



The Anglican Church of  
Australia  
The Diocese of Wangaratta



**5th March 201**  
**First Sunday in Lent**

**Hymns: 211ii, 684, 745, 591**



*Introit Hymn*

The Lord be with you:

**And also with you.**

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.*

## ***A Litany for the beginning of Lent***

Jesus invites us to a way of celebration,  
meeting and feasting with the humble and poor.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus beckons us to a way of risk, letting go of our security.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus challenges us to listen to the voices of those who have nothing to lose.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus points us to a way of self-giving, where power and status are overturned.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus calls us to follow the way of the cross,  
where despair is transformed by the promise of new life.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus journeys with us to the dark desert places of our souls

**Let us allow his to be our companion now and always.**

Lord of all that is silent and all that is spoken, because our lives are full of detail and deadlines, much to be done and little time in which to do it all, we find few moments in which to savour the beauty of the world, to contemplate the fierce endurance of everything that lives, to enter that timeless realm of divine mystery which surrounds us, entered only in silence. Yet we know that this place exists and is close to us. O God, grant us a glimpse of this inner sanctuary, and the desire and calm to dwell there in prayer.

*Time of silence*

As we begin this journey through Lent, help us to make more time for study, and more time for silence, that we may hear your voice in our lives. Open us to hear the words of Jesus in new ways, as they were new to those who first heard them. Challenge us and renew us in this holy season that we may be worthy to be called your people and grant us peace as we journey. **Amen.**

*The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book*

## **SENTENCE**

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Matthew 4.4*

## **Invitation to Confession**

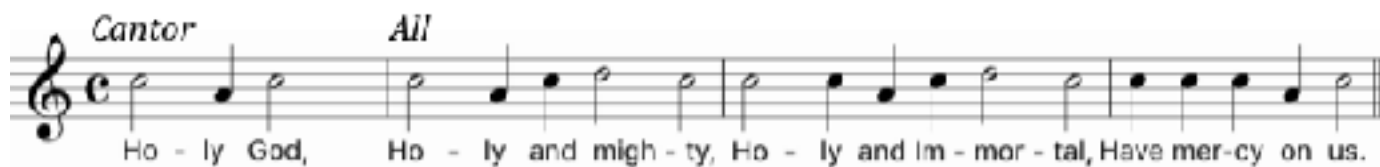
Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

*Silence may be kept*

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith, saying..

## **The Absolution**

## For the Gloria we sing The Trisagion



### THE COLLECT

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7**

[God warns the man and woman in Eden not to eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, but they are tempted by the serpent, and eat some of the fruit, at which point they realise their nakedness and cover themselves with fig leaves.]

*A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.’ Now the snake was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God really say, “You must not eat from any tree in the garden?”’ The woman said to the snake, ‘We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, “You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.”’ ‘You will not certainly die,’ the snake said to the woman. ‘For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

[A Psalm of David celebrating God's forgiveness given so freely to those who confess their sin and do not try to hide it, and also an acknowledgement of God's invitation to guide God's people and lead them to life.]

**Response: Forgive me, O Lord, the guilt of my sin.**

**Response** Gerry Fitzpatrick  
*cf. v. 5* For - give me, O Lord, the guilt of my sin.

Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
and whose sin is covered.

Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile./R

For I held my tongue; my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all the day long.  
Your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer./R

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and my iniquity I did not hide.  
I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,'  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin./R

Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
in the great water flood, it shall not reach them.  
You are a place for me to hide in; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with songs of deliverance./R

'I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.  
'Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding;  
whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you.'/R

Great tribulations remain for the wicked,  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.  
Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart./R

## SECOND READING

**Romans 5. 12-21**

[Paul asserts that although all people have sinned against God, but in Christ, God has given the free gift of forgiveness and right relationship with God.]

*A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans*

Paul writes, 'Just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned – To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did

Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come. But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: the judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

**Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

One does not live by | bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the | mouth of God.

**Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

### **GOSPEL**

**Matthew 4.1-11**

[Jesus is in the wilderness and is tempted by the devil, but overcomes the temptations.]

*A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*For the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus**

**THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

O most Holy One, once again as we enter the forty days of Lent, help us to remember that our beginnings were in you and that it is your desire that our endings still be in you; help us to remember that it was in a beautiful garden that our journey with you began and that it is in your eternal kingdom that we were created to dwell both now and forever; grant us grace to resist the temptations of this world and focus on your ever gracious mercy.

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O most Holy One, your son Jesus our Lord, in the desert engaged with the forces that tear at the fabric of our souls and our life, at our relationships and our community; with power and authority you disarmed the forces that unsettle and disrupt, that tempt and seduce, and in so doing demonstrated that with God all things are possible.

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in the world who would exploit, deprave and debase others; for those suffering deprivation and injustice; for all people in places of danger or violence; for the peoples of Syria, Iraq, Somalia, & Sudan; for the hungry and those impacted by famine especially peoples of Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia, & Nigeria; for refugees and asylum seekers across the world; and keep us always ready to be thankful for the freedoms we enjoy in this country and to open and generous to all who are dispossessed.

