



## Stephen, Deacon and First Martyr

1 August 2021

So long as a man seeks his own will and his own highest good, because it is his, and for his own sake, he will never find it: for so long as he does this, he is not seeking his own highest good, and how then should he find it? For so long as he does this, he seeks himself, and dreams that he is himself the highest good.... But whosoever seeks, loves, and pursues goodness, as goodness and for the sake of goodness, and makes that his end - for nothing but the love of goodness, not for love of the I, Me, Mine, Self and the like - he will find the highest good, for he seeks it aright, and they who seek it otherwise do err.

Theologica Germanica

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the people of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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:

8.00 am

Preaching & Presiding: Revd Greg

Hymn: Stephen the Deacon

*Tune TIS 156*

10.00 am

We give you thanks, O Lord of glory,  
for the example of Stephen, the first martyr,  
who prayed for his persecutors,  
and looked to him who was crucified,  
your Son Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The Sanctuary bell will be rung 5 minutes before the service begins to observe a time of quiet.

Presiding:

Revd Greg

Preaching:

Jenny Hill

Cantor:

Milton Biddle

Liturgy Setting:

**Curtis Stephan 'Mass of Creation'**

Processional:

**TIS 455 'For All The Saints' v.1,2,3,4**

Sentence:

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven  
and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the  
right hand of God. Then they cast him out of the city  
and stoned him.

First Reading:

Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-60

Psalm Response:



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Gospel Acclamation:



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Gospel:

Matthew 10.17-22

Offertory:

**'Stephen the Deacon' Tune TIS 156**

Communion Meditation:

**'I am The Bread of Life' - by John Michael Talbot**

Recessional Hymn:

**TIS 432 'Christ is Made the Sure Foundation' v.1,3,5**

People of all Christian churches, who are communicants of their own church, are invited to share Holy Communion with us

First Reading: Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-60

8 Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. 9 Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. 10 But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. 7 54 When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. 55 But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 **'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!'** 57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. 58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 While they were stoning **Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.'** 60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, **'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.'** When he had said this, he died.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10.17-22

Jesus said to the twelve 17 Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; 18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. 19 When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; 20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. 21 Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; 22 and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

## Mothers' Union

MU Birthday Celebration (deferred from June)  
Monday August 30<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon

Homemade casserole lunch with a delicious dessert served @ 12-30, donation \$20.

Guest speaker Dr. Gwenda Beed Davey  
AM **speaking about Australian Girls' Childhood** research @ 2pm.

The money raised will support the MU Positive Parenting Program in Papua-New Guinea.

## Afternoon Meditation Gatherings

1st Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Chapel, based on Ignatian Spirituality. A Sacred Space where you can find rest and stillness, listen and centre yourself. Spiritual food is offered to aid reflection and meditation. Contact Val Dyke. Next session will be on 4th August 2021.

## The Thursday Evening Meditation Group

We continue to meet on Zoom on the second and fourth Thursday evenings of the month at 7.30pm. Our next session will be on August 12th at 7.30pm. Zoom links are emailed to members prior to the sessions or enquiries can be directed to Michael Mosley.

mainly music continues to engage with young families. You are always welcome to come along and see what we do on Wednesdays 10.30am - 12 noon, Old Church, during school term.



## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

### 'For All The Saints'

1. For all the saints who from their labours rest,  
who to the world their Lord by faith confessed,  
your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

2. You were their rock, their fortress and their  
might,  
you were their captain in the well fought fight,  
in deepest darkness still their one true light.

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

3. So may your servants, faithful, true and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
**and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.**

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine,  
all yours, all joined in unity divine.

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

William Walsham How  
1823-97 *alt.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

### 'Stephen the Deacon'

1. Stephen the deacon  
worked for the gospel,  
serving his sisters,  
brothers and friends.  
Christ, may our service  
strengthen our witness,  
telling with boldness:  
love never ends.

2. Stephen the preacher,  
full of the Spirit,  
speaking with wisdom  
told of your grace.  
Jesus, come, feed us,  
truthfully teach us,  
help us and lead us,  
keep us in faith.

