ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA DIOCESE OF BALLARAT ST PAUL'S - BAKERY HILL



"If God is for us, who is against us?" (Rom 8:31)

Third Sunday after Pentecost –21st June 2020

A Year to challenge violence, injustice & oppression, and work for peace and reconciliation

Welcome to St Paul's! We acknowledge the Wathaurung people, the traditional custodians of this land. We gather in prayer where-ever we are. If you have found this order of service and are using it, please feel free to make yourself known. Contact details are on the last page.



"Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows". Matt 10: 31

Worship 9.30am [Zoom] Contact Sister Elisa to be included via St Paul's email or phone number. See back page.

Dear people of St Paul's,

In this time of separation from our church gatherings, we can affirm and encourage each other in prayer. We can also join in worship at our regular times using this form of prayer which is from the Anglican Churches Liturgy. We will use it on Sunday with our Zoom services but if this is not possible for you, then join us at 9.30 am in spirit.

You can use it on your own or with others around you. You may use all of it or a part of it as suits you. If you have some lovely recorded music which feeds your faith, then add that to the mix also.

Further, I suggest you create a prayer space, in it you could have a candle, a cross and /or a picture, none of these are essential, but may be a help for prayer.

Finally, I pray that this difficult season may be one which, despite hardship, enriches and strengthens your faith. Every blessing Sr Elisa

When all are gathered, the presider begins:

In the name of God: Father, + Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for Jesus' sake will find it. Matthew 10.39

Prayer of preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, and 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.

The Penitential Rite

'Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself'.

Silence to reflect.

Let us therefore bring our sins to the one true God, in penitence and faith.

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.

Words of Assurance/ absolution

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2: 1-2

COLLECT OF THE DAY: (*pause for silent prayer*) Gracious God, we who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death: we pray that, as you raised him from death, so by the power of the Holy Spirit we may live the new life to your glory, knowing ourselves to be dead in sin but alive for you in Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 21.8-21

A reading from the book of Genesis

⁸ The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹ But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. ¹⁰ So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." ¹¹ The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹² But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. ¹³ As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." ¹⁴ So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. ¹⁶ Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷ And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. ¹⁸ Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰ God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. ²¹ He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

This is the Word of the Lord thanks be to God

PSALM 86.1-10, 16-17

¹ Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. ² Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; ³ be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long. ⁴ Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. ⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me. ⁸There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. ¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things; vou alone are God. ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me;

give your strength to your servant;

save the child of your serving girl.

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favour, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING Romans 6.1-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News. **Alleluia, alleluia!**

GOSPEL Matthew 10.24-39 The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew + Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,

and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

For the Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection - Sr Elisa The Challenges of Discipleship.

The Gospel reading today is awfully hard to both listen to and follow through, but it is important because it takes us to the core of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Last week, we heard how Christian discipleship is both; expressing the compassion of God to those we meet, as well as telling them about it and inviting people to become living members of God's Kingdom with us.

This week Jesus continues these teachings and we begin to see how hard this call can be.



This painting, entitled 'the preacher',

by George Gitto, shows a Rwandan preacher pleading on behalf of the people with him for their lives. When George was asked about it, he said, 'when he was in Rwanda during the genocide, he came into a courtyard and this man was there reading from the Bible to a group of terrified people who knew they were going to be killed. The preacher was reading the beatitudes to them as they waited for the terrorists to come'. George said he returned later, and the people had all been killed, but he was unable to find the preacher. The man was an anonymous hero of faith in George's eyes and it is one of those stories which moves me to tears.

George understands his vocation as a witness to the suffering of war, and in it he always looks for signs of hope as revealed by the preacher. I believe this is part of what Jesus is saying to us today. No matter how difficult and challenged we are in our lives, and we will be, our trust in God through Jesus will strengthen us, and our hope will enable us to more than endure, but be productive in our ministry, even unto death.

To be able to **LIVE** through the trials of faith, we need to exercise our faith by staying connected with its foundation and **living** into it in our daily lives.

