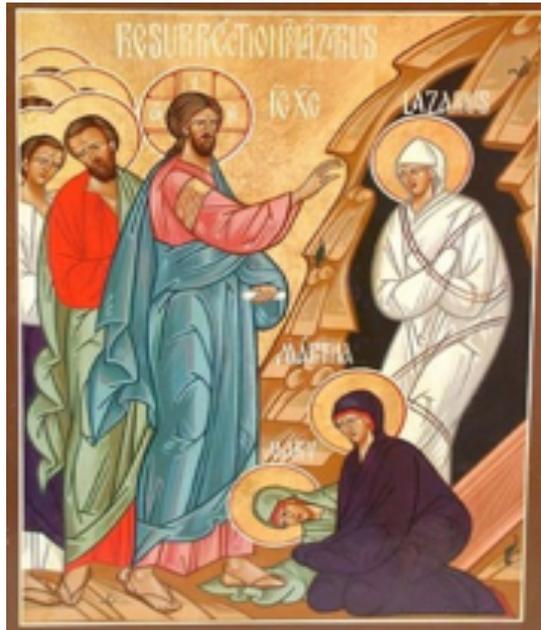


The Diocese of Wangaratta
The Anglican Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
6th April 2014
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Hymns: 477, 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 resurrection and the life,’ says the Lord; ‘whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.’ *John 11.25–26*

THE COLLECT

Life-giving God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death: breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37.1-14

A reading from the book of Ezekiel

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me to and fro among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’ I said, ‘Sovereign Lord, you alone know.’ Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to these bones and say to them, “Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.”’ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.”’ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet – a vast army. Then he said to me: ‘Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.” Therefore prophesy and say to them: “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.”’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 130

Response: Out of the depths have I cried to you O Lord.

Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?/R

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you shall be feared.
I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.
My soul waits for the Lord,
more than the night watch for the morning,
more than the night watch for the morning./R

O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy;
With him is plenteous redemption
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins./R

SECOND READING

Romans 8.6-11

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in 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.

I am the resurrection | and the life;
whoever believes in me will | never die.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

GOSPEL

John 11.1-45

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend

Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.’ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.’ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, ‘Let us also go, that we may die with him.’ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, ‘The Teacher is here and is calling for you.’ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Gracious God, our God of all compassion and consolation, your breath alone brings life to dry bones and weary souls. Pour out your Spirit upon us and help us to dance with the spirit, the breath of life, which calls us out of the valley of dry bones and into your Kingdom, both a present reality and the grounding of our future hope.

O God, put your spirit within us; **and we shall live.**

Creator God source of all life and love, hear our prayer for your world and its peoples; for those whose lives are bound by war, oppression or disaster; for those in recovery from the earthquakes in South America; for the hungry, the homeless, the refugees; for the leaders of the nations and for all who work for justice and peace; breathe on you children your spirit of hope and possibility.

O God, put your spirit within us; **and we shall live.**

We thank you, loving God, for the Spirit that is able to clothe dead bones with new flesh and give to them the breath of life. Hear our prayer as we pray for the Church, breathe new life into your people and those who care for them; for John our Bishop and for our parish, may we live as people of the resurrection.

O God, put your spirit within us; **and we shall live.**

Loving God, the breath of your Spirit brings life to dry bones and those dismissed as dead; whose touch healed the lame, and opened the eyes of the blind; hear our prayers for those who are afflicted by sorrow and illness, by injustice and despair, by fear and weakness; breath into their hearts, touch their bodies, speak their names, and bring new life to them; may we be the hands that hold and the arms to embrace in your love; we pray today for those in need 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, David Parsons, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Adrian Walsh, Dianne Mitsakis, Bruce Mitchell, Mark Bennetts, Suresh Jain, Barry Watts.....*

O God, put your spirit within us; **and we shall live.**

We thank you, loving God, for the vulnerable yet wonderful gift of life. To be alive and to know it is an unspeakable honour. We thank you, that from start to finish our life is precious in your sight; we pray for those who have already passed from death to life, and are even now fed with the bread of heaven, for the recently departed and those whose years mind occurs at this time.

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

God our comforter, your son wept at the death of his friend Lazarus, and you weep with us in our brokenness; hears as we pray for ourselves; breathe on us your spirit of comfort and hope.

O God, put your spirit within us; **and we shall live.**

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: 9th Alick Horwood, Alan Walker; 12th Jack Hoystead, Eileen Beaumont; Lucy Cartwright.

