



St Philip's *Come & See*

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Sunday 17 January 2021 *Second Sunday after Epiphany*

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



Dear Friends,

2021 is a significant year in the life of our Parish. In December this year we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Dedication of St Philip's Church on 16 December 1961. I have invited the Bishop to visit the parish for our celebrations and I hope that our annual Advent Dinner will be a special occasion celebrating 60 years of witness in and from our church building here in O'Connor. Former parishioners and clergy I hope too will be able to come among us to celebrate. Following the great success of our Carols this year I hope too that we can once again enjoy an eclectic mix of music as we prepare for Christmas and as we welcome musicians past and present. Over the coming months we can begin to plan and more information will be available.

Before all this however we will keep a good Lent and this year as part of our Lenten journey a quiet day is being planned during March and we are looking to provide Lenten resources that we can all engage in, either in person or through Zoom.

During the week I have been reflecting a little on our motto 'Come and see.' This morning these words are on the lips of our patron Philip speaking to Nathanael. They are words that Jesus had already spoken to two of the disciples of John the Baptist when they asked Jesus where he was staying. They are words we will hear again in John's gospel when Jesus has an encounter with a Samaritan woman at a well, in their conversation Jesus demonstrates extraordinary insight. The

woman returns to her village and seeks out her friends and neighbours 'Come and see a man who has told me the story of my life.'

Jesus had taken the broken fragments of her life and shown her that they can be part of a wider pattern of meaning. Her life, in its failures and deviations no less than in its strengths and successes, has meaning and value within the great story of salvation.

I hope and pray that those who come among us might find that sense in the welcome that we offer them.

Every blessing,

Martin

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Entrance Antiphon [Introit]

We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the king of Israel.

John 1:41,49

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.

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, 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**

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:

Eternal God,

whose Son, Jesus Christ, is now exalted as Lord of all,

and pours out his gifts upon the Church:
grant it that unity which only your Spirit can give,
keep us in the bond of peace,
and bring all creation to worship before your throne;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
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 first book of Samuel (3:1-10)

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

Psalms 139:1-5, 12-18

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:
you know when I sit or when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.

**You discern my path and the places where I rest:
you are acquainted with all my ways.**

For there is not a word on my tongue:
but you, Lord, know it altogether.

**You have encompassed me behind and before:
and have laid your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:
so high that I cannot endure it.

**For you have created my inward parts:
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

I will praise you, for you are to be feared:
fearful are your acts, and wonderful your works.

**You knew my soul, and my bones were not hidden from you:
when I was formed in secret,
and woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes saw my limbs when they were yet imperfect:
and in your book were all my members written;

**Day by day they were fashioned:
and not one was late in growing.**

How deep are your thoughts to me, O God:
and how great is the sum of them!

**Were I to count them, they are more in number than the sand:
were I to come to the end, I would still be with you.**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (6:12-20)

'All things are lawful for me', but not all things are beneficial. 'All things are lawful for me', but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³'Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food', and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not

know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, 'The two shall be one flesh.' ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Gradual

Alleluia, **Alleluia!** Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

1 Sam 3:9, John 6:68

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:43-51)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' ⁵⁰Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' ⁵¹And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

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 and Dawn, 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

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:

Christ has died.

Christ has 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

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.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins 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

We know and believe in God's love for us.

1 John 4:16

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 the nations,
we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament.
Guide us by your presence,
that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness,
and establish your justice in the earth.

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.

May Christ the Son of God, be manifest to you, that your lives may be a light to the world; 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 following is an excerpt from a series of letters written by Michael Mayne (1929-2006), one time Dean of Westminster to his grandchildren. This one is titled 'Come and See'. From 'This Sunrise of Wonder – letters for the journey.'

I have had no sudden conversion, no moment when the earth moved and the scales fell from my eyes. When the Damascus Road brigade makes their bids for such blinding (or rather *unblinding*) experiences, holding no such dazzling trumps in my hand, I have to pass. God has never shown himself in such a knockdown kind of way as to leave no room for doubt; and, as a naturally guarded soul, what attracts me is this very reticence: he invites and he waits, he never commands. As love would, of course, leaving room for faith rather than certainty and affirming my freedom. The ways to God are as varied as human beings (and sometimes as crazily idiosyncratic), and when I worked amongst students, where some had clear and decisive conversion experiences with a strong emphasis on accepting Jesus as their personal friend and saviour, I sometimes felt judged and dismissed because I could not with integrity use that sort of language. I hope that by the end of this letter I shall have gone a little way towards explaining why.

I would not be writing these letters to you, if I did not believe with all my heart (on my better days, anyway) that God is my creator and that he is Christlike: that is to say, that his name and nature are love. My faith begins and ends with God revealing himself in human terms and all that the incarnation implies. But although it begins with, and indeed centers on Jesus of Nazareth, it does not end with him. I am drawn to him as I am drawn to no other man who has ever lived, but he is no longer just a man. This belief in the Christlike God, exploring, questioning, sometimes doubting it, and redefining, and seeing new aspects, new meanings, hopefully with a deepening insight and perception, is the business of a lifetime. In a sense it has never not been a part of me, though my understanding has changed so much: less childish certainty, but still not as childlike as it should be in terms of trust and love.

