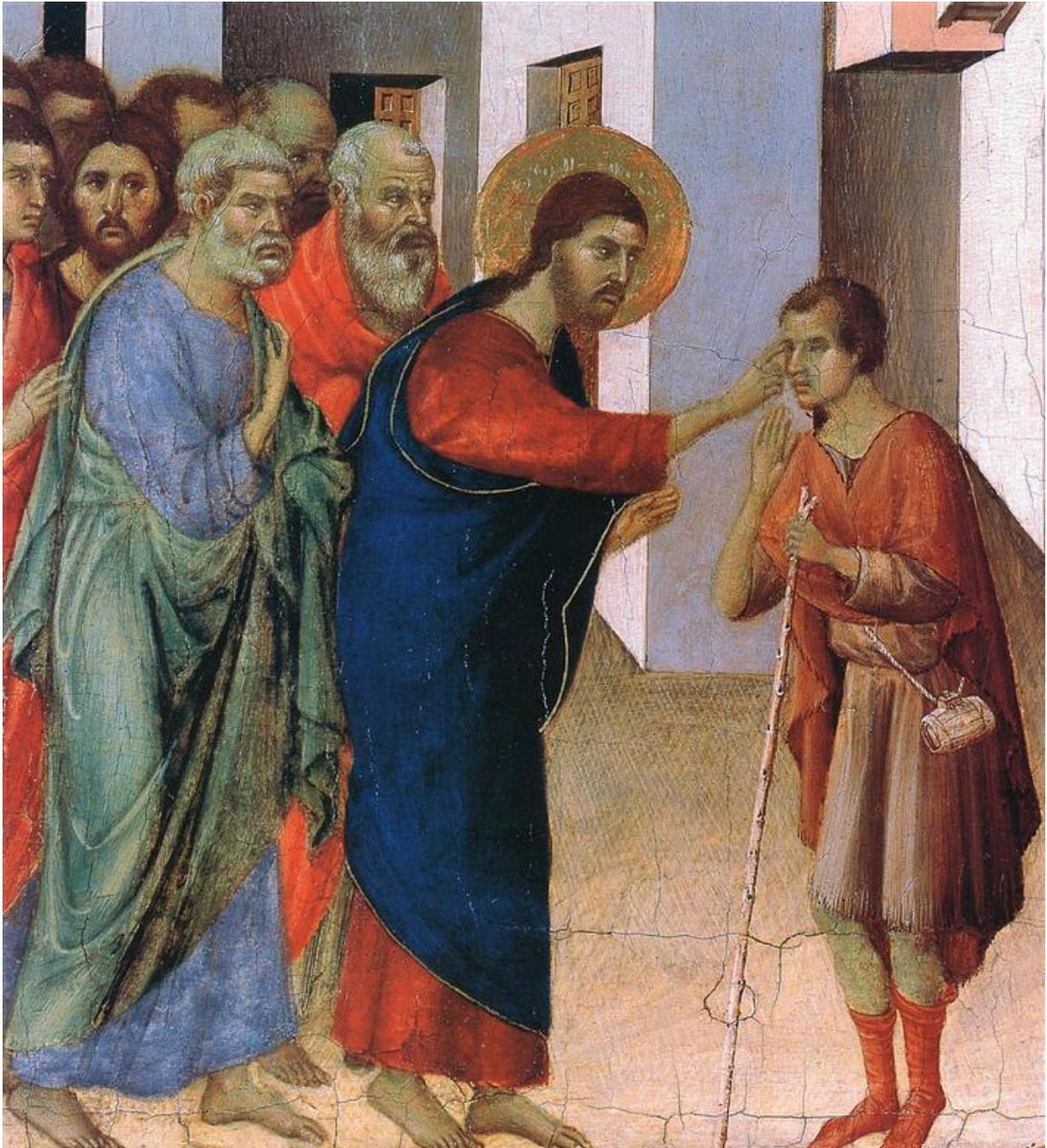




**ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH,
MALVERN**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
(MOTHERING SUNDAY)**



Duccio di Buoninsegna, *The Healing of the Man born Blind*; 1307
Egg tempera on wood, National Gallery, London, UK.

15 March, 2026

8:00 a.m., 10 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.

