

Please note there is a Hearing Loop installed in the Church that provides a wireless signal picked up by the hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil).



The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Geelong



"A community of faith in service to others"

www.christchurchgeelong.com.au

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Mission Statement

Christ Church seeks to be a centre for the worship of Almighty God, providing strength and assistance for all who enter, and enabling God's love in Christ to reach out to the community and world in which we live.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT/MOTHERING SUNDAY

27th March 2022

Liturgical Colour: Purple

Holy Eucharist: 8.00am; 10.00am (Sung); 5.15pm

Sentence

As a mother comforts a child
so will I comfort you, says the Lord. (*Isaiah 66.13*)

Prayer of the Day *

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human
family to himself:
Strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



* You are invited to join in this Prayer immediately before today's readings.

Service Setting: 'The Christ Church Service'

Postlude: "Short Prelude and Fugue in E Minor" – JS Bach

Hymns: 10.00am: 145; 129; 474; 233

Psalm Response:



Who - ev - er trusts in the Lord is sur - round - ed by stead - fast love.

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PALM CROSS WORKING BEES

Once again we will be making palm crosses to be distributed on Palm Sunday, 10th April. We will have working bees in the church on **Tuesday, 5th and Thursday, 7th April from 12-2pm** (during church sitting), but palms will be available next Sunday, 3rd April, if you prefer to make the crosses at home!



ABM

After our Home Fellowship Groups last year, many people requested that this year we send our ABM gifts to support Aboriginal clergy in the Northern Territory. Envelopes will be available soon!

REMINDER - EASTER RAFFLE

Tickets: \$2 each; 3 for \$5; or 7 for \$10. Handcrafted prizes, including chocolates - please see display in the coffee area. Raffle will be drawn on Easter Sunday.



WORKING BEE AT CHURCH

We need to spend some time making the church sparkling clean for Easter. We will be holding a working bee inside the church on **Saturday, 9th April**, however if you cannot come on this day please consider coming before that. 12-2pm on weekdays is especially convenient, but please speak to Jan about what you might like to do and when you might like to come.



FOOTY PARKING

This has been a great money spinner for us. Now that there are many more functions being held at Kardinia Park and some at the Palais too, more parking will be needed. This could be a great opportunity for us, but we need a second parking team, or particularly a new coordinator. Please speak to one of the Wardens, if you can assist!

GOODS NEEDED FOR STUDENTS AT NORTH GEELONG SECONDARY COLLEGE

Now that the cooler weather is coming, there is a need for black scarves and gloves for refugees and other students. Pens, pencils, pencil cases, exercise books, money, etc. are also very welcome. There is a clothes basket in the coffee area for donations. (Thank you, Barbara Peek)



We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the lands on which Christ Church and its building now stand.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Introduction

For many years the Fourth Sunday in Lent has been observed as Mothering Sunday. The tradition arose from a sentence in St Paul's Letter to the Galatians, which for many centuries was read in the Epistle each Sunday: in it St Paul writes of "*Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all*". So, on this day we give thanks to God who gives us New Birth, and for the Church which, like a mother, nurtures us in the life of the Spirit. We also give thanks for our own human mothers, and for all the qualities of mothering, given and received in this congregation.

Reflection

In the Gospel today, the parable of the Prodigal son, I believe the real hero of the story is the father. The reading should be called the parable of the loving father. The story reminds us of the forgiveness of God. One son wasted his inheritance while the other son dutifully worked hard on the family property. The father's love went deep and he was able to see through the failings of the lost son and the jealousy of the other. He was also able to forgive when others refused to; God is able to forgive unconditionally even though others fail to.

On the fourth Sunday in Lent our church traditionally celebrate Mothering Sunday. A day when we give thanks for the one who gave us birth; for those who have nurtured and mothered us, and for the church at which we were baptised and nurtured in the Christian faith.

We also offer prayers for those who have desired to give birth but are unable to do so.

We acknowledge and pray for all who nurture others unconditionally.

The love of a mother, the love of a parent, and the love of a friend is an unconditional love. The loving father in our gospel unconditionally forgave his wayward son.

Today we also reflect on the annunciation of the Virgin Mary.

Mary, a very young girl chosen by God, was informed that she was to carry God's child. With fear in her heart she unconditionally accepted this role, and the rest is a history we know so well.

Today in your prayers give thanks for she who gave you birth, for those who nurtured you, and for those who gave you unconditional love.

Fr Graeme



Next Sunday, 3rd April 2022 - Daylight Saving Time Ends!
Remember to turn your clocks back one (1) hour at 3.00am



FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH: Is there anyone who would like to join the roster for arranging the flowers in the church? We work in teams, usually of three and have a turn every 6 or 7 weeks. If you would like to join or would like further information, please speak to Jan as soon as possible.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

THE WORLD: The victims and families of the Japanese passenger aircraft carrying 132 passengers that crashed into a mountain in Tengxian, Guangxi last Monday!

THE CHURCH: The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma); Ministry with the Aboriginal people of Australia; Trinity Grammar School; St Stephen's Gardenvale; Parish of Ocean Grove & Barwon Heads; St Oswald's Glen Iris; St Stephen's Greythorn; St Paul's Cathedral (Lady Day Service). "... the work and witness of the Church of South India, remembering especially today their ministry in a predominantly non-Christian context (ABM)."

THE PARISH/COMMUNITY: "Lord, may I always come back to you in repentance if I wander away. May I always demonstrate love and fairness to others, not assuming that either are evident; may I put all bitterness aside so that joy can fill my life (ABM)."

THE DEPARTED: Our own departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time (Paul James; Alan Lewis, Priest).

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tuesday, 29th	8.30am	Morning Prayer (by phone)
	7.00pm	Meditation in the Chapel
Wednesday, 30th	10.00am	Holy Eucharist
	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist
Thursday, 31st	8.00am	Morning Prayer (by phone)

NEXT SUNDAY: 3RD APRIL - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT/PASSION SUNDAY

Readings: Isaiah 43.16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3.3-14; John 12.1-8

CHRIST CHURCH ACCREDITATION

It is a requirement of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne that all people who are in the role of volunteer be required to have a clearance certificate. We have been asked to complete this by 30th March.

I am now gathering the information required for the diocese.

What is required is a current working with Children's Check & Police check and also to complete an online course that takes approximately two (2) hrs with open learning at a cost of \$20

<https://www.openlearning.com/courses/adom-safe-ministry-essentials>

Once completed please return certificate to Judy Staples
or Father Graeme either in person or via email to:

judyastaples@gmail.com

Judy Staples contact is 0468415886