



The Diocese of Wangaratta
The Anglican Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
23rd February 2014
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Hymns: 657, 641, 607, 433



Introit Hymn

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

Your Father in heaven makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. *Matthew 5.45, Luke 6.36*

THE COLLECT

Holy God of compassion, you invite us into your way of forgiveness and peace. Lead us to love our enemies, and transform our words and deeds to be like his through whom we pray, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with your and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Leviticus 19.1-2, 9-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: “Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy. When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the Lord your God. Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not deceive one another. Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the Lord. Do not defraud or rob your neighbour. Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight. Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling-block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the Lord. Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly. Do not go about spreading slander among your people. Do not do anything that endangers your neighbour’s life. I am the Lord. Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbour frankly so that you will not share in their guilt. Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.33-40

Response Richard Lloyd
cf. v. 35 Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commandments.

Response: Lead me O Lord, in the path of your commandments.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes
and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding and I shall keep your law;
I shall keep it with my whole heart./R

Lead me in the path of your commandments, for therein is my delight.
Incline my heart to your testimonies and not to unjust gain.
Turn away my eyes lest they gaze on vanities;
O give me life in your ways./R

Confirm to your servant your promise, which stands for all who fear you.
Turn away the reproach which I dread, because your judgements are good.
Behold, I long for your commandments;
in your righteousness give me life./R

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 3.10-17

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved – even though only as one escaping through the flames. Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives among you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

In those who obey the | word of Christ
the love of God has reached per | fection.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 5.38-48

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

On the mountain Jesus continued to teach his disciples; 'You have heard that it was said, "Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth." But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from

you. ‘You have heard that it was said, “Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.” But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

God of all holiness, how does it makes you feel, when we speak of you in the hushed tones of fear, when we think of holiness as rigid rule-keeping, and harsh separations? Help us when we reduce your warmth and welcome, your compassion and wholeness, to cold hard religion; enable us to be people of true holiness; of compassion and loving obedience, of welcome, hospitality and healing,

God who makes all things holy: **hear our prayer.**

God of all holiness, hear our prayer for the peoples of the world, for the protestors in Kiev and Bangkok; for the fragile peace talks in Syria and Pakistan; may we be those through whom the world becomes more friendly and flexible, more accepting and inviting, more caring and protective; and may your holiness flood the world.

God who makes all things holy: **hear our prayer.**

God of all holiness, we pray for your Church throughout the world as it seeks to lead the people of God into new understandings of holiness; strengthen and uphold the clergy and people of this Diocese that all may reveal the power of holiness made known in your Spirit; we pray for John our Bishop and our parish that our lives may reflect the wonder and beauty of holiness.

God who makes the ugly beautiful: **hear our prayer.**

God of all holiness, we pray for Australia, for those ravaged by drought, fire, floods or disasters; for all those with insecure jobs and futures; for those who seek asylum and those held in detention especially those in Nauru and Manus Island; for our government, police, military forces and prison officers; may we be true to the ideals of fairness, openness and generosity; for those dealing with the ramifications of the Sexual Abuse Royal Commission; for our neighbours and all those communities recovering from the aftermath of the fires; strengthen and uphold them in their rebuilding of lives and property.

God who exposes and redeems the unlovely: **hear our prayer.**

God of all holiness, may we find ways to relieve distress and bring comfort to the distressed and those in need; for the lonely and those lacking caring relationships; for those suffering the travails of dysfunctional family life; for the despised and the marginalised and those for whom no one will cross the road; for those who are sick, in pain and those who care for them; for those on our hearts this day those who have requested prayer;

Request for prayer from: *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Lyn Ryan, Alex Impols, May McCormack, Dawn McCormack, Carol Boase, Cathy Moseley, Fr Michael Nelson, Seth Gunter, Cliff & Gwenda Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Adrian Walsh, Dianne Mitsakis, Peter Cannon, Bruce Mitchell, Mark Bennetts, Suresh Jain.*

God who champions the cause of the outcast and despised: **hear our prayer.**

God of all holiness, we give thanks and pray for holy men and women who have died in your love, who have kept your law, delighted in your commandments and loved and served you with heart and soul, for those who have left us a legacy of holiness; for the recently departed and those whose year's mind occurs at this time.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

God who welcomes all: **hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, come dwell in us; make us temples of our God, that we too may be holy. Take all our prayers and weave them into your own, so that you inform our every choice, every struggle. As we pray for ourselves, open us to you as we wait for your holy breath ; we offer our prayers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who taught us to pray; **Our Father ...[pg. 124]**

Year's mind: Today we remember before God those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: 23rd Win Derman, Fred Grimwade, Jean Rasmussen; 24th Florence Britton; 25th Robert Keath, Mabel Wittingslow, Raymond Boulton; 26th John Brown, Rex Collett; 28th Cecil Edge, Douglans Boulton; 1st March Walter Homewood.

Saint's Days and Holy Days: 24th Matthias Apostle and Martyr; 27th George Herbert parish priest, poet (d. 1633); 1st Mar David, bishop of Menevia, Wales (d. 601).