This foundation can at times feel elusive because so many of the things we value and feel are important, are deeply connected expressions of it, and when the foundation is healthy, these other things are healthy. When the other things become our foundation, then everything becomes out of whack:

Some examples of things which are important but must remain in us under the rule of God's love:

Our family- and/ or Community. Social networks and position in society. Work, money.

Living needs such as home, food etc. Material possessions. Our physical lives. In fact, anything which gives power over our lives outside of our faith in God.

In the Gospel, the foundation I am referring to is referenced in a few ways, but primarily by the sparrow and the hairs of our heads. God's knowing and seeing, something like a hair on our head or a sparrow, implies deep connection, love, and awareness, of not just us, but of what is happening to us. This is important because it reminds us that we are creatures. We are created beings, created by God, who loves us and has placed God's imprint into us so that we reflect his glory into the world. This glory of God revealed through us is that Christian compassion and proclamation I spoke of in my sermon last week and is revealed in the preacher.

As Christians this foundation is reinforced by Christ, who redeemed us and has called us to be his disciples, that is to learn and follow him.

Jesus is saying to us, that despite the cultural values in which our lives are immersed, we must be different, we must witness and live revealing the love of God in Jesus to **everyone** we meet. This of course impacts the negative and destructive values in our culture and even in our families, which we can easily ignore or take for granted.

In Jesus' day, such cultural values included social classes, where one group protected their own survival at the cost of another: patriarchy, slavery, high taxes from Rome- even for the poor, oppressive rulers and landlords etc. Parents who demanded conformity to family expectations and traditions. Jesus was telling them and us, that we are not to be like that, we must be open about our faith and trusting in God, even more than our physical life itself. Our trust is that God knows us-sees us- and loves us and if we live with God or in God, then through the resurrection of Jesus, our lives will be protected even if we lose our physical bodies in this life.

So, we need to stand up and be counted & gracefully resist or work to change things which are not of God:

Ungodly family cultures and practices; consumerism; instant gratification. That is- I want- I get – now! Regardless of cost to others and the environment. Unequal distribution of resources in our society and across the globe. There is so much isn't there? Racism, Classism- certain types of hero worship: idols, in media, in sport etc.

To be living a faithful Christian life in terms of this world's values is fearful. There is the probability of rejection and abuse for those who strive to conform to the call of Christ, even by families.

Fortunately I haven't experienced this with my family, but some of the Sisters in my order, when they were joining the community were put under incredible pressure by their families to not join the community, and in some cases were totally rejected by their parents and siblings. When one of my friends gave her life to Jesus, her husband refused to allow her to mention her faith to him and often she was even prevented from attending church.

In some countries of the world, when a person gives their life to Jesus especially if they shift from another faith, they can be facing death and rejection from their communities as well as their families.

Therefore, we must have our centre right. We must be constantly connected to and renewing and growing in our faith in God's love and redemption through Jesus Christ. We do this through prayer and fasting, reading, and studying Scripture, and by belonging to a Christian community [church family] which can feed and support us in our Christian living. And by engaging in Christian mission.

This is heavy and difficult stuff and we cannot do it in our own power and strength. We are in constant need of forgiveness and grace, we are in constant need of the empowering love of the Holy Spirit and we constantly need to be fed and nurtured by the love of Christ, and we constantly need each other.

God bless each one of us with the faith, and the courage and determination required to live our lives as disciples of Christ. Amen.

Silence for reflection.

I ask you now to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

Loving and merciful God, all your children are precious in your sight and so we pray for the family of nations.

We pray for all whose lives are torn apart by disaster and war; those worn out by disease and famine, mind of the pandemic, we pray for peace and goodwill among nations, that we may live as children of the same God.

Loving God help us daily to grow into your likeness, and in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Loving and merciful God, you offer your people redemption and fullness of life: we pray for your holy church, for all baptised into Christ. We pray for the churches of Australia, for leaders, theologians, and for the clergy and people in this parish.

