

email: comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

ph: 02 6161 7334 astphilipsoconnor

Sunday 14 February 2021 Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration

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*



Transfiguration by Lewis Bowman, 2008.

Dear Friends,

Today marks the end of the season of Incarnation and Epiphany with a final and definitive revelation, the Transfiguration. Next Wednesday we will celebrate the Eucharist together and we will be marked with the ash cross of penitence, our Lenten journey together will begin. The Gloria will fall silent, the colours will be muted violet and we will enter into a more introspective and penitential time.

During the week Sarah Boddington and I visited the 'Gathering Place' and began to plan for our quiet day on Saturday, 20 March, I hope you are able to keep that day free, details on booking etc will be in next week's Pew Sheet. On Tuesday mornings at 10am during Lent we will gather for a short office of Morning Prayer before reflecting on the study 'God of Compassion.' Following the study we can enjoy some quiet contemplative time.

Because of restrictions on the Lamerton Centre I am hoping that we can gather in some small Home Groups to reflect and pray together. Please let me know if you would like to host a small group and which evening would be best suited. I am also aware that some of you may wish to connect remotely via Zoom, please let me know if that's your preference.

Our contemplative prayer life enables us to discover and enable the spirit within us to pray; in this way we are on a journey of self-discovery. Christian living is not all about changing who we are – a common notion about repentance, but about discovering, realising our true selves. Transfiguration or metamorphosis is about just that, realising and revealing our potential. This is never easy and sometimes we need others to help us do this.

Each time we disclose a truth about ourselves, we part a veil. By doing so, we invite others to come into our lives and make contact with us. Parting any veil forces a degree of vulnerability and demands unimaginable trust and faith. I hope that during this Lenten season we can strength both our trust and faith in each other and in the God who knows us through and through, the **God of Compassion**.

Every blessing *Martin*

0478 619 911 rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au

Entrance Antiphon [Introit]

It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6

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.

When Christ appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. As he is pure, all who have grasped this hope make themselves pure. So let us confess our sins that mar his image in us.

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:
Almighty God,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us faith to perceive his glory,
that being strengthened by his grace
we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
through the same 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 second book of Kings (2:1-12)

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' 4Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. 5The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' ⁶Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. ⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' 10He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' 11 As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Psalm 50:1-6

The Lord our God, the Mighty One, has spoken: and summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.

From Zion, perfect in beauty: God has shone out in glory.

Our God is coming, he will not keep silent:

before him is devouring fire, and tempest whirls about him.

He calls to the heavens above:

and to the earth, so he may judge his people.

'Gather to me my faithful ones:

those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.'

The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness: for God himself is judge.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians (4:3-12)

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

The Gradual

Alleluia, Alleluia! 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Alleluia!

Mark 9:7

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (9:2-9)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

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, \times 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, Denise, Sarah, Tien, Myrle, Marian, Margot, Philippa, Dawn and

David, 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 and all those whose memories are dear to us.

The Greeting of Peace

Christ will transfigure our human body and give it a form like that of his own glorious body. We are the body of Christ.

We share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Offertory

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.

The 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.

After the Preface:

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

The Great Thanksgiving continues: Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Great Thanksgiving concludes:

...we worship you, Father eternal, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are 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.

The Breaking of Bread and Communion

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

It is good, Lord, to be here.

Mark 9:4

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=9uBigbTY7oA&feature=youtu.be]

The Sending out of God's People

Let us pray:

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ Jesus, the splendour of the Father and the image of his being, draw you to himself that you may live in his light and share his glory; 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

The Transfiguration is usually celebrated on August 6th, but sometimes on the Sunday nearest, and sometimes in mid-Lent, which is a good time for it too, as I believe the glimpse of glory in Christ they saw on the mount of the Transfiguration was given in order to sustain the disciples through darkness of Good Friday. Indeed it is for a disciple, looking back at the Transfiguration from Good Friday, that I have voiced the poem.

Transfiguration

For that one moment, 'in and out of time',
On that one mountain where all moments meet,
The daily veil that covers the sublime
In darkling glass fell dazzled at his feet.
There were no angels full of eyes and wings
Just living glory full of truth and grace.
The Love that dances at the heart of things
Shone out upon us from a human face
And to that light the light in us leaped up,
We felt it quicken somewhere deep within,
A sudden blaze of long-extinguished hope
Trembled and tingled through the tender skin.
Nor can this blackened sky, this darkened scar
Eclipse that glimpse of how things really are.

Malcolm Guite

News

Lent 2021

The Diocese in conjunction with Anglicare have produced a Lenten Study simply called **God of Compassion**. The study can be downloaded at the following link: https://anglicancg.org.au/wp-content/uploads/compassion-lentenstudy-ebook.pdf and can be used individually or in groups. If you would like a copy downloaded and printed for you please let Martin know.

On Tuesday mornings at 10am we will gather and say a short office of Morning Prayer followed by reflection on the study. I am hoping that folk will host small 'Home Group' gatherings for prayer and reflection during Lent. If you would be prepared to host a group please let Martin know.

