



5th November 2023

Feast of All Saints

Hymns: 455 (omit v.5,6)

448 454 462



Sentence

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. (*Matthew 5:10*)

The Collect

Eternal God, neither death nor life can separate us from your love: grant that we may serve you faithfully here on earth, and in heaven rejoice with all your saints who ceaselessly proclaim your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the book of Revelation, chapter 7, beginning at verse 9.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.' Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34, verses 1 to 8

R: Blessed are they who take refuge in the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. **R...**

I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. **R...**

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. **R...**

Second Reading

A reading from the First Letter of John, chapter 3, beginning at verse 1.

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. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. Everyone who commits sin is a child of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. Those who have been born of God do not sin, because God's seed abides in them; they cannot sin, because they have been born of God. The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this way: all who do not do what is right are not from God, nor are those who do not love their brothers and sisters.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 5, beginning at the first verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Father, we pray to you through the saints, who have reflected your love and witness in their lives, that we might taste and see that you are good.

Be a shepherd to your people: guide the lost, the hopeless and the despairing into the path of sanctity and wholeness. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Be a teacher to your little ones: find the new and inquisitive in faith, both young and old, and reveal your gospel so that they might find joy in believing. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Feed, clothe and house the poor and struggling: endow us not only with the abundance of your creation, but the wisdom and generosity to share it equitably with those in the grip of poverty. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Defend those who are vulnerable: protect the innocent, abide with victims of abuse in all its forms, and help us make your world accessible to the differently abled and the neurodiverse. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Open the doors of your church, and the minds of those who worship at your altar; give discernment and compassion to all Christians, that they might see the face of Christ in those whom they might call stranger or even enemy. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Heal the sick, give relief to those in pain, bind up hearts that are broken, and give clarity to minds that are depressed or afflicted. We remember those who have asked for our prayers: *Jonathan and Limor Rose, Jeanne Jones, Bill Edge, Sharon and John Simpson, Anni Grimwade, Madeline Allen, Elaine Haddock, Belinda Shannon, Jim Chatz, Barry and Val Watts, Gwen Bushell, Debbie Chilcott, Beryl and Geoff Kirby, Fiona Mctier, David Valentine, Peg and Ken Raeburn, Bishop John Parkes, Edie Simpson, Bruce Seaman, Thomas De Sousa, Mary Cassar, Vince Fazio, and Adeline Bickley.* Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

As you elevate the saints to glory in your kingdom, so we remember the saints in our lives: give peace to those have gone before us, and reassure we who remain of the promise of eternal life. As the saints have been a light to us, bring them to perpetual light in your presence. We bring to mind those we have lost recently, and those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *John Downes, Dorothy Walder, Jim Chapman, Joan Rigby, Jack Hiscock, Francis Shinn, Faith Bourne, Penelope Cairns, and Lorna Carboon.* Lord, 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. Amen.**

Notices

Bible Study

Due to Melbourne Cup Day and its associated festivities, our next Bible study session will be Tuesday November 14th at 7.30pm at Christ Church Kilmore. Feel free to join us as we make our way through the book of Jeremiah.

Love in Action

Families we serve are feeling the stress of the season to provide for their kids at Christmas. If you would like to sponsor a child for Christmas whereby you are prepared to buy a new and decent gift, please contact Barbara Radford (0412 287 306). Love in Action needs to have these gifts delivered by December 1st. Alternatively, you can provide a donation to the Love in Action bank account for the volunteers to purchase the gift. Christmas foods are also needed for hampers, including lollies, chocolates, tins of shortbread or biscuits, nuts, chips, Christmas serviettes, etc. Many thanks for your support.

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

On Melbourne Cup Day (Tuesday 7th November) there will be a bring and share Parish Melbourne Cup “Chicken and Champagne” fundraising luncheon at Caroline Burge’s house, from 12.30pm. Entry by donation and there will be a sweep stake on the race. Money raised will go towards ABM (Anglican Board of Mission). If you are unable to attend but would still like to donate to ABM, please put your donation in an envelope and give to Caroline, or bank it direction into our Parish Account and ensure that the deposit name is “ABM donation”. Suggestions for the lunch: hot or cold chicken salad; cold meat platters, cheese platters, salads, sweets, casseroles, wine or soft drink. RSVP’s aren’t essential as it is bring and share, but numbers might be helpful for seating purposes. If you would like to donate a prize for the sweep stakes, please let Caroline know.

Working Bee at Christ Church

We have been informed by the Shire Council that we need to get rid of the Shipping Container off our property. This will need to be cleaned out. If anyone would like to organise a working bee, please let Caroline know.

Parish Directory.

