

The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta

The Parish of Kilmore

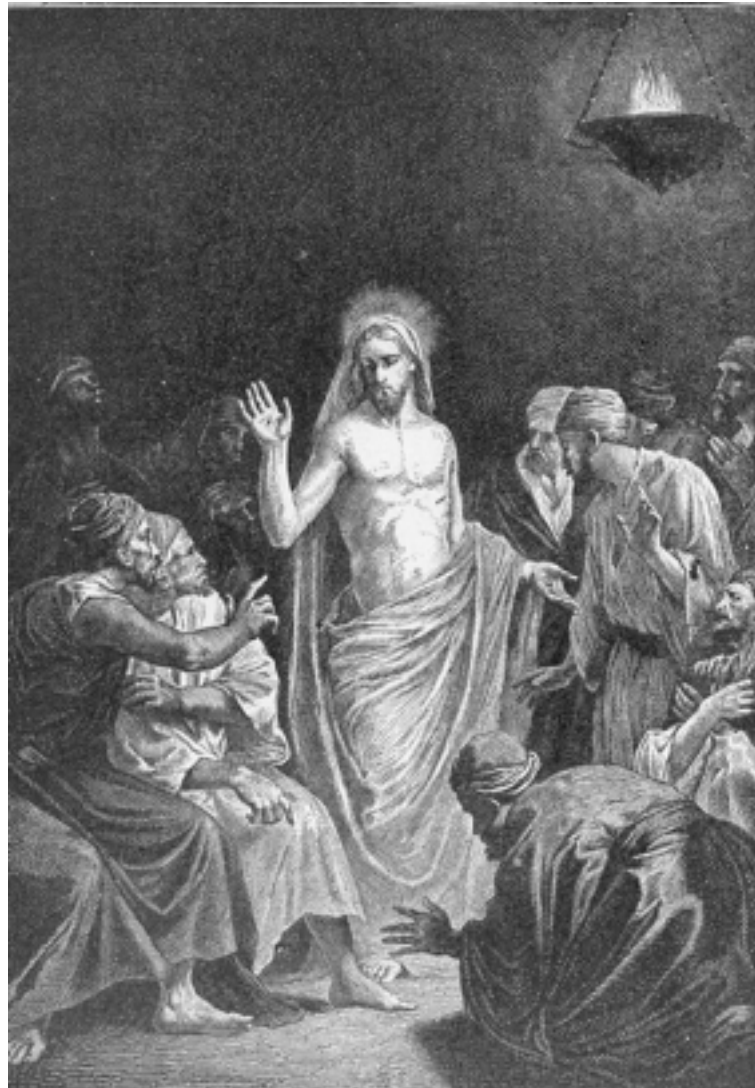
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

12th April 2015

Second Sunday of Easter

HYMNS: 367, Pew sheet [Tune 142], 473, 387.

A warm welcome to any visitors please stay and enjoy hospitality after the service.



Introit hymn

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,

Whose mercy endures for ever.

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 with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

‘Peace be with you,’ says the Lord. ‘As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ *John 20.21*

THE COLLECT

Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us in despair but whose presence is overwhelming: breathe on us with your abundant life, that where we cannot see we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 4.32-37

[The early disciples of Christ bear witness to the resurrection through their generosity and care for one another, ensuring that no one among them had any need.]

A reading from the book of Acts

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there was no needy person among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means ‘son of encouragement’), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 133

[A song of celebration for the blessing of living in unity.]

Response: The Lord’s blessing is life for ever.

John McCann

Response

cf. v. 5 The Lord’s bles - sing is life for e - ver.



