



The Supper at Emmaus, 1622–23.

Velázquez (Diego Rodríguez de Silva y Velázquez) Spanish. The Met, New York.

This painting depicts the moment after the Resurrection when Jesus is recognized by two disciples as "he took bread, blessed and broke it, and handed it to them." The subject provided Velázquez the opportunity to explore contrasts in reactions through gesture, expression, and use of dramatic lighting.

He may have painted it in Seville, where he first trained, or in Madrid, where he moved in 1623. Velázquez may have been inspired by the work of Caravaggio, which he would have known through copies.

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday 23 April 2023

Welcome to St Philip's

We acknowledge the Ngambri and Ngunnawal people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we worship, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present and emerging. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who worship with us.

St Philip's COVIDSafe Plan We are asking folk not attend church if they feel unwell, to be aware of their hand hygiene and to be mindful of social distance. Thank you. Masks are available for those who wish to wear one.

Pew sheet & Order of Service: the full Pew sheet with more news and reflections is available on our website. The QR code in the pews will direct you to the current edition, please use your phone/tablet and follow along. Service cards, Pew Bibles and Prayer Books are also available.

Offertory: at the offertory when our gifts are brought forward, there is an opportunity for you to make your contribution. A self-serve Eftpos machine is available in the foyer, you can use it before or after the service. St Philip's EFT details are also available if you would like to make a direct transfer: 702-389 05202512. Giving cards are in the foyer if you wish to place something in the offertory bag after giving electronically.

Communion: if you are baptised you are welcome to receive communion. If you would like to receive a blessing please cross your hands on your chest as you come forward.

If you'd like to volunteer as a reader, sidesperson, welcomer or another role on the Roster, then please email rosters@stphilipsoconnor.org.au

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Barry Wood.

St Philips O'Connor, ACT

www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

email: comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au



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Rector: The Rev'd Martin Johnson 0478 619 911

From the Rector

Dear Friends

In our recently adopted Parish Plan one of our 'nudges' is worship. The Plan asks of us that are involved in: *Facilitating greater participation in worship*. This can make many different forms: reading, serving, leading prayer etc. and I would encourage folk to become involved. However, clearly today there are fewer and fewer folk who are accustomed to formal, liturgical worship, it can be quite daunting coming among a group who are well versed in the words, actions and postures. To that end we need to be clearer in the presentation of our worship. This doesn't mean that we 'dumb down' what we do, or change it dramatically, but we simply present it in such a way that is more accessible and therefore encourages participation. Our newly installed screen will help us do that, and in the weeks and months ahead we will be experimenting to see how best we might make use of technology to ensure everyone can participate. This is I know a significant change; I recall well the angst when priests suddenly faced the congregation, the world it seemed was coming to an end! But we think nothing of it today. That change, along with many others at that time, was part of a movement towards greater participation. Visual presentation is the norm for many in workplaces and increasingly in places of worship, and I feel certain that we will enjoy the benefits in the future.

One of issues we do need to consider is to ensure that the screen does not dominate – particularly for our Eucharistic celebrations. To that end we are thinking about lighting and colour – creating an environment where our eyes are always drawn to the sanctuary, the focus of our worship.

We have busy weekends ahead, Pandora's Winter Launch next weekend along with parish fundraising efforts and then our Patronal Festival, please find out how you can help make these great events.

Blessings to you all for this Easter season, *Martin*

Eucharist for the third Sunday of Easter

Setting at 10am St Philip's Eucharist – Colin Forbes

Introit Hymn 381 (TiS) (10am)

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow;

my love, the crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow:

Refrain:

*had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain,
but now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest,
and for a season slumber,
till trump from east and west
shall wake the dead in number: [Refrain]

Death's flood hath lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver: [Refrain]

George Radcliffe Woodward 1848-1934

Entrance Antiphon

Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38-39

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ ✠ and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you

Let us pray:

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**


Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and true heart.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent and are sorry for all sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God,
Who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
Pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie (sung at 10am)



Lord have mer-cy on us! Lord have mer - cy on us! Lord have mer-cy on us!
Christ have mer-cy on us! Christ have mer - cy on us! Christ have mer-cy on us!
Lord have mer-cy on us! Lord have mer - cy on us! Lord have mer-cy on us!

