



*So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything,  
but only God who gives the growth. 1 Corinthians 3:7*

## *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

**12 February 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](mailto:rosters@stphilipsoconnor.org.au)

### *From the Rector*

Dear Friends,

Last year in October we gathered at the Greenhills Conference Centre to reflect on Parish life, our hopes, dream and concerns as we emerged from the effects of the COVID Pandemic. A short booklet has been produced from the day to help remind us of our priorities as we embark on our journey understanding a Missional Spirituality. As I read through Dr Colin Dundon's address on the day I was astonished how his thinking aligns with that of the project we are about to embark on, this quote was pertinent: *Mission is first a spirituality and then a strategy. Strategy cannot bear the burden of mission by itself.* I'm hope you are looking forward to learning more as the date for the first seminar draws near.

The Nomination Forms for various parish roles are available in the Porch, please consider carefully your role in the parish and its life and perhaps ask someone to nominate or offer to nominate someone who you believe has gifts that the parish could benefit from. We are seeking nominations for Churchwardens, Parish Councillors, Synod Representatives and Alternates and Clergy Appointments Board members.

The 2022 Annual Reports have been produced and will be in your email inboxes soon, if not already. I hope you enjoy reading them. The current Parish Council met for the last time on Wednesday and I'd to thank Alistair, Russell, Laura and Mel for their extraordinary work during the year on our behalf. Earlier on Sarah Boddington and Leanne Beagley too made a wonderful contribution, thank you to you all - and to Alison for being our Secretary. I am very much looking forward to working alongside our new Council this year.

Every blessing, Martin

[rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au](mailto:rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au)  
0478 619 911

### *Eucharist for the sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

*Setting: St Philip's Eucharist, Colin Forbes*

#### **Introit hymn 111 (TiS) (10am)**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation.  
Come all who hear,  
brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining:  
have you not seen  
all you have needed has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend us;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us:  
ponder anew  
what the Almighty can do  
as with his love he befriends us.

Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,  
who, when the godless do triumph, our best hopes confounding,  
sheds forth his light,  
scatters the horrors of night,  
saints with his mercy surrounding.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the Amen

sound from his people again:  
gladly for ever adore him.

Joachim Neander 1650-80

### Entrance antiphon

**Blessed are those whose way is blameless:  
who walk in the law of the Lord.**

Psalm 119:1

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.**

As we prepare the mystery of Christ's love, let us acknowledge our failures and ask the Lord for  
pardon and strength.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
and in 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 our 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

**Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy**

Voice

1. Lord have mer - cy on us, Lord have mer - cy  
2. Christ have mer - cy on us. Christ have mer - cy  
3. Lord have mer - cy on us. Lord have mer - cy

on us, Lord have mer - cy on us.  
on us. Lord have mer - cy on us.  
on us. Lord have mer - cy on us.

### Gloria

**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:  
Almighty God,  
you gave the law to guide our lives:  
grant that we may never shrink from your commandments,  
but, as we are taught by your Spirit,  
may fulfil your law in perfect love:  
through Christ our Lord and Master,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **Today's readings**

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy (10:12-22)*

So now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? Only to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>13</sup>and to keep the commandments of the Lord your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. <sup>14</sup>Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it, <sup>15</sup>yet the Lord set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today.

<sup>16</sup>Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. <sup>17</sup>For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, <sup>18</sup>who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. <sup>19</sup>You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup>You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. <sup>21</sup>He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen. <sup>22</sup>Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons; and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven.

*Psalms 119:1-8*

Blessed are those whose way is blameless:  
who walk in the law of the Lord.

**Blessed are those who keep his commands:  
and seek him with their whole heart;**

Those who do no wrong:  
but walk in the ways of our God.

**For you, Lord, have commanded us:  
to persevere in all your precepts.**

If only my ways were unerring:

towards the keeping of your statutes!

**Then I should not be ashamed:  
when I looked on all your commandments.**

I will praise you with sincerity of heart:  
as I learn your righteous judgements.

**I will keep your statutes:  
O forsake me not utterly.**

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (3:1-9)*

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?

<sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. <sup>9</sup>For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

**The Gradual hymn 246 (10am) (TiS)**

Christ is the world's Light, Christ and none other;  
born in our darkness, he became our Brother.  
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:  
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;  
no one can serve him and despise another.  
Who else unites us, one in God the Father?  
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;  
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother-  
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:  
Glory to God on high.