Offertory Hymn

Reflections on the Readings

In this last week of Lent and as we prepare to move into Holy Week, the transition point this week is a focus on resurrection. God's people are given a vision of resurrection through Ezekiel. The Psalmist recognises God's grace, mercy and rescue, and Paul proclaims that God's Spirit gives us life in our whole being. John's Gospel, also in a prophetic narrative, describes the raising of Lazarus, and demonstrates that in the person of Jesus life and resurrection are to be found. So, as we prepare for the coming journey through Jesus' passion, we are reminded in advance that death does not have the last word, and that resurrection is promised and experienced in the midst of pain, threat and death. Through Lent we have been called to journey with Jesus, to learn the steps of God's life-dance from him. It is a challenge dancing with Jesus, but, if we are to join Christ in his resurrection, we must also journey with him through the cross. For every follower of Christ, and every Christian community, resurrection is both a promise and a challenge. It is a promise that opens us to God's life which inspires and empowers us every moment. It is a challenge not to shy away from the sacrifices and struggles that we will inevitably face as we work for life and justice in our world. Daily we are called to lay down our own comfort and embrace simplicity for the sake of those who are poor. We are called to think carefully about what we buy and where, what we eat and how much, and how we do business for the sake always to be mindful of the face oppressive trade restrictions and unfair exploitation by the wealthy and powerful. Even our worship calls us to lay down our own preferences in favour of others so that they may encounter God in the way that is most helpful and transforming for them, rather than fighting for our own preferred styles and forms. All of this sacrifice can only be done if we truly believe in and embrace the promise of resurrection – for ourselves, that we will be led to fullness of life - and for our world, that our small contribution will make the world a more whole and alive place.

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

Notices

Next Sunday 13th April, 12.30p.m. Parish BBQ - Mine host is Ian and Lucy Staring - 40 Dockerys Road, Tallarook. Dockerys Road runs off the Hume Highway, travelling north towards Seymour. Turn left at the first road (Dockerys Road) after the weighbridge. It is 3kms before the Tallarook township exit. The house is the first house in Dockerys Road on the right. It's only 150 meters from the Hume Highway. Bring your fishing rods or yabby nets, meat, salad or sweets. There will be ample red wine to indulge in. All welcome to attend.

Notes on Holy Week - next Sunday is Palm Sunday celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week. During this week we follow those dramatic days leading to Jesus' arrest and execution. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the day starts with a mass at Christ Church with the evening **Tenebrae Service of Shadows** once in each centre. Tenebrae focuses on Jesus' journey with readings and meditation to music. **Maundy Thursday** starts with an early service at Christ Church and in the evening the **Liturgy of Footwashing and Celebration of the Last Supper** at **St Matthew's only**. The **Good Friday Liturgy** is a dramatic reflection on the Passion of our Lord in each centre at usual worship times. **The Easter Vigil** starts at dawn on Easter Day followed by **Parish Breakfast** and then the **First Mass of Easter celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord**, at Christ Church and these constitute the great Easter celebration. Service times in pew sheet.

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 - your help is needed to get all jobs done. 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. Ring Helen 5782 1625 if you can help.

Lent Studies - Over the last four weeks 4 Lent Study Groups (1 daytime at Broadford and 3 evening at Kilmore) were conducted. The format was a brief bible study followed by a movie and then questions and discussion. Feedback from attendees very positive. However participation was very low and it would be useful to understand why. Please give any feedback or your thoughts on Lent Studies to Fr Kim or your Wardens.

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

Parish Diary

1st Wed of the month: Building and Maintenance Committee Meeting 7.30pm
(venue TBA)

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

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

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

Parish life this week

Second week of April

Tuesday 8th *Georgiana Molley, pioneer, church leader and botanist in WA (d. 1843)*

Wednesday 9th *William Law, priest and teacher (d. 1761)*

Thursday 10th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
2.30pm Eucharist - Caladenia
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 11th *George Augustus Selwyn, first missionary bishop of New Zealand (d. 1878)*
2.00pm Funeral Christ Church

10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 12th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop Church House

Next Sunday: 13th April 2014 - Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50.4-9a; Ps118, 1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2. 5-11; Matthew 21.1-11

Christ Church	9am	Liturgy of Palms, Procession & Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	No service this day- combined with St Stephens
St Stephens	11am	Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4pm	No service this day

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

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