

The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Wangaratta

The Parish of Kilmore

with Broadford, Pyalong & Tallarook

10th January 2016

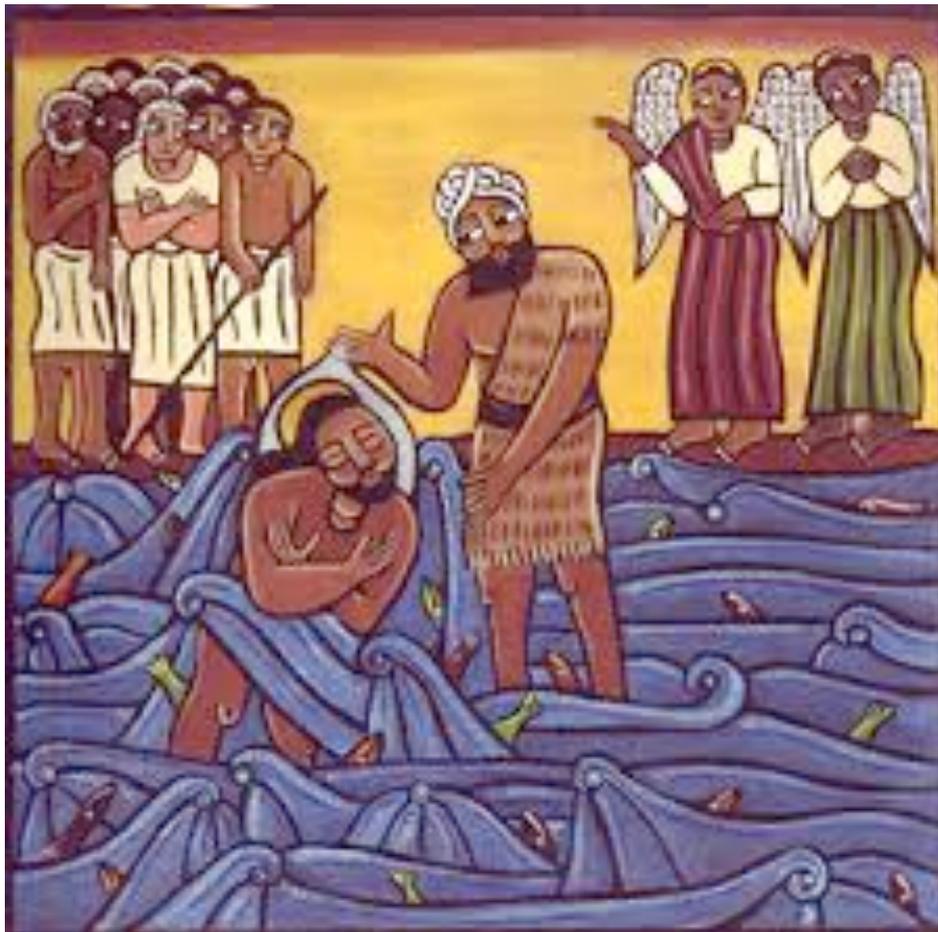
First Sunday after Epiphany

The Baptism of Our Lord



Hymns: 181, 250, 409, 422

A warm welcome to everyone, please stay and enjoy hospitality after the service.



Introit Hymn from the red Hymn Book

God, revealed in the person of Jesus our Lord, has anointed him as God's chosen one. Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace

The Liturgy continues on page 119 green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' *Luke* 3.22

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit, and revealed him as your beloved Son; grant that we who are baptised into his name may give up our lives to your service, and be found worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43.1-7

[God's people have no reason to fear, for God has redeemed them, and they will not be harmed when passing through water or flame. God will bring the children of God's people from the four corners of the earth, to bear witness to how God has saved and liberated God's people.]

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

This is what the Lord says – he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. Since you are precious and honoured in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, "Give them up!" and to the south, "Do not hold them back." Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 29

[A song in praise of God and of God's mighty voice which is strong and majestic, and which shakes the earth. Yet, God gives strength and peace to God's people.]

Response: May the Lord bless his people, bless his people with peace.

Response Colin Mawby
cf v.10 May the Lord bless his peo - ple, bless his peo-ple with peace.



Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness./R

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice./R

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox./R

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh./R
The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare; in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'/R

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace./R

SECOND READING

Acts 8.14-17

[The apostles, having heard that the Samaritans had accepted God's word, laid hands on the Samaritan believers and prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit, which they did.]