Give God the glory, God and none other;  
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;  
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:  
Glory to God on high.

*Frederick Pratt Green 1903-2000*

**The Gradual (8am)**

Alleluia,  
**alleluia!**

We are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

*1 Corinthians 3:9*

**Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Matthew (5:21-37)*

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your

accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup> 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for

<sup>31</sup> 'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup> 'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

### **The Nicene Creed**

Let us affirm the faith of the church

**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: John, Ben, Hugh, Sarah, David, Otto, Bob, Noel, Deborah, Sue, Molly, Katherine, David & Margot, those unable to gather with us, those in hospital or residential care.

We pray for our international mission, the Vanuatu Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project. We pray especially:

- for the small staff of the Anglican Church of Melanesia and their many volunteers working on this project;
- for the communities whose health will benefit from the project;
- that we will be generous in supporting this important work of our sister Anglican Church in Vanuatu.

We commend to God the recently departed, particularly those who have died as a result of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The victims of war, pandemic and tragedy, all whose memories are dear to us, and those who have no one to remember them.

Here is our prayer for the parish for use in your daily prayers this month as we approach our Mission project:

God our Father,  
on a hillside in Galilee, your Son Jesus  
called us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.  
Give us the strength and wisdom to become  
the people of the Beatitudes in our day  
so that our words may season the world  
with the flavour of the Gospel and  
our lives be shining examples of Jesus,  
who is the true Light of the world.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## **The greeting of peace**

We are the body of Christ.

### **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

### **And also with you.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

## **Offertory hymn 137 (TiS) (10am)**

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,

*Refrain:* Christ, our God, to you we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light, *[Refrain]*

For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight, *[Refrain]*

For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild, *[Refrain]*

For each perfect gift divine  
to our race so freely given,  
graces all of your design,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven, *[Refrain]*

For the church that evermore,  
lifting holy hands above,  
offers up on every shore  
the pure sacrifice of love, *[Refrain]*

*Follitt Sandford Pierpoint 1835-1917*

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.**

Faithful God, receive all we offer you this day. May we so live the life of Christ that your Church  
may be a sign of salvation to all the nations of the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ  
the Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

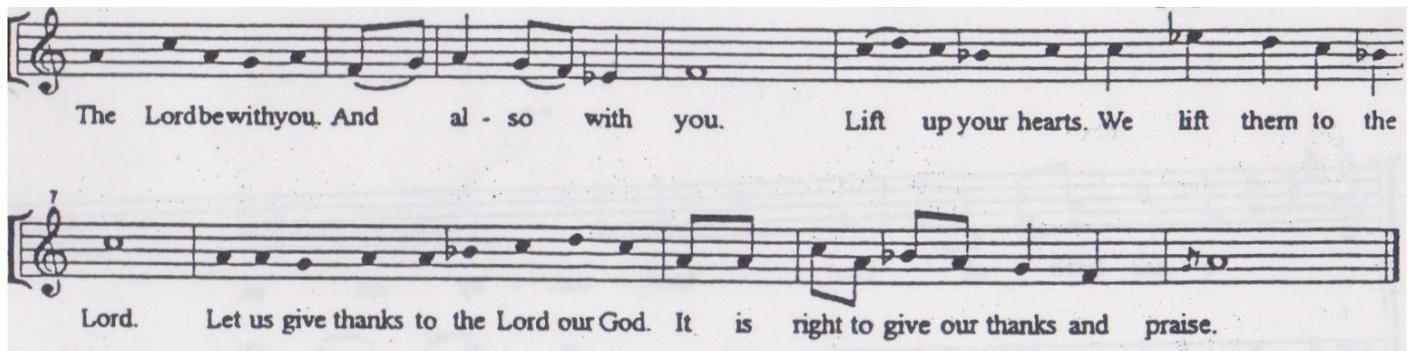
**And also with you.**

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.**



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one flat (F major or D minor). The first staff contains the lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the". The second staff contains the lyrics: "Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise." The music consists of a single melodic line with various note values and rests.

All thanks and praise, glory and honour  
be yours at all times, in every place,  
holy and loving Father, true and living God.

We praise you that through your eternal Word  
you brought the universe into being  
and made us in your own image.

You have given us this earth to care for and delight in,  
and with its bounty you preserve our life.