Gloria (sung at 10am)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O God,

Your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:

open the eyes of our faith,

that we may see him in his redeeming work;

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Today's Readings

A reading from the book of Acts (2:14a, 36-41)

'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

³⁶ Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles,

'Brothers, what should we do?' ³⁸ Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in

the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy

Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom

the Lord our God calls to him.' ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them,

saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116 1-4, 11-18

I love the Lord, because he heard my voice:

the voice of my supplication;

Because he inclined his ear to me:

in the day that I called to him.

The cords of death encompassed me,

the snares of the grave took hold on me:

I was in anguish and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:

'O Lord, I beseech you, deliver me!'

How shall I repay the Lord:

for all his benefits to me?

I will take up the cup of salvation:

and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord:

in the presence of all his people.

Grievous in the sight of the Lord:

is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant,

your servant and the son of your handmaid:

you have unloosed my bonds.

I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:

and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord:

in the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the house of the Lord:

even in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Peter (1:13-25)

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ¹⁶for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴For

'All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures for ever.'

That word is the good news that was announced to you.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 254 (TiS) (10am)

O changeless Christ, for ever new,
who walked our earthly ways,
still draw our hearts as once you drew
the hearts of other days.

As once you spoke by plain and hill
or taught by shore and sea,
so be today our teacher still,
O Christ of Galilee.

As wind and storm their Master heard
and his command fulfilled,
may troubled hearts receive your word,
the tempest-tossed be stilled.

And as of old to all who prayed
your healing hand was shown,
so be your touch upon us laid,
unseen but not unknown.

In broken bread, in wine outpoured,
your new and living way
proclaim to us, O risen Lord,
O Christ of this our day.

O changeless Christ, till life is past
your blessing still be given;
then bring us home, to taste at last
the timeless joys of heaven.

Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926

Alleluia,

Alleluia!

The word of the Lord endures for ever. That word is the good news that was announced to you.

1 Peter 1:25

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (24:13-35)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' ¹⁹He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' ²⁵Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom
will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead ✕ and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Prayers of the People

In our prayers we remember all in need, particularly: Ian, John, Ben, Hugh, Sarah, David, Otto, Bob, Noel, Deborah, Sue, Molly, Katherine, David & Margot, those unable to gather with us, those in hospital or care.

We are continuing to offer support to the ABM project in Vanuatu following the recent cyclones and earthquake. Here is prayer for you to use:

Loving God, console and strengthen all who have been affected by recent cyclones in Vanuatu, those who have lost their gardens – the source of their food, those who have lost their homes, and the children whose schooling has been disrupted. Through the support and generosity of our churches in Vanuatu and Australia, may they find a way to recovery and rebuilding. We make our prayer in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We commend to God the recently departed, especially Neil Davies & Thomas Slater; those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Barry Wood (22/4/2022) Jeffrey Avery (23/4/2007), Sarah Ferguson (29/4/2021), the victims of war and tragedy, those whose memories are dear to us, and those forgotten.

In your daily prayer this month please pray for our parish as we seek to live in the light of Christ's resurrection:

Jesus Christ, whose resurrection

has shed new light on all things and renews creation:

open our hearts and minds that our parish and community may see anew.

May our worship in Spirit and Truth, lead others to know

the new life of Easter and the peace that it brings.

We pray in your name, you who reconcile us to God

and each other in the power of the Spirit. Amen.

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples

and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn 393 (TiS) (10am)

Christ is alive, with joy we sing;

We celebrate our risen Lord,

Praising the glory of his name.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

He is the grain of wheat that died,
Sown in distress and reaped in joy,
Yielding a harvest of new life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

He is the sun which brings the dawn:
He is the light of all the world,
Setting us free from death and sin.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

He is the vine set in the earth,
Sharing our life, becoming man,
That we might share in God's own life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

He is the bread which comes from God,
Broken to feed us in our need,
Given to bring eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Christ is alive, with joy we sing;
We celebrate our risen Lord,
Praising the glory of his name.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Pamela Stotter 1944-

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit
of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.


Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving (sung at 10am)



The Lord be with you: And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts: We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

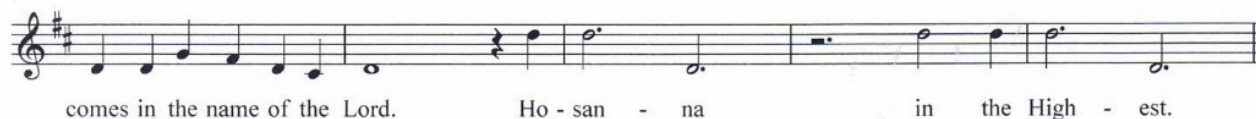
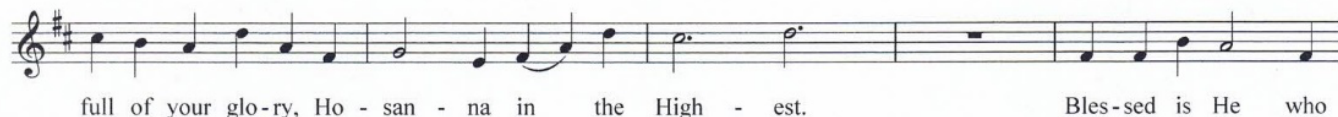
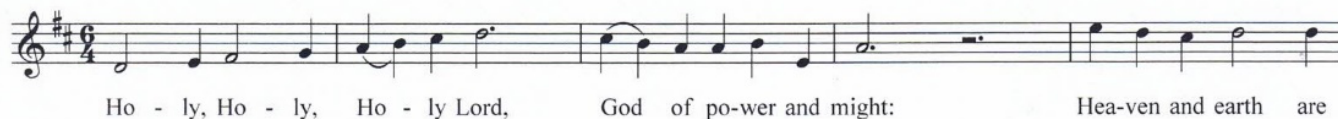
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father.

Today we give you thanks
because Christ our paschal sacrifice
has made us children of the light,
rising to new and everlasting life.

He has opened the gates of heaven
to receive his faithful people.

His death is our ransom from death,
his resurrection is our rising to life.

The joy of the resurrection renews the whole world,
while the choirs of heaven sing for ever to your glory. (sung at 10am):



Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood,
and be made one with him and with each other
in peace and love.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do, this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.'

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
Proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith (sung at 10am):



Christ has died; Christ is ri - sen; Christ will come a - gain.

As we eat and drink this holy sacrament
renew us by your Spirit,
that we may be united in the body of your Son
and serve you as a royal priesthood
in the joy of your eternal kingdom;

Receive our praises, Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
we worship you,
in songs of never-ending praise (sing at 10am):



Bles-sing and ho-nour and glo-ry and pow-er are yours for e-ver and e-ver, A - men

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

The breaking of bread and communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body,
For we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei (sung at 10am)



Je-sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je-sus, bear-er of our sins, have



mer - cy on us. Je-sus, re-dee-mer of the world, grant us thy peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Communion Antiphon

Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24:35

The sending out of God's people

Let us pray:

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
Walk in his risen light
and bring new life to all creation.
Most loving God, **you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to
go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Recessional Hymn 385 (TiS) (10am)

Now is eternal life,
if ris'n with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
held firm within his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

For God, the living God,
stooped down to share our state;
by death destroying death
Christ opened wide life's gate.
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;
who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,
come reign within my heart;
for you no depth or height,
nor life nor death can part;
my life with you in God shall be,
now and through all eternity.

George Wallace Briggs 1875-1959

News

**Saturday 29 April, 10am - 2pm Pandora's Winter Launch with;
* St Philip's Books
* Food @ St Philip's Devonshire tea**

If you are able to help in any way please let Leighton or Susan know.

The Rev'd Dr Colin Dundon has written for us another series called *From Fear to Witness*. Based on the Sunday readings between Easter and Pentecost, you will find each study linked week-by-week on the home page of our website. If you would like a printed copy please let Martin know.
This is a series to complement our Missional Spirituality Project.

At this year's AGM we were asked to consider a draft **Parish Plan for 2023-2025**. At the April Parish Council meeting the plan was adopted and will be integrated into our strategies and projects. As a reminder these five elements were seen as central to our ongoing life together: spiritual, worship, missional, community and financial. At each meeting we will be using one or more of these 'nudges' to guide our discussions. In the Sunday pew sheet there will be news and reflections on the projects that we are undertaking that align with our plan.

