



The Diocese of Wangaratta
The Anglican Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
1st June 2014

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday after the Ascension

Hymns: 101, 419, 520, 561



Introit Hymn

Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

‘Go and make disciples of all nations,’ Jesus commands; ‘I am with you always, to the close of the age.’ *Matthew 28.19–20*

THE COLLECT

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 1. 6-14

A reading from the book of Acts

The disciples gathered round Jesus and asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them: 'It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.' Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 68. 1-10

Response: Our God is a God of salvation.

Response Simon Lesley
cf v. 19a Our God is a God of sal - va - tion.

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those that hate him flee before him.

As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; as wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God./R

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them make merry with gladness.
Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds.
The Lord is his name; rejoice before him./R

Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, God in his holy habitation!
God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,
but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert./R

O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,
at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel./R

You sent down a gracious rain, O God;
you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.
Your people came to dwell there;
in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor./R

SECOND READING

1 Peter 5

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Peter writes, To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, because, 'God opposes the proud but shows favour to the humble.' Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in

it. She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark. Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

I will not leave you orphaned, | says the Lord.

I am com- | ing to you.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 17.1-11

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Mysterious God, you reveal yourself in Jesus, your Beloved Child, who gives us a glimpse your glory, and invites us to share in the unity of all that is Holy; as we receive your invitation to live God’s dream and to live in the essence of your holiness, found in your creation, your people, your world, unite us in the Spirit

that breaks through all boundaries of fear and injustice to bring peace and healing to a broken and hurting world.

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who prayed for your disciples that they might be one, even as you are one with the Father; hear us as we pray for your Church, draw us to yourself, that in common love and obedience to you we may be united to one another; we pray for our Bishop John, for our parish, that in the fellowship of the one Spirit, we may proclaim that you are one with the glory of God the Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Praise to you ascended Christ, for you welcome the outcast and offer hope to the poor and the needy; hear our prayer for all we share our lives; grant us the grace to accept the unwanted, the unloved, the marginalised, the lost and the lonely, to care for the neglected and be a voice for those who are never heard.

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We continue our prayer for refugees and asylum seekers and those living in detention, for all whose lives have been wrecked by abuse and exploitation, and for all who find themselves living in desperation and despair; for the homeless and the unemployed; may we be witnesses to your transforming love.

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Praise to you ascended Jesus, you brought healing and wholeness to your people, hear our prayer for all those suffering pain and illness of body and mind, for those whose grief grows dark, for those nearing their lives end and those who wait with them; fill us with compassion so that we may be a source of hope, wholeness and healing; especially 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, Tom Scrivens, Dianne Mitsakis, Bruce Mitchell, Evette, Mark Bennetts, Suresh Jain, Barry Watts, Roland Nicholson and Monica Nicholson...*

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O God, we are made one with you in your ascended Son Jesus Christ. You have taught us that if we are open to one another, you dwell in us. Hear us as we pray for ourselves; help us to preserve this openness and to fight for it with all our hearts. and that in accepting one another wholeheartedly, fully, completely, we accept you, and are united in this one spirit, which makes you present in the world, and us to witness to the ultimate reality that is love.

Lord Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you ascended to the Father to prepare a way for all who believe; we pray for your faithful people in every age who have died in the faith and 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 Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We pray our prayers in the name of the risen and ascended 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 at this time: 1st June David DeNiet, Jack Ashton; 2nd Edward Poulter, Alf Richards, Lance Burgess; 3rd Edward Chapman, Murray Rowe, Jennifer Paisley-Koraus; 4th Tom Dorrn, Ann Johnson; 5th Herbert Chapman, Ivy Sobey, Violet White; 6th Fiona Hill, Beverley Stack.

Offertory Hymn Prayer over the Gifts

Source of all joy, receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Keep us in the love of Christ and bring us to the vision of his glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, may we who share Christ's banquet be one with him as he is one with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the risen and ascended Lord.

Reflections on the Readings

This Sunday, often celebrated as Ascension Sunday, invites us to be both heavenly minded and earthly good. The Acts passage sets the tone. Jesus promises the disciples that they will receive the power of the Spirit, and then departs into the heavens. Jesus' ascension is a puzzling event that is more problematic than helpful, if we take it literally. Jesus is no longer with us, and we have to explain his absence. While ascending to heaven is metaphysically and physically possible, given the lively and adventurous nature of the universe, whose deepest earthly energies are revealed in Jesus' post-resurrection body, still the upward movement of Jesus is based on an outmoded understanding of the universe. Sooner or later, the disciples had to grow up and the Jesus movement had to flourish on its own, without the presence of its charismatic teacher. As Jesus "ascends" to the heavens, the disciples quite naturally gaze upward, but are then told to focus on this earth rather than heaven. Their work is here in this world. Christ's earthly ministry inspires their future ministries. Inspired by Christ's resurrection, they can commit themselves to healing the good earth. But, before they go forth to transform the world, they immerse themselves in

prayer. Prayer orients us toward God's vision and enables our actions to be grounded in divine wisdom and power. The words of I Peter describe the power to endure suffering. Endurance of suffering is a communal activity: we need a power and wisdom greater than our own, and communities that support our creativity and agency. We share in Christ's suffering and experience Christ's resurrection as a lived reality and as the spirit enlivening our communities. This is not a commandment to embrace suffering or endure abusive and dangerous relationships; it is an invitation to know that Christ is with us in our suffering and is our inspiration to share one another's suffering in supportive ways. We can, as Peter counsels, bring our suffering to God with the hope that God will restore us to wholeness in this life and the next. A God centred community seeks to prevent pain and suffering; it also responds to suffering in ways that promote healing and wholeness. The reading from John's gospel portrays Jesus praying for our protection and well-being as individuals and communities. God's presence in the world is always contextual and relational, and our prayers help create open systems that more permeable to God's visions and energy. From this perspective, we can claim that Jesus' prayer still shapes our lives; it part of the environment from which each moment of experience emerges.

Adapted from Bruce Epperly (2014). - www.processandfaith.org

Notices

Next Sunday is Pentecost - our tradition is to wear something red (so I have been told!),

Property Committee Meeting Wednesday 7.30pm Gavan Hall

Parish BBQ 12.30pm next Sunday - hosts: Jennifer and Craig Swift, 34 Sports Ave, Kilmore. BYO meat, salad, desert to share.

Emergency Appeal for South Sudan - 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.

Donations for Hymn Books for Pyalong - 12 TiS are required for Church of the Transfiguration - your donation appreciated.

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

First week of June

Tuesday 3rd [Martyrs of Uganda (d. 1886), Janani Luwum, archbishop of Uganda (d. 1977), John XXIII bishop of Rome, reformer (d. 1963).]

Wednesday 4th 10.00am Eucharist Christ Church, Seymour
7.30pm Property Committee Gavan Hall

Thursday 5th [Boniface of Mainz, bishop and martyr (d. 754)]

10.00am Eucharist St Matthews
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
2.30pm Eucharist Caladenia
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 6th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House
11.00am Deanery Meeting

Saturday 7th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop Church House

Next Sunday: 8th June 2014 – Day of Pentecost

Acts 2.1-21; Ps 104. 26-36; 1 Corinthians 12.1-13; John 20.19-23

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

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