

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
Saturday	10am - 1pm Pandora's Pre-loved Fashion
Saturday	10.30am Holy Communion @ Kankinya
Saturday	from 5pm Spring Fling After Party @ Leighton, Ruth & Zara's (26 Ashton Calvert St, Casey) Please bring some finger food to share, dinner provided. All welcome.
Sunday	8am Holy Communion
Sunday	10am Holy Communion

Prayer Points

For those in need: Cath Holt; Grace Barnes; Betty Heaton; Roberta; Margaret Woodbridge; Barbara Dowley (thanks for healing so far and pray for continued improvement); Klaus Fleigner and family.

Those we remember: Lawrie Keast (24/9/90); Anne-Marie Fleigner.

For Next Sunday –

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am	Holy Communion
Sidesperson Tim Woodburn	Reader & Readings Shane Woodburn: Jeremiah 32.1-3a, 6-15; 1 Timothy 6.6-19
Liturgical Assistant	
10am	Holy Communion
Flowers The Flower Roster Ladies	Welcomer Helen Palethorpe
Presiding & Preaching Rev'd Vicki Cullen	Liturgical Assistant
Organist Colin Forbes	Sidespeople Jan & Tim Gulliver
Chalice Denise Manley & Hardy Palethorpe	Readers & Readings Rebecca Palethorpe: Jeremiah 32.1-3a, 6-15; Stephen Palethorpe: 1 Timothy 6.6-19
Morning tea:	Ann Munro & Helen Palethorpe



St Philip's Come & See

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Sunday 18 September 2016

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10am Music

Hymns: 679, 131, 611 & 245

Sentence

You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you may become rich.

2 Corinthians 8.9

Prayer of the day

O God, you are rich in love for your people: show us the treasure that endures and, when we are tempted by greed, call us back into your service and make us worthy to be entrusted with the wealth that never fails. We ask this through your son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Jeremiah 8.18-19.1; Psalm 79.1-9; 1 Timothy 2.1-10 ; Luke 16.1-13

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Roster Ladies – Philida Sturgiss-Hoy

Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon

8am Sidesperson: ; Liturgical Assistant: ; Bible Reader: Volunteer;

10am Welcomer: Erika Langman; Sidespeople: Peter Andersson & Kerry-Anne Cousins; Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon; Liturgical Assistant: Brian McKinlay; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: Denise Manley (OT), Jarrah Palethorpe (NT); Chalice: James Kim & Tim Gulliver; Morning Tea: Manjuni Gregory & Jan Gulliver.

Psalm 79.1-9

1 O God, the heathen have come into your land:
they have defiled your holy temple, they have made Jerusalem a heap of stones.

- 2 They have given the dead bodies of your servants as food to the birds of the air:
and the flesh of your faithful ones to the wild beasts of the earth.
- 3 Their blood they have spilt like water on every side of Jerusalem:
and there is none to bury them.
- 4 We have become a mockery to our neighbours:
the scorn and laughing-stock of those about us.
- 5 How long, O Lord, shall your anger be so extreme:
will your jealous fury burn like fire?
- 6 Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not know you:
on the kingdoms that have not called upon your name.
- 7 For they have devoured Jacob:
and made his dwelling-place a desolation.
- 8 Do not remember against us the sin of former times:
but let your compassion hasten to meet us, for we are brought very low.
- 9 Help us, O God our saviour, for the honour of your name:
O deliver us and expiate our sins, for your name's sake. [10 Why should the heathen say `Where is their God?':

From the Locum Tenens Rector Psalm 79.1-9

This psalm reflects the anguish and questioning that gripped Israel at the exile (587BCE), the very same that Jeremiah prophesied and wept over. Key theological questions that the exile posed were, "Where is their God?" posed by the nations and their enemies (10) and, "How long, O Lord?" (5). The psalmist vigorously argues in the form of a lament that the destruction of Jerusalem and the ensuing mass slaughter (see 2Kings 25.18-21) was a problem for God's reputation (1-4) (see Deuteronomy 32.8-9). After all, it was God's temple and God's city. So where are you God, in all this? This is a good question to keep in front of us especially in times of utter devastation. Is suffering a sign of God's weakness or a sign of eternal anger?