We thank you that you bound yourself to the human race  
with the promises of a gracious covenant  
and called us to serve you in love and peace.

Above all we give you thanks for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ:  
born as one of us, he lived our common life  
and offered his life to you in perfect obedience and trust.

By his death he delivered us from sin, brought us new life,  
and reconciled us to you and to one another.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
with apostles and prophets,  
with holy men and women of every age,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing/saying:

### **Sanctus & Benedictus**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might. Heav - en and earth are full of your Glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the  
High - est. Bles - sed is He who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

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.'

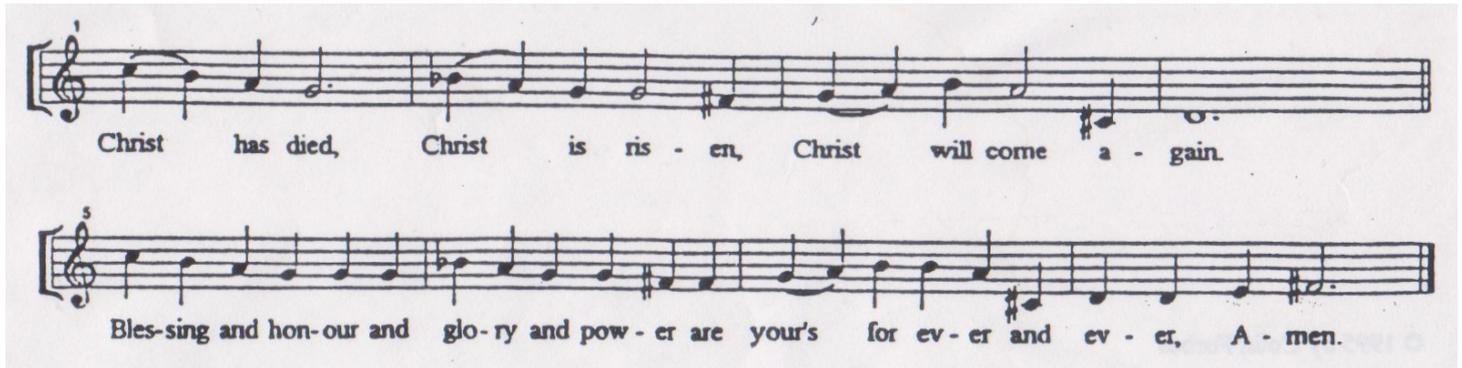
After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

### Memorial acclamation



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, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

### Memorial acclamation (Music above)

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

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. Grant us Thy peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

## Communion antiphon

**He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.**

*Deuteronomy 10:9*

## The sending out of God's people

Let us pray:

Go before us, Lord, in all we do  
with your most gracious favour,  
and guide us with your continual help,  
that in all our works  
begun, continued and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life;

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 peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; 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 peace to love and serve the Lord:

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Recessional hymn 687 (TiS) (10am)**

God gives us a future,  
daring us to go  
Into dreams and dangers  
on a path unknown  
We will face tomorrow  
with the Spirit's power  
We will let God change us  
for new life starts now.

We must leave behind us  
sins of yesterday  
For God's new beginning  
is a better way  
Fear and doubt and habit  
must not hold us back  
God gives hope and insight  
and the strength we lack.

Holy Spirit teach us  
how to read the signs  
How to meet the challenge  
of our troubled times  
Love us into action  
stir us into prayer  
Till we choose Gods life  
and find our future there

*Elizabeth J Smith 1956-*

### *News*

**From The Revd Tracey Matthews: Missional Spirituality Project 2023** A new initiative will be launched in February 2023 to introduce congregations to the theology and practice of Missional Spirituality. I will lead as part of a PhD, a project focussed on the role of Spirituality and Transformative Discipleship in 21<sup>st</sup> century Australia. This joint parish project will involve Holy Cross Hackett, Holy Covenant Jamison, St. Philip's O'Connor and Narooma/Bodalla and is being funded through a Pelican Foundation Grant.

Missional Spirituality describes our response to the reality of God's grace through holistic discipleship that embodies the teaching of Jesus to Love God and Neighbour with heart, mind, soul and strength. Despite different approaches to spirituality, mission and evangelism across the Christian Tradition, there is ecumenical consensus that transformative discipleship is critical for the Church to participate in God's restorative mission in the world today.

