



**1<sup>st</sup> October 2023**  
**Eighteenth Sunday After**  
**Pentecost**

**Hymns: 235 240 233 231**

**Sentence**

Come, let us return to the Lord; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. (*Hosea 6:1a, 2*)

**The Collect**

Grant, O merciful God, that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus, who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant, and in humility became obedient even unto death. For you have highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, the Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in everlasting glory. **Amen.**

**First Reading**

*A reading from the book of Exodus, chapter 17, beginning at verse 1.*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

*Hear the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 78*

**R: The Lord has worked marvels in the sight of our ancestors.**

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. **R...**

He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; and that they should not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God. **R...**

### **Second Reading**

*A reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians, chapter 2, beginning at verse 1.*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*Hear the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

If you have faith and do not doubt, whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.

**Alleluia!**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 21, beginning at the 23<sup>rd</sup> verse.*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*For the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## Prayers of the People

During the Season of Creation, we offer our prayers for the world around us; giving thanks for the bounty God offers us, and asking God's forgiveness for misuse of the earth's resources.

Creator God, we ask for the grace to hear 'the cry of the earth' and in so doing to care for creation. In giving us a new spirit of listening, transform our hearts with a desire to respond. Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Father of all, you have formed the entire human family over many generations. Give us a new familial care for each of the creatures you have made, indeed for all life on our planet. Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Spirit of life, bless all of creation, and within it each and every creature. Give us an awareness of your outpouring of love in all things, and a willingness to be changed by this love. Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Spirit of freedom, inspire us to enter into solidarity with all creation in our deeds, not just in our words. Call us to enter into new commitments which put ourselves at the service of our 'common home'. Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Christ our brother, grant us the holy desire to call upon your name as we seek to sustain the gift of creation. Help us to act decisively to keep safe our endangered planet. Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Jesus, friend of the earth, nourish our efforts to bring reconciliation to the earth. Be with us in this mission of rekindling the bonds between you, human beings and all that exists. Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Father, you know our hearts and minds, as well as the wonderful burden of our compassion. We bring before you in a moment of silence those who have asked our prayers for healing and restoration... *(pause)* Lord, hear us. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Spirit who hovered over the waters of creation, you reinvent the lives of the deceased in the eternal cycle. By the mercy of Jesus our redeemer, bring the souls of our loved ones back into the Father's heart; praying especially for those recently departed, and those whose year's mind occurs at this time. Lord, hear us. **Lord, 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

### **Funeral**

There will be no Mass at Broadford on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, as Fr. David will be taking a funeral around the times normally reserved for Mass.

### **Bible Study**

Our next Bible Study session is Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, at 7.30pm, at Christ Church Kilmore. All are welcome to join, as we continue our journey through Jeremiah.

### **Blessing of the Animals**

At 9am on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of October, at Christ Church Kilmore, there will be a service of Blessing of the Animals to mark the feast of St Francis. Please bring along your furry friends (or stuffed toys) for a blessing.

### **Art Show**

Brunswick Uniting Church in Melbourne is having an art exhibition called 'Living Colour'. Fr. David has entered six artworks amongst a whole host of local talent. The exhibition will be from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, at Brunswick Uniting Church on Sydney Road, Brunswick.

### **Hakuna Matata Children's Choir**

We have been offered the prospect of the Hakuna Matata children's choir from Kenya performing at Christ Church, most likely some time in February 2024. They contribute to the welfare of orphans in Africa as they tour Australia. This will only be possible if we are able to find ways to accommodate the 15 young members and their 4 guardians over the weekend in which they perform. If you would be willing to help with accommodation, or have ideas as to how we might achieve this, please contact Fr. David.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> October:** 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October:** 10am Advocate Editorial Meeting, Wangaratta

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October:** 11am Funeral, Fawkner Cemetery

1pm: Caladenia RACF service

2.30pm: Dianella RACF service

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October:** 11am Funeral, Christ Church Kilmore

NO MASS at Broadford

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October:** 10.30am: Blue Cross RACF Service

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October:** 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

<b>Next Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October: St Francis of Assisi:</b> Exodus 20:1-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4-14; Matthew 21:33-46		
Christ Church, Kilmore	9.00am	Holy Eucharist with Pet Blessing
St Matthew's, Broadford	11.00am	Morning Prayer
St Stephen's, Tallarook	11.00am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration, Pyalong	---	---

## Weekly Scripture Readings

	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	Ps 77	Ps 78:1-15
	1 Kings 16:8-34	Job 26
	Matthew 9:1-13	Colossians 1:1-8
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	Ps 78:16-38	Ps 78:39-70
	1 Kings 17	Job 27

	Matthew 9:14-26	Colossians 1:9-20
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Ps 80	Ps 81
<i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	1 Kings 18:1-20	Job 28
	Matthew 9:27-38	Colossians 1:21-29
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Ps 82; 84	Ps 85; 87
	1 Kings 18:20-40	Job 29:1-20
	Matthew 10:1-15	Colossians 2:1-7
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Ps 86	Ps 88
<i>William Tyndale</i>	1 Kings 18:41-19:8	Job 29:21-30:15
	Matthew 10:16-27	Colossians 2:8-15
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Ps 90	Ps 119:89-104
	1 Kings 19:9-21	Job 30:16-31:4
	Matthew 10:28-42	Colossians 2:16-23

### **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**

**Glenn McKenzie, 13 Station Street, Pyalong, Mobile 0452420958**

**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

Life is fragile. Particularly life lived in isolation from others, or life lived in pursuit of personal grandeur. We can be ambitious, certainly. We can be strong, or of strong character. We can be a personality that stands out of a crowd. But if we continue to dig deeper into ourselves, we start to realise that we are just water and calcium. If you've ever walked a labyrinth, what happens when you get to the middle of it? There's nothing there. It's just a vacant space. The exciting part is not the end, but the tracing of walls and paths on the way there. Wondering (and let's face it, we all think it) whether or not we'll be stuck in the maze all day, or longer. The thrill of living. How do we compensate, then, for the fragility of life? A life well-lived is not only one lived in communion and communication with others, but a life lived *in honour of* others. Our loved ones who have gone before us; do you really think they care about a little gold plaque on a wall somewhere? That bit's just for us. Somewhere we can visit and feel like we've done the right thing by the one we've lost. What about the rest of our life? How do we truly honour those who have gone before us? Those who have sacrificed for us? Because every parent will make sacrifices for their child. Every parent will honour, or strive to honour their child. Ideally, anyway. Even if you feel like your ancestors did not honour you (in the way that you'd like), there is nothing stopping you from honouring, or striving to honour the sacrifices made by those who have gone before you. In worship on Sundays, we strive to honour God, but we so often forget that it is our duty in worship to honour the traditions that our ancestors made in sacrifice to Almighty God. Those little gold plaques you see dotted around any given church? Not just pretty words. Those words are the sheer, raw belief that those lives were lived to honour God, the Christ who died for their sins, and the sacrifices of the fallen. Life is fragile, until one realises the scaffolding and undergirding upon which one's life is truly built. You were not brought into this world to navel-gaze, or slack off, or sit back and feel entitled to things you haven't earned. If you feel entitled, your life is not only fragile, it is empty. And you lack imagination. But fortunately, this is an issue that can be rectified. Live your life in honour of those who have given you the privilege of life. Don't grumble. Make the most of the sacrifices that others have made for you.