

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 @ Canberra Aged Care

Prayer Points

For those in need: Margaret Reid; Pat & Alice Nolan; Doreen Sengati-Odom; Roger Sharp; Pat & Colin Forbes.

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

Next Sunday – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Exodus 32.7-14; Psalm 51.1-120; 1 Timothy 1;
Luke 15.1-10

Flowers: The Flower Team

8am: Presiding: Rev'd Martin Johnson
Preaching: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell
Sidesperson: Vicki Luker
Liturgical Assistant: tba
Readers: Vicki Luker (1st)
Dominic Lloyd (2nd)

10am: Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell
Welcomer: Volunteer
Sidespeople: Sally Adams & Kerry-Anne Cousins
Liturgical Assistant: Peter Wilson
Music: Colin Forbes
Readers: Tim Gulliver (1st)
Ann Munro (2nd)
Chalice Servers: James Kim & Rev'd Martin Johnson
Morning tea: Janene Broere & Helpers

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

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Sunday 8 September 2019

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10am Music

Hymns: 608, 583, 658 & 420

Sentence

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow Jesus cannot be his disciple.
Luke 14.27

Prayer of the day

God of the ages, you call the Church to keep watch in the world and to discern the signs of the times: grant us the wisdom that your Spirit bestows, so that with courage we may proclaim your prophetic word, and complete the work you have set before us; through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Readings

Deuteronomy 30.15-20; Ps 1; Philemon 1-25; Luke 14.25-37

Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Team

8am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell;
Sidesperson: Alison & Alistair Davidson; Liturgical Assistant: Elise Palethorpe; Bible Readers: Alistair Davidson (1st); Alison Davidson (2nd).

10am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell; Welcomer: Judith Swanson; Sidespeople: Louise & Matt McKay; Server: Leighton Mann; Crucifer: Zara Mann; Music: Colin Forbes; Bible Readers: Peter Lisacek (1st); Louise McKay (2nd); Chalice Servers: James Kim & Volunteer; Morning Tea: Volunteer.

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:
nor followed the way of sinners, nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.
- 2 But their delight is in the law of the Lord:
and on that law will they ponder day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted beside streams of water:
that yield their fruit in due season.
- 4 Their leaves also shall not wither:
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.
- 5 As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.
- 6 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement:
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- 7 For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

From Canon Scott

When I was a boy I had a favourite game that some will remember, called 'Snakes and Ladders'. It's quite an ancient idea in one form or another. You roll the dice and move your counter that number of squares on a grid pattern, slowly ascending the board. The first to make the final square wins. If you land at the base of a ladder, you slide up to its top, and so you gain an advantage over your opponent. Alternatively, if you land on the head of a snake, you slide all the way down to an often much lower square at the tip of its tail.

The ladders and the snakes—some longer, some shorter—were linked to virtues and vices. I remember the ladder that led up from 'diligence' to 'promotion'. In the square at the bottom of that ladder was a little picture of a young man working hard at his desk with a rising moon visible out the window. And at the top of that ladder the young man is receiving a handshake from the boss in front of applauding colleagues. I remember the snake that led down from 'laziness' to 'poverty', too, though I can't remember the pictures. One snake led from the square just before the finish line right back down to the start. I don't remember what particular vice led to such a fall away from success. Perhaps it was wanting to be a critical theologian rather than a pliant archdeacon!

This game was meant to educate children about how to get on in life by building on luck with good management. And it goes with conventional religion—the sort of Santa Claus religion that gives you the rewards if you've been a good boy or girl. But if you're naughty, as the 'Soup Nazi'

sketch in 'Seinfeld' went, it's 'no soup for you.' This is the conventional religion that goes with immature faith in adulthood, with binary 'us-them' thinking, and which demands 'religious freedom' protections so it can keep playing out its 'Snakes and Ladders' version of reality.

The Old Testament sets out to undo this sort of religion. Deuteronomy is a book of 'Snakes and Ladders' religion, as we see in today's reading, and in its accompanying Psalm. But then along comes Job, who tells a different story: the righteous one suffers, while the mendacious claim the mantle of God. The xenophobia of Ezra and Nehemiah, insisting on religious and racial purity, is challenged in the book of Ruth. There, Ruth the hated Moabite—the Palestinian, the Arab, the asylum seeker—is the heroine, and she becomes not only the ancestor of King David but of Jesus himself. And the hostility towards that pagan hotbed Nineveh, in the prophet Nahum, is undone by the compassion of God as revealed to Jonah. Jesus puts the final nail in this coffin of 'Snakes and Ladders' religion in today's Gospel. More in the sermon...

St Philip's Calendar - <http://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/calendar.php>

Saturday 14 Sep, 10-2pm **SPRING FLING!!**

Morning tea, Curries, BBQ, Bar & Tapas, Better bits, Books, Kitchen creations, Pandora's, live Music & Fashion parade.

Sunday 22 Sep, 11am **Lamington Morning Tea** to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Lamerton Centre. *Please bring lamingtons to share*

Friday 27 Sep, 5 - 7pm **Happy Hour** - Theme 'Football Finals'

October: International Mission project month - **ABM Zambia: Gender & Governance Project**

Wed'day 2 Oct, 7-9pm

Parish Council Meeting

Sunday 6 Oct, 10am

Sunday Zone

Sunday 13 Oct, 11.30

Food 4 Thought - LC Meeting Room

Discussion & shared light lunch by donation. Everyone welcome.

Friday 18 Oct, 7 - 8.30pm

St Philip's Youth Group

Sunday 20 Oct, 10am

Confirmation Service with Bishop Mark, followed by a special morning tea. *Please bring food to share.*

Key Points from September Parish Council Meeting

- The Diocesan Synod is taking place in Goulburn from 6 to 8 September. The Parish is represented by Martin, Robin Moore, Brian McKinlay and Ashton Robinson.
- In its mid-year review of the budget, Parish Council noted that giving was slightly up and expenditure slightly below the budgeted level for this point of the year. This is pleasing and it means that the planned deficit in the 2019 operating budget of \$24,868 is likely on current projections to be a few thousand dollars less by the end of the year. Nevertheless it is clear that the budget for operating the Parish remains under some strain and dwindling Parish operating funds accumulated over recent years will need to be drawn on again to cover the deficit.
- This situation underlines the importance of a successful Spring Fling as well as regular giving which is the single biggest element of our income to meet the stipend and operating costs.
- Parish Council will continue to manage the budget carefully and look for expenditure savings wherever possible. The Council is continuing to develop ideas for reducing energy costs.
- This year's "Spring Fling" is only a week away - from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 14 September. The "Spring Fling" is our major annual fundraising and community outreach event. If you haven't got a job yet or have any questions, please speak to Leighton, Susan or Rev. Martin.
- There will be a special lamington morning tea after the 10am service on 22 September to celebrate five years of the wonderful and much-used facility we have in the Lamerton Centre. Please bring along something to share. There will also be a viewing of the film "The Lamerton Centre Story".