

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST STEPHEN AND ST MARY

MOUNT WAVERLEY

WELCOME

Third Sunday of Easter

26 April 2020



“Be who God meant you
to be and you will set the
world on fire.”

– **St. Catherine of Siena**



‘Saint Catherine of Siena writing’
by Rutilio di Lorenzo Manetti (1571-1639)

This parish is committed to Child Safety and complies with Diocesan and State requirements. This is a shared responsibility of staff and parish. Please see the back of pew leaflet for contact details.

At Worship Today:

**O God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

9.45 am (Sung Eucharist)

Preaching & Presiding: Revd Greg
Liturgy Setting: John Ross
Processional: TIS 254 'O Changeless Christ' v 1,2,5
Sentence: Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name
of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and
you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
First Reading: Acts 2.14a, 36-41
Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Halle
Gospel: Luke 24.13—35
Offertory: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord (in service booklet)
Recessional Hymn: TIS 595 'O Jesus, I Have Promised' v. 1,2,4

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Roster to end of May 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 3rd May

Acts 2: 42 – 47 Irene Donohoue Clyne
Intercessions Val Dyke

Fifth Sunday of Easter – 10th May

Acts 7: 55 – 60 John Foster
Intercessions Christine Mallouhi

Sixth Sunday of Easter - 17th May

Acts 17: 22 – 31 Val Dyke
Intercessions Judith Gibson

Seventh Sunday of Easter – 24 May

Acts 1: 6 – 14 John Russell
Intercessions Jenny Bowers

Day of Pentecost – 31st May

Acts 2: 1 – 21 Elaine Fasken
1 Corinthians 12: 1 – 13 Rowena Ferguson
Intercessions in various languages

First Reading: Acts 2.14a, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' 38 Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' 40 And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' 41 So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24.13-35

On that same day two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' 19 He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23 and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' 25 Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

From the Assistant Curate

JOHN 10:1-21

The Ultimate Sacrifice

This week marks another where I followed the ever-changing nature of society that's impacted by the coronavirus. Whether it's world leaders jockeying for attention, people protesting, or good news stories of sacrifice in our community, people helping others even at risk to themselves.

I think this is particularly relevant this week. It helped me focus not on the negativity of the coronavirus, but rightly remember that Saturday 25th March is when we celebrate ANZAC Day. Remembering this helped lift my frowning gaze from the immediate, and look beyond. We can think of many stories of our heroes during war times giving up their lives for the sake of their nation. They die so that others may live – they win a freedom today from oppression and tyranny.

In the lectionary gospel reading for Saturday, John 10:1-21 shows that the Lord Jesus repeatedly refers to himself as the good shepherd. Like noble soldiers, he is a good shepherd because he benevolently lays down his life for the sake of his flock. Like noble soldiers, he wins freedom for those who believe, from the oppression and tyranny of slavery. For we were once dead in our trespasses, but rejoice as we now have no condemnation in Christ Jesus. Our good shepherd ensures this precisely by laying down his life of his own accord, proving he is the perfectly obedient shepherd God had long promised (cf. Ezek 34).

May we not be overly anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow never comes. But I pray we lift our gaze to what God has done through the Lord Jesus which we celebrated at Easter. Let us not take for granted the freedom our nation has because of the sacrifice others have made for us, and so remind us not to take for granted the full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice that Christ has made to win us freedom, bringing us to God who loves us.

ANZAC Day, Prayer of the Day (APBA 1995)

O God, our ruler and guide, in whose hands are the destinies of this and every nation, we give you thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this land and for those who laid down their lives to defend them: We pray that we and all the people in Australia, gratefully remembering their courage and sacrifice, may have grace to live in a spirit of justice, of generosity, and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Church Office is now **closed**. If you wish to continue to bring food items for the Asylum Seekers or your offertory, they can be left in Dianne's front porch.

“3 THINGS” FROM THE APRIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. Thank you to volunteers

Thank you to all the people who have signed up to be part of the “Staying Connected” volunteers program which is enabling the parish to remain in touch with all members and to be of practical support if needed.