We pray that we all proclaim your Gospel of love.

Loving God help us daily to grow into your likeness, and in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Loving and merciful God, you are forgiving, and you abound in steadfast love for your people: we pray for our community.

We pray for our families, our neighbours and our friends and for all whom we meet in our daily lives especially those who live un-noticed on the edges of our community. We pray for a community that values and cares for all its members.

Loving God help us daily to grow into your likeness, and in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Loving and merciful God, you are filled with compassion for your people and in our troubles, you hear our cries: we pray for all in need.

Those who are lonely, sad, grieving, sick or dying and all who care for them.

We hold before you those whom we name in the silence of our hearts *Pause*

Those on our prayer list and those who are sick with Covid19.

Margaret, Keith, Bert, Mandy, Joyce, Jean, Carmel, Hazel, Heather, Ann, Stephanie, Tamara, Andrew, Aaron, Sue, Vera, Jenny, Jan, Fr Peter, Seth, Corey, Gillian, Pauline.

We pray for courage, compassion, and generosity.

Loving God help us daily to grow into your likeness, and in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Loving and merciful God, you deliver your people from death and promise us the joys of everlasting life: we pray for all who have died in your love especially any we personally carry in hearts *Pause*. Help us to love you above all else, that united with all your saints, we may be raised to a joyful resurrection and live with you for ever. Loving God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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. Amen.** [We wave to each other as a sign of peace]

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Prayer

O loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Thanksgiving, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though we are dispersed from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Salvation we pray that you will unite us with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 preface continues...forever praising you and singing: 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.

The Eucharistic prayer continues... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer concludes with ... in songs of never ending praise:

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 forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body in Christ, for we all share in the one bread.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us; Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

The body of Christ broken for you. The blood of Christ poured out for you.

Prayer after Communion...

Almighty and eternal God, may we who have participated in this sacrament worship you in all we do, proclaim your word to all the world, and live in the power of your Spirit.

Father we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your spirit, to live and work to your praise and glory, Amen.

THE BLESSING

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!

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Readings for next Sunday Acts 9.1-22, Psalm 117, Galatians 1.11-24, Matthew 5.1-12

Diary for the next week

- 5pm. Tuesday Evening: Zoom Evening Prayer with focus on prayer for Covid19 & our Diocese. All welcome to join us.
- 5.30pm Wednesday: Zoom discussion re Bible Reading challenge.
- 10.30am. Thursdays. Cuppa and chat on Zoom cancelled because Sr Elisa is away.
- Next Sunday is the feast of St Peter and St Paul, our patronal festival, and Father Geoffrey Tisdall is preaching.



What a hot potato this topic is! Perhaps it is helpful (?) to remember the first children were rivals and it all ended badly. And the murderer ended up being the father of the Hebrew nation! Not the narrative a young

couple wants to hear with their precious darlings in tow. But surely the lesson here is that human beings are flawed and not everything will be rosy wherever we live and however advantaged we may be. But parents can be informed and more importantly learn the Christian art of touch and love and forgiveness and tolerance, for Jesus is the Saviour of all, even parents.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 1 John 3:1

The Mothers' Union bears a worldwide burden and joy of parenting. Each and every one of us will need to continually refocus our vocation and ministry towards that end. We are sacrificial in our use of time to the greater end which is the nurture of parents and children. Let our prayer this week be a form of self-examination, looking truthfully at OUR motives, where our priorities lie, what we may be able to learn in order to make wise decisions.

ANGLICARE [out of DNews]

This week has seen winter crash into us. Lots of conversations on the street during Community Breakfast was focused on, how to stay warm, especially during the night. Requests for gloves with fingers and mittens have increased 100-fold, also requests for "hand warmers". So todays call out is for gloves/mittens and hand warmers. We have plenty of scarves and beanies, and they are flying off the trolley. Winter is a really difficult time when you are homeless.

