



St Philip's
Come & See

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Sunday 29 August 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Today the 8.00am Eucharist will be live on [Facebook](#). Then it will 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*, The Brooklyn Museum, US

Dear Friends,

I hope that you are all coping with the restrictions we are currently living under. If issues have arisen please don't hesitate to contact me, even if it's just for a chat!

This past week we have livestreamed the offices of Morning and Evening Prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They help provide an anchor around which our day can be grounded and lived out. It is uncertain times like these that routines are often lost and while sometimes it is good to break routines – such as holidays, most of us value routine in our lives. I certainly find the recitation of the offices invaluable in framing my day. Whilst preparing for the Livestream I tried a number of different places in the church to sit, looking for light and ambience. I ended up in the sanctuary the soft light from the stained glass offering a gentle glow. I was also keen for

us to be reminded that in the midst of our isolation the sacrament reserved speaks powerfully of the steady and unfailing presence of Christ in the heart of his Church. The routine of prayer is unceasing in response to that presence. So behind me the sanctuary lamp offers its reassuring flicker.

Reading between the lines at the many press conferences given by the ACT leaders and health experts, even if the lockdown is lifted this Thursday (2 September) we will still be subject to significant restrictions which will almost certainly impact our ability to gather for worship. We will continue to offer the various virtual gatherings and as the 'Winter Journey' comes to its destination we might offer another opportunity for study. If you have any ideas or requests please let me know. Perhaps we might have a different theme each week and ask someone to lead us.

Our diary and the 'week at a glance' below is provisional (and hopeful).

Blessings to you all

Martin

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Liturgy of the Day

Entrance Antiphon

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

James 1.17

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, ☩ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you ☩ and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Cleanse our consciences, O Lord,
and enlighten our hearts
through the daily presence of your Son Jesus Christ,
that when he comes in glory of be our judge
we may be found undefiled and acceptable in his sight;
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 Deuteronomy (4:1-2, 6-9)

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children

Psalm 15

Lord, who may abide in your tabernacle:
or who may dwell upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads an uncorrupt life and does the thing which is right:

who speaks the truth from the heart, and has not slandered with the tongue;

Who has done no evil to a friend:

nor vented abuse against a neighbour;

In whose eyes the worthless have no honour:

but who makes much of those that fear the Lord;

Whoever has sworn to his neighbour:

and will not go back on that oath;

Who has not put his money to usury :

nor taken a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things:

shall never be overthrown.

A reading from the letter of James (1:17-27)

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

In fulfilment of his own purpose God gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

James 1.18

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (7:1-8, 14-23)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' ⁶He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honours me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

⁷ in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines."

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.'

¹⁷When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸He said to them, 'Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, ¹⁹since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?' (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰And he said, 'It is what comes out of a person that defiles. ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the church

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, □ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

In our prayers we remember those in need, particularly: Ros, Ben, Gage, Hugh, Sarah, Myrle, David, Otto, Joan, Mandy, Bob and Noel, those unable to gather with us, those in hospital, residential or home care and those from whom we are isolated.

We commend to God the recently departed, those whose anniversaries fall at this time John David Williams (2/9/2004), all whose memories are dear to us, and those who have no one to remember them.

The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed ✕ is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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.

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:

so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Communion Antiphon

I will give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart:

I will tell of all the wonders you have done.

Psalms 9.1

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

At this time 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.

The Sending out of God's People

Let us pray:

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place
where hunger and thirst are no more;

Most loving God, **you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

For Reflection

Who Were the Pharisees?

The Pharisees were a strict religious sect within Judaism that functioned as a political interest group seeking to reform society by bringing about a strict adherence to the Law, especially as it related to ritual purity.

The name "Pharisee" is apparently derived from the Hebrew word *perusim*, meaning "the separated ones" or "separatists." The term "Pharisee," however, was what those outside the sect called them. The Pharisees themselves apparently didn't have a name for their movement. Rather they considered themselves the true Israel, and referred to themselves as "sages" (*hakamim*). After the destruction of the temple, they used the title "rabbi" for sages.

The Pharisees, as a whole, were not the ruling class, though they sought to influence the ruling class. Nor were they of the priestly class, who tended to conform to the teachings of another religious sect, the Sadducees. Nor were they professional scholars like the "scribes" or "teachers of the law" (though some of these professional scholars identified themselves as Pharisees). The Pharisees were part of a voluntary lay movement that sought to bring a renewed understanding and enforcement of ritual purity in Palestine.

Historical Origins

F.F. Bruce traces the Pharisees to the Hasidim, the "godly people," groups of pious Jews after the exile, who began to meet for mutual encouragement. They deplored the inroads of the Hellenistic way of life into Judaism, and many supported the Hasmoneans and Maccabees in resisting the Greek oppressors and restoring the Temple to the pure worship of Israel's God. Later they broke with John Hyrcanus (which may be one explanation of the name Pharisees, "separatists").

The Pharisees were passionately devoted to the Torah. In the course of their study and application of the law they built up a body of traditional interpretation and application of the law known as "the tradition of the elders." Later generations of rabbis eventually wrote it down about the Second Century AD in what is called the Mishnah, consisting of sixty-two tractates or sections. Later yet, from 400 to 600 AD, a Talmud, or commentary upon and expansion of the Mishnah was developed. These are the basis of the Rabbinical writings that form the literature of present-day Judaism.

The Pharisees' present-day descendants are to be found among the Hassidim, what we refer to as the Orthodox branch of Judaism. The men are distinguished by their three-quarter length topcoats, white shirts, and wide-brim black hats (and sometimes earlocks), the traditional clothing their ancestors wore in the Jewish ghettos of European cities.

