

The Diocese of Wangaratta
The Anglican Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
30th March 2014
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Hymns: 477, 10, 344, 683, 213ii



Introit Hymn

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

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

'I am the light of the world,' says the Lord; 'those who follow me will have the light of life.' John 8.12

THE COLLECT

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father 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 mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.' But Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.' 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 to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.' Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, 'Do you come in peace?' Samuel replied, 'Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.' Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord 's anointed stands here before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, 'The Lord has not chosen this one either.' Jesse then made Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, 'Nor has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' So he asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' 'There is still the youngest,' Jesse answered. 'He is tending the sheep.' Samuel said, 'Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.' So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; this is the one.' So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

For the Psalm

Hymn 10

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5.8-14

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians

Paul writes; For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible – and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: ‘Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Jesus says, I am the light | of the world;

whoever follows me will have the | light of life.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

GOSPEL

John 9.1-41

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As he walked along, Jesus 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 synagogues. 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 PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Lord God, you sent Samuel to anoint David in front of his brothers, and your Spirit came mightily upon him all the days of his life; may we know your anointing with your Holy Spirit, that we may serve you all the days of our lives.

Jesus anointed with the Spirit: **anoint us and make us holy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are our Good Shepherd; talked about by the Psalmist, until you were revealed as the shepherd of all of us; become for us not only the subject of our holy conversation, but also our dearest confidant, and constant companion and guide; we pray for all who shepherd your people, for John our Bishop and our parish that we may be bringers of healing and light in your name.

Jesus the Good Shepherd: **guide us and hold us as your own.**

Holy Spirit, help us understand what is pleasing to the Lord so that we may be children of the light; wake up our sleeping spirits so that the light of Christ may shine on us and through us.

Jesus light of world; **shine in us.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Light of the World; as you opened the eyes of the blind, open our eyes to see your presence everywhere, and give us the courage to confess our faith boldly, like one who knows from whom all blessings flow.

Jesus prophet and priest: let your love and promise be known in us.

Jesus, proclaimer of the kingdom; **come and speak through us to all who would hear.**

Jesus the healer, your touch brought healing to this came seeking you; we commend to your healing touch all who are sick and suffering of body and mind, of spiritual blindness and lost souls; heal the broken hearted and the abused, the wounded and the grieving, those known to us and 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 & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Adrian Walsh, Dianne Mitsakis, Bruce Mitchell, Mark Bennetts, Suresh Jain, Barry Watts.*

Jesus the healer: **touch us and we shall be healed.**

Jesus, son of man and son of God, though we remember we are dust and to dust we shall return, we know that we are your precious dust; we pray for the recently departed for Jean Corrigan, and those whose years mind occurs this week: Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Lord God, discerner of hearts, you look beneath our outward appearance and see your image in each of us, hear us as we pray for ourselves; banish in us the blindness that prevents us from recognising truth, so we may see the world through your eyes and with the compassion of Jesus Christ who redeems us.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray: **Our Father, in heaven [pg. 124].**

Year's mind: Today we remember before God those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: 28th David Hiscock; 30th Margaret Dumaresq; 31st Bruce

Walter, Graeme Martin, 1st April Shannon Burr; 2nd Kelvin Prosser; 4th Ian Kelm, John Butler; Stan Cartwright, James Glare.

Offertory Hymn

Reflections on the Readings

The themes in today's readings are well known and are rich in metaphor and meaning and are so familiar. Blindness and sight, light and darkness, rejection of those in power and anointing of those who are unknown – these are the threads in the Lectionary readings of this week. The heart of the theme is this: how do we choose to see? Samuel is tempted to look at Jesse's sons in an ordinary human way – outward strength and primacy in the family hierarchy – but God commands him to look differently, ultimately choosing the son who is the least. Paul encourages believers to walk in God's light, avoiding the “deeds of darkness” that cause brokenness, stumbling and pain, but rather seeking to live in the light – seeing clearly and moving securely through the world because we can see. David's famous psalm gives a picture of what this “living in the light” looks like – being shepherded by God in grace and nurture. Finally, and most importantly, the Gospel uses a dramatic story to show the difference between those who claim to see - but don't, and those who truly can see. The corruption, power-grabbing and judgmental condemnation of anything new and different is a mark of those who cannot see – although they always protest that they see clearly. On the other hand, the acceptance, healing and grace that Jesus shows – and the response in worship of those who have been made to see by Christ's touch – is the mark of those who “live in the light”. Our choice, then, as individuals and as Church, is whether we will allow God's light to change how we see, or whether we will go through the motions and continue to see as the rest of society does, while claiming falsely that we see as God does.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2014) <http://sacredise.com>