Each centre of Kilmore, Broadford, Tallarook and Pyalong have been given a draft copy of the latest Parish Directory. Please can you check your details today and amend or add as required. Please make any amendments in the draft copy or email to me (carolineburge@carolineburge.com) It is hoped that once the final additions are completed then copies will be made for all parishioners by November.

Direct Debit /EFT Offerings – Account details: BENDIGO BANK – Account Name ‘Anglican Parish of Kilmore;’ BSB 633-000; Account Number 158946921.
Reference: Offertory. An EFTPOS machine is available at Kilmore.

This Week in the Parish:

- Monday 6th November:** 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading
- Tuesday 7th November:** Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon, 12.30pm
- Wednesday 8th November:** 2.30pm: Dianella RACF service
- Thursday 9th November:** 10am Mass, St Matthews Broadford
10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading
- Friday 10th November:** 10.30am: Blue Cross RACF service
10am-4pm: Op Shop Trading
- Saturday 11th November:** 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

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| Next Sunday 12th November: Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost: Joshua 24:1-3,14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:9-18; Matthew 25:1-13 | | |
| Christ Church, Kilmore | 9.00am | Holy Eucharist |
| St Matthew's, Broadford | 11.00am | Morning Prayer |
| St Stephen's, Tallarook | 11.00am | Holy Eucharist |
| Transfiguration, Pyalong | --- | --- |

Weekly Scripture Readings

| | Morning Prayer | Evening Prayer |
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| Monday 6th November | Ps 18:1-31 | Ps 18:32-52 |
| | 2 Kings 12:9-21 | Esther 13 |
| | Matthew 21:1-13 | Revelation 1:1-8 |
| Tuesday 7th November | Ps 19 | Ps 119:1-16 |
| | 2 Kings 13:1-13 | Esther 14 |
| | Matthew 21:14-22 | Revelation 1:9-20 |
| Wednesday 8th November | Ps 20; 21:1-13 | Ps 24; 26 |
| <i>Anglican saints and martyrs</i> | 2 Kings 13:14-25 | Esther 5 |
| | Matthew 21:23-32 | Revelation 2:1-7 |
| Thursday 9th November | Ps 22:1-22 | Ps 22:23-32; 23 |
| | 2 Kings 14:1-16 | Esther 6 |
| | Matthew 21:33-46 | Revelation 2:8-11 |
| Friday 10th November | Ps 25 | Ps 27 |

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| <i>Leo of Rome</i> | 2 Kings 14:17-15:7 | Esther 7:1-8:2 |
| | Matthew 22:1-14 | Revelation 2:12-17 |
| Saturday 11th November | Ps 28; 29 | Ps 30; 32 |
| | 2 Kings 15:8-22 | Esther 8:3-17 |
| | Matthew 22:15-33 | Revelation 2:18-29 |

Parish Contacts

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Parish Wardens:

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Rebecca Jones, 3 First Street, Broadford, Ph 5784 4057

Julie Wallis, 71 Main Rd, Tallarook, Ph 5792 2854

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**Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanKilmore/>
or you can type in Anglican Parish of Kilmore Facebook into the
search bar and it should come up. It's also on the link Services
Online on the website.**

Thoughts for the Week

With this week being home to Halloween, All Saints and All Souls, I've done a fair bit of reflecting on, shall we say, end-of-life ministry. And it occurred to me that several problems with the Church today is that we make Death the most interesting person in the room. It is a figure we all must face, but as a species, we are obsessed with it. And not simply those in their twilight years. Death is a selling point for stories across a range of media. Murder is a key plot device because it straddles the line of reality (death comes to us all) and unreality (it'll never happen to me). Death has become a lucrative enterprise, with an ever-increasing range of options for 'saying goodbye'. Thousands of years of burial rituals later, and we still can't get it right. Because we can't stop death. We can delay

the inevitable with everything from heart valves to anti-ageing cream. But we can't defeat it. We can't take the pain out of losing a loved one. Or can we? As much as the world rolls its eyes at organised religion, it cannot be disputed that Christianity can actually offer viable ways of dealing with Death. In one sense, it shifts one's focus from the human being as the pinnacle of existence, to the community as the pinnacle of existence. When an individual dies, according to Christian thought, their body might end, but not their life. What we are living now is a transitional state to something far greater. The aim of belief in something greater is for those who are 'alive' at any given point to work together to create a foretaste of that something greater. When Jesus' death took away 'the sting of death', this means his death stands to change our perspective on the importance of the human person. We are each but one link in a much longer chain. Each link is irreplaceable, but when one is lost, our focus must not be the link itself, but the chain. What Jesus gives us is an image of that chain, rather the scattered links, as an ideal to which we must aspire. One life is most important when it feeds, fuels and inspires the lives of many, such that Death does not become a full stop, but merely a comma in the sentence of life.