3. Stephen the martyr  
prayed for his killers,  
loved those who hated,  
gently forgave.  
Keep us forgiving,  
Christ, in our suffering,  
dying and living,  
your love will save.

Words: Elizabeth J. Smith

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### TIS 432 'Christ is Made the Sure Foundation'

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen by the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the church in one,  
**holy Zion's help for ever,**  
and her confidence alone.

2. Here among us, where we call you  
come, O Lord our God, today;  
with your gentle lovingkindness  
hear your people as we pray,  
and your fullest benediction  
pour upon us here today.

3. Praise and honour to the Father,  
praise and honour to the Son,  
praise and honour to the Spirit,  
ever Three and ever One,  
one in might and one in glory  
while eternal ages run.

*From Urbs beata Hierusalem, Latin, c. 7th cent.  
tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt.*

### Ray Price's Funeral

This has been postponed for approximately  
two weeks. (We will give further advice near-  
er the time).



## † Mary & Martha of Bethany



**Martha-** (1<sup>st</sup> century). The sister of Lazarus and of Mary who is usually identified with Mary Magdalene, Martha received Christ in their household at Bethany, which was specially loved by him (*Luke 10: 38-42*), on which occasion he gently reproved her for her complaint that her sister Mary did not help her sufficiently in the necessary

preparations. The words of Christ were traditionally represented as indicating the excellence of the contemplative life (represented by Mary) over the cares of the active life, represented by Martha. In the Gospel of John, Martha also appeared on the occasion of the Raising of Lazarus (*John 11: 1-46*), when her faith in Christ and his divine power was the occasion for the famous words "I am the resurrection and the life", and for the miracle of Lazarus' return to life. It was also recorded that Christ once again had supper at Bethany, where Martha served him six days before the Passover (*John 12: 1-2*). This is all that can be known of her from the New Testament; there is no early tradition about her death.

But a medieval legend arose which connected her, Mary Magdalene, and Lazarus with the evangelization of Provence: Martha's supposed relics were discovered and enshrined in 1187 at Tarascon. Her iconography depends both on the authentic data of the Gospel and on the historically worthless Provencal legends. She is invoked as the patron of housewives and lay sisters, and her attributes are a ladle, a broom, or a bunch of keys; but she is also represented with a dragon, which she was supposed to have tamed at Tarascon by aspersing him with holy water and wrapping her sash round his neck, before leading him to Arles, where he was killed. She is also represented in scenes of the Raising of Lazarus, as in the fine Romanesque sculptures at Chichester cathedral.

**Feast:** 29<sup>th</sup> July in the West. There is much divergence about her feast in antiquity: an interpolator in the Martyrology of Jerome places her with her brother and sister on 19<sup>th</sup> January; Ado on 17<sup>th</sup> October; while the Greeks cult her on 6<sup>th</sup> June among the holy women who brought spices to anoint Christ's body.

The Church remembers Mary and Martha of Bethany on 29<sup>th</sup> July.





Today we celebrate...

**Saints -- † Stephen** (d. c.35), deacon and protomartyr of the Christian Church. All that we know of his life is in the Acts of the Apostles (6-7). He was one of the seven deacons, probably a Hellenistic Jew, appointed by the apostles to look after the distribution of alms to the faithful (especially the widows) and to help in the ministry of preaching. To judge by his famous discourse, even if it is somewhat 'retouched', Stephen was learned in the Scriptures and the history of Judaism, beside being eloquent and forceful. The gist of his defence of Christianity was that God does not depend on the Temple, in so far as, like the Mosaic Law, it was a temporary institution and destined to be fulfilled and superseded by Christ, who was the prophet designated by Moses and the Messiah whom the Jewish race had so long awaited. He finally attacked his hearers for resisting the Spirit and for killing the Christ as their fathers had killed the prophets. They then stoned him for blasphemy apparently without a formal trial, while he saw a vision of Christ on God's right hand. The witnesses placed their clothes at the feet of Saul (afterwards Paul), who consented to his death.