A reading from the book of Acts

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, | the Beloved,
with whom I | am well pleased."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 3.15-22

[The people wonder whether John the Baptist is the Christ, but he denies it and proclaims that another is coming who is more powerful, and will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Then Jesus is baptised by John along with the other people, and the Spirit descends on him and he hears God's voice affirming him.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, added to them all by shutting up John in prison. Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Gracious and loving God - you call to us across deep waters and dark places. Yours is the light, which guides us, and the voice we follow. We pray you open up your heavens and send your Spirit upon us, as you did for your son at his baptism by John. Through the waters of baptism you seal us as your own and make us one with all who bear your name: empower us with your spirit to faithfully serve you and proclaim your good news of justice, peace, redemption and love.

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

God of all the nations, we pray your light of peace may overcome the darkness of war; we pray for leaders of all the nations that all people may be governed with integrity and mercy; for the peoples of Syria, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia, Mali, Central African Republic and all places of war and

unrest; for all who flee terror and devastation; for all refugees and asylum seekers, and those held in detention and refugee camps.

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

God of light and darkness, through water and Word you shine your light into the darkness of all humankind; we pray for the church throughout the world; for the Church of the Province of Central Africa; for our own Diocese; for John our Bishop; for our clergy team and people of this parish; we give thanks for your incredible gifts to be found in baptism and worship.

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

Ever compassionate Lord, we pray for our community and nation and commend to you all who are impacted by fire and flood; we give thanks for the strength and resilience of rural communities and pray for all agencies bringing relief and recovery. May their struggles bring new opportunities and we pray for those impoverished by misfortune; may they have hope in their despair.

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

At Jesus' baptism you named him your beloved son and anointed him with power for ministry; give courage and strength to all who minister to the sick and needy; we pray hope to those in despair and comfort to the lost and lonely one of our community; for the sick and suffering; for those known to us and those who have requested prayer:

Chris Schafer, Glen Turnbull, Karen Goodger, Tom Scrivens, Franca Caia, Tom & Sandra Davidson, Bianca Davidson, Jenny Curry, Dianne Mitsakis, Seth Gunter, Barbara Kaye, Sarah, Lisa, Alex Impols, Elizabeth, Mark Bennetts, Penny, Belinda Shannon, the Bott Family, Bruce Scott, Susan, Adrian Walsh.

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

O Lord, we pray that may all who hunger and thirst receive the bread of life and the cup of salvation, for those recently departed and those whose years mind occurs at this time: *10th David Nolan; 11th Alma Fleming, Terry Guinelly, Jaon Scale; 12th William Harrington, Cynthia Hill; 13th Vera Brereton, John James; 14th George Glover, Mildred Ollett, Sydney Edge; 15th Laurel Kennard, Bill Begley, Bruce Insley; 16th Theodore McCall (bishop), Olive Pont.*

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

God of life and death, all that exists is from you, and for you; hear us as we pray for ourselves; enable us to trust your baptismal promise, to find you in the midst of our living and enable us to serve this hurting world.

Blessed are you eternal God; **to be praised and glorified for ever.**

God who shines in the darkness, who is known in the waters of life and the flames of the Spirit; receive these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, in the name of the one who is your light, Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray; **Our Father in heaven [pg 124].**

