

The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta

The Parish of Kilmore
with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook
22nd February 2015
First Sunday in Lent



HYMNS: 447, 270, 590, 591

*Welcome to any guests to our worship
please stay and enjoy hospitality with us after the service.*



Introit hymn

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,

Whose mercy endures for ever.

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. *Mark 1.15*

Following the Kyrie the Great Litany is said page 188

THE COLLECT

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 9.8-17

[God promises Noah that God will never again destroy all life through a flood, and God gives the rainbow as a sign of this promise.]

A reading from the book of Genesis

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ‘I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you – the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you – every living creature on earth. I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.’ And God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.’ So God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25.1-10

[A plea for God to be merciful and to not remember the sinfulness of the psalmist's youth, but to teach the psalmist God's ways and deliver him from his enemies.]

Response: To you O Lord, I lift up my soul.

In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:
in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who wait for you be put to shame:

but let those that break faith be confounded and gain nothing./R

Show me your ways, O Lord: and teach me your paths.
Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:
for you are the God of my salvation.
In you have I hoped all the day long: because of your goodness, O Lord./R

Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness:
for they are from of old.
Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions:
but according to your mercy think on me./R

Good and upright is the Lord:
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.
The meek he will guide in the path of justice:
and teach the humble his ways.
All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments./R

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3.18-22

[Jesus died for us and was raised to life, having preached to the "spirits in prison" who disobeyed in Noah's time. And now we are given the sign of baptism to show that we are saved & cleansed within by Christ, who now rules with God in heaven.]

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Peter writes, 'For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits – to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolises baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand – with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

One does not live by | bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the | mouth of God

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

GOSPEL

Mark 1. 9-15

[Jesus is baptised by John, affirmed by God, and sent into the wilderness to be tempted. Then after John is arrested he begins his ministry calling people to repent and believe in his Good News message.]

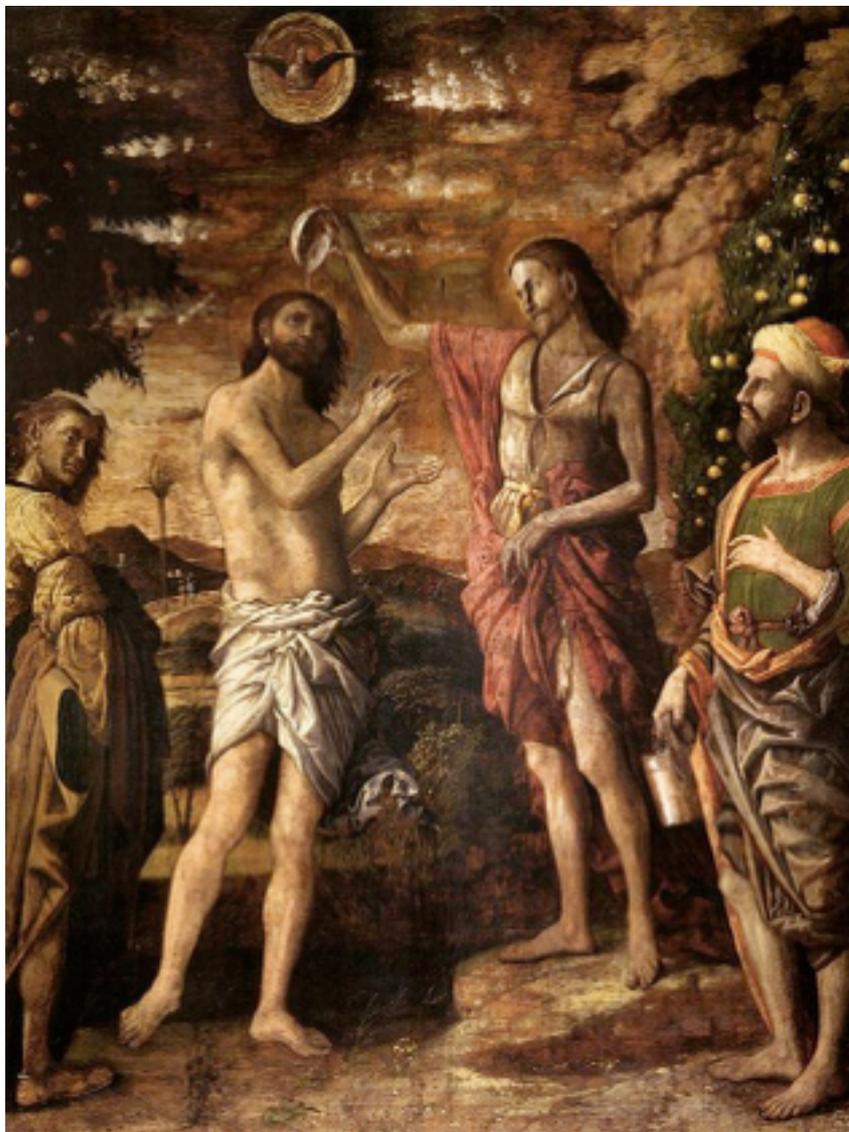
A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Andrea Mantegna - Baptism of Christ (1505)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