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

The service begins on p. 119 of **A Prayer Book for Australia** (with Lenten variations on p. 151)

Setting (at 10:00 a.m.): A Lenten Setting (for St George's, Malvern)

E. A. Nixon

Opening Hymn: **The Lent Prose**

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated:
bow down and hearken to thy weeping children:
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

Sentence

Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning over her;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Isaiah 66:10-11

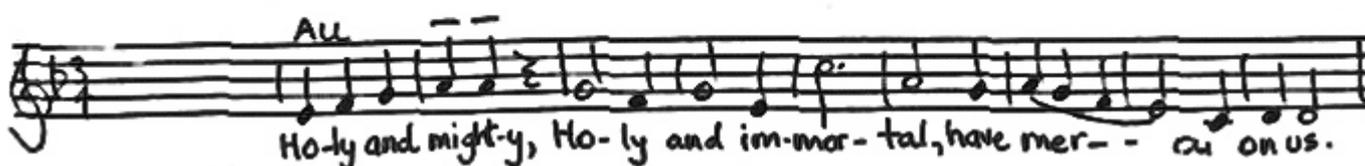
Following the opening prayer, we move to p. 120 of **APBA** for the Kyrie (said or sung).

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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



COLLECT (OF THE DAY AND THE SEASON)

Gracious God,
in order that we children of earth
might discern good from evil
you sent your Son to be the light of the world:
as the light of Christ shines upon us,
may we learn what pleases you,
and live in truth and goodness;

through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made,
and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we, worthily lamenting our sins,
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16: 1–13

A reading from the first book of Samuel:

The LORD said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul?
I have rejected him from being king over Israel.
Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite,
for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'

Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.'
And the LORD said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say,
"I have come to sacrifice to the LORD."

Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do;
and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.'

Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem.
The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said,
'Do you come peaceably?'
He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD;
sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.'
And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought,
'Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD.'
But the LORD said to Samuel,
'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature,
because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see;
they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.'
Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel.
He said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.'
Then Jesse made Shammah pass by.
And he said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.'
Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse,
'The LORD has not chosen any of these.'
Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?'
And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.'
And Samuel said to Jesse,
'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.'
He sent and brought him in.
Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.
The LORD said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.'
Then Samuel took the horn of oil,
and anointed him in the presence of his brothers;
and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward.
Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

**Response: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.
(at 8 a.m.)**

1. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
2. He makes me lie down in green pastures;
and leads me beside still waters. **R.**
3. He revives my soul,
and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.
4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff – they comfort me. **R.**
5. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil; and my cup is running over.
6. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. **R.**

At 10:00 a.m, we sing hymn 459 for the psalm

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5: 8–14

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians:

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.
Live as children of light — for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good
and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.
Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.
For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly;
but everything exposed by the light becomes visible,
for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

‘Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.’

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

No Gradual Hymn in Lent



Praise to you, O Christ. King of eternal glory!

Praise to you, O Christ. King of eternal glory!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
 whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Praise to you, O Christ. King of eternal glory!

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.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth.

His disciples asked him,

‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’

Jesus answered,

‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned;

he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him.

We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day;
 night is coming when no one can work.

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva
 and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him,

‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which means Sent).

Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask,
 ‘Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?’

Some were saying, ‘It is he.’ Others were saying, ‘No, but it is someone like him.’

He kept saying, ‘I am the man.’

But they kept asking him, ‘Then how were your eyes opened?’

He answered, ‘The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes,
 and said to me, “Go to Siloam and wash.”’

Then I went and washed and received my sight.’

They said to him, ‘Where is he?’ He said, ‘I do not know.’

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them,

‘He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.’

Some of the Pharisees said,

‘This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.’

But others said, ‘How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?’

And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man,

‘What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.’

He said, ‘He is a prophet.’

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them,

‘Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?’

His parents answered, ‘We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees,

nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age.

He will speak for himself.’

His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews;

for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.

Therefore his parents said, ‘He is of age; ask him.’

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind,

and they said to him, ‘Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.’

He answered, ‘I do not know whether he is a sinner.

One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.’

They said to him, ‘What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?’

He answered them, ‘I have told you already, and you would not listen.

Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?’

Then they reviled him, saying, ‘You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.

We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man,

we do not know where he comes from.’

The man answered, ‘Here is an astonishing thing!

You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.

We know that God does not listen to sinners,

but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.

Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him,
'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?'
And they drove him out.
Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'
He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.'
Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.'
He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him.
Jesus said,
'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.'
Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him,
'Surely we are not blind, are we?'
Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.
For the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon.

After the sermon, silence is kept before the liturgy continues with the Creed on p. 123 of APBA.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church

The Anglican Church of Kenya; Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander people of Australia; and St Barnabas', Glen Waverley.

For all in need

We pray for: Ann; Anthea; Carol and the Geddes family; Coral; David; George; Hilary; Jenny; John; Josie; Katherine; Mary and the Adamson family; Max; Murray; +Kate and family; Susan; Sarina; Sophie; and those we name before you in the silence of our hearts.

