

This coming week @ St Philip's

Tue	1.30pm	Eucharist @ -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: Linda & Fred Anchell; Peter Andersson; Sam Mahony; Fred Langman; Margaret & Claude Woodbridge.

Those we remember: Clare Baker (30/1/03); Jean Cousins (31/1/87); Stanley Morton (31/1/99); Doug Hobson (1/2/69); Gudrun Whalley (2/2/00); Syd Bovis (3/2/93); Harry Cousins (3/2/74); Nancy Ingle (9/2/61); Alison Done (10/2/53).

Next Sunday – Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Readings: Isaiah 6.1-8; Ps 138; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11
Luke 5.1-11

Presiding & Preaching: The Rev'd Martin Johnson

8am: Sidesperson: Volunteer
Liturgical Assistant: Elise Palethorpe
Readers: Susan Johnson

10am:
Welcomer: Davidson Family
Sidespeople: Alison & Alistair Davidson
Music: Colin Forbes
Liturgical Assistant: tba
Readers: Bec Palethorpe (1st)
Helen Palethorpe (2nd)
Chalice Servers: Doreen Odom & James Kim
Morning tea: Beryl Blaseotto & Doreen Odom

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 3 February 2019

Candlemas

10am Music

Hymns: 474, 190 (t 382), 675, 733 & 531

Sentence

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.
Luke 2.30-32

Prayer of the day

Christ our cornerstone, you were recognized at your presentation in the temple as a sign of hope for the world, but also as a stumbling-block for many: help us so to present ourselves for your service, that, in sharing your scandal, we may become a people acceptable to you. In your name we pray. Amen.

Today's Readings

Malachi 3.1-4; Ps 84; Hebrews 2.14-18; Luke 2.22-40

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Team

8am Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell;
Sidesperson: John Girdlestone; Liturgical Assistant: Peter Wilson; Bible Reader: John Girdlestone.

10am Welcomer: Denise Manley; Sidespeople: Sally Adams & Nirmal Farrington; Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Liturgical Assistant: Philippa Wicks; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: tba (OT), tba (NT); Chalices: Tim Gulliver & Denise Manley; Morning Tea: Rebecca Palethorpe & Family.

Psalm 84

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling-place:
O Lord God of hosts!
- 2 My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 The sparrow has found her a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even your altar, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house:
they will always be praising you.
- 5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you:
in whose heart are the highways to Zion;
- 6 Who, going through the valley of dryness, find there a spring from which to drink:
till the autumn rain shall clothe it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength:
they appear, every one of them, before the God of gods in Zion.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer:
give ear, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God, him who reigns over us:
and look upon the face of your anointed.
- 10 One day in your courts is better than a thousand:
I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 11 For the Lord God is a light and a shield, the Lord gives favour and honour:
and no good thing will he withhold from those who walk in innocence.
- 12 O Lord God of hosts:
blessed are those who put their trust in you.

From the Rector

Dear Friends

Today we are celebrating the Festival of Candlemas. This is properly kept on February 2nd but given its importance in our calendar it is worth transferring. It commemorates the Presentation of Christ in the Temple with the prophetic words of the old priest Simeon. Those words related to us by Luke are known by the Latin 'Nunc Dimittis'. It is a canticle sung at Compline the last office of day – 'let thy servant depart in peace.'

Today is important because it is pivotal. Today, forty days after Christmas we look back and recall that great festival and we turn towards Lent and the Passion. It really is bitter-sweet celebration that helps us perhaps in the way we approach both faith and life. Life and faith lived exclusively in the shadow

of the cross, or alternatively in the glow of the resurrection is incomplete. Each of these aspects of our faith gives meaning to the other.

The Letter to the Hebrews is not always the easiest read! Today we hear a piece of it and we might wonder about its appropriateness on such a feast day. I guess what we need to hear in this reading is that even on such a day when Mary and Joseph brought their newborn to the temple to dedicate him to God, a day of celebration, the shadow of the cross looms over the proceedings. But rather than seeing all this as being rather morbid we need to find in this passage liberation, freedom.

Much has been written about the malaise of modern life with its anxiety and restlessness. Ernest Becker wrote a book in the seventies called *The Denial of Death*. In it he wrote of the problems of 'cheap' psychology and a childlike faith in technology. Reading it today it is almost prophetic as we experience and deal with the issues of our day. There are problems when we refuse to face our limits: anxiety, unreality and psychological fragility distort lives lived in denial.

In my role as your Priest and Pastor I engage with matters of end of life. Many find such things difficult but I can assure you that for the most part, despite the inevitable sadness, they are times when perhaps at no other time in our lives we are able to be involved in what really matters. 'Let thy servant depart in peace.'

On more upbeat, and perhaps prosaic matters, can I please encourage you to get your annual reports to me to enable preparation for the AGM to be timely and thorough. Very soon now we will be giving details of our Lenten Studies and we look forward to learning together during the weeks of Lent. Watch this space!

Blessings, **Martin**.

St Philip's Calendar

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

Sunday	3 Feb 18 (TODAY)	AGM Reports due electronically to rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au.
Wed'day	6 Feb, 7 – 9pm	Parish Council – Lamerton Centre
Friday	8 Feb, 7 – 8.30pm	St Philip's Youth Group
Friday	22 Feb, 7 – 8.30pm	St Philip's Youth Group
Friday	22 Feb, 5 – 7pm	Happy Hour – Lamerton Centre
		<i>Theme: Multicultural Festival</i>
Sunday	24 Feb, 11.15am	St Philip's AGM – Lamerton Centre