O God, we see the heavens torn open at your son's baptism, signalling an end to separation between you and us. May we feel the cool breeze of blessing; the warmth of your welcoming smile; the shalom that comes from knowing that we are yours. Awaken our awareness of the thin places of your presence, let us see the heavens torn, veil rent, walls shattered, demons subdued. Let us also be aware of our own nakedness; and tremble, weep, reflect and repent, as we begin this Lenten journey through our deserts and temptations. May the waters of baptism wash and clean us as we remember your promise to Noah, that you are our God forever.

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

We pray for the Church around the world guiding and nurturing the Lenten faith journey of millions; for John our Bishop; the people of the Parish of Tallangatta Alan Kelb (PiC); our clergy and parish community, that we may be open to your spirit as we journey through the wilderness of Lent.

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

We continue our prayer for peace in the world, for those suffering from violence and terror especially the families of the Coptic Christians beheaded by jihardists in Libya; for fragile peace process in the Ukraine, and for the financial crisis in Greece

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

We pray for the integrity of our politicians and parliamentarians, may they be mindful of the impact of their policies; for asylum seekers and refugees and all those held in detention; for all places of education and learning and for teachers and students everywhere; for this community and the people with whom we share our lives, giving thanks for love given and received.

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

Pray for the homeless and unemployed, street children and runaways; perpetrators of the abuse of others, and those suffering abuse; the aged and the infirmed and those who care for them; for the sick and the suffering of body and mind; and those who mourn; for those who have requested our prayer;

Requests for Prayer: *Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Alex Impols, Cathy Moseley, & Melissa & family, Seth Gunther, Cliff & Gwen Stomann, Tom & Sandra Davidson & Bianca Davidson, Tom Scrivens, Jenny Curry, Dianne Mitsakis, Mark Bennetts, Barry Watts, Lidia, Katie, Franca Caia....;* we give thanks for healing and blessings received.

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

We commend to your merciful and gracious love the recently departed and those years mind occurring at this time;

Year's mind: *23rd Win Derman, Fred Grimwade, Jean Rasmussen; 24th Phyllis Downing; Florence Britton; 25th Robert Keath; Mabel Wittingslow; Raymond Boulton; 26th John Brown; Rex Collett; 28th John Smith, Cecil Edge, Douglas Boulton.*

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord, **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

God of wilderness and water, your Son was baptized and tempted as we are; hear us as we pray for ourselves.....; guide us through this Lenten season, that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to the power and blessing bestowed at our baptism, and through the cleansing depths of repentance and joy of the Spirit.