2. Common service

There is a real “community” feeling for the zoom service we are having during this time of Covid-19, appreciating that there are differences in this for all congregations. We are grateful for all those taking part on the reading and intercession rosters, for those who have been involved in musical reflections/anthems and to Andrew McCoy who makes it possible with his technical knowledge.

3. Bequest

The parish received, with thanks, a bequest from the Estate of the late Ian Smith. This bequest was not allocated to a specific project and has been placed in the ADF reserve account.

In Memory

We remember those members of the police force who tragically lost their lives on Wednesday. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and colleagues.



Carpark Tree

It is with some sadness that the time has come (within the next four weeks) for the large tree in the carpark to be removed. The report of a professional arborist confirmed what many of us have observed in the last couple of years namely that the tree is in very poor health (loss of limbs, decaying hollows, significant dieback) which has not been helped by previous removal of the main scaffold limbs with new growth being only from epicormic buds (from just underneath the bark layer). The consequence is that further limb failure is both highly likely and immanent. Thus because of the serious safety risks posed by the latter, the Parish Council has decided to have the tree removed. As part of the removal process, the stump will also be ground out. The tree is not within a Monash Council Vegetation Protection Overlay.

We look forward to eventually replacing the tree with more suitable vegetation once social distancing restrictions allow us to work on restoring the health of the ground in the enclosure.

From the Wardens: Adapting our Church to meet Coronavirus protocols.

The Wardens have been talking regularly with Rev'd Dianne as our Parish and Clergy adapt to government directives, Diocesan protocols for worship and keeping our staff in good health. We will continue to update you as we have information to share.

• Livestream Services.

The response to services via Zoom has been very positive. Many thanks to Andrew McCoy for his hard work and expertise. We are learning new things each week so please be understanding if the sound drops. Don't forget you can phone into the service if you cannot connect via a computer, i-pad or phone device.

• New Opportunities to Communicate

We have received many suggestions of apps or ideas that could be used to enhance worship and communication. Please be patient as our parish adapts to new ways of working and communicating as our Clergy focus on the plethora of changes needed to adapt the liturgy, responses to pastoral matters, and Diocesan requirements to the time and technological constraints of live streaming, electronic communication mediums etc. Please pass any ideas or requests to The Wardens who will share your suggestions with Parish Council and Clergy.

• Parish Questionnaire – Last Call!

The timing of this Survey was thwarted by the closure of the Church for public worship. The response has been good but not as high as we expected. There is still time. Please post your reply or email the form to the Parish Office by the end of April 2020. Your ideas will help Parish Council with planning.

The Wardens (John, Judith, Graeme).

The Anglican Parish of St Stephen & St Mary Mount Waverley

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Office hours: Currently Closed

Email: parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au Website: www.stephenandmary.org.au

'Like' us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley

Priest

(Day off - Monday)

The Venerable Dianne Sharrock

Assistant Curate

(Tues, Wed & Thurs mornings, Fri, Sun)

The Revd Greg Wong

Children's and Families' Minister

(Tues 10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Wed 9.30 am - 2.30 pm, Sun 10.30 am - 12.30 pm)

Lisa Eames

Child Safety Compliance Officer

Elaine Fasken

Music Director

Brian Copple

CE Music Coordinator

Greg Ellsmore

Treasurer

Helen Warren

Office Manager

Katherine Rushby

Churchwardens:

Graeme Dellora

John Foster

Judith Gibson

Parish Council:

Sugan Blanchard, David Bruce, Margaret Crawford, Rowena Ferguson,
Nathan Kelly, Jennifer Gracie, Frances Ludgate, Sherredan Maher,
Helen Warren.

Pastoral Care Ministry:

Aged Care Chaplaincies:

Hospital Visiting:

Clergy

Funeral Ministry:

The Vicar

Contemporary Eucharist Contact:

Rowena Ferguson

Spiritual Directors:

Cath Connelly

Val Dyke

Prayer Chain contact

Margaret Syfret

SERVICE: Sunday 9.45 am