Reflections on the readings

The first Sunday after the Feast of the Epiphany, is always the baptism of Jesus. However, this year, the focus is less on Jesus, and more on how God's people are invited to participate in the baptism and to receive God's Spirit. In the Isaiah prophecy, God's people are promised liberation and salvation, even though they pass through water and fire, and they are called to witness to God's saving acts. In the Psalm, God's voice is celebrated, which shakes the earth, but which also – by implication in the Psalm – strengthens and brings peace to God's people, even as God's voice affirmed Jesus. In the reading from Acts, the Samaritan believers, who have been baptised in the name of Christ, now receive their own "baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire" when the apostles lay hands on them. Finally, in the Gospel, Luke reminds his readers of John's prediction that Jesus is the one who will baptise them in the Holy Spirit, and, at his baptism, the voice of God affirms and strengthens him. What this means is that our meditation on Jesus' baptism this week is not just an exercise in holy remembering. It is not just about Jesus. Rather, it is an acknowledgment that God is still at work in the world, and still invites us to participate in God's saving and liberating work. But, to do this, we, like Jesus, will need to be strengthened and empowered. We will need to be baptised in the Holy Spirit, to equip us again and again for the enterprise we are called to undertake as the people of God. The world is facing huge, inter-related crises. Symptomatic or one-dimensional approaches have been shown and recognised to be ineffectual and the need for inter-disciplinary, systemic, and collaborative approaches is clear. Increasingly, though, people of all disciplines are recognising that there is also a need for Divine partnership – an active drawing on God's creative, inspiring, and empowering Spirit – to address the challenges we face. The celebration of the Baptism of Jesus is an ideal opportunity to open ourselves to the Spirit that Jesus offers, and to reaffirm our commitment to God's call to be participants in God's saving work. Then the promise of God's Spirit to empower us, and the gift of God's living word to challenge, guide and strengthen us, assures that we have all the resources we need to participate in God's work. In addition, the message of the Scriptures, which reminds us that even the outcast Samaritans were able to receive God's Spirit, is a call to embrace all people and to invite all people to share in God's saving work, and to be empowered by God's Spirit.

Adapted from John van de Laar (2016) www.sacredise.com

NOTICES

Monthly Parish BBQs will recommence in February. Hosts are needed, please contact Fr Kim or Maryann if you would like to host a BBQ.

Revd Maryann Leonard's Ordination to the Priesthood - Saturday 6th February. Parishioners wanting to attend the Ordination at the Cathedral and require transport please contact Fr Kim so we can coordinate, and given sufficient numbers we could source a bus for the day.

Ordination Gift for Maryann - the Wardens have agreed that we request donations from parishioners towards the cost of a chasuble for Maryann. Please put any donation into a marked envelope and leave with the offering or give to Fr Kim or a Warden.

Direct Debit Offerings - Parish Account details: CBA Account Name 'Kilmore Anglican Parish'. BSB 063-698. Account Number 1018 4649.

Parish life this week

Friday 15th 10.00am - 4.00pm Op Shop, Church House
Saturday 16th 10.00am - 12.30pm Op Shop, Church House

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY		
17th January 2016 – Second Sunday after Epiphany		
Isaiah 62.1-5; Ps 36.5-10; I Corinthians 12.1-11; John 2. 1-11		
Christ Church	9.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Transfiguration	4.00pm	Holy Eucharist

Parish Clergy

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton, 9 Union Street, Kilmore, 3764 Ph 5782 1155
m 0407 569 343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

Honorary Deacon Revd Maryann Leonard, 49 Chloe Drive, Broadford, 3658
Ph 0439 066 553; maryann.leonard@bigpond.com

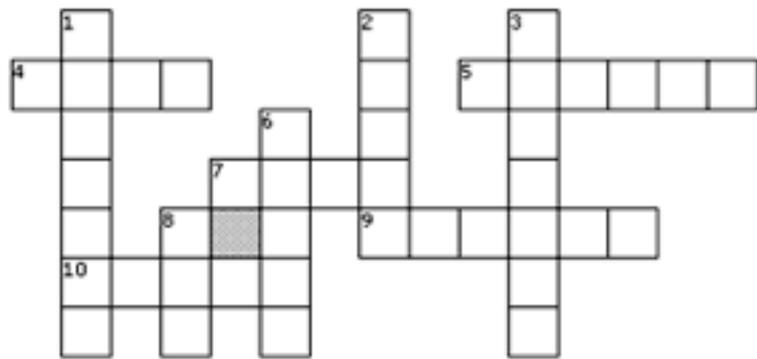
Priest (PTO) Fr John Young, 9/40 Powlett St, Broadford, 3658 Ph 5784 2224

P O Box 289 Kilmore 3764

Visit our website www.anglicankilmore.org.au



Parishioners and visitors are advised that photographs may be taken of activities in the Parish from time to time for use on Parish website, Facebook and for publication in the Advocate. If you do not wish to be included in a photo please stand clear of the group at the time. Photos are never taken without a warning.



ACROSS

4. Name of the man who baptized Jesus.
5. The river where Jesus was baptized.
7. The Spirit came down from heaven like a _____.
9. To turn away from sin.
10. What was heard when Jesus was baptized.

DOWN

1. To pardon for sins.
2. The liquid used to baptize someone.
3. To admit that you have done wrong.
6. A sticky, sweet fluid made by bees.
8. To break one of God's commandments.