Alternatively if you want to follow the Lenten readings for year B Dr Colin Dundon has written some excellent reflections on the Lectionary. These will be loaded on our Website. Those of you who engaged with Colin's Lenten Course in year C will, I'm sure, be keen to hear what he has to say about Mark's gospel

St Philip's Quiet Day

This year as part of our Lenten journey together we will assemble for a Quiet Day at The Gathering Place at 4 Bancroft Street, Dickson on Saturday, 20 March from 9.30am - 3.30pm. Information on booking etc will be in next week's Pew Sheet.

Our reflections will be led by Fr Martin Davies who has recently retired from the Parish of Stroud in the Diocese of Newcastle. Prior to that he was director of the St James Institute the educational arm of St James, King Street, Sydney. The institute initiates events and public discussion around Christianity and contemporary issues. Fr Martin was born in NZ and served parishes there before coming to Australia. He has recently retired to Canberra.

The ACT Chief Health Officer regularly updates information regarding interstate COVID19 outbreaks. The web site offers the latest information on restrictions and regulations. https://health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-02/COVID-19%20Advice%20for%20high%20risk%20settings_12022021.pdf [The latest guidance on this site dated 12 February is in the church foyer]. The situation however can evolve and change very quickly and we ask everyone coming to St Philip's to be aware of current restrictions and alerts.

For the latest information from NSW Health go to: https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates#self-isolate-and-get-tested

The February edition of 'Anglican News' is out. To read online go direct to:

https://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/news/anglicannews/

If you'd like a copy printed off, please see Martin.

Sarah and Tim Gowty - in training for the walk of a lifetime! We have signed up to walk 64km of the Larapinta Trail to raise funds for the work of the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM). We are walking in memory of our late father David who was a life-long supporter of ABM and advocate for those most disadvantaged around the world. Our fundraising target is \$6,000. Every dollar raised allows ABM to create long-lasting solutions to poverty and injustice for overseas and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities. For further information, to follow our journey, or to make a tax deductable donation check our fundraising page https://abm-larapinta-2021.raisely.com/sarah-and-tim-gowty or contact Sarah at sarahgowty@gmail.com for more information. Thanks! Sarah

Bridging the Gap – Breaking the Cycle. Each week St Philip's donates non-perishable food items to St John's Care in Reid. The baskets at the back of the church are ready to receive your donations! At the beginning of the year non food items particularly school supplies continue to be much appreciated – these include: back packs, lunch boxes, drink bottles and pencil cases. Also this week there is a need for shampoo, conditioner, tinned fruit and tinned vegetables. Thank you!

Another edition of *Church Chat* is currently being prepared. If you have any news you'd like to share, a recipe that you've enjoyed or movie you've seen, write up a short article and send it through to Laura Wood at yourlaurawood@gmail.com

It has been the tradition of the Parish to gather on Shrove Tuesday for Pancakes and Games. However this year to enable more folk to get together it has been decided to have a gathering next **Friday 19 February at 6pm**.

If you have not yet RSVP'd please do so now https://forms.gle/RPsQTW9eiRrxC8d39

This week @ St Philip's

Today Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration

8am **Eucharist** - Livestreamed 10am **Eucharist with Music**

Tuesday 16 February Feria

2pm **Eucharist** Sir Leslie Morshead Manor

7pm **Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes**

Thursday 18 February Feria in Lent
10am Eucharist

Friday 19 February Feria in Lent

6pm Lent gathering to mark the beginning of Lent - see News above

above

Saturday 20 February 10am - 1pm William Broughton, first bishop of Australia Pandora's - OPEN

Sunday 21 February

8am 10am 11.15am First Sunday in Lent

Eucharist - Livestreamed **Eucharist with Music**

Parish AGM

Dates for your Diary

Lenten Quiet Day - Saturday 20 March - see News above

Pre-Easter Working Bee – Saturday 27 March 9am-11am

Good Friday – 2 April

Easter Sunday – 4 April

Diocesan Synod – 10-11 April

Roster

	<u>February</u>	14-Feb-21	21-Feb-21	28-Feb-21
	Sunday of Month	2nd	3rd	4th
	Liturgical Season	Last Sunday after Epiphany	1st Sunday in Lent	2nd Sunday in Lent
	Flowers	Flowers Team	Flowers Team	nil
		D. I.I.M. II	D 11M 11	D 11 C C 11
8am	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Canon Scott
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)		Rev'd Canon Scott	
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Alison & Alistair	Vicki L & helpers	Tim & Shane
	Liturgical Assistant	Ellie P	Lisa C	Brian McK
	1st Bible reader - OT	Alison	volunteer	Shane W
	2nd Bible reader - NT	Alistair	Rebecca P	Julianne S
			_	
10am	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Canon Scott	Rev'd Canon Scott
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)			
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Helen & Hardy P, Richard G	Janene B, Jeannette McH & helper	Fred A, Sally A & helper
	Liturgical Assistant	Rebecca K	Brian McK	Philippa W
	Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F
	1st Bible reader - OT	Tim G	Sarah B	David R
	2nd Bible reader - NT	Ann M	Ashton R	Denise M
	Morning Tea	Janene B	Jan G	Ann M
	Additional details/notes		11.15am AGM	