The primary purpose of the Missional Spirituality program is to cultivate whole of life discipleship that integrates Christian spirituality and missional praxis\* for individual and communal transformation. Mission is the most urgent task for the church, because to be Christian is to participate in God's life and vision for a reconciled world.

The key objectives of the six-month learning journey are to:

- Introduce participants to a range of Christian spirituality and practices that connect them to God, self and neighbour
- Show how theology (drawing on scripture and tradition) shapes spirituality, ecclesiology\*\* and missional praxis
- Demystify discipleship and demonstrate what it might look like to learn and live out the way of Jesus in contemporary Australia
- Introduce participants to contextual theology and praxis that enables a congregation to connect the gospel with their particular local contexts
- Provide theological and practical tools for congregations to re-imagine their relationship to their local communities and learn how to co-create with neighbours

The project will be delivered, to support formation and learning at St Philip's, on the following Saturdays from 2-4pm - here are the dates for your diary:

Module 1 – 25 February

Module 2 – 25 March

Module 3 – 27 May

Module 4 – 24 June

Module 5 – 5 August

Module 6 – 2 September

Check out this link to all the information about the project we are embarking on:

<https://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/discovery/missional/>

\* Praxis is simply the practice of our faith

\*\* Ecclesiology is the study of the Church

**A Booklet on the 'Greenhills Day'** has been produced in advance of the AGM and to coincide with the beginning of the Missional Spirituality Project. Copies of the booklet are available in the porch and through the website.

**The Parish AGM will be held on Sunday 26 February** following the 10am Eucharist. Please consider also nominations for the roles of Warden, Councillor, Synod Rep and Parish Clergy Appointments Board, nomination forms are available in the foyer.

**Ash Wednesday will be commemorated next week.** To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate, the Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be celebrated at 10am, and Evening Prayer with Imposition at 7pm. I hope that this will enable as many of you as possible to begin your Lenten journey in this traditional way.

During Lent this year our study will be self-paced. I have asked Dr Colin Dundon to help us reflect in light of our journey 'Understanding a Missional Spirituality.' Watch this space!

**From the Bishop's Desk:** Are you looking for an opportunity to use your gifts to equip others to engage our world with the love and truth of Jesus? Our Diocesan Bishop's Office team is seeking a committed Christian who will provide high quality administrative and communication support.

In particular you will be working closely with Assistant Bishop Carol Wagner and Diocesan Archdeacon Tom Henderson-Brooks in their oversight of parish ministry, chaplaincy and mission.

For further information please go to

[www.anglicandiocesan.recruitment.com.au/Vacancies/6235937/title/Bishop-s-Office-Executive-Assistant](http://www.anglicandiocesan.recruitment.com.au/Vacancies/6235937/title/Bishop-s-Office-Executive-Assistant) or contact Bishop Carol Wagner on 0427267242. Blessings, +Mark

### **Key points from February Parish Council meeting**

- **AGM** – At its meeting on 8 February, the Parish Council considered the agenda and papers for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held at 11.15am sharp on Sunday 26 February.
- **Elections** – In addition to Parish Council elections, there are vacancies for Synod Representatives and Alternates for the 2023, 2024 and 2025 cycle and for Parish members of the Clergy Appointment Board for the same period.
- **The AGM** will have two important general business items:

- Carola Parke Bequest Report
- Draft Parish Plan 2023–25
- **Voluntary roles** – Parishioners are reminded that voluntary parish roles are renewed after each AGM. If any parishioners would like to take on a voluntary role in 2023 or are thinking about doing so, please talk to Rev'd Martin or any Parish Councillor.
- **Monthly prayer point** – See the Prayer in this pew sheet

Our commitment to supporting **St John's Care** continues this year. Over the coming weeks we will provide more information on how best we can support this ministry.

## *Reflection*

How are Christians to understand and be related to the Jewish law? It is an ancient question, debated through the history of the church's life and not always agreed on. Theological traditions that have given birth to particular denominations have been and remain divided on the answer. But the question cannot be relegated to the church's past as if it were one of those issues which has no significance for contemporary Christians, like how many angels can dance on the head of a pin. Many folk today would say that the ethical codes of Hebrew Scriptures are dated and of no value in shaping the moral decisions today. The readings for this Sunday address the question and invite us to explore this issue.

