

This coming week @ St Philip's

Tue	1.30pm	Sir Leslie Morshead Manor
Tue – Fri	8am	Morning Prayer
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday	10am	Eucharist and Morning Tea
Friday	10am – 1pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashions
Saturday	10am – 1pm	Pandora's Pre-loved Fashions
	10.30am	Eucharist @ Kankinya

Prayer Points

For those in need: Pat Forbes; Colin Forbes; Fred Langman; Roger Sharp; Cath Holt; Grace Barnes; Roberta; Margaret & Claude Woodbridge; Barbara Dowley.

Those we remember: Beryl Collins (8/9/06); Athol Barratt (9/9/04).

Next Sunday – Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Readings: Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 116.1-9; James 2.18-26; Mark 8.27-38

Flowers: The Flower Team

8am:	Presiding:	Rev'd Martin Johnson
	Preaching:	Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell
	Sidesperson:	Volunteer
	Liturgical Assistant:	Elizabeth Allinson
	Readers:	Volunteer
10am:	Presiding & Preaching:	Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell
	Welcomer:	Erika Langman
	Sidespeople:	Kerry-Anne Cousins & Peter Andersson
	Music:	Colin Forbes
	Liturgical Assistant:	Elizabeth Allinson
	Readers:	Gail Langendorf (1st) Denise Manley (2nd)
	Chalice Servers:	Denise Manley
	Morning tea:	Anne Mahony & Volunteer

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

EFTPOS available in the foyer to assist with your giving.



St Philip's Come & See

e: comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au p: 6161 7334

www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au  [@stphilipsoconnor](https://www.facebook.com/stphilipsoconnor)

Sunday 9 September 2018

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

10am Music

Hymns: 107, 444, 691 & 531

Sentence

So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.

James 2.13

Prayer of the day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase our faith, hope, and love, and, that we may receive all you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Isaiah 35.4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2.1-10, 14-17 Mark 7.24-37.

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Team.

8am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Jeannette McHugh; Sidesperson: Vicki Luker; Liturgical Assistant: Elise Palethorpe; Bible Reader: Susan Johnson.

10am Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Jeannette McHugh; Welcomer: Davidson Family; Sidespeople: Alison & Alistair Davidson; Liturgical Assistant: Rev'd Linda Anchell; Crucifer: Leighton Mann; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: Susan Johnson (1st), Rosemary Knight (2nd); Chalice Servers: Doreen Odom & Volunteer; Morning Tea: Doreen Odom & Beryl Blaseotto.

Psalm 146

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul:
while I live I will praise the Lord;
- 2 While I have any being:
I will sing praises to my God.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes:
nor in flesh and blood, which cannot save.
- 4 For when their breath goes from them, they return again to the earth:
and on that day all their thoughts perish.
- 5 Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob:
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- 6 The God who made heaven and earth:
the sea, and all that is in them,
- 7 Who keeps faith for ever:
who deals justice to those that are oppressed.
- 8 The Lord gives food to the hungry:
and sets the captives free.
- 9 The Lord gives sight to the blind:
the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down.
- 10 The Lord loves the righteous:
the Lord cares for the stranger in the land.
- 11 He upholds the widow and the fatherless:
as for the way of the wicked, he turns it upside down.
- 12 The Lord shall be king for ever:
your God, O Zion, shall reign through all generations. Praise the Lord.

From the Rector

Dear Friends,
The Diocesan Synod sits this weekend. Many of us are in Goulburn and this morning will be celebrating in churches in the city. Thank you to Jeannette for preaching and presiding today at St Philip's. It was noted recently that the Rector seems to be making a habit of absenting himself when difficult texts appear in our lectionary, I'm sorry to say that this Sunday is no exception! The gospel passage today, that of the encounter between Jesus and the Syrophenician woman, is a difficult one. The lectionary that preceded the one we use in the parish passed over this passage; I'm intrigued to know why. Was it to protect us from some harsh words from Jesus, to maintain Jesus' 'meek and mild' reputation? I think the text is an important one on many levels and deserves to be heard and pondered.

The Jesus of Mark's gospel – the first one written, is often portrayed as being reluctant to perform miracles. Clearly this is the case in this instance. When he does perform miracles he often demands that the miracle is not spoken of, or it just tumbles from him (think of the woman touching his garment) or he heals at a distance as in the case of today's passage and the

gentile woman's daughter. That is the first thing to understand, Jesus is not a wonder worker! And we must also consider carefully that Jesus was a Jewish man, in gentile territory speaking with a gentile woman whose daughter is possessed (however we might understand that).

Many commentators believe that the first hearers of Mark's account were perhaps placing too much emphasis on this part of Jesus' ministry hence Mark's style. He was writing to a Church baffled and fearful. They were looking for signs and miracles but all they saw was persecution and a sense of threat and failure.

The passage served as a reminder to the first hearers that this business of living out the faith is demanding, it is not all light and love, beer and skittles! It requires of us persistence in the facing of seemingly overwhelming odds. Miracles are but the result of that persistence, they are not the means by which we come to faith. The Jesus of Mark's gospel is all about relationship, he is bringing about relationship in a time of very sharp divisions in society – far more so than we experience today. He is searching for ways to communicate truths for which there are no simple and clear words.

This is our world too! There are no easy, glib answers to the problems of our day. We might wish there were, we might seek a miracle. But what we should be doing is persistently living the life to which we have been called – Faith, hope and love! We might glimpse a miracle, they do happen for reasons only fully known to God. Don't make much of them; don't expect them; don't refuse them; they just happen.

Blessings **Martin**

St Philip's Calendar

<http://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/calendar.php>

Friday	7 -9 Sep	Synod Meeting – Goulburn
Sunday	16 Sep 11.15am	Spring Fling Meeting after 10am Service
Friday	21 Sep 7 – 8.30pm	St Philip's Youth Group
Saturday	22 Sep 10am – 2pm	Spring Fling – Fashion Parade @ 12.30
Friday	28 Sep – 5-7pm	Happy Hour – Lamerton Centre <i>Theme: Seafood Extravaganza</i>
Sunday	30 Sep 12.30 – 3pm	Home Group – Lamerton Centre All Welcome!
Wed'day	3 Oct 7pm	Parish Council – Lamerton Centre
Sunday	7 Oct	St Philip's International Mission Project ABM's Myanmar Education Project

DISPOSAL OF WALL FANS! Four wall fans (which have been replaced in the church) are to be disposed of – free!!!! First come, first served – will separate. Please see Shane, Roger or Denise.

Key Points from September Parish Council

- Parish Council has begun discussion with St. Philip's Kindergarten on the renewal of the lease of the Church Hall for a further five years from 2019.
- This year's "Spring Fling" is now very close. It will be held from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 22 September. The "Spring Fling" is our major annual fundraising and outreach event. Support from parishioners is essential for a successful event. If you wish to contribute or have any questions, please speak to Leighton or Rev. Martin.
- Parish Council have agreed implementation procedures for the new Parish Permissions Forms to enable compliance with the wishes of parishioners and to improve protection of the personal details of parishioners.
- October will be our International Mission Month. The international mission project for 2018 is ABM's Myanmar Education Project. Envelopes for donations will be in the foyer in October. The next AGM in February 2019 will designate our local, national and international mission projects for the next two year period. Suggestions from parishioners can be passed to Rev. Martin or any Parish Councillor.
- Parish Council have agreed in principle to hire the church to Canberra Opera for an end of year concert in November/December 2018. Details have yet to be finalized.