

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: John Williams (2/9/04); Beryl Collins (8/9/06); Athol Barratt (9/9/04).

Next Sunday – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Flowers: The Flower Team

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

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

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

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

Sunday 2 September 2018

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

10am Music

Hymns: 183, 585, 474 & 687

Sentence

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

James 1.17

Prayer of the day

Cleanse our consciences, O Lord, and enlighten our hearts through the daily presence of your Son Jesus Christ, that when he comes in glory to be our judge we may be found undefiled and acceptable in his sight; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1.17-27; Mark 7.1-8, 14-23.

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Team.

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

10am Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Welcomer: Denise Manley;
Sidespeople: Sally Adams & Volunteer; Liturgical Assistant: Sarah Gowty;
Music: Colin Forbes & Joseph Lloyd; Bible Readers: tba (1st), tba (2nd);
Chalice Servers: Denise Manley & Tim Gulliver; Morning Tea: Helen Palethorpe and Volunteer.

Psalm 15

- 1 Lord, who may abide in your tabernacle:
or who may dwell upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads an uncorrupt life and does the thing which is right:
who speaks the truth from the heart, and has not slandered with the tongue;
- 3 Who has done no evil to a friend:
nor vented abuse against a neighbour;
- 4 In whose eyes the worthless have no honour:
but who makes much of those that fear the Lord;
- 5 Whoever has sworn to a neighbour:
and will not go back on that oath;
- 6 Who has not put money to usury:
nor taken a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things:
shall never be overthrown.

From the Rector

Dear Friends

Today we will hear a passage from the Epistle of James. It is not a piece of scripture that gets much 'airplay' but I think it provides an essential balance in New Testament thought.

The Protestant Reformation, among other things, brought to the fore again the understanding of 'Justification by faith.' Paul, writing his letters to the Romans and the Galatians, was keen to emphasise the idea that those who believed in Jesus were freed from the constraints of the Law of Moses. In other words their salvation was to be found not in fulfilling the law – but in belief in Jesus as Messiah; in this belief we are justified - made right with God. Hence the slogan 'faith not works'. Martin Luther one of the principal players in the Reformation wrote a Commentary to the Letter to the Romans – it was his Magnum Opus.

The Letter of James however provides something of a balance to this thinking. 'Show me your faith' he writes 'apart from your works and I by my works will show you my faith.' This was somewhat problematic for Luther who described the Letter of James as 'an epistle of straw!' Fortunately the arguments of the Reformation era are largely behind us. Yes we acknowledge that it is by faith that we find salvation but that faith is revealed by our love of God and neighbour.

The Danish religious thinker of the 18th century, Soren Kierkegaard, was a Lutheran but one who was rather out of step with the founder of his Church. He is probably the only person on record as having regarded the first chapter of the letter of James as his favourite portion of scripture. For Kierkegaard the passage of

James that we will hear this morning is something of a parable about reading scripture. It is to be a mirror in which we find ourselves and then put into practise what we have seen and heard.

Kierkegaard lived during a time when Biblical scholarship was flourishing. It changed forever the way we read the scriptures. He was critical however of this new thinking. 'Biblical scholarship' he wrote 'is the human race's prodigious invention to defend itself against the New Testament, to ensure that one can continue to be a Christian without letting the New Testament come too close, or to ensure that one can continue not to be a Christian by not letting the New Testament come too close.'

It is true modern Biblical scholarship has done much to help us understand the scriptures, but sometimes it has also been the means by which we have watered down some of the demands it makes on our lives!

Blessings **Martin**

St Philip's Calendar

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

Wed'day	5 Sep 7pm	Parish Council – Lamerton Centre
Friday	7 Sep 7 – 8.30pm	St Philip's Youth Group
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!

Joke of the Week: Little Tony was in his uncle's wedding party. As he came down the aisle during the ceremony, he carefully took two steps then stopped and turned to the crowd. When facing the congregation he put his hands up like claws and roared loudly. So it went, step, step, turn, roar, step, step, turn, roar, all the way down the aisle. As you can imagine, the congregation was nearly in tears from laughing. By the time little Tony reached the chancel, he was nearly in tears too. When later asked what he was doing, the boy sniffed and said, "I was being the Ring Bear."