Holy God hear our prayer; **for you are our God for ever.**

We offer our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reflection on the readings

Water – in the flood and in the baptism of Jesus and of Christ's followers – is the striking image at the heart of this first week in Lent. But, along with it comes God's promise of restoration, of grace and of the united creation toward which God is working. In the Noah story, the promise that God will not again destroy the earth with a flood is freely given, not just to Noah and the human beings, but to the whole of creation. In Peter's letter, Christ's work in saving both the living and the "spirits in prison" from Noah's time, is explained, with baptism as the sign of our salvation. Importantly, though, Christ's place as ruler of all "angels, authorities and powers" is also proclaimed here – indicating again, the unity that comes through God's grace. In the Psalm the writer expresses trust in the God who restores and protects and who leads the psalmist in God's ways of life. Finally, in the Gospel, we return to the account of Christ's baptism (which we last encountered in the first week of Epiphany on Baptism of Christ Sunday), but now, the temptation narrative is included, along with the start of Jesus' ministry. Here again, God's affirmation of Jesus, along with the baptism experience, is a highlight, leading on to God's sustaining of Christ in the wilderness. Here, too, a vision of a united creation is offered, as we read that Jesus was cared for by angels and wild animals. If we are to bring all of these threads together, we find a simple, but transforming message coming through. The act of baptism, which is a sign of our welcome into God's community of grace and salvation, embraces and includes all of creation. And, as all of creation is brought together, so we are all called to be agents of God's grace and sustenance and life to one another. The mission of Christ, of which his baptism was the start, proclaims the Reign of God in which all creation, not just human beings, are included and restored. As we embrace the Lenten fast and the journey of repentance, it is important that the scope of God's saving work be remembered, for ultimately our spiritual work must lead us to be better participants in this work.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2015) www.sacredise.com

NOTICES

Church4Kids tonight 5pm Christ Church

Christ Church Friendship Group AGM 7.30pm Thursday 26th February @ Christ Church

Lenten Faith Enhancement Group next meeting Friday 6th March 7.00pm @ 13 The Parade, Broadford. All welcome.

Baptism of Arden Farrell 9am Next Sunday 1st March Christ Church.

World Day of Prayer 10.30am Friday 6th March St Matthews Broadford. Speaker Ms Vivian Richie. All welcome.

Harvest Festival Sunday 8th March at Parish Eucharist St Matthew's - fresh vegetables, fruit, jams, preserves, produce requested for the thanksgiving.

Parish AGM – Notice is given of the AGM on Sunday 8th March 11.45am @ Gavan Hall, Broadford following the 10.00am Parish Eucharist at St Matthews. A luncheon to follow the meeting with St Matthew's providing meats and salads and the rest of the parish bringing desserts.

Nomination forms for position of Church Wardens and Parish Councillors for 2015 are available.

Christ Church Op Shop - Situations Vacant – An energetic person is required for the position of **Op Shop Manager** - responsibility for Op Shop operations, training provided. **Volunteers** required to assist in the Op Shop; variety of positions and times available, training provided. Please contact Fr Kim or Dianne Dixon 5782 1446 for more information.

Christ Church Conveniences -with the toilet block almost ready we need to arrange for cleaning on a regular basis - someone may like to take this on - please see Caroline.

Many thanks to all who delivered phone books this past couple of weeks - your efforts much appreciated.

Parish life this week

Fourth week of February

Wednesday 25th 10.00am Eucharist Christ Church Seymour
2.30pm Eucharist Caladenia
4.00pm Eucharist Dianella

Thursday 26th [MATTHIAS, APOSTLE & MARTYR]

NO SERVICE TODAY AT ST MATTHEWS

10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade

11.00am - 5pm Bishop's meeting Wangaratta

7.30pm Christ Church Friendship Group AGM Christ Church

Friday 27th [*George Herbert, parish priest, poet, (d.1633)*]

10.00am – 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House

Saturday 28th 10.00am- 12.00pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES

Next Sunday: 1st March 2015 – Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22.24-32; Romans 4.13-25; Mark 8.31-38

Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism
St Matthews	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Stephens	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4.00pm	Holy Eucharist

Parish Clergy:

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton 9 Union Street Kilmore 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407569343; kim@revkim.org

Priest (PTO) Fr John Young 9/40 Powlett St Broadford 3658 Ph 5784 2224

P O Box 289 Kilmore 3764