The Tradition of the Elders

Since the Pharisees were passionate in their desire to obey God's law, they had developed over time an oral tradition, "the tradition of the elders," that put a "hedge" or fence around the Biblical commandments. The idea was that obedience to the tradition of the elders formed a barrier that would prevent a pious Jew from breaking a Biblical commandment itself.

Here's an example, though it didn't seem to be an issue in Jesus' day, but much later. Exodus 23:19 prohibits cooking a kid in its mother's milk. A "hedge" around this law eventually became the requirement to keep a "Kosher kitchen," maintaining two separate sets of cooking utensils, one for dairy products and the other for non-dairy cooking -- lest one might inadvertently get some minute portion of milk in a pot that was cooking the meat of a young goat.

Over time, this "tradition of the elders" became a law unto itself, and it is with this oral tradition that we find Jesus clashing.

News

The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) has signed up to a united Christian call for our Government to do more to assist Afghan refugees. More information on this initiative and the

opportunity to sign on to the call can be found at: <https://www.unitedforafghanistan.com> The site also features a number of Church leaders, including our own Metropolitan and also Bishop Philip Huggins from the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Beginning today **the Parish of Holy Cross Hackett** is offering a week long online Ignatian "retreat in daily life." If you would like to know more here's the link to the web page with all the details: <https://holycrosshackett.org.au/?p=2228>

The lockdown in the ACT is due to end this Thursday, 2 September, we wait to hear from the ACT Government. Given the experience of lockdown last year we must be prepared for some restrictions to continue. We will continue to offer the livestream Eucharist on Sunday mornings, followed by our *Breakfast Catch-up*. Friday evenings we will gather for our *Lockdown Catch-up*. Our *Winter Journey* will continue on Tuesday via Zoom at 7pm. The Zoom links are all on the 'calendar' page of the website <https://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/news/calendar.php> and below in the *This Week* section. The Thursday Eucharist will continue at 10am and will be livestreamed on the Parish Facebook page. Morning and Evening Prayer will also be Livestreamed at 8am and 4.30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. I hope that these opportunities to pray, study, worship and socialise will help to maintain our communion with one another and with God during these restrictions.

"On any given night, nearly 500 young people in Canberra are homeless. Some "couch-surf" with friends, others face a night on the streets or hidden away in the bushlands. No young person should feel like they have nowhere to go. **Raw Potential Canberra** actively provides outreach services to at-risk young people, of 12-25 years, in an effort to help those facing homelessness and violence. They offer after hours support and a non-judgemental approach to helping those in need.

They work in partnership with other local services to go out into the community and engage with young people who cannot, or will not, access services, working with them over time to re-connect them to mainstream society. Your donation to St Philip's Local Mission project will help Raw Potential to do this vital work." If you would like to know more check out the website at: <https://rawpotential.com.au/about-us/>

On Sunday 26th September Bishop Stephen Pickard will preside and preach, at the 10am Eucharist. His visit coincides with the end of 'The Winter Journey' which provides an opportunity for folk to prepare for Confirmation and Reception at Bishop Stephen's hands.

Plans are underway to celebrate the **60th anniversary of the Dedication of St Philip's** on Thursday 16th December. It is hoped that Bishop Mark will be able to join us for Festal Evensong followed by dinner in the courtyard – Let us know if you have any ideas on how we might commemorate this milestone in the life of our Parish Community.

Flowers @ St Philip's You may wish to remember a loved one, a special anniversary or celebration. Please speak to the Rector or place your request in one of the 'flower envelopes' which can be placed with the offertory. The flower roster can be found in the Narthex ~ please speak to Susan if you would like to join the team!

St John's Care will remain open during the current Lockdown. We will do what we can to support them within the restrictions currently in operation.

This week @ St Philip's

Today, Sunday 29 Aug *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

8am

Eucharist – Livestreamed on Facebook

9am (following Eucharist)

Breakfast catch-up join us on Zoom to catch up and discuss the sermon! <https://adcg.zoom.us/j/97199501164>

Monday 30 August

Feria

8am

Morning Prayer – Livestreamed on Facebook

4.30pm

Evening Prayer – Livestreamed on Facebook

Tuesday 31 August 7pm	<i>John Bunyan, preacher & spiritual writer (d.1688)</i> Winter Journey Book 5 (Via Zoom)
Wednesday 1 September 8am 4.30pm	<i>Feria</i> Morning Prayer – Livestreamed on Facebook Evening Prayer – Livestreamed on Facebook
Thursday 2 September 10am	<i>Martyrs of New Guinea (d.1942)</i> Eucharist – Livestreamed on Facebook
Friday 3 September 8am 4.30pm 4.30 to 6pm	<i>Gregory of Rome, bishop & teacher (d.604)</i> <i>Eliza Darling, pioneer & social reformer in NSW (d.1868)</i> Morning Prayer – Livestreamed on Facebook Evening Prayer – Livestreamed on Facebook Lockdown Catch-up join us on Zoom for a catch up while we are in lockdown and cannot meet in person. https://adcg.zoom.us/j/99182316280
Sunday 5 September 8am 9am (following Eucharist)	<i>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Eucharist – Livestreamed on Facebook Readings –Isaiah 35:4-7a, Psalm 146, James 2:1-10, 14-17, Mark 7:24-37 Breakfast catch-up join us on Zoom to catch up and discuss the sermon! https://adcg.zoom.us/j/97199501164

Dates for your Diary

7 September	Winter Journey – Book Group, Book 6 (Final)
8 September	Parish Council
26 September	Eucharist - Confirmation & Reception
23 October	'Spring Fling' Annual Parish Fair
24 October	Anglicare Sunday
1-5 November	Clergy Retreat, Galong
16 December	60 th Anniversary of St Philip's Dedication