St John's Care is seeking the following for its pantry: UHT Full Cream

1 litre milk, Powdered Milk, Jam Honey Vegemite, Tinned Fruit, Cooking Oil, Canned Tuna, School Snacks, Packet Soup, 1kg Rice, Tinned Chunky Soups, Pasta Sauce, Milo (or drinking chocolate), Toothpaste, Shampoo & Conditioner, Coffee 100gm jar. The website: <https://www.stjohnscare.org.au/> provides information on how we can help.

At this year's **Patronal Festival** on 7 May, we will welcome back Canon Scott and Lisa from their sojourn in the US, Canon Scott will preach at the 8am & 10am Eucharists. Scott has been the Dean's Scholar at the Virginia Theological Seminary for the past few months. Following the 10am Eucharist we will enjoy a soup lunch together and hear more about Scott's time overseas.

This year's **ANU Chaplaincy Lecture** will be held in the Burgman College Chapel at ANU on Tuesday 9 May at 7pm. The Lecture this year will involve several speakers on the subject of Inter-faith dialogue. They include Prof. Anthony Maher the Executive Director of the Centre for Christianity & Culture. It is an exciting time for ANU Chaplaincy as we develop a multi faith centre and an expanding Chaplaincy Team.

Reflection

There are all sorts of pilgrimages for which one plans and prepares, looks forward to and anticipates with excitement. This story in Luke 24:13-35 is nothing like that. This is a story about a walk that comes from grief and trauma, from profound disappointment and sorrow. It is a story that starts with the slow steps of the depressed and cast down. But it ends with the excited running of the redeemed, and the joy of finding life transformed.

This story can speak to us when we feel that we are not on a positive journey forward, when both justice and peace seem far away, and when we feel that we are simply retreating or walking slowly into a future that we dread or fear. This story speaks to those who might think they have no energy for anything as positive as a pilgrimage at all, and whom God comes to meet as they struggle to put one foot in front of another. It is a story that is very honest about hopelessness and loss, but also about how God comes to find us in those places. It shows how God walks beside us and can transform even the deepest bereavement and loss into a journey of hope. This is a story that invites those who are deep in sorrow to walk in hope again.

I picture them walking the seven miles to Emmaus with the slow pace of the depressed and the traumatized. I have walked like that too. And I have seen that slow walk performed by the grief-stricken, the disappointed and the defeated, in so many contexts and places. Grief drains us of energy. Once hope is gone, there seems little point in moving from one place to another. Every step seems like the most unappealing and uncomfortable effort. And yet we cannot rest where we are either. Anything is better than staying still, but every step is painful too.

There's no peace in grief. There's no justice either, for every life deserves to flourish. And these two pilgrims were bereaved not only of a friend but also of a cause. Their lives had been shaped by a purpose, by a Gospel, by good news for the poor and hope for a new kind of world. All of that, all that hope for a real change, had apparently gone. Now the only change they could imagine was a different skyline, a quieter place, a walk to pass a few desolate hours.

The two on the road, have, at least, the courage to do the right thing and to invite the stranger to dine with them. They have not forgotten, even in the depths of their loss and trauma, the courtesies of hospitality and the central practices of faith, to welcome the stranger. They keep the rituals going, and they do what followers of Jesus have always done. And then they found, as they listened to the stranger open the scriptures and as the bread was blessed and broken, that hope was returned to them. They had invited him because "the day is now nearly over," surely both a statement of the time of day and a powerful image of their sense of an ending. But now, "that same hour," they get up and return to Jerusalem.

We might imagine the difference in their pace now, the walking that is almost running, the sense of life re-kindled and the sense that Jesus is not dead but risen. And this transformation happens because these two worn out pilgrims are returned to the source of faith and to the practices they had learned to cherish: to reading the scriptures and to breaking bread with the stranger. In those very ordinary things, grief was overcome and life renewed.

