

Welcome to St Philip's

The Anglican Church of St Philip's O'Connor, Canberra, ACT, Australia
We are delighted you are here (especially visitors on the web!)

Visitors are welcome to receive Holy Communion
Services on Sunday: Holy Communion 8am and 10am. Wednesday 10am

[Newsletters](#) |



← JESUS SAID TO
NICODEMUS: YES, GOD
SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY
SON ← JN 3: 16

Faith and Grace.

Sunday 20th February 2005 — Second Sunday in Lent

8.00am and 10.00am — Holy Communion Readings:

- Genesis 12: 1-4a
- Psalm 121
- Romans 4: 1-17
- Matthew 17: 1-9

Hymns: TIS: 116, 418, 626, 129, 777(for blessing)
organist at 10am: Colin Forbes
Soloist today: Alison Knight

*Alison will sing cantor for the psalm (at 10.00am)
At Holy Communion: "Simple Gifts" arr. Mark Hayes*

Hi Everyone,

We welcome Sarah Gowty as our speaker on "Confidence in Christ". The wonderful diversity of the different faith stories should remind us of the diversity of God's activity in our midst and yet "We are the body of Christ!"

We are also by now half way through the Vision and Planning Process and our variety of gifts and ideas are being offered for a common vision for St Philip's. Many thanks to Roslyn Williams who is enabling our task!

As we begin to move through Lent we discover that each week the set of readings from the Scriptures confront us with an aspect of our discipleship. Having discovered in Epiphany that Christ is the end of our journey we now undertake through Lent a crash course in what it means to be a disciple. Last week the issue was obedience and faithfulness in the face of the temptation to meet our own needs, to place unreasonable demands on God and to attempt to take the short cut to enter the Kingdom by abandoning our calling and God

This week the emphasis is on the nature of faith and the relationship of law and grace! We see Abraham obey God's call to "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you." We need to note that Abraham is called against the background of a broken and divided humanity (recall Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah and the flood and the divisiveness of the incident at Babel!). Isn't it always dangerous to forget the human context of the biblical story! So here is Abraham called to establish a land, a people, AND a relationship with God. Abraham is called to be different and to build a people that is different in a land that is different! Abraham and his people are to be a blessing to "all the families of the earth".

Paul describes Abraham as one who acted in faith before "the book" of the law came into being! The Law of the covenant which was meant to enable the people with Moses to be "a priestly kingdom and a holy nation", eventually stifled and destroyed faith. I suppose we all know people who do things "by the book" and are not free to act in faith!

The story of Nicodemus coming to Jesus in John's gospel is another version of the confrontations between Jesus and the Pharisees on so many other occasions. Nicodemus represents those strict adherents of the law and although he struggles to understand, he is bewildered that God might act in one such as Jesus. On the other hand Jesus speaks of being born from above, of the activity and unpredictability

of the Spirit. He is speaking of a relationship with God which is filled with grace and freedom, a faith which knows the law but which lives to a higher standard and is at the same time celebratory, liberated, joyful, free and renewing! It is a freedom Nicodemus cannot comprehend! Can we?

Rob Lamerton.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MEETING Sunday 13th March at 11.30am.
A Barbecue lunch will follow! Please talk to Richard Wade for details!

Notices

6 March

**St Philip's Annual General Meeting follows the 10am Eucharist.
We need reports for the AGM this week for printing in readiness
for distribution next Sunday.**

**Monday, 21st February AT ST MARKS NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL
CENTRE**

6.30pm Evening Prayer

7.00pm Book Launch

7.30pm Commencement Lecture — Dr Stephen Pickard

"Healing the Wound: The Challenge of Collaborative Ministry"

9.00pm Supper and Book Sales

To go directly to the The Lenten Calendar on St Philip's website go to:

<http://www.acay.au/~stphil/Lent2005.html>

CAMRA GARAGE SALE

Reader's Roster

Thank you all who spoke to me about the Readers' Roster. Copies for the next four months are available in the foyer for your collection. Denise.