For the Faithful Departed

We remember those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Wilma Cuming; Leonard Dixon; Arthur Emery; Jillian Gosper; Thelma Grace Grinham; Marlene Esma Johnson; Nellie King; Effie MacMeikan; Patricia Mary Olney; Mary Elizabeth Owies; John Brooke Scott; Michael Frederick Malcomb Sexton; Alastair Reginald Stephen; and Patricia Wuchatsch.

In Lent, now follows the Prayer of Humble Access:

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

The Deacon introduces the Confession:

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.
Amen.**

The Celebrant pronounces Absolution, and the people respond

Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

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

All: **We meet in his name and share his peace.**

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

Offertory Hymn: 63

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Great Thanksgiving (p. 151) begins.

At the appropriate time, we say or sing (at 10:00 a.m.):

**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.**

ALL

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord. God of power and might

Hea-ven and Earth are full of your glory Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the Highest!

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the Highest!

When we reach the mystery of faith, we say or sing:

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your death and resurrection you have set us free.**

flowing
ALL

Save us Saviour of the World.

For by your death and re-sur-rec-tion, you have set us free.

As the Great Thanksgiving concludes, we say or sing:

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

with energy

Bless-ing and hon-our and glo-ry and pow-er are yours, for
e-ver and e-ver, A-men—

Following the breaking of the bread, we say or sing:

**Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us your peace.**

All

have mer-cy on us.
have mer-cy on us.
Grant us your peace.

During communion, the choir sings the following anthem:

If ye love me, keep my commandments.
And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you forever.
E'en the Spirit of truth.

Words: John 15:15 – 17a
Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505–85)

After communion, silence is kept, before we offer a final prayer (p. 152)

Notices are then given followed, at 10 a.m. by

Final Hymn: 379 (tune: 48)

Roster for today Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday) 15 March 2026		Roster for next Sunday Fifth Sunday in Lent 22 March 2026	
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
Sides-persons	David Sheppard Claire Sheppard	Sides-person	Bryan Elmes
Acolyte	Ravi Renjen	Acolyte	Jenny Weller Newton
Eucharistic Assistant	Betty Renjen	Eucharistic Assistant	Leigh Mackay
Intercessor	Leigh Mackay	Intercessor	Venetia Patchett
Readers	David Sheppard Betty Renjen	Readers	Judy Mallinson John Mallinson
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
Sides-persons	Grant Rowlands Len Whitehouse	Sides-persons	Robyn Whitehouse Len Whitehouse
Acolytes	Alison Canty Jennifer McPherson	Acolytes	Pam Felgate Alison Canty
Eucharistic Assistant	Lyn Beaumont	Eucharistic Assistant	Meg Winter
Intercessor	Meg Winter	Intercessor	Muriel Porter
Readers	Robyn Whitehouse Riley Brooks	Readers	Gavin Watson Muriel Porter
Morning Tea	David Amos Joy Brown	Morning Tea	Suzanne Lennie Tim Lennie
Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist		Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
Sides-person	Andrea King	Sides-person	Judy Wright
Reader	Andrea King	Reader	Judy Wright

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

The Week Ahead

Tuesday	Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland (d. 461) Holy Eucharist at Cabrini Hospital 12 noon. All welcome.
Wednesday	Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop and teacher (d. 386)
Thursday	Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Eucharist at 10:15 a.m.
Friday	Cuthbert of Lindisfarne, bishop and missionary (d. 687)
Saturday	Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, martyr and liturgist (d. 1556)

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=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRldmIXWDQ4Zz09>

Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRldmIXWDQ4Zz09>

Lenten Study

7:30 p.m. on Wednesday

Meeting ID: 868 9252 3142; Passcode: 744866

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86892523142?pwd=MlczZlJRempKL0hrQThORXBFeFFBdz09>

Scripture Readings next week

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Ezekiel 37:1–14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6–11

John 11:1–45

NOTICES

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Traditionally, in the Western Church, this is known as *Laetare* or 'Refreshment' or 'Mothering' Sunday. It marks the 'mid-point' in Lent, and so the regular 'austerities' of Lent (which don't apply on Sunday anyway, as Sundays are *in* but not *of* Lent – each Sunday being a commemoration of the Resurrection!) were briefly suspended. In England, the tradition grew of giving servants (agricultural or domestic) the weekend that includes this Sunday "off", and they were encouraged to return to visit both their natural mothers, and the Church of their baptism – their 'mother Church'. Hence the tradition of 'Mothering Sunday'. Taking gifts for their mothers was encouraged – the origin of "Mothers' Day" (which is still observed on this day in the United Kingdom – we have unaccountably followed the American dating!). This giving of gifts is now marked symbolically with the giving of Simnel Cake, which will be blessed for distribution at all services today. Please take a piece of cake for yourself and your mother.

Today we welcome our new Director of Music, Christopher Lo and greatly look forward to the ministry he will offer with our choir in the future. Please make him welcome, and be sure to say hello at Morning Tea after the 10:00 a.m. eucharist.

