



St Philip's Come & See

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Sunday 25 October 2020 *Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost*

While the COVID19 restrictions are in place St Philip's is delighted to be celebrating the Eucharist online on [Facebook](#) at 8.00am this morning. It will then be available on either our [YouTube channel](#) or [Facebook](#). All links and details are on our web page www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au



James Tissot (1836-1902), *The Pharisees Question Jesus* (1894). Brooklyn Museum.

Dear Friends,

As the liturgical year draws to a close we are offered to opportunity for both celebration and reflection. Next week we will keep the feast of All Saints with all due solemnity! And then follow it with the reflective and more sombre All Souls. When I think about this commemoration I am reminded of the closing paragraph of George Eliot's novel *Middlemarch*, she writes of the heroine Dorothea:

"But the effect of her being on those around her was incalculably diffusive: for the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as

they might have been is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs."

Please let me know of those you would like remembered on this day and we will commemorate a Requiem Eucharist at 9am.

After All Souls we can look forward to the close of the calendar with the great festival of Christ the King. Feasting and fasting, these lie at the very heart of our liturgical calendar. We are given the opportunity to find balance and to appropriately recall the great events in the life of Christ and in the lives of the saints who have followed him, by feasting and fasting.

Our world has suffered because we have been unable or unwilling to find this balance. We have taken it for granted that we can keep feasting, that somehow resources are limitless. But we have found that this is not the case. The environment has suffered, the poor have suffered and many in developed countries have suffered as they have tried to find a place in the 'economy' which has replaced community.

The Book of Ecclesiastes tells us there is a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, the psalms too move between lament and praise. The calendar helps us mark those times together and to give shape to our everyday lives. This is good for our environment, our economy, our community and our health and well-being. We might be tempted to think that our efforts are of little import. But as we celebrate All Saints and commemorate All Souls we are reminded of those who have gone before whose lives have impacted ours, the great saints but also those "*who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs.*"

Blessings to you all *Martin*

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Entrance Antiphon [Introit]

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Matthew 22:27-40

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O God,

whose Son has taught us that love is the fulfilment of your law:

stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit,

and pour into our hearts your greatest gift of love,

so that we may love you with our whole being,

and our neighbours as ourselves;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

A reading from the book of Leviticus (19:1-2, 15-18)

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

²Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

¹⁵You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord.

¹⁷You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people,

but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

Psalm 1

Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:
nor followed the way of sinners, nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.

**But their delight is in the law of the Lord:
and on that law will they ponder day and night.**

They are like trees planted beside streams of water:
that yield their fruit in due season.

**Their leaves also shall not wither:
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.**

As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.

**Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement:
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.**

For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (2:1-13)

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

⁹You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. ¹¹As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, ¹²urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. ¹³We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

The Gradual

Alleluia! **Alleluia.** If anyone loves me, they will keep my word, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. **Alleluia!**

John 14:23

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (22:34-46)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? ³⁷He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as

yourself." ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' ⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' ⁴³He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴"The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet' "?

⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer,

nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the People

In our prayers we remember those in need, particularly: Roger, Ros, Sam, Ben, Gage, Hugh, Beryl, Joan, Denise, Margaret, Sarah, Tien and Myrle and those unable to gather with us.

We commend to God the recently departed and those whose year's mind falls at this time: Irene Smith (25/10/2019), David Reid (27/10/1994) and Ted Moore (31/10/2003). We remember those whose memories are dear to us and all who have no one to remember them.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering to God.

cf Ephesians 5:2

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

[When the clergy make their communion if you are watching from home you may like to privately make the following prayer. It was believed from earliest times that Christians could receive the benefits of Holy Communion even if they were unable to be present at the Eucharist. This teaching was of particular comfort to so-called Confessors of the Faith, who were imprisoned and deprived of access to the sacraments].

Jesus, you have given us in the Holy Eucharist
your Body and Blood to be our spiritual nourishment
through which we may have life everlasting.

I desire, with all my heart, to receive this living Bread
which came down from Heaven.
Send your Spirit upon me, come and refresh my soul.
That, whilst I may be isolated from your sacramental presence
and from your Body, gathered;
I may know the peace and joy of communion with you
and your body the Church, in my heart.

Increase my faith,
strengthen my hope,
kindle my love,
that I may die to self and live but for you. Amen.

[If you are interested in the history and the theology behind Spiritual Communion this YouTube clip is helpful. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uBiqbTY7oA&feature=youtu.be>]

For Reflection

You can't define me as a person by the functional nature of who I am; I eat, think, walk and do a lot of other things, but that doesn't make me 'me'. I'm more than a biological set of facts. What makes me fully human is the way I interact with other people. In my life I'm surrounded by a network of relationships and they define who I am.

This is the mysterious nature of what it means to be a person. This relational element that is the key to our humanity doesn't change whether we are disabled, dying or on the margins of society. Even a baby inside the womb is in relationship with its mother. Christians believe that attention and respect is due to every person because we are all caught up in this relational reality.

No one is outside of it. We are fully human because of our relationships.