Notices

Lenten Study - Session Three - two opportunities to participate - Tuesday 1st April 2pm at Gavan Hall or 7.30pm at Caroline Burge 20 Chrystobel Way, Kilmore.

Property Committee Meeting this coming Wednesday 2 April @ Christ Church.

Working Bee in and around Christ Church - There will be a Working Bee in preparation for Easter on Holy Saturday April 19th at 9.30am. There are many jobs that need to be done (dusting, vacuuming, wooden floors, lawns, edging,

silverware. brassware, candles, candle stands, kitchen area, flower beds, pathways so please volunteer for a couple of hours. Even if you aren't on the cleaning rosters please offer your help. Extra assistance is desperately required to get all jobs done - many hands make light work. Please write your name on list at the back of the church. For more information see Caroline

Casseroles for the BlazeAid Team

Helen Begley is coordinating cooking of casseroles every second Tuesday for the BlazeAid Team. Meals required at the Wandong Community Centre at 6.00pm. Helen can arrange delivery if required. Please ring Helen 5782 1625 if you can help.

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

Parish life this week

First week of April

Tuesday 1st April 2.00pm Lenten Study - Gavan Hall
 7.30pm Lenten Study - 20 Chrystobel Way
 Wednesday 2nd 7.30pm Property Committee @ Christ Church
 Thursday 3rd *Richard of Chichester, bishop (d. 1256)*
 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews
 10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
 4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
 Friday 4th 11.00am Deanery Meeting Alexandra
 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House
 Saturday 5th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop Church House

Next Sunday: 6th April 2014 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

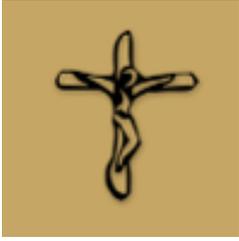
Ezekiel 37.1-14; Ps130; Romans 8. 6-11; John 11.1-45

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

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
 PO Box 289 Kilmore 3764



Anglican Parish of Kilmore with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

Holy Week and Easter Services 2014

Palm Sunday 13th April

9am Christ Church, Kilmore - Procession of the Palms & Sung Eucharist
11am St Stephen's, Tallarook - Distribution of Palms & Holy Eucharist
combined with congregation of St Matthew's, Broadford

Monday of Holy Week 14th April

7.30am Christ Church, Kilmore Holy Eucharist
7.30pm St Stephens Tallarook - Service of Tenebrae

Tuesday of Holy Week 15th April

7.30am Christ Church, Kilmore Holy Eucharist
7.30pm St Matthews Broadford - Service of Tenebrae

Wednesday of Holy Week 16th April

7.30am Christ Church, Kilmore Holy Eucharist
7.30pm Christ Church, Kilmore - Service of Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday 17th April

7.30am Christ Church, Kilmore - Holy Eucharist
10.00am St Matthews, Broadford - Holy Eucharist
7.30pm St Matthews Broadford - Maundy Thursday liturgy & foot washing

Good Friday 18th April

9am Christ Church, Kilmore - Good Friday Liturgy
11am St Matthews, Broadford - Good Friday Liturgy
11am St Stephens Tallarook - Good Friday Liturgy
4pm Transfiguration - Pyalong - Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Day 20th April

7.00am Christ Church, Kilmore - Easter Vigil - Lighting of New Fire
8am Christ Church, Kilmore - Parish Breakfast
9am Christ Church, Kilmore - First Mass of Easter
11am St Matthews, Broadford - Mass of Easter combined with congregation of
St Stephens Tallarook
4pm Transfiguration, Pyalong - Mass of Easter

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