



The Diocese of Wangaratta
The Anglican Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
18th May 2014
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Hymns: 187, 552, 636, 687



Introit Hymn

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, being dead to sin, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. *1 Peter 2.24*

THE COLLECT

Everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 7. 55-60

A reading from the book of Acts

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31. 1-5,17-18

Response: I trust in you O Lord, for you are my God.

Response
cf. v. 14 I trust in you, O Lord, for you are my God. Andrew Moore



In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.
Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.
Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold./R

Guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.
Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me,
for you are my strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth./R

Lord, let me not be confounded for I have called upon you;

but let the wicked be put to shame;
let them be silent in the grave.
Let the lying lips be put to silence
that speak against the righteous
with arrogance, disdain and contempt./R

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2. 11-25

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor. Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 'He himself bore our sins' in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by his wounds you have been healed.' For 'you were like sheep going astray,' but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, | and the life.

No one comes to the Father ex- | cept through me.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 14.1-14

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Holy God, you have called us to follow in the way of your risen Son, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love. Guide us in the path of discipleship, difficult as it may be, and teach us the love that stays faithful for the long haul, the persistence that will not give up, and the grace to trust your faithfulness, even when we cannot see results.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for your world and for those who live in places scarred by unrest, conflict and war; for the peoples of South Sudan, Syria, Somalia, Ukraine, and Thailand. We give thanks for all whose lives manifest your spirit of reconciliation, and for all who work for peace and bring aid to the desperate. We pray for those suffering deprivation and disease; those who risk everything to flee their homes and all refugees and asylum seekers; for all who endure detention and refugee camps in our region and around the world.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for your church; for those struggling with persecution and rejection, we pray for all who seek to bring your good news, for our Bishop

John, for our parish, that we may all be faithful ambassadors of your grace. In our parish today, we pray for Addison Faye Deany, newly baptised, for her parents Mark and Lee, and godparents Colleen, John, Bradley, and Alison, bless and guide them as they bring Addison to know your love in her life.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for our community, for families, friends and our neighbours; for all whose works sustains others in the community. We pray for all suffering abuse and those who abuse and exploit others. We are inspired by, and give thanks for those whose lives shine with your spirit of forgiveness and love, and for all who in their daily lives bring relief to those in need.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for all disturbed and dismayed by the impact of the budget; for the homeless and the unemployed; for all who are anxious and afraid; for those who know loneliness and grief, and those suffering pain or sickness, and for all who face death. We give you thanks for those who display courage in the face of adversity and may we be agents of your consolation and tenderness. We pray for those we know in need of prayer and those we name this day.....

Request for prayer from: *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Lyn Ryan, Alex Impols, May McCormack, Dawn McCormack, Carol Boase, Cathy Moseley, Seth Gunther, David Parsons, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Adrian Walsh, Tom Scrivens, Dianne Mitsakis, Bruce Mitchell, Evette, Mark Bennetts, Suresh Jain, Barry Watts, Roland Nicholson and Monica Nicholson...*

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we give you thanks for your followers of every age, for those holy men and women who have given their lives for your kingdom, and for those whose lives have drawn others to you. We pray for the recently departed and those whose years mind occurs this week.

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

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, you come to us in the risen Christ, and you prepare a place for us in your home as Mother-and-Father of us all; hear us as we pray for ourselves...; draw us more deeply into yourself through scripture read, water splashed, bread broken, wine poured, so that when our hearts are troubled, we will know you more completely as the way, the truth, and the life.

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

Year's mind: Today we remember before God those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: 18th Jack Baker; 19th Ethel Bullen; 21st George

Badcock, Joan Glithro, Ernest Castles, Keith Smith; 23rd Ian Duncanson, Joseph Sherwood, John Mowlam; 24th Bradley Chapman, Irene Bruce, Mathew Hussey.

Offertory Hymn

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God, you show us your way and give us your divine life. May everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

Post Communion Sentence

God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Reflections on the Readings

If following Christ is seen as a way to avoid suffering and struggle, we will be deeply disappointed by the message of this week's readings. Beneath all of them lies the reality that Jesus, and those who followed Jesus, faced persecution, accusation and suffering. They were not exempt from life's troubles, and sometimes their faith even brought suffering on them. And so we witness Stephen who is stoned for his witness to Christ, but who entrusts himself to God. We read the words of the Psalmist who, facing persecution and attack, commits himself to God's care and protection. Peter tells of how Christ was rejected, but God honoured him and has built a community of light with Christ as the foundation. And Jesus, reassuring his disciples, reminds them that they can find peace in trusting him, and connecting with God through him. The gift of this week is the assurance that, even as we face suffering, our lives are in God's hands, and, in entrusting ourselves to God's care, we will find peace and will be partners in God's work in our world. This is not the message that God will rescue us or give us an easy run and a guarantee of the "good life". But, it is something much better. It is an assurance that as we live in this world and experience its pain, along with all people, we are partners with God, and we have the confidence that our lives and our final destiny are in God's hands.

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

Notices

Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm Wednesday at Christ Church

Emergency Appeal for South Sudan - The ongoing disaster in South Sudan is ongoing and worsening. ABM target is to raise \$50,000 to assist the

Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan in providing food, shelter and medicines for thousands of displaced persons. Bishop John urges our prayers and financial support for the people of South Sudan and the Episcopal Church in that region. Donations can be by way of retiring collection for the Easter season and by direct donation - information sheets on the notice board.

Anglican Women of Australia Rally - 10am Wednesday 18th June, 2014 - Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta. Guest Speaker: Helen Murray.

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
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

Third week of May

Monday 19th *[Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury, (d. 988)]*

Tuesday 20th 1.30pm St Matthews Friendship Group - Gavan Hall

Wednesday 21st 10.00am Eucharist Christ Church, Seymour
7.30pm Parish Council - Christ Church

Thursday 22nd 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
2.30pm Eucharist Caladenia
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
7.30pm Christ Church Friendship Group - Fire Station visit

Friday 23rd 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 24th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop Church House
10.00am - 2.00pm Parish of Central Goulburn Planning Day

Next Sunday: 25th May 2014 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17. 22-31; Ps 66.7-19; 1 Peter 3. 8-22; John 14.15-21

Christ Church	9am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Morning Prayer

St Stephens	11am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4pm	No Service this day
Christ Church	5pm	Church4Kids

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

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