There is a distinction between seeing ourselves as a person because of our relationships and seeing ourselves primarily as an individual where my world revolves around myself. The problem with identifying ourselves primarily as individuals above that of relational beings is that we inevitably detach and alienate ourselves from those around us. It leads to us wanting to control our lives, to let our desires and expectations push us on towards and past our limits seeking to become more perfect and prosperous. We resent our limitations rather than embracing them.

If our understanding of our humanity is focused on the self rather than understanding it through our connectedness with others then we are in danger of losing the desire to treat others with the respect and attention we seek to give ourselves.

St. Augustine wrote that before our relationships with each other, we are in relationship with God. Our relationship with God then defines those relationships with others; it is the root of everything it means to be a person. It is through our relationship with God also that we can claim our human rights. These are the rights to be respected and affirmed and for our lives to be valued.

Ultimately what binds relationships together is love and that love first and foremost comes from God. I am neither a machine nor a self-contained soul; I am a person, spoken to, seen and loved into existence. My relationships make me who I am as a person, but they also require me to have faith; faith to allow others to impact and shape my life. This engagement is risky. It forces us to open up to others, but it also teaches us to be responsible for each other and to place value on those around us.

It's impossible to understand who we are as humans unless we can grasp the concept of person over individual. And we can't address our humanity fully without seeing it from a theological (God's) perspective.

Dr Rowan Williams

News

The ACT Chief Officer regularly updates information regarding interstate COVID19 outbreaks.

Below is the link to the site which outlines areas of risk in Australia (Hotspots)

https://www.health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-10/COVID-19%20Advice%20on%20interstate%20COVID-19%20outbreaks_15102020.pdf [The latest guidance on this site dated 15th October is in the church foyer].

The NSW CHO's site provides detailed information on the situation in NSW.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates>

Spring is in the air! Our Winter Sale has now finished – thank you to those who continue to support

Pandora's. Our new Spring/Summer Collection will be launched in-store next Saturday (31 October) from 10.0am. Spring into fashion and treat yourself to a fabulous new outfit, check out our exciting, stylish accessories too!

Bridging the Gap - Breaking the Cycle

Each week St Philip's donates non-perishable food items to **St John's Care** in Reid. Thank you to those who continue to donate. The baskets at the back of the church are ready to receive your donations! As well as food, items such as shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste (especially for children) are needed at this time. Thank you.

Please refer to the list of suggested items and if you would like to know more about this important outreach visit www.stjohnscare.org.au.

St Philip's National Mission - Australia Youth Engagement

Our National Mission Project for 2020 - Australia Youth Engagement through ABM is coming to a close. I hope that you have managed to read about this project which supports Church initiatives to engage young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people. The project aims to produce culturally relevant Sunday School resources for ATSI communities in their own language which are then incorporated in their existing programs and church services. The envelopes for your donation are at the giving bowl and the back of the church. Watch out for news of our next outreach project.

Next Saturday 31 October, 9am – 11am we will have a **Working Bee** in the church gardens. The rain has been wonderful, but the weeds enjoy it too! Come along and lend a hand!

Hope you enjoyed the latest edition of **Church Chat**; many thanks to our editor Laura Wood. Don't forget to get your recipes, news and chat to Laura for the next edition. yourlaurawood@gmail.com

Monday 2 November is **All Souls Day**. After the festivities of All Saints it is appropriate that we gather, pause and remember those dear to us, those who have no one to remember them and particularly this year remember those who died as a result of the Pandemic that has afflicted us. A Requiem Eucharist will be celebrated at 9.00am. Please let Martin know the names of anyone you would like remembered.

This week @ St Philip's

Today	<i>Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with music
Thursday 29 October	<i>Feria</i>
10am	Eucharist
Friday 30 October	<i>Feria</i>
7pm – 9pm	Youth Group
Saturday 31 October	<i>Martin Luther (d.1546) and the Continental reformers</i>
9am – 11.00am	Garden Working Bee
10am – 1pm	Pandora's Spring/Summer Launch
Sunday 1 November	<i>All Saints Day</i>
	<i>Readings: Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with Music

Dates for your Diary

Monday, 2 November 9am	All Souls, Requiem Eucharist
Sunday, 22 November	Christ the King
Saturday, 28 November 10am – 1pm	Festive Fashions @ Pandoras
Saturday, 28 November 6pm	Advent Dinner (More on this soon)
Sunday, 20 December 7pm	Christmas Concert
Christmas Services – More details soon.	

Roster

		25-Oct-20	1-Nov-20	8-Nov-20
	Sunday of Month	4th	1st	2nd
	Liturgical Season	21st Sunday after Pentecost	All Saints	23rd Sunday after Pentecost
	Flowers	Flower team	Flower team	Flower team
	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)			
8am	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Tim & Shane	Margaret or Russell	Alison & Alistair
	Liturgical Assistant	Peter W	Lisa C	Ellie P
	Bible Reader	Shane W	Margaret or Russell	Alison & Alistair

10 am	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)			
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Fred A, Janene B & helper	Nirmal F, Fred A & Janene B	Hardy & Helen P, Jeanette M
	Liturgical Assistant	Philippa W		Rebecca K
	Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F
	Bible reader	Fiona D	Fred A	Jeanette D-T