Behold how good and pleasant it is
to dwell together in unity.
It is like the precious oil upon the head,
running down upon the beard,
Even on Aaron's beard,
running down upon the collar of his clothing./R

It is like the dew of Hermon
running down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the Lord has promised his blessing:
even life for evermore./R

SECOND READING

1 John 1.1 - 2.2

[John writes to testify to Jesus and to open the door to fellowship for the believers with one another and with God. However, if we claim to be in fellowship but live in “darkness” – denial and sin – we lie. But, if we confess our sin, and live in the light we do, indeed, have fellowship with God and others]

A reading from the first letter of John

We announce to you that which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessed are those who | have not seen
and yet have come | to believe.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20.19-31

[Jesus appears to the disciples in the closed upper room, giving them a gift of the Spirit, and sending them just as he was sent. Then, Thomas who wasn't at this appearance, is encountered by Jesus, and his doubts are removed.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw

the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

God of all hope, may we in the wake of Easter, ride a wave of irrepressible hope - rising from the deep following the trajectory of love over the turbulences of our living and through the currents. So within joy, may we sense your presence hovering ever with us - ever speaking new creation - ever calling us into possibility.

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

God of all holiness, we bring our prayers for your world; for those recovering from natural disasters, especially the people of Vanuatu; for those recovering from human disasters from failed economies; for those suffering the devastation of war, and for all the millions of refugees and asylum seekers fleeing terror.

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

God of all wonder, the old has passed away and in you, in your resurrection, in your life and love, everything becomes new; bless and equip your church to show forth resurrection in word, sacrament, healing and forgiveness; we pray for John our Bishop, and our parish that we may know and show the true joy of your love.

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

God of all grace, we pray for our communities and those with whom we share our lives, our families and friends, help us to be gentle with each other, soft and loving in touch and fill us with your love; we pray for the lost and the lonely, those

suffering abuse and those who would abuse others, that reconciliation and harmony pervade relationships to bring peace.

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

God of sorrows and suffering, we pray for all who suffer, those with diseases of body and mind; for those who grieve and for the dying and all who tend to them; grant comfort and solace to all in need; those known to us and those who have requested prayer;

Requests for Prayer: *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Alex Impols, Cathy Moseley, & Melissa & family, Seth Gunther, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Tom Scrivens, Jenny Curry, Dianne Mitsakis, Mark Bennetts, Barry Watts, Joan Hiscock, Barbara Kaye, Matthew Parker.*

We give thanks for healing and blessings where ever received.

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

Holy God, we give you thanks that in Christ you welcome your people into everlasting life; we pray for the recently departed, and for those whose year's mind occurs this week.

Year's mind: *12th Jack Hoysted, Eileen Beaumont, Lucy Cartwright; 13th John Walter Salmon, Ken Poulter, Kathleen Pelham, John Hedley; 14th Brightie Lang; 15th Eric Willimas, James Evans; 16th Walter Rasmussen, Geoffrey Ryan, Alan Wicking; 17th Dorothy Green, Jack Poulter; 18th Serge Akishev.*

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

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

Holy One, we find ourselves in the locked doors of ourselves just as the disciples were behind closed doors; we too are so like Thomas with our questions and our doubts; we too are often afraid, perhaps for a different reason than theirs; hear us as we pray for ourselves; let the breath of the Holy Spirit to take away our fears so that we can come out from behind our locked doors, believe the good news, and be filled with goodness and holiness.

Your love could not be defeated; **may that truth turn our doubt to faith.**

Those things, Lord, that we your servants have prayed for,
give us grace to work for; and in the purposes of your love answer our prayers and fulfil our hopes for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Hymn: Conquering Fear [Tune Tis 142]

1. As we contemplate our future,
As we look beyond today,
Many fearful thoughts and feelings
Hinder us along the way.
Worry grips us;
Fear torments us.
Through it all God's love holds sway.

2. Fear controls, restricts, imprisons;
Binds the spirit, rules the mind;
Fear forbids the spread of insight;
Causes gloom, misleads the blind.
In God's love
Is perfect freedom.
We can leave our fears behind.

3. Jesus shows us in His person
God's own love revealed so clear;
Love is present; God is with us
Not to punish; not severe.
He displays
God's loving nature,
And that love casts out our fear.

