



St Philip's
Come & See

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Sunday 28 February 2021
Second Sunday in Lent

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



Take up your cross is a mixed media by Wonju Hulse

Dear Friends,

I hope you have found time to engage more closely with the readings during this Lenten season. Dr Colin Dundon has once again written a series of thought provoking reflections on the readings each Sunday (you can find them on the Parish Web site).

In today's reading from Genesis Dr Colin asks us to consider that during the great arc of 'salvation history' we find a movement away from land, kinship and temple. These were all at the heart of an understanding of what it was to be the people of God. All these things were destroyed or taken away and Jesus embodies the promise that these things offered, or many thought they offered.

What does the promise, the covenant of old offered to Abraham look like in the person of Jesus? Dr Colin writes:

Here are some ideas to mull over.

*The covenant offers the **gift of hope.***

*The covenant offers the **gift of an eternal identity.***

*The covenant offers the **possibility of belonging and community.***

*The covenant offers a **clear and certain vocation.***

Can you find those elements? How can these be a spiritual foundation for our adventure?

We can find this covenant renewed in our Eucharistic spirituality which is why the Eucharist is at the centre of what we do. Think on those elements that Dr Colin has highlighted for us and find them nestled in our weekly celebration together. It is this notion of 'Covenant Renewed' that lies at the very heart of the classic Anglican understanding of the Eucharist.

Lancelot Andrewes the Bishop of Winchester preached at Pentecost in 1610:

To a covenant there is nothing more requisite, than to put the seal. And we know the sacrament is the seal of the new covenant as it was of the old.

Many thanks to Dr Colin for his reflections and many thanks to Canon Scott for covering my absence this Sunday as Susan and I spend some long overdue time with family in Melbourne. I am not aware of any other parish that can draw upon such extraordinarily gifted folk! We are truly blessed.

Every blessing *Martin*

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Entrance Antiphon [Introit]

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow him.

Mark 8:34

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord be with you.

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.

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

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**

**Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

God of all times and places,
in Jesus Christ, who was lifted up on the cross,
you opened for us the path to eternal life:
grant that we, being born again of water and the Spirit,
may joyfully serve you in newness of life
and faithfully walk in your holy ways;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Today's Readings

A reading from the book of Genesis (17:1-7, 15-16)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ¹⁵God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Psalms 22:24-32

O praise the Lord, all you that fear him:
hold him in honour, O seed of Jacob,
and let the seed of Israel stand in awe of him.

**For he has not despised nor abhorred
the poor man in his misery:
nor did he hide his face from him,
but heard him when he cried.**

From you springs my praise in the great congregation:
I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

**The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him
may their hearts rejoice for ever!**

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord:
and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

**For the kingdom is the Lord's:
and he shall be ruler over the nations.**

How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:
or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

**But he has saved my life for himself:
and my posterity shall serve him.**

This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (4:13-2)

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ²³Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Gradual

Praise to you O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Praise to you O Christ, king of eternal glory!

From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son the Beloved. Listen to him!'

Matthew 17:5

Praise to you O Christ, king of eternal glory!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (8:31-38)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! ³⁴For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

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, 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: Merryn Bannerman (5/3/1985), Daphne Lois Hall (5/3/1995), David Gowty (6/3/2013), and all those whose memories are dear to us.

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.

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:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

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.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon

My heart has said of you, 'Seek his face': your face, Lord, I will seek.

Psalms 27:10

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>]

The Sending out of God's People

Let us pray:

God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal

know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others,

and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

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.

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself that you find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven 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 theme of our New Testament reading today is Paul's great thesis in Romans that we are 'justified by faith.' In other words we are made right with God not by our adherence to the law, but first and foremost by our faith. The theologian James Allison writes on the way we derive our unity over and against others. We tend to speak about who we are not, rather than who we are, in his book *Knowing Jesus* he writes:

Our unity is often created at the expense of a victim or victims, at the expense of an exclusion. That is to say it is a unity derived over against some other. And that is to betray the very deepest truth of the catholic faith, the universal faith which by its very nature, has no over-against. The unity which is given by, and in the risen victim is purely given. It is indicative of no superiority at all over anyone else. Anyone who genuinely knows the crucified and risen victim can never again belong wholeheartedly to any other social or cultural, or religious groups. They will always belong critically to all other groups, because all other groups derive their unity over-against someone or some other group.