The psalm answers this with the word of faith: a desire for forgiveness, presence and compassion. The psalmist turns from lament at the destruction of Jerusalem to prayer and supplication (5-9). The psalmist affirms against the odds that God will answer the questions. There is no romanticism about the psalms. The worshippers reckon with evil, they know that evil strikes at all that is most precious and crucial. Nevertheless, they affirm that God forgives, is compassionate and will bring salvation and deliverance. Go will do that because that is the glory of God's character.

The prayer that God will pour out retributive anger on the nations who revile God and his people (6) (this is not incitement to holy war as the people are powerless) against the nations is always difficult for Christian readers. We are heirs to the New Testament call to the nations to receive salvation and healing through the cross, the emblem of the violence of the nations, suffering and shame that becomes the symbol of power and grace. So how should we say this verse today in worship?

The Babylonians came to Jerusalem with their plans and designs, their cruelty and terror. They were not innocents. The harsh reality of life is that nations,

tribes, and families can and do fall under the sway of violent and wilful power seeking, not seeking justice, mercy, or peace but violating the weak and helpless for their own political and material ends. We ought to pray to God in his justice and mercy to bring to an end such vile human endeavour.

Question: Where is God in this world's devastation? Our world is full of the struggle for wilful and violent power? What can we do? How can we pray?

Colin

NEW RECTOR ANNOUNCEMENT!!

The Clergy Appointment Board of Chris Cheah, Ian Cousins and Denise Manley are very happy and excited to advise that Bishop Stuart has appointed our choice of candidates to be our new rector. He is MARTIN JOHNSON. He is married to SUSAN and they will be coming from Brisbane to live in the rectory. At present Martin is a Chaplain in the Australian Army so we're currently unsure of when he will be able to join us but they are very pleased to be moving here so we must be patient for a little longer while events evolve. We give great thanks to God for his grace and mercy in leading Martin to our Parish and to Bishop Stuart for his discernment of God's will.

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. **Amen.**

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**St Philip's Calendar** <http://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/calendar.php>

**A HUGE thank you to everyone who contributed and helped at our Spring Fling yesterday. The community spirit at St Philips is very strong indeed!**

Saturday 24 Sep from 5.00 **Spring Fling After Party** @ Leighton, Ruth & Zara's (26 Ashton Calvert St, Casey) Please bring some finger food to share, dinner provided. All welcome.

Friday 30 Sep 5-7pm **Happy Hour** – Lamerton Centre  
Theme: Footy Fever (Footy Food!)

There will be NO **Home Group** on 9 October. Further information is coming regarding rescheduling.

## Key Points from September Parish Council Meeting

- Parish Council warmly welcomed the appointment of the Rev. Martin Johnson as the new Rector of St. Philips and very much looks forward to welcoming Martin and Susan in person to the Parish. The Council greatly appreciated the work of the Clergy Appointment

Board and Rev. Colin's willingness during the long process to continue to serve as Locum.

- Further information on Martin and Susan's arrival will be provided in due course.
- The completion of the Rectory renovation program remains a priority. There are a number of tasks to be completed outside the Rectory. These are in hand and will be progressed as soon as our chosen tradesman is available.
- A further Rectory Working Bee will be held from 10am to noon on Saturday 8 October to progress work in the garden.
- Parish Council thanked Roger Sharp for his efforts in finalising the new Parish signage which will enable the Parish to communicate better with the local community and visitors.
- The Davidsons who have led the Youth Group since 2012 have advised Parish Council that they will no longer be in a position to fulfil this role from the end of Term 3 (late September). Parish Council expressed its deep appreciation and admiration for their leadership and work over the last four years in forming and growing the Youth Group.
- Parish Council is very grateful to Rebecca and Stephen Palethorpe and Tim and Kim Begbie for their willingness to take over the leadership of the Youth Group on a fortnightly basis during term time.