POP UP PLANT SALE UPDATE

The reply from the Diocese was neither yes or no instead, a list of factors covering:- the organizers' vulnerable age bracket, the 2 week isolation requirement of anyone showing flu type symptoms, cash transactions and pot plants as germ carriers ,maintaining 4m sq distancing outside and fines of \$10,000 for breach of restrictions.

The Fund Raising Committee and Parish Council will be considering these factors in the coming days.

In the meantime keep your plants happy and continue putting cuttings in pots to propagate in a warm spot and hopefully we will be able to run a plant sale sometime.

METAL COLLECTION

Metals can now be taken to the Kings Marine Stores Scrap Metal Dealers but there are new regulations to follow.

The Depot in Skipton Street will only accept batteries, lead, copper, stainless steel, brass, aluminium.

The Depot in Hammer Court -off Coronet St, will only accept steel and white goods. There is a weigh bridge at this place.

When delivering metal tell them you are from St Pauls and they will give you a receipt for value of metal. pass this onto a member of the parish council / fundraising committee

Trading hours at both Depots are Mon - Friday 8am - 4,30pm, Sat 8am - 12 noon

At the end of June the total amount of money raised will be banked into the church account which should balance with the receipts.

If you require assistance with getting the metal to a depot please contact Noella 0418 501 382

YEAR'S MIND

Lancelot Knight, Eileen Smith, Nicholas Richardson (21) Maxwell Slater, May Lunnon, Douglas Davies, Lewis Leonard, Charles Ludbrook, Merle Hardy (22) John Hall, Milton Dyer, (23) Gladys Prebble, Lillian Smith, Eleanor Howard, Joyce Beuthaur, Annie Mong, Cora Yorke, Percival Rowlands (24) Rhoda Dixon, Edith Leerson, Georgina Gavin, Ronald Horwood (25) Percy Whiting, Christopher Strachan, Lillian Burt, Albert Wade, Ester Elsworth, Leslie Fuller, Jonathan Fuller (26) Elsie Harley, Lily Horgan (27)

BISHOP'S ANGLICARE APPEAL

This year's appeal will be directed toward youth engagement programs for youth across Western Victoria, the Community Breakfast Program based at Ballarat and for parish partnership grants for parishes in the

Diocese of Ballarat. If you wish to make a donation the details are: Account Name: Anglican Careforce Ballarat Bishops Appeal Account BSB: 633-000 Account: 158 418 194. Alternatively you can specify where you would like your donation to go. For more information please contact Geoff Ryan on 0418628077 or geoff.ryan@anglicarevic.org.au or talk to one of the Ballarat Diocese Steering Committee: Bishop Garry, Marilyn Woodward, Kaye Hanks, Lynette Moore, Robyn Pierce, Heather Scott, Phoebe Nagle, Rosey Bell, Violet Cotsell, Chris Wells, Bill Wood, Constantine Osuchukwu, Geoff Ryan.

BOOKS -a great time to sort out the bookcase for our book stall in November--and tell family and friends, can be collected later when we are able to get out and about.

SHEEP POO is for sale in \$1 & \$2 bags contact Avis - mob 0408 801 192, Noella 0418 501 382, or Deirdre 0408 433 481 to order.

Parish Directory

Bishop The Rt. Rev'd Garry Weatherill

Parish Priest Sr Elisa Helen, CSC Tel. 5332 6479 [leave a message]

Associate Clergy

The Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Tisdall The Rev'd Malcolm Thomas The Rev'd Deacon Bert Muysers

Parish Secretary: Lisa Smith

Organist: Ken Turner Wardens: Bryan Crebbin Mark Stewart: Heather Clinton Treasurer: Mark Stewart Parish Council Secretary: Lisa Smith

St. Paul's Office [closed during Covid 19 restrictions] At Anglicare: Cnr of St Paul's Way & Victoria St. PO Box 1460, Ballarat, 3354 Email: stpaulsballarat@hotmail.com www.stpaulsbakeryhill.org.au