Reflections on the Readings

The idea of ‘holiness’ appears in all of this week’s readings in different forms. In Leviticus the people are commanded to be holy as God is holy, and this holiness is revealed in their treatment of one another and their seeking for justice. The psalmist prays for a life that is directed by God’s ways and God’s commands, and for the strength to pursue this life faithfully. Paul challenges the church to be a holy temple for God’s Spirit by building their lives and community on the foundation of Christ. And, in Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus teaches what ‘perfection’ or holiness is to be like – compassionate and non-violent, refusing to retaliate when harmed, and seeking the best even for those who consider us to be their enemies. What is clear here is that holiness is not about not doing things. It is about doing things that make a difference. It is not about avoiding so-called sinful behaviour, but about doing justice, compassion, fairness, non-violence and generosity. It is about caring for those who are vulnerable and poor, and treating all people with the same respect and dignity. I’m not sure when holiness became synonymous with piety, but that does not seem to be what the Bible is trying to teach us about holiness. Both the Old Testament lesson and the Gospel point to the link between justice and holiness, and in a world where social justice can sometimes be labelled as unChristian, this is a message we need to hear. Jesus makes this action all-encompassing when he includes even enemies in those who deserve love and justice. What might our world look like if we worked harder at loving our enemies than we do at killing them? Throughout history Christians have warred against each other and still do. We may not always use physical weapons, but we certainly use the weapons of the media, of words and of rejection. We do this against people of other religions as well, but as long as we do this, we fall short of God’s holiness, and we inflict death on both our enemies and ourselves. It is when the offer of grace costs us the most that we are most reflecting the grace and character of Christ. When we refuse to hate or attack or reject even those who are the most threatening and unloving, we begin to embody the “perfection”, the holiness which Christ teaches about. Holiness comes down to wholeness (integrity and authenticity), compassion and hospitality. These three characteristics are what God offers us, and what we are called, in this week’s Gospel and Old Testament readings, to extend to others – even those we most want to reject or condemn.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2014) www.sacredise.com

Notices

Church4Kids - recommences TODAY. Church4Kids is geared towards children of any age and provides a safe space to learn about being a Christian whilst having fun and ending with a free BBQ. Music, storytelling, activities, games and opportunity to make new friends. 5.00-6.30pm Christ Church, Kilmore.

Christ Church Friendship Group meets 7.30pm Thursday 27th February @ Christ Church.

Notice is given of the Annual General Meeting of Parishioners 10 am Sunday 9th March at St Matthews Broadford. There will be one service in the parish. The AGM will commence after the service followed by BBQ lunch in Gavan Hall (see note below). Nomination forms for Election of Parish Council, Synod representative & supplementaries, and Parish Nominators available in each centre.

Harvest Festival Sunday 9th March at St Matthew's as part of the Parish Eucharist and Parish AGM - please start compiling items such as fresh vegetables, fruit, jams, preserves, for the thanksgiving.

AGM BBQ - There will be a Parish BBQ lunch following the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 10th March. Parishioners are asked to bring salads, sweets and drinks to share. Meat will be provided.

Email Addresses - we would like to utilise email as much as possible for communications in addition to the website and facebook, and it would be good to have email addresses of all Parishioners if you have one. This won't be for official publication in the Parish Directory (unless you want it to), but will be used by Fr Kim, the Parish Secretary and the Parish Publicity Officer. Please send an email to carolineburge@carolineburge.com if you willing to let us have your email address.

March Parish Council Meeting - Due to the Parish involvement in the 'Boat Walk' to Canberra on March 19th (see separate notice), the March Parish Council Meeting will be postponed to Wednesday March 26th.

Boat Walk to Canberra - Revd Tri Nguyen originally from Vietnam and now Pastor of Brunswick Baptist Church is planning a pilgrimage from Brunswick to Canberra, to deliver a gift of a boat to Parliament. It is a large model of the boat in which he fled Vietnam with his father and sister in 1982. The boat has been put on wheels and will be pulled behind the team of walkers and runners as they make their way on foot to Canberra. The team will be in Kilmore 19 March and Broadford 20th March. Various activities of welcome and billeting have been arranged. Watch this space for more information.

Stamps for Mission - Incredible it may seem your postage stamps still have value and the Diocese has a collection point for stamps. Boxes are now at the back of the church which will be regularly emptied and forwarded on.

Direct Debit Offerings - Parish Account details: CBA Account Name 'Kilmore Anglican Parish'. BSB 063-698. Account Number 1018 4649.

Parish life this week

Fourth week of February

Tuesday 25th 3.00pm - 10.00pm Bishop in Council, Wangaratta
Wednesday 26th 10.00am - 3.00pm Healing & deliverance committee meeting
Thursday 27th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
2.30pm Eucharist Caladenia
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
7.30pm Christ Church Friendship Group @ Christ Church
Friday 28th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House
12.00pm Deanery Meeting, Yea
Saturday 1st Mar 10.00am-12.30pm Op Shop Church House

Next Sunday: 2nd March 2014

Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration

Exodus 24.12-18; Ps 2; 2 Peter 1.16-21; Matthew 17.1-9

Christ Church	9am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration	4pm	Holy Eucharist

Parish Diary

1st Wed of the month: Building and Maintenance Committee Meeting
7.30pm Christ Church (unless otherwise notified)

3rd Tues of the month: St Matthew's Friendship Group. Gavan Hall 1.30pm
fellowship & afternoon tea; contact Edie Simpson ph.
5784 1246 for details.

3rd Wed of the month: Parish Council Meeting, 7.30 pm venue TBA

4th Thurs of month: Christ Church Friendship Group 7.30pm contact Beris
Hannam ph. 5723 9737 for program details

2nd Sunday of month: Parish BBQ - 12.30pm. See Notices for details

4th Sunday of month: Church 4 Kids 5-6.30pm @ Christ Church

Parish Clergy:

Rector Fr Kim Benton 9 Union Street Kilmore 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407569343; kim@revkim.org

Priest (PTO) Fr John Young 9/40 Powlett St Broadford 3658 Ph 5784 2224



Response

Richard Lloyd

cf. v. 35 Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your com-mand-ments.

The image shows a musical score for a piano accompaniment. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody in the treble staff begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Psalm 119

PSALM 119