

This coming week @ St Philip's

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|-----------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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; Fred & Erika Langman.

Those we remember: Allan Pound (28/3/93); David Linaker (29/3/96); Suzanne Lewis (2/4/99); Rose Anchell (6/4/10).

Next Sunday – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Readings: Isaiah 43.16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3.3-14; John 12.20-33

Flowers: None in Lent

8am: Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell
Sidesperson: John Girdlestone
Liturgical Assistant: Peter Wilson
Readers: Vicki Luker (1st)
John Girdlestone (2nd)

10am: Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson
Preaching: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell
Welcomer: Denise Manley
Sidespeople: Sally Adams & Nirmal Farrington
Music: Colin Forbes
Liturgical Assistant: Philippa Wicks
Crucifer: Zara Mann
Readers: Laura Begbie (1st)
Matt Begbie (2nd)
Chalice Servers: Denise Manley
Morning tea: Begbie Family

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

Sunday 31 March 2019

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10am Music

Hymns: 216, 683 (t525), 145 & 201

JANENE BROERE will cantor the Psalm and the congregation will sing the Response.

Sentence

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ, and given us the ministry of reconciliation.
2 Corinthians 5.18

Prayer of the day

God of compassion, you are slow to anger, and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts: receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you, and seat them at your bountiful table, that, with all your children they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Joshua 5.2-12; Ps 32; 2 Corinthians 5.16-21; Luke 15.11-32

Today's Rosters

Flowers: None in Lent

8am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Sidesperson: Nirmal Farrington; Liturgical Assistant: Elizabeth Allinson; Bible Readers: Margaret McCaskie (1st); Russell McCaskie (2nd).

10am Preaching & Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Welcomer: Jeannette McHugh; Sidespeople: Leighton Mann & Volunteer; Liturgical Assistant: Tim Gulliver; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: Louise McKay (1st); Pat

Forbes (2nd); Chalice Servers: James Kim & Jeannette McHugh; Morning Tea: Denise Manley & Janene Broere.

Psalm 32

Andrew Moore

esponse
f. v. 5 For - give me, Lord, the guilt of my sin.



RESPONSE: Forgive me, Lord, the guilt of my sin.

- 1 Blessed are those whose sin is forgiven:
whose iniquity is put away.
- 2 Blessed are those to whom the Lord imputes no blame:
and in whose spirit there is no guile.
- 3 For whilst I held my tongue:
my bones wasted away with my daily complaining.
- 4 Your hand was heavy upon me day and night:
and my moisture was dried up like a drought in summer. **Resp.**
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you:
and my iniquity I did not hide;
- 6 I said `I will confess my transgressions to the Lord':
and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.
- 7 For this cause shall everyone that is faithful make their prayer to you in the day of trouble:
and in the time of the great water-flood, it shall not come near them.
- 8 You are a place to hide me in, you will preserve me from trouble:
you will surround me with deliverance on every side. **Resp.**
- 9 `I will instruct you, and direct you in the way that you should go:
I will fasten my eye upon you, and give you counsel.
- 10 `Be not like horse or mule, that have no understanding:
whose forward course must be curbed with bit and bridle.'
- 11 Great tribulations remain for the ungodly:
but whoever puts their trust in the Lord, mercy embraces them on every side.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and be glad:
and shout for joy, all you that are true of heart. **Resp.**

From the Rector

Dear friends,

I am sometimes asked if I can speak about the Christian faith without using religious language, metaphor, symbol or whatever! The parable of the Prodigal Son is not a bad place to start. It has been described as the gospel in miniature and I believe it does speak about the essence of Christian life and faith.

What I often find myself doing is not explaining what the faith is about, but what it is not! Christianity at its heart is *not*, as is commonly thought, about what we have done or what we fail to do, it is not about slavish adherence to rules and doctrines, it is about acknowledging the prodigal love of God and being thankful. That is what undergirds our faith. The meaning behind our Lenten journey is summed up today in the words of Luke who describes the lost son as having 'come to himself.' Lent is a journey of self-discovery as it was for the younger son whose decisions resulted in him finding himself in a far country. It was for the older brother too, who in his own way was just as far off, if only he had realised it and like his brother 'come to himself.' In his book 'Mere Christianity' CS Lewis wrote:

Though I have had to speak at some length about sex, I want to make it as clear as I possibly can that the centre of Christian morality is not here. If anyone thinks that Christians regard unchastity as the supreme vice, he is quite wrong. The sins of the flesh are bad, but they are the least bad of all sins. All the worst pleasures are purely spiritual: the pleasure of putting other people in the wrong, of bossing and patronizing and spoiling sport, and backbiting; the pleasure of power, of hatred. For there are two things inside me, competing with the human self which I must try to become. They are the Animal self, and the Diabolical self. The Diabolical self is the worse of the two. That is why a cold, self-righteous prig who goes regularly to church may be far nearer to hell than a prostitute. But, of course, it is better to be neither.

Once again we are flying a banner in support of people of faith seeking a better way for those who come among us fleeing poverty, war or disease. 'Refugee lives matter' is a simple but profound statement. Most years I receive an email or two criticizing us for displaying such a banner. It is not a political statement, merely a statement which goes to the very heart of what we believe. If we are true to our vocation then we must hold to a greater vision than the narrow self-interest of our critics. Perhaps I should just point to it when I'm asked about our faith.

Every blessing to you on this refreshment Sunday as our Easter celebrations draw ever closer, **Martin**.



St Philip's Calendar -

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

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|-----------------|-------------|---|
| Today 31 Mar | 11.20-11.40 | Training for Communion Servers |
| Wed'day 3 Apr | 7-9pm | Parish Council Meeting – LC meeting room |
| Thursday 4 Apr | 11am & 7pm | Lenten Studies |
| Friday 5 Apr | 7.00-8.30pm | St Pip's Youth Group |
| Sunday 7 Apr | 10am | Sunday Zone |
| Thursday 11 Apr | 11am & 7pm | Lenten Studies |
| Sunday 14 Apr | 11.30am | Food 4 Thought (F4T) – LC Meeting room, Topic: tba |
| Thursday 18 Apr | 7pm | Maundy Thursday Service with footwashing, last supper and solemn stripping of the sanctuary |
| Friday 19 Apr | Good Friday | |
| | 9am | Children's Stations of the Cross service |
| | 12noon-3pm | Good Friday Three-Hour service. <i>You can quietly come and go as you need.</i> |
| Saturday 20 Apr | | 5pm Meditative Easter Offering – Beethoven's Sonata #32, Opus #111. Performed by Colin Forbes |
| Sunday 21 Apr | Easter Day | |
| | 6am | Lighting of the new fire |
| | 7am | Eucharist (incense will be used at this service) |
| | 8am-9.30am | Easter celebration breakfast – please see notice in foyer |
| | 10am | Solemn Sung Eucharist |
| Friday 26 Apr | 5-7pm | Happy Hour – LC Meeting Room, Theme: Turkish (ANZAC) |