In the text from Deuteronomy, Israel, standing at the gateway to the Land of the Promise, is confronted with a sharp choice between following the commandments of Yahweh or bowing to the gods worshipped by the Canaanites. Choosing the law, however, means something more than legalism. It means choosing a way of life, and understanding of society ordered according to the Covenant between God and God's people, a means of existence different from the surrounding culture.

In Psalm 119 Israel praises the Torah (the Jewish law revealed in the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures). It is God's gift especially bestowed on Israel to the authentic guide as to how life should be lived. As such, the Torah distinguishes Israel from the other nations, because it is rooted in God's blessing.

Jesus does not come to abrogate the Torah, but precisely to fulfill it. The antipathy between Jesus and the Jewish authorities is not to be read as antipathy between Jesus and the Torah. Instead Jesus becomes the authoritative interpreter of the Torah, the one who pushes beyond external behaviour to a consistency between disposition and deed. We are invited by the text to be different, to obey and teach the covenantal commitments, to be directed in their moral decisions by Jesus' interpretation of the law. In doing so they become what Paul describes as 'Spiritual people.'

## *This week @ St Philip's*

Today	<i>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</i>
8am	<b>Eucharist</b> (followed by Breakfast)
10am	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (followed by Morning tea)
Tuesday 14 February	<i>Cyril (d.869) &amp; Methodius (d.885)</i> <i>missionaries to the Slavs</i>
9.30am-4.15pm	Diocesan Clergy Conference – ACC&C
Weds 15 February	<i>Feria</i>
10am-Noon	Pandora's sorting & preparation
Thursday 16 February	<i>Feria</i>
10am	<b>Eucharist</b> (followed by Morning tea)
1130am	Funeral – Pauline Small RIP - Gungahlin Cemetery
Saturday 18 February	<i>Feria</i>
10am-1pm	Pandora's - OPEN
Sunday 19 February	<i>Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration</i>
8am	<b>Eucharist</b> (followed by Breakfast)
10am	<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (followed by Morning tea)
	<i>Readings: Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9</i>

## Rosters

	<b>February</b>	<b>12-Feb-23</b>	<b>19-Feb-23</b>		<b>22-Feb-23</b>		<b>26-Feb-23</b>
	Sunday of Month	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>				<b>4th</b>
	Liturgical Season	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	Last Sunday after Epiphany/Transfiguration		Ash Wednesday		First Sunday of Lent
	Flowers	Judy	Jeanette		n/a		n/a
<b>8am</b>	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	<b>10am</b>	Rev'd Martin	<b>8am</b>	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)						
	Sidespeople	Alison & Alistair	Rhonda & Susan				Shane & Tim
	Liturgical Assistant	Ellie P					Brian McK
	1st Bible reader - OT	Alistair D	Rebecca P				Shane W
	2nd Bible reader - NT	Alison D	Julianne S				Shane W
<b>10am</b>	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	<b>7.30pm</b>	Rev'd Martin	<b>10am</b>	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)						
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Helen & Hardy	Jeannette M, Laura W		Fred A, Susan J		Janene B, Richard G, Sally A
	Liturgical Assistant	Rebecca K					Philippa W
	Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F		Colin F		Colin F
	1st Bible reader - OT	Sarah B	Tim G				Ann M
	2nd Bible reader - NT	Brian M	Colin D				Fiona D
	Morning Tea	Jan G	Janene B		Liz D		Helen P
<i>Additional details/notes</i>				<i>Ash Wednesday</i>			<i>St Philip's AGM following 10am service</i>

## For your Diary

Please see the [Calendar](#) for the latest information

Wednesday 22 February	10am & 7pm	Ash Wednesday 10am & 7pm
Saturday 25 February	2pm – 4pm	Missional Spirituality - Seminar 1
Sunday 26 February	11.15am	Parish Annual General Meeting
Saturday 25 March	2pm - 4pm	Missional Spirituality - Seminar 2,
Friday 7 April		Good Friday – see <a href="#">calendar</a> for details
Sunday 9 April		Easter Day - see <a href="#">calendar</a> for details
Saturday 22 April		Pandora's Autumn/Winter Launch
Sunday 7 May		SS Philip & James
Saturday 27 May	2pm – 4pm	Missional Spirituality - Seminar 3, 2-4pm

## St Philips O'Connor, ACT

[www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au](http://www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au)

 @stphilipsoconnor

email: [comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au](mailto:comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au)

office: 61617334

Rector: The Rev'd Martin Johnson 0478 619 911