4. Like the birds released from cages,
Soaring to great heights unknown;
Like the growth and life exploding
When a tiny seed is sown;
Courage blossoms;
Hope grows deeper
When God's love is felt and known.

Reflection on the readings

The surprising message of this week's readings is one that is deeply needed in our world and our Church at this time. This second Sunday of Easter continues the celebration of Jesus' resurrection, but it adds a facet to the story that is not often spoken of – the way Christ's gift of life brings us into a unified, life-giving, faith community. In the Acts reading, the early church is described as a caring, loving and serving community in which all things were held in common and no one had need. The famous Psalm 133 celebrates the joy and life that is found in a united community. In John's letter the testimony about Jesus connects with the call to live "in the light", with honesty and integrity, and explains how living like this, in Jesus' resurrection life, brings us into fellowship with God and one another. Finally, in the Gospel, the first appearance of Jesus includes both the sending of the disciples as Jesus was sent to welcome, forgive and heal – proclaiming God's Reign – and the call to be people of forgiveness, which of course, is a key facet to reconciliation. In the Thomas story, the isolation that is felt by one who has not yet come to faith in Christ's resurrection life is poignantly described, and then the joy when he finds faith and a place in the worshipping, faith community is expressed. The simple and obvious message is that the resurrection is not a personal, individual gift, but is also about reconciliation and community. Because of Christ's life we find connection with one another and with God, and we are able to live out of this sense of belonging, welcoming others, as John does in his letter, into the joy that we have found. The truth is that life is always found and enjoyed together.

NOTICES

Retiring Collection for ABM Vanuatu Emergency Fund

Parish BBQ - TODAY 12.30pm at home of Robyn & Len Whitehouse, 4 Kurkurac Court, High Camp. All very welcome. BYO meat, and salads, sweets and drinks to share.

Memorial Service at Caladenia Aged Care to be held on Thursday 23rd April at 2.30pm.

Church4Kids Sunday 26th 5.00pm Fun and learning time for 4-14 year old followed by BBQ. Helpers always needed - please contact Fr Kim or Caroline Burge.

Strategic Planning Consultation - Over the next couple of weeks after the service Catherine Turnbull will be conducting a consultation with parishioners for the Strategic Plan. Please be available for a short time to provide your input.

Confirmation 2015 - There will be a parish confirmation service in September anyone desiring to be confirmed please see Fr Kim.

Faith enhancement Group recommences Friday 17th April 7pm @ 13 The parade Broadford.

Christ Church Op Shop - Situations Vacant – An energetic person is required for the position of **Op Shop Manager** - responsibility for Op Shop operations, training provided. **Volunteers** required to assist in the Op Shop; variety of positions and times available, training provided. Please contact Fr Kim or Dianne Dixon 5782 1446 for more information.

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

Parish Diary

1st Wed	7.30pm	Property Committee Meeting	venue TBA
1st & 3rd Fri	7.00pm	Faith Enhancement Study	13 The Parade, Broadford
2nd Sun	12.30pm	Parish BBQ	See Notices for details
3rd Tues	1.30pm	St Matthew's Friendship Group	Gavan Hall Broadford
3rd Wed	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	venue TBA
4th Sun	5.00pm	Church 4 Kids	Christ Church

Parish life this week

Monday - Tuesday - Rector on leave

Wednesday 15th 10.00am Eucharist Christ Church Seymour
7.30pm Parish Council @ St Matthew's

Thursday 16th 10.00am Eucharist St Matthews Broadford
10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade
2.30pm Communion - Caladenia
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Friday 17th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House

Saturday 18th 10.00am- 12.00pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 19th April 2015 – Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3.12-20; Psalm 4; I John 2.15-17 & 3.1-6; Luke 24.36b-48

Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration	4.00pm	Holy Eucharist

Parish Clergy:

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton 9 Union Street Kilmore 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407569343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

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

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