LENT STUDY GROUPS

Continue on Wednesday evenings by Zoom; and on Thursday mornings, after the eucharist, in the North Room

LENT provides an opportunity not only for ‘reading and meditating’ (as in our Study Group), ‘self-examination, prayer and fasting’ (as we heard on Ash Wednesday), but also for ‘self-denial and acts of generosity’, including alms-giving!

Each week in Lent we will publish the amount received in offerings in the last week, as well as the budgeted costs for running the parish each week of the year. These figures are:

Church Income – \$9,409

Church Expenditure for the week – \$11,903

You will see there is a short fall of **\$2,494**. To assist in this, please contact Geraldine Powell: dgp3934@icloud.com/0414 831 968 for details.

The **Archbishop’s Listening in Lent programme** has been taking place over the last few weeks at various face-to-face venues (including at St George’s). The Archbishop is, however, keen to hear from **all** people in the Diocese, not just those who attended one of the “roadshows”. To that end, all at St George’s are encouraged to visit the link: <https://www.melbourneanglican.org.au/listening-in-lent/> to complete the questionnaire there, or to use the QR code to answer what you hope for the church in this Diocese and in the cities of Melbourne and Geelong in the coming years.



We need at least another new Brass Polisher. If you are able to assist, or would like to learn the requisite skills, please speak to Miriam Cherry.

Our regular collection for St Alban’s will occur **next Sunday**, the fourth Sunday of the month. Please give generously (cash or shopping vouchers) to assist the parish of St Alban’s in providing food for those in desperate need in these difficult times in a part of Melbourne where many struggle to eat.

Victorian Anglicans Together invites you to hear **Dr Paula Gooder** on **“Reading the Bible Imaginatively”**. Canon Chancellor of St Paul’s Cathedral, London, Dr Gooder is a New Testament scholar, writer and teacher, and is a Licensed Lay Reader in the Church of England. **Saturday 28 March, 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. St John’s Church, 552 Burke Road, Camberwell.** Donation towards the costs gratefully accepted.

Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) collection will be on **Palm Sunday (29th March)**. Please refer to collection flyers to identify the items most required.

Spiritual Café returns for 2026! Tuesday 31 March.

Our guest speaker is **Arthur Andronis**, Heritage Architect and Surveyor of St Paul’s Cathedral. His topic is *The Restoration of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris*. Join us for dinner at Giorgio’s, 1235 High St Armadale at 6.30pm followed by the speaker at 7.30pm.

Pre-Payment is required. Cost \$55 for two courses, drinks available to purchase. Tickets via TryBooking <https://www.trybooking.com/DJQQF>

For further information email: office@stgeorgesmalvern.org or call 9822 3030

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

ST GEORGE'S, MALVERN

***PREACHER: THE REVEREND CANON
PROFESSOR DOROTHY LEE, AM, FAHA**
“Abiding with Jesus through Holy Week”

Palm Sunday, March 29

**Holy Eucharist (with distribution of palm crosses)
8:00 am; 10:00 am (including procession); 5:00 pm**

Holy Week

**Morning and Evening Prayer continue at 8:30 am and 5:00 pm
each day.**

Monday*, Tuesday* and Wednesday*

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist (with address)

THE “GREAT THREE DAYS”

Maundy Thursday*, April 2

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist, with address and Watch

Good Friday, April 3

10:00 am Stations of the Cross

12:00 pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion*

Easter Eve, April 4*

**8:00 pm Easter Vigil with New Fire, Renewal of Baptismal
Vows and First Eucharist of Easter**

Easter Day, April 5

9:30 am Solemn Sung Eucharist*

6:00 pm Solemn Evening Prayer of Easter

PARISH DIRECTORY

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, VIC 3144



VICAR

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

Phone: 9822 4662 (h); 0408 505 646 (m)
Email: vicar@stgeorgesmalvern.org
Day off: Friday

ASSISTANT CURATE

The Reverend Dr Callum Dawson

Phone: 9822 3030 (w) Option 4; 0427 264 329(m)
Email: cdawson@melbourneanglican.org.au
Day off: Saturday

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Matthew Dowsey 0412 852 697

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Christopher Lo

Email: music@stgeorgesmalvern.org

CHURCH OFFICE

Adrian Chong

Monday-Friday

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Phone:

9822 3030 Option 2

Email:

office@stgeorgesmalvern.org

WARDENS

Malcolm Tadgell

0400 799 030

Robyn Whitehouse

0409 707 117

Vicar's Warden *to be appointed*

CHILD SAFE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Andrea King

0407 810 651

We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Custodians and Owners 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 connection to Country, and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.