

Prayers

Ecumenical Cycle: Djibouti, Somalia; Pray for peace.

Anglican Communion: The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East The Most Revd Dr Mouneer Hanna Anis President Bishop, Jerusalem & the Middle East & Bishop in Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

Diocesan Cycle: Diocese of Sydney: Archbishop Peter Jensen, Glenn Davies, Robert Forsyth, Peter Hayward, Ivan Lee, Peter Tasker, Alan Stewart, Clergy and People

St John's, Wagga Wagga: Michael Armstrong, Karen Kime, Judy Begent, Leonie White, Jim Waddell, Colin Rush, Daphne May; Wagga Wagga Base Hospital: Leonie White; St Martin's College; The Riverina Anglican College; Chaplain, David Willsher; Riverina Juvenile Justice Centre, Wagga Wagga: Graeme Liersch

Pray for: Chaplaincy work.

Those in need: Fred Langman, Jean Pound, Meg Colwell, Michael Sawyer, Claude Woodbridge, Rev'd Ruth Dudley

We remember and give thanks for: Irene Doris Keast (d.17/4/04); Noel Collins (d.18/4/70); Jeffrey Avery (d.23/04/07)

Saints and celebrations: George, martyr (d.c.303); Mark, evangelist & martyr; Those who have died in war.

Those who grieve.

Flowers over Easter have been magnificent.
Thank you to our florists!

Sunday 29 April - St Philip's Day

Following the 10am Service, we'll be sharing lunch together. Please bring a plate of savoury finger food to share. Drinks, fruit & dessert will be provided. For further information please see Denise Manley or Ann Munro.

God to enfold you
Christ to uphold you
Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;
So may God grace you
heal and embrace you
lead you through darkness into the light



St Philip's Come & See

EASTER THREE

SUNDAY 22nd April 2012

8am Eucharist

10am Sung Eucharist

1pm Dinka Bor service.

Readings: Acts 3:12-20, Psalm 4, 1 John 2:15-17, 3:1-16, Luke 24:36b-48

Today

Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Rebecca Newland

10am Hymns: 387, 386, 393, 361

10am:	Liturgical Assistant:	Linda Anchell
	Musicians:	Colin Forbes, Denise Manley
	Bible Readers:	1st Philippa Wicks 2nd Peter Wilson
	Sidespeople:	Louise & Matthew McKay
	Welcomer:	Brian McKinlay
	Chalice Servers:	James Kim, Tim Gowty
	Morning Tea:	Margaret Woodbridge & Val Reeves

Cantor & Soloist at 10am Denise Manley.

Introit: God So Loved the World - John Goss

During Communion: Trust and Obey - J H Sammis

Recessional (a blessing) God to Enfold you (John Bell, Graham Maule)



Psalm 4

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness:
when I was hard-pressed you set me free; be gracious to me now
and hear my prayer.
- 2 Children of earth, how long will you turn my glory to my shame:
how long will you love what is worthless and seek after lies?
- 3 Know that the Lord has shown me his wonderful kindness:
when I call to the Lord he will hear me.
- 4 Tremble, and do no sin:
commune with your own heart upon your bed and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices that are right:
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many who say 'Who will show us any good?:
the light of your countenance, O Lord, has gone from us.'
- 7 Yet you have given my heart more gladness:
that they have when their corn, wine and oil increase.
- 8 In peace I will lie down and sleep:
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Response: It is you, O Lord, who make me dwell in safety.

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Rector: Rev'd Rebecca Newland
Dinka Language Congregation Leader: Peter Manyok Kuot
Hon. Deacons: Rev'd Linda Anchell & Rev'd Robin Moore (St Philip's Care)
Hon. Associate Priests: Rev'd Jeannette McHugh,
Rev'd Steve Clarke (Director of Mission & Justice, Anglicare)
Rector's Warden: Leighton Mann, **People's Wardens:** Helen Palethorpe & Roger Sharp
Parish Councillors: Ian Cousins, Shane Woodburn, Fred Anchell, Vicki Luker,
Peter Wilson, Louise McKay

SEARCH FOR COPIES OF ST PHILIP'S GRAPEVINE

This magazine appeared between 1979 and 1985. Revd Robert Willson would like to hear from any parishioner willing to donate surviving copies. He may be contacted on phone 62824346, email robbie70@tpg.com.au and his address is 43 Nathan Street, Deakin, 2600. He hopes to donate a complete set, 22 issues, to the National Library.

