

This coming week @ St Philip's

Monday	St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre - including Lunch
Thursday	10am Holy Communion
Friday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion 7 - 8.30pm St Pip's Youth Group - Holiday recess
Saturday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion
Saturday	10.30am Holy Communion @ Kankinya
Sunday	8am Holy Communion
Sunday	10am Holy Communion

Prayer Points

We give thanks: for safe and effective surgery for Roger Sharp and May Forau and we pray for their continued healing.

For those in need: Barbara Dowley; Grace Barnes; Betty Heaton; Roberta; Margaret Woodbridge.

Those we remember: Tom Jones (21/6/2001); Marj Lowes (28/6/2001); Harold Percival (28/6/2001); George Forbes (2/7/2004).

For Next Sunday - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

8am Holy Communion

Sidesperson

John Girdlestone

Liturgical Assistant

Reader & Readings

John Girdlestone: 2 Kings 5.1-14; Galatians 6.7-18

Elizabeth Allinson

10am Holy Communion

Flowers

The Flower Roster Ladies

Presiding & Preaching

Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon

Organist

Colin Forbes

Chalice

Tim Gulliver & Leighton Mann

Morning tea:

Welcomer

Denise Manley

Liturgical Assistant

Philippa Wicks

Sidespeople

Sally Adams & Roger Sharp

Readers & Readings

Pat Forbes: 2 Kings 5.1-14

Tim Gulliver: Galatians 6.7-18

Ann Mahony & Gheeta Sekhon



St Philip's Come & See

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Sunday 26 June 2016

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10am Music

Hymns: 672(Tune ii), 624, 650 & 687

Sentence

Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for Jesus' sake will find it.
Matthew 10.39

Prayer of the day

O God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, the strength of the thoughts that seek you: help us to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whose service is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's Readings

2 Kings 2.1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77; Galatians 5.1, 13-25; Luke 9.51-62
Instead of us reading the set Psalm, Denise will sing a setting of Ps 139.
During Communion, to commemorate the birth of John the Baptist on 24 June, Denise will sing a setting of the *Benedictus*, words: Tim Dudley-Smith, music: David G Willcox

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Roster Ladies (Jeannette McHugh)

Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon

8am Sidesperson: Tim Woodburn; Liturgical Assistant: Bible Reader: Shane Woodburn;

10am Welcomer: Helen Palethorpe; Sidespeople: Fred Anchell & Hardy Palethorpe; Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon; Liturgical Assistant: Elizabeth Allinson; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible readers: Gail Langendorf (OT), David French (NT); Chalices: James Kim & Volunteer; Morning Tea: Ann Munro & Helen Palethorpe.

Psalm 77

1 I call to my God, I cry out toward him:
I call to my God, and surely he will answer.


Pewsheets deadline: Thursday 12noon. Please forward notices and prayer points to pewsheets@stphilipsoconnor.org.au or 0414 309 469

2 In the day of my distress I seek the Lord, I stretch out my hands to him by night:
 my soul is poured out without ceasing, it refuses all comfort.

3 I think upon God and groan aloud:
 I muse, and my spirit faints.

4 You hold my eyelids open:
 I am so dazed that I cannot flee.

5 I consider the times that are past:
 I remember the years of long ago.

6 At night I am grieved to the heart:
 I ponder, and my spirit makes search;

7 `Will the Lord cast us off for ever:
 will he show us his favour no more?

8 `Is his mercy clean gone for ever:
 and his promise come to an end for all generations?

9 `Has God forgotten to be gracious:
 has he shut up his pity in displeasure?'

10 And I say `Has the right hand of the Most High lost its strength:
 has the arm of the Lord changed?'

11 I will declare the mighty acts of the Lord:
 I will call to mind your wonders of old.

12 I will think on all that you have done:
 and meditate upon your works.

13 Your way, O God, is holy:
 who is so great a god as our God?

14 You are the God that works wonders:
 you made known your power among the nations;

15 By your mighty arm you redeemed your people:
 the children of Jacob and Joseph.

16 The waters saw you, O God, the waters saw you and were afraid:
 the depths also were troubled.

17 The clouds poured out water, the heavens spoke:
 and your arrows darted forth.

18 The voice of your thunder was heard in the whirlwind:
 your lightnings lit the world, the earth shuddered and quaked.

19 Your way was in the sea, your path in the great waters:
 and your footsteps were not seen.

20 You led your people like sheep:
 by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

From the Locum Tenens Rector

Psalm 77

The writer is someone in deepest spiritual distress and completely bewildered by all that is happening to him (1-10).

In verses 1-3 the poet prays and prays but no answer seems to come. Day and night the psalmist prays, concentrating his/her mind on God, but all that comes is deep spiritual grief. The precise trouble is not specified and does not need to be. No doubt, given the placing of the Psalm, the psalmist is raising some of the questions and doubts that traumatic event, the Babylonian exile, raised (see

Psalm 73, 74). But it is not limited to that setting.

Those verses 3-10 are critical, revealing as they do the nature and depth of the psalmist's distress. The psalmist cannot sleep and finally prayer has become impossible.

The psalmist's restless searchings and questionings do not produce a resolution but questions (8-10) that go the very heart of living by faith, "Has God's steadfast love ceased forever? In the end the psalmist believes that God has changed from gracious to an angry, an unreliable and unforgiving deity, from whom no-one can expect help.

All of this is very real and common in the experience of believers. Faith is not a crutch; in fact it makes life more difficult and perplexing.

What happens next is a surprise. The writer turns to meditation and memory; the memory of the tradition of God's great acts and long meditation on them. In perplexity and bewilderment at God's lack of response all that is available to the believer is the story of God's great acts recited together in worship in the scripture. The writer is enabled to walk the path of faith even though all seems lost.

Common worship grounded in God's story focuses the mind of the author on God and not the self. God can and will save, always. At the time the Psalter was compiled the questions were, 'Has God abandoned us? Can we pray to God again? Can we know God again when all the promises seem hollow? The answer is, 'I will remember; I will meditate' The Christian can use this prayer in times of great perplexity to find a path of faith.

Reflect on a time you have shared the psalmist's experience. How did you respond? How do you use the 'great acts of God' in Hebrew Bible and in Jesus in your times of questioning and doubt?

Colin

PRAYERS

. We pray for our children and young families. We pray we find someone to minister to them and we give thanks for the opportunities we have in this Parish.

. Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments; an encourager who will love and care for us all, who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling. Give to those who will choose, wisdom, discernment and patience, and to us give warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

CONGRATULATIONS to Sian Dyer on being awarded the Pierre de Coubertin Award. All secondary government and non-government schools are invited to nominate one recipient from year 10, 11 or 12 for the Pierre de Coubertin Award each year. Each nominee must participate actively in the school's physical education program with a consistently positive attitude and must have represented the school in a sport. Warmest congratulations, Sian, from everyone in the Parish of St Philip's.