In my own life and in my own context, my own pilgrimage has been transformed in just this way. The accompaniment of Jesus in our own lives can hold us through times of loss and grief. And

ministering in small churches, I have learned that there is nothing so restoring to hope and so energizing as returning to the scriptures and the sacraments, remembering the acts of faith through which God continues to come to us and restore us. And keeping on going in those simple ways does mean that every church could be renewed in faith and hope, in the way that God wills. Of course, loss and grief are never simply erased, as though they had never been. Of course, social changes can never be easily reversed. Hope does not return in the way we used to hold it. But God comes nonetheless and quickens our steps.

Lesslie Newbigin, the great missionary and ecumenist, was once asked whether he was a pessimist or an optimist. He simply replied that he believed in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Many of us have experienced or fear death, whether of people or institutions. But death is overcome, in Christ, by resurrection. The slow pace of grief can be turned to the dance of hope again. The painful walk of the bereaved can become a pilgrimage toward peace. The wounded feet of the traumatized will find justice again.

Susan Durber is a minister of the United Reformed Church in the UK and Moderator of the WCC Commission on Faith and Order.

Emmaus

First the sun, then the shadow,
so that I screw my eyes to see
my friend's face, and its lines seem
different, and the voice shakes in the hot air.
Out of the rising white dust, feet
tread a shape, and, out of step,
another flat sound, stamped between voice
and ears, dancing in the gaps, and dodging
where words and feet do not fall.

When our eyes meet, I see bewilderment
(like mine); we cannot learn
this rhythm we are asked to walk,
and what we hear is not each other.
Between us is filled up, the silence
is filled up, lines of our hands
and faces pushed into shape
by the solid stranger, and the static
breaks up our waves like dropped stones.

So it is necessary to carry him with us,
cupped between hands and profiles,
so that the table is filled up, and as
the food is set and the first wine splashes,
a solid thumb and finger tear the thunderous
grey bread. Now it is cold, even indoors;
and the light falls sharply on our bones;
the rain breathes out hard, dust blackens,
and our released voices shine with water.

by Rowan Williams

This week @ St Philip's

Today	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>
8am	Eucharist (followed by Breakfast)
10am	Sung Eucharist (followed by Morning tea)
Thursday 27 April	<i>Thursday in third week of Easter</i>
10am	Eucharist
Saturday 29 April	<i>Catherine of Siena, spiritual writer (d.1380)</i>
10am-2pm	Pandora's Winter Launch with; St Philip's Books & Food @ St Philip's Devonshire tea
11am	Morning Prayer – Kankinya
Sunday 30 April	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>

8am
10am

Eucharist (followed by Breakfast)

Sung Eucharist (followed by Morning tea)

Readings: Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:1-10, John 10:1-10

Rosters

		23-Apr-23	30-Apr-23	7-May-23	
Sunday of Month		4th	5th	1st	
Liturgical Season		3rd Sunday of Easter	4th Sunday of Easter	Philip & James	
Flowers		Kerry-Anne	Kerry-Anne	Flower team	
Celebrant		Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Scott	
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)					
Sidespeople	8am	Shane & Tim	Shane & Tim	Margaret & Russell	8am
Liturgical Assistant				Susan J (server)	
Audio Visual Operator		Brian McK (Lit assistant)	?		
1st Bible reader - OT		Shane W	Susan J	Russell M	
2nd Bible reader - NT		Shane W	?	Margaret M	
Celebrant		Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Scott	
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)					
Sidespeople & Welcomer		Richard G & Sally A	Fred & volunteer	Fred A & Janene B	
Liturgical Assistant	10am	Philippa W (Lit assistant)		Leighton (crucifer)	10am
Audio Visual Operator					
Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist		Colin F	Colin F	Colin F	
1st Bible reader - OT		Ashton R	Kerry-Anne	Laura W	
2nd Bible reader - NT		Jeanette D	Jos G	Tim G	
Morning Tea		Helen P	Liz D	Ann M	
<i>Additional details/notes</i>		<i>School Holidays</i>	<i>29 April - Pandora's Autumn launch and St Philip's Books & Food</i>		

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 7 May

SS Philip & James – Patronal Festival
Following 10am service – a soup lunch will be served

Saturday 27 May 2pm – 4pm

Missional Spirituality - Seminar 3, 2-4pm

Fri 8-Sun 10 Sept

Diocesan Synod Canberra, Girls Grammar School