Items for the Pew bulletin and names for the Prayer list (add or remove), please forward to Linda by Thursday 12 noon. lindafrd@pcug.org.au 6236 3227

Next Sunday April 29th ST PHILIP & ST JAMES 10am Sung Eucharist

Readings: Isaiah 30:18-21; Psalm 19:1-6; 1Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14
Rosters: flowers: Rebecca Newland
10am Celebrant: Rev'd Rebecca Newland
Preacher: Rev'd Rebecca Newland
Liturgical Assistant: Tracy Barralet
Musician: Colin Forbes
Bible Readers: 1st Fred Anchell
2nd Linda Anchell
Sidespeople: Grace Barnes & Vicki Luker
Welcomer:
Chalice Servers: Grace Barnes & Leighton Mann
Morning Tea: Ann Munro & Helen Palethorpe
Shared Brunch to follow combined service.

Next Week @ St Philip's

Monday: St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre – including lunch
Wednesday (Anzac Day): 10am: Eucharist
Friday: 10am – 1pm: Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN
1pm – 2pm: Women in Black Petrie Plaza (now on 2nd and 4th Fridays)
Saturday: 10am – 1pm: Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN
Saturday: 10.30am: Holy Communion @ Kankinya Aged Care
Sunday 29th April 10am St Philip's Day Sung Eucharist and Brunch (and 70th birthday party!)

Diary

Saturday 5 May, 7.30 CAMRA's Saturday nights @ St Philip's:
Colin Forbes plays Beethoven (further details & bookings
www.camra.asn.au)
Sunday 13 May, 6pm Taizé Service here at St Philip's
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 20th - 27th May

News Extra

at http://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/news_extra.php
and on the noticeboard! (and last week's pew sheet in the foyer)
Wednesday 2 May 2012
The LGBTI Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Project

Dear Friends,

One of the questions we ask is 'What is God like?' It is amazing the types of pictures people have about God. I am always surprised by the picture of God that is present in religious commentary by atheists and agnostics. They talk a lot about the 'fairy God in the sky', or the 'old man with a beard'. Our pictures of God are very influenced by what we have been told, our experiences, our assumptions and our prejudices. Of course the church has contributed to this in a major way, sometimes not for the best and often in the most destructive ways.

One of the best and most perplexing things about my theology degree and ministry training was when the lecturer in Theology 101 said, 'Right, forget everything you know about God - because all language is just an approximation of the truth -you can't describe God fully'. This was a little difficult for the biblical literalists amongst us and confusing for those who came to college looking for certainty. Yet, we come to church each week, we say our prayers, we have an experience of God in our lives, we continue to grapple with faith and what it means to follow Christ Jesus.

This season we celebrate the risen Lord and reflect on what resurrection means, how it changes everything. We ask the question, "Who is the Risen Lord and who is the God who raised him?". For me the resurrection stories point to a God who is beyond my feeble attempts at language.

Last week I came across this wonderful quote: "God is greater than my imagination; wiser than my wisdom; more dazzling than the Universe; as present as the air I breath and utterly beyond my control". This is one of the most honest statements about God I have read and I think the most true to the revelation of the resurrection. Just think about those resurrection stories, what the life, death and raising of Jesus might mean, what God is like in the light of that picture. God is so much more, so liberatingly more, than I can imagine. It reminds me of one of my favourite verses from Ephesians, "Glory be to God whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine" (Eph 3.20).

One may think that the creed we say each week ties us into language about God that is limiting - and the creed does have its limitations. It is the product of period of time in church history and the controversies that threatened to tear it apart. Yet, despite this the creed says very little about God. The description about God is surprisingly brief. It actually narrates a story, God becoming human, dying on a cross and rising to life. It lays out in very succinct words some foundational ideas about God's work in the world and the church. Many Anglican churches have given up on saying

the creed and for good reasons. The language is antiquated and patriarchal for a start and unfortunately the creed has been a source of division despite its primary function of promoting unity.

Here at St Philip's we have maintained the practice. We do this for a number of reasons - tradition and reciting the Nicene Creed together is a sign of our communal bond with the church of the past and with each other. Its meaning is embedded in community, past, present and future. Importantly it does not say 'I believe' but 'We believe'.

One then doesn't have to assent to everything in the Nicene Creed (each week even!) to recite it without lying. The other reason is this - one of the most respected lecturers I had said, "Always say the creed - that way no matter what waffle the idiot in the pulpit has just said at least the congregation will get some substance and orthodoxy".

The creed gives us just enough language, just enough ideas that we can argue about, reflect on and imagine. Hopefully it can take us to the God who is beyond all understanding. Like all language about God we ought not be bound by it but use it as a springboard to question, grow and trust.

May the Resurrected Lord bring us to unity and wholeness.
Peace and love

Rebecca

"Collect for Cell Phones"

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
before whom all the earth waits in silence:
May we join with all of your creation,
in silence gathered here before you,
muting our cell phones and other electronic devices,
so that our supplications and prayers
may rise unhindered to your presence;
through Jesus Christ the Living Word,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting, Amen.

Br. James Patrick Hall. BSG