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O most Holy One, we pray for the church and for all communities of faith; for church agencies who seek to proclaim your gospel by meaningful service and we pray for the staff and workers implementing ABM's projects; for our Diocese, for John our Bishop, and for our parish; strengthen us to do your will and fill us with your grace.

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O most Holy One, we pray for our nation and community; pray blessings for all with whom we share our lives, our families and friends; for those who are marginalised by situation or circumstance or by prejudice or stigmatisation; for those struggling with the temptations of addiction; for the homeless and those searching for work; those struggling to find resources for daily needs; for the lonely and the friendless, and all those living with anxiety about the future.

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O most Holy One, we pray in faith for the sick and the brokenhearted; for those living with chronic illness of body and mind; for the dying and those who wait with them; we pray for all in need and those who have requested prayer;

*Chris Schafer, Karen Goodger, Jean Evans, Belinda Shannon, Jenny Curry, Barbara Kaye, Seth Gunter, Tom Scrivens, Mark Bennetts, Elaine Haddock, Joy Rowe, Francis Piva, Sharon De Battista.*

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O most Holy One, we remember your servants of every age; for the recently departed, and for those year's mind occurring at this time;

*6th Lawrence Foster, Alfred Parry, Eleanor Homewood; 7th Eddie Napper; 9th Abraham Noest, Violet Bowden; 10th Nola Speirs.*

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

God of all mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O most Holy One, artist of souls, you sculpted a people for yourself out of the rocks of wilderness and fasting; hear us as we pray for ourselves.....; help us as we take up your invitation to prayer and simplicity, to resist temptations that threaten to derail us, and may the discipline of these forty days sharpen our hunger for the feast of your holy friendship, and whet our thirst for the living water you offer through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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### Reflections on the Readings

It is a simple and basic message that the readings offer this week. We are all tempted to go our own way, to ignore God's guidance and direction and to hide our sin and brokenness when we fail. But, God's gracious and extravagant offer is forgiveness and right relationship with God, guidance and a pathway to life, if we will only confess our shortcomings and receive God's restoration, and then follow God's ways. The three sins which have always afflicted human beings – greed for wealth, lust for power and unlimited satisfaction of our appetites (money, power & sex) – also afflicted Jesus as illustrated in his overcoming of temptations in the desert, and as such we find inspiration and guidance for our own lives. The challenge, in today's world of unconditional acceptance, is to have the courage and integrity to acknowledge our brokenness and destructiveness, and admit that we need both forgiveness and empowerment to become creative, contributing human beings who embody God's reign.

*Adapted from John van de Laar (2017) [www.sacredise.com](http://www.sacredise.com)*

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## Notices

**\*\*Stop Press - volunteers needed for an essential working bee at Christ Church 9.30am this Saturday - people welcome to bring family members\*\***

**Rector away Monday 6th - Saturday 11th - please contact one of the wardens for any pastoral concerns.**

**Next Lenten Study 2017 "Returning Home" Study - Friday 17th March 7.30pm at 13 The Parade, Bradford.** Note there will be no study this coming Friday 10th March as Fr Kim is on leave.

**Harvest Festival next Sunday 12th March celebrated at Kilmore, St Matthews and St Stephens - please bring produce, preserves, & contributions to the service and later for auction at Parish BBQ at Gavan Hall at 12.30pm.** Meat provided please bring salads and sweets to share. This will be an ABM Fundraiser.



**ABM Lenten Appeals** - Each Sunday in Lent there will be giving envelopes available. There are three appeals Gender and Governance Initiative in Zambia; Church Growth in the Philippines; and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Ministry. Please donate generously, either sending directly to ABM or leave in the collection. Do not send cash through the mail.

**Direct Debit /EFT Offerings** - Account details: BENDIGO BANK - Account Name 'Anglican Parish of Kilmore'; BSB 633-000; Account Number 158946921. Parishioners using direct debit or electronic funds transfer please use these bank details when making offerings.

### Parish life this week

Monday 5th - Saturday 11th Rector away on leave

Thursday 9th 10.00am Morning Prayer St Matthews

10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade

Friday 10th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 11th 9.30am Working Bee Christ Church

10.00am - 12.00pm Op Shop Church House

### Next Sunday: 12th March 2017

### Second Sunday in Lent

### Harvest Festival

Genesis 12.1-4a; Ps 121; Romans 4.1-5, 13-17; John 3.1-17

Christ Church at Senior Citizens Club	9am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Morning Prayer
St Stephens	11am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4pm	No service this day

### Parish Clergy:

**Rector** Revd Dr Kim Benton, 9 Union Street, Kilmore, 3764; Ph 5782 1155  
m 0407 569 343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

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

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Parishioners and visitors are advised that photographs may be taken of activities in the Parish from time to time for use on Parish website, Facebook and for publication in the Advocate. If you do not wish to be included in a photo please stand clear of the group at the time. Photos are never taken without a warning.