At least from the 4<sup>th</sup> century (or earlier) his feast has been kept in both East and West. But the cult was given further popularity by the discovery of his supposed tomb by the priest Lucian at Kafr Gamala in 415. The translation of the relics, first to Constantinople and then to Rome, with some dismemberment and with the addition of the stones allegedly used at his martyrdom, contributed to the diffusion of his cult. This is mentioned by Augustine in the last book of *The City of God*.

From early times he was the patron of deacons, in the later Middle Ages he was patron of innumerable churches, including several French cathedrals. In England forty six ancient churches are dedicated to him. In art his usual attributes are a book of the Gospels with a stone and sometimes a palm of martyrdom. Feast of the finding of his relics, formerly on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, was widely celebrated in England and elsewhere. The event was described in the Golden Legend. The Church remembers Stephen on 26<sup>th</sup> December, (but may be observed on 3<sup>rd</sup> August).

...and we welcome the return of our original St Stephen icon which has been restored by Revd Peter Hill.



# Dates to put in your diary ...

Sunday Stephen, Deacon & First Martyr -  
- August 1, 2021

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Eucharist

Monday 2

4.00 - 8.45 pm Karen Margaret Dance

Tuesday 3

Wednesday 4

10.00 am mainly music

2.00 pm Funeral

2.30 - 3.30 pm Meditation (Old Church)

Thursday 5

10.00 am Eucharist

7.30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 6

2.00 pm Funeral

Saturday 7

3.00 - 10.00 pm Chinese Church

Sunday 8 Mary Sumner

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Eucharist

3.00 - 8.00 pm TCCV

Next Sunday 100th Anniversary of Mary Sumner  
- August 8, 2021

8.00 am

Server Doug Hastings

Welcomers Celia Gant

Reader Nathan Kelly

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2

Intercessor Clergy

10.00 am

Welcomers Jen Gracie

Fiona Nicholson Stocker

Reader Elaine Fasken

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2

Intercessor Jenny Bowers

Morning Tea Maggie and Graeme Dellora

Galahkookemu: Following the path of Benedict  
in modern life.

We will meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at  
7pm at Mitcham until further notice. We welcome  
newcomers. Visit and see if this is  
for you. Contact Christine Mallouhi



## Covid Cleaning Roster

Sunday 8th August

8.00am Sugan Blanchard  
Arunthy Blanchard  
10.00am Sue Retschko  
Helen Warren

Tamil Christian Church services

2nd and 4th Sunday from 3pm

Joyriver Chinese Church

Saturdays from 3pm



# The Anglican Parish of St Stephen & St Mary Mount Waverley

**383-385 High Street Road, Mt Waverley, 3149. Phone: 9807 3168**

**Office hours:** Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.30am - 2.30pm

Email: [parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au) Website: [www.stephenandmary.org.au](http://www.stephenandmary.org.au)

'Like' us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley](http://www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley)

<b>Priest</b> (Day off - Monday)	The Venerable Dianne Sharrock
<b>Assistant Curate</b> (Day off - Monday)	The Revd Greg Wong
<b>Children's and Families' Minister</b>  (Tues 10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Wed 9.30 am - 2.30 pm, Sun 10.30 am - 12.30 pm)	Lisa Eames
<b>Child Safety Compliance Officer</b>	Elaine Fasken
<b>Covid19 Compliance Officer</b>	Sugan Blanchard
<b>Music Director</b>	Brian Copple
<b>Treasurer</b>	Helen Warren
<b>Office Manager</b>	Katherine Rushby
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Graeme Dellora John Foster Sue Retschko
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Sugan Blanchard, David Bruce, Margaret Crawford, Rowena Ferguson, Judith Gibson, Jennifer Gracie, Nathan Kelly, Sherredan Maher, Helen Warren, Joan West
<b>Pastoral Care Ministry:</b>	
<i>Hospital Visiting:</i>	Clergy
<i>Funeral Ministry:</i>	The Vicar
<i>Contemporary Eucharist Contact:</i>	Rowena Ferguson
<b>Spiritual Directors:</b>	Cath Connelly Val Dyke
<b>Prayer Chain contact</b>	Margaret Syfret
<b>SERVICES:</b>	
	<b>Sunday 8.00 &amp; 10.00 am</b>
	<b>Thursday 10.00 am</b>