregory, and wonderful pastoral care and companionship. Unfortunately we need to recognise that maintaining all of this costs money. Therefore please give this request serious consideration.

Please speak to or email Geraldine Powell, Thanksgiving Co-Ordinator, (dgp3934@icloud.com) to indicate your increased pledge amount or new pledge commitment. Geraldine will be very pleased to discuss all payment options with new and existing pledge givers.

Ray Lester Parish Treasurer, on behalf of Parish Council

Anglicare Victoria's Homeless Support Services is continuing their established tradition of distributing Christmas hampers of food and other amenities to the homeless. All donations will need to be received at St Mark's, Fitzroy by Friday 5th of December at the latest. Please refer to details in flyers on the service counter at the entrance of the church.

Looking ahead

The 2025 James Grant Memorial Lecture by Anglican Historical Society this year is "Things Fall Apart? The Legacy of the Council of Nicaea" by Dr Fergus King, MA, BD, DTh. on Thursday, 20 November 2025, 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church, East Melbourne (corner Clarendon and Hotham Streets). On this 1700th Anniversary of Nicaea, the legacy of the council needs to be considered. Was it a Council that truly united the whole church, or did it lead to more problems than in solved? For further information, please contact Roger Meyer on 0458 320 625 or roger.meyer@bigpond.com

On the afternoon of **Sunday, December 14, Stonnington Brass** returns to St George's for another offering of Christmas Carols and Music, supported by members of St George's Choir. This was a marvellous occasion last year, with a full church of family and friends of the brass players. Why not come along and enjoy this fun afternoon and show a welcome to those who come to sit and hear in our Church?

December 20, 2025 marks the **I50**th **Anniversary of the Dedication of St George's Church.** This is a significant date in our parish – marking, not the date of establishment (which was celebrated here some years ago), nor of the Foundation (30 November, 1865 – 160 years ago) but the time at which, with all debts paid, the Church could be consecrated by a Bishop (in this instance, the Bishop of Ballaarat – as it was still spelled at that time – the Right Reverend Samuel Thornton, acting for the Bishop of Melbourne) and permanently set aside for the worship of Almighty God.

On Sunday, December 21, we will welcome Bishop Garry Weatherill, current Bishop of Ballarat, who will preside and preach at a special Feast of Dedication in a combined service at 9:30 a.m. This will be followed by a buffet luncheon in the Hall. Please ensure that you are here, and invite any past members and all friends of the parish who are able to come, to join with us to celebrate this wonderful milestone in true St George's style.

Chorus Ecclesiae Australia is performing Palestrina's Sacred Madrigals on 16 November, 3:00 p.m. at St. John's, East Malvern to honour Palestrina's 500th birthday.



PARISH DIRECTORY

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, VIC 3144



VICAR

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

Phone: 9822 3030 Option 3 (w);

9822 4662 (h); 0408 505 646 (m);

Email: vicar@stgeorgesmalvern.org

Day off: Friday

ASSISTANT PRIEST

The Reverend Fr Jeremy Cavanagh

Phone: 9822 3030 Option 4 (w);

0427 264 329 (m)

Email: stgeorgesassistantpriest@gmail.com

Days in parish: Sunday, Tuesday, Friday

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Fr Matthew Dowsey 0412 852 697

CHURCH OFFICE

Adrian Chong

Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Phone: 9822 3030 Option 2

Email: office@stgeorgesmalvern.org

WARDENS

 Leonie Bird
 0409 860 026

 Judy Mallinson
 0414 752 957

 Robyn Whitehouse
 0409 707 117

CHILD SAFE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Leonie Bird 0409 860 026

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the East Kulin nations

as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet: land which was taken, not ceded.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, acknowledge their continuing spiritual and living connection to Country, and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.