I guess my journey is not unusual and is echoed by that of those who first saw him. For once again it is a question of learning how to see. If you could use only one verb to describe the very heart of what Jesus is and says and does it would have to be that verb. He asks the first two men whose curiosity is aroused by him to 'come and see' where he is staying and they spend the day there. They in turn, drawn to follow this man, invite others to 'come and see'; and the first link in the chain of disciples is forged. He claims to have come 'to open the eyes of the blind'; to enable people to see. They notice how he sees God's love for his creation, each flower, each sparrow, how he pictures God at the heart of such ordinary scenes as a farmer sowing his land or children playing in the market place. He draws their attention to the mystery, the 'beyond' in their midst, yet keeps them firmly rooted in their everyday lives. They listen as he tells them stories which allow people to see the reality of God and his fatherly love in terms of a shepherd searching for a straying lamb, a father longing for his son's return home, a woman overjoyed at finding her lost pension. They watch as he challenges the priorities of the lawyers and religious leaders who claim to see: he accuses them of blindness, of lacking any true understanding or vision.

Part of being human is to experience moments of true perception about those things that touch you so intimately that suddenly you see. What you see (or read or hear) at such moments has a ring of truth about it, not just of a general kind but as something that takes on a dimension and depth for you so that it becomes *your* truth. It seems to be making a claim on you. Such moments don't come often. Hold on to them. Cherish them until they become so much a part of you as to become second nature. For there is only one persistent demand made upon us by the Spirit. It is that we are receptive. That we keep our eyes open, our minds unclosed. It is, in short, that we retain all our lives our sense of wonder.

News

We are busily preparing rosters and roles for this year as it slowly picks up pace. Leighton is putting together the February Rosters, please email if you would like to be added rosters@stphilipsoconnor.org.au. We need readers, folks to offer morning tea, welcomers and sidespeople, flower arrangers etc.

As our AGM approaches please give some thought too to a role on the Parish Council. This year we will have a number of vacancies to fill.

The ACT Chief Officer regularly updates information regarding interstate COVID19 outbreaks. The ACT Chief Health Officer's Web Site https://health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-01/COVID-19%20Advice%20on%20interstate%20COVID-19%20outbreaks_12012021.pdf offers the latest information on restrictions and regulations. [The latest guidance on this site dated 12 January is in the church foyer]. The situation however is evolving very quickly at present 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>

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 are much appreciated – these include: back packs, lunch boxes, drink bottles and pencil cases.**

Thank you for your continued support! If you would like to know more about this outreach visit www.stjohnscare.org.au.

Pandora's has commenced trading this weekend. Many thanks to those who prepared the shop for reopening. We look forward to another successful year reaching out into the community around us and raising valuable funds to enable the mission of the Church to continue and grow.

This week @ St Philip's

Today	<i>Second Sunday after Epiphany</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with Music
Thursday 21 January	<i>Agnes, martyr at Rome, virgin (d.304)</i>
10am	Eucharist
Saturday 23 January	<i>Feria</i>
10am - 1pm	Pandora's
Sunday 24 January	<i>Third Sunday after Epiphany</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with Music

Dates for your Diary

Parish Council – 3 February 7pm

Ash Wednesday (Lent begins) – 17 February

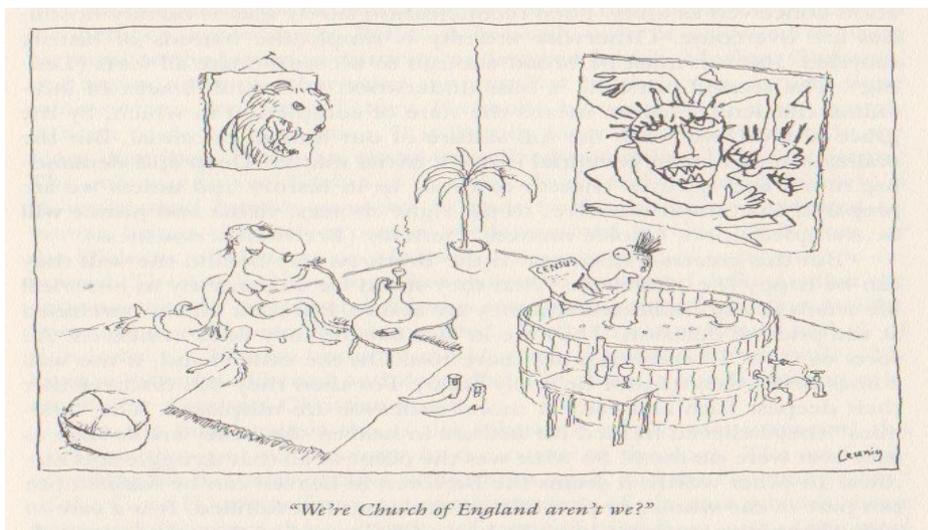
Parish AGM – Sunday 21 February

Lenten Study times and Quiet Day – more details soon

Good Friday – 2 April

Easter Sunday – 4 April

Diocesan Synod – 10-11 April



"We're Church of England aren't we?"

Rosters

	January	17-Jan-21	24-Jan-21	31-Jan-21	
	Sunday of Month	3rd	4th	5th	
	Liturgical Season	2nd Sunday after Epiphany	3rd Sunday after Epiphany	4th Sunday after Epiphany	
	Flowers	Flowers Team	Flowers Team	Flower team	
8am	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	8am
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)	Rev'd Canon Scott			
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Vicki L & helpers	Tim & Shane	Margaret or Russell	
	Liturgical Assistant	Lisa C	Peter W		
	Bible Reader	Rebecca P	Shane W	Margaret or Russell	
10am	Celebrant	Rev'd Canon Scott	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	10am
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)				
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Laura W, Richard G & Sally A	Fred A, Janene B & helper	Fred A & helpers	
	Liturgical Assistant		Philippa W	Tim G	
	Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F	
	Bible reader	Laura W	Fiona D	Jeanette DT	
	Additional details/notes	<i>School holidays</i>	<i>School holidays</i>	<i>School holidays</i>	