The whole point of justification by faith is that it is justification by God, not self-justification. The whole problem Luther had with 'works' was that he took the Catholic insistence on good works to be necessarily a source of self-justification. Self-justification is of course when I justify myself over against someone or something else. I am trapped in a defensive, or self-justifying position if I constantly depend on comparison with, or approval from others. That means that my sense of identity, my security is built over-against others, and is not simply, gratuitously given. I am dependent on various ways of showing that I am different, separate, not part of the crude mass of humanity. Self-justification and the sectarian attitude are exactly the same phenomenon. The given-ness of goodness by God, implying the growing appreciation of my similarity to, and my lovability as one of, the crude mass of humanity which is loved by God; the given-ness of justification, and the given-ness of the universality, the catholicity, of salvation, are one and the same phenomenon. In this way the individual and the group simultaneously learn to live without any over-against defining themselves against no one at all. That is a sure sign of a real knowledge of Jesus.

News

Lent 2021

The Diocese in conjunction with Anglicare has 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 starting on 2 March, we will gather and say a short office of Morning Prayer followed by reflection on the study. I am hoping that we can begin to gather in small home groups too.

Alternatively if you wish 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 and the other readings in the lectionary.

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. To book in go to the following link. <https://forms.gle/tu1wge5fKCK6Lwu27>

Sometimes we can become so busy that we miss the present moment. It is important to create space for silence and reflection in our lives, so we can really see the world and people around us. It is in the quiet that we often become aware of God's presence within us.

The Lenten quiet day will include opportunities to get to know each other a little better and to spend some time reflecting, in prayer, and in silence.

The Lenten quiet day is open to anyone who is interested. You do not need to have attended a quiet day before. It is led by Fr Martin Davies, former Director of the St James Institute.

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 Advice for high risk settings_18022021.pdf](https://health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-02/COVID-19%20Advice%20for%20high%20risk%20settings_18022021.pdf) [The latest guidance on this site dated 18 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>

This week @ St Philip's

Today	<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with Music
Tuesday 2 March	<i>Chad, bishop of Lichfield, missionary (d.672)</i>
10am	Morning Prayer & Lenten Study
2pm	Eucharist - Sir Leslie Morshead Manor
Wednesday 3 March	<i>Feria in Lent</i>
7pm	Parish Council
Thursday 4 March	<i>Feria in Lent</i>
10am	Eucharist
Friday 5 March	<i>Feria in Lent</i>
7pm	Youth Group
Saturday 6 March	<i>Feria in Lent</i>
10am - 1pm	Pandora's - OPEN
11am	Eucharist @ Kankinya
3pm	Baptism - Albert Howells
Sunday 7 March	<i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with Music

Dates for your Diary

Lenten Quiet Day - Saturday 20 March

See news above or book here <https://forms.gle/tu1wge5fKCK6Lwu27>

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

Good Friday - 2 April

Easter Sunday - 4 April

Diocesan Synod - 10-11 April

Next Sunday – Third Sunday in Lent (7 March 2021)

Readings: Exodus 20:1-7. Psalm 19. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25. John 2:13-22.

Roster

		28-Feb-21	7-Mar-21	14-Mar-21
	Sunday of Month	4th	1st	2nd
	Liturgical Season	2nd Sunday in Lent	3rd Sunday in Lent	4th Sunday in Lent
	Flowers	nil	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>
8am	Celebrant	Rev'd Canon Scott	Rev'd Canon Scott	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)			
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Tim & Shane	Tim & Shane	Alison & Alistair
	Liturgical Assistant	Brian McK	Lisa C	Ellie P
	1st Bible reader - OT	Shane W	Margaret	Alistair
	2nd Bible reader - NT	Julianne S	Russell	Alison
10am	Celebrant	Rev'd Canon Scott	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)		Rev'd Canon Scott	
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Fred A, Sally A & helper	Denise M, Nirmal F & Fred A	Helen & Hardy P & Laura W
	Liturgical Assistant	Philippa W		Rebecca K
	Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F
	1st Bible reader - OT	David R	Ashton R	Colin D
	2nd Bible reader - NT	Denise M	Fiona D	Fred Anchell
	Morning Tea	Ann M	Helen P	Janene B
	Additional details/notes		<i>Canberra Day long weekend</i>	