Songs, Stories and Dance until Dusk

Where: The Grounds of St John's, Reid

When: Saturday 26th February 2005 6pm - 8-30pm

With the launch of the ABM Lent Appeal towards the ministry of Rev Wayne and Valmai Connelly, Yarrabah Community.

Hear the sounds and dance of the Aboriginal Church in North Queensland.

Be inspired by the work of God in and through the lives of indigenous Australians.

Bring a picnic rug, food and drink, and enjoy the oasis of St John's

More information: Parish Office 6248 8399

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

New sets are available! Please use these for you regular committed giving to the St Philips' Ministry and put your name on the list when you take a set!

Other options for making your contribution are:

- The Open Plate
- Electronic Funds Transfer - Forms for Anglican Direct are available
- Internet Banking - Information slips are available in the porch.

**Red Cross Door knock appeal in March. Volunteers needed!
Please contact Gemma ph. 6206 6051**

Food for food parcels may be placed in the basket! With thanks!

WE PRAY FOR:

Those who continue to suffer as a result of the Tsunami. All efforts to bring assistance. Those newly elected to government in Iraq. For negotiations between Palestinian and Israeli leaders.

Those in need of healing: Stella Cheah, Chris Nicol, Margaret McEwan, Nell Bliss, Ian Wright, Guy Lucas, Glen Burns, Elizabeth and Juan Sillano, Linda Kennedy, Bryan Little, Ruth Horn, Sarona, Merv McInnes, Paul Mitchell, Mira Barratt, Jutaro Murase, Sylvia.

The departed: Margaret Louisa Rossiter.

TODAY'S ROSTER:

Cleaning: Doreen Odom

Readers:

8am: 1st Mark Boyle 2nd Carola Parke

10am: 1st Stephen Billett 2nd Washington Oloo

Sidespersons:

8am: Clive Lowes

10am: Grace Barnes & Peter Andersson

Morning Tea 10am: refer to new roster

THIS WEEK

Monday Rob's Day off.

Tuesday -Saturday 7am Morning Prayer

Tuesday -Saturday 5pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 10.30am Holy Communion at Kankinya

Wednesday 10am Holy Communion

Thursday: 6pm Study and Meditation Group at the Rectory

Friday: 10am - 1pm Pandora's Open — Barbara Dowley and Michael Fitzgerald-Clarke

Saturday: 10am - 1pm Pandora's Open — Karen and Genevieve Hassall

Saturday 8am CAMRA Garage Sale

SUNDAY 27th February 2005

Lent Three

8am and 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

- Exodus 17: 1-7
- Psalm 95
- Romans 5: 1-11
- John 4: 5-42

Rosters:

Cleaning: Rhonda Evans and Barbara Dowley

Readers:

8am: 1st Shane Woodburn 2nd Joyce Webster

10am: 1st Dimitri Markotsis 2nd Kim Begbie

Sidespersons:

8am: Ian Rischbieth

10am: Helen Palethorpe and Sarah Gowty

Morning Tea 10am: refer to new roster

Weekly Offering Required \$1565

Offerings banked 15/02/05 - Offerings \$945.50, EFT \$345, Pandoras \$192

Donations \$75 Use of Church \$25.15 ABM \$5 Kinder Rent \$1823.26

Please take a pewsheet home and pass one on to someone else.

Priest: Rev. Rob Lamerton. Ph 62478004 Fax 62307775

P.O. Box 6022 O'CONNOR A.C.T. 2602

Wardens: Chris Cheah, Janine Studholme, Devin Combs Bowles

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- in Internet Explorer if this javascript datestamp is allowed, the date is month/day/year

This web site is designed and maintained by Linda Anchell. Write to: lindafrd@pcug.org.au

Index page for the site is at

<http://www.acay.au/~stphil>

