



**11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Sixth Sunday After  
Epiphany**



### **Sentence**

A great prophet has arisen among us! God has visited his people! (*Luke 7:16*)

### **The Collect**

Ever-living God, your Son, Jesus Christ, healed the lepers and brought good news to the despised and outcast: grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control, that in serving others in their need we may strive for the imperishable wreath that you bestow on all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **First Reading**

*A reading from the Second Book of Kings, chapter 5, beginning at verse 1.*

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, 'If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. 'By all means, go,' the king of Aram replied. 'I will send a letter to the king of Israel.' So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: 'With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy.' As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, 'Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!' When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: 'Why have you torn your robes? Make the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel.' So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, 'Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.'

But Naaman went away angry and said, 'I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of

Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?' So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, 'My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, "Wash and be cleansed"!' So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

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

### **Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 30*

**R: O Lord my God, I cried to you: and you have made me whole.**

I will exalt you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up from the depths: and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me. You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence: you saved my life from among those that go down to the Pit. **R...**

In my prosperity I said 'I shall never be moved: your goodness, O Lord, has set me on so firm a hill.' Then you hid your face from me: and I was greatly dismayed. I cried to you, O God: and made my petition humbly to my Lord. **R...**

You have turned my lamentation into dancing: you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy, That my heart may sing your praise and never be silent: O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever. **R...**

### **Second Reading**

*A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 9, beginning at verse 24.*

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last for ever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

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

## The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

If you are willing, Lord, heal me, and cleanse from my sins.

**Alleluia!**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, chapter 1, beginning at the fortieth verse.*

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

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, 'If you are willing, you can make me clean.' Jesus was indignant. He reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed. Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: 'See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.' Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

*For the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## Prayers of the People

Gracious God, you sent your Son Jesus to us, and gave him boldness to reach out and touch the sick. Give us that same courage to touch the lives of those who suffer. We bring them before you now in prayer.

We pray for those who wake this day in fear and uncertainty. For the poor, the unemployed, the unemployed, and those who live without hope. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for families riven by anger, violence, depression and addiction. For the safety and care of children in loveless or separated families. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who lust after money and status, putting wealth above the welfare of others; that they may come to see the error of their ways. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for victims of discrimination in our community. Those who are avoided or regarded with contempt for who they are. And for a greater spirit of compassion to abide here. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the elderly, especially those in care facilities, or who are housebound. For those who are fearful, confused, or neglected by others. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for wise and just leadership in the world and in the Church. Raise up and support those who love you and your people, and who seek to exercise justice and mercy in the world. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need of healing in body, mind or spirit; particularly those known to us: *Doug Whitbourn, Gail Piechowiak, Maureen Snowball, Father John Young, Mary Dodge, Lyn Overend, 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.**

We pray for the faithful departed; those whose long life is rewarded with peace, and those taken from us too soon. May they all know the bounty of your Kingdom. We remember those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *Joan Pate, Rhoda Wilkie, Sidney Bryant, Herbert Holcombe, Valerie Vinden, Gordon Diamond, John Bowen, Bill Brown, Fred Dixon, and Barry Henderson.*

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**

### **Ash Wednesday**

To mark the beginning of Lent, there will be two services on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, at 10am at Christ Church Kilmore, and 4pm at St Matthew's Broadford.

## **Lenten Study**

This year, we will have a Lenten study group focusing on the book: 'Where the Hell is God?' by Fr. Richard Leonard SJ. All reading material will be provided to you. This study will begin on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, and continue weekly all the way up to Easter. Two sessions will be offered on Tuesdays: 10am at St Matthew's Broadford, and 7.30pm at Christ Church Kilmore. If you would like to attend please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheets at the back of the church.

## **Bishop's Visit**

Bishop Clarence will be visiting the parish on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February, where he will celebrate Mass at Broadford and Pyalong, at 9am and 11am respectively. PLEASE NOTE: these will be the only worship services in the parish this week.

## **Anglican Polity Day**

There will be a workshop on Anglican Polity on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February, at Cathedral College Wangaratta. Guest speaker will be the Archbishop of Melbourne. This is open to all clergy, office bearers and interested lay people. If you would like to attend, please call the Registry Office before Feb 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **World Day of Prayer**

This year, World Day of Prayer is Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March. It will be hosted by St Matthew's Broadford, with a service at 10am, and then by Christ Church Kilmore, with a service at 11.30am. We will be praying for the people of Palestine. All are most welcome to attend. Respective morning teas to follow each service.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> February:** 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February:** 10am Lenten Study, St Matthew's Broadford  
7.30pm Lenten Study, Christ Church Kilmore

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February:** 10am Ash Wednesday Mass, Christ Church Kilmore  
4pm Ash Wednesday Mass, St Matthew's Broadford

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February:** 10am Mass, St Matthew's Broadford

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February:** 10.30am Blue Cross RACF Service

10am-4pm Op Shop Trading

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February:** 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

<b>Next Sunday: First Sunday of Lent: Genesis 9:8-17; Ps 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15</b>		
Christ Church, Kilmore	---	
St Matthew's, Broadford	9.00am	Holy Eucharist (Bishop Presiding)
St Stephen's, Tallarook	---	---
Transfiguration, Pyalong	11.00am	Holy Eucharist (Bishop Presiding)

### Weekly Scripture Readings

	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ps 99; 100	Ps 103
	Jeremiah 22:1-19	Genesis 35:1-15
	Jude 1-16	Luke 10:1-12
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ps 101; 102:1-11	Ps 102:12-28
	Jeremiah 22:20-23:8	Genesis 35:16-36:8
	Jude 17-25	Luke 10:13-24
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ps 38:1-21	Ps 39:1-15
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Daniel 9:3-19	Joel 2:1-17
	Matthew 6:7-15	1 Timothy 6:6-19

<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ps 104:1-25	Ps 104:26-37
	Jeremiah 23:9-22	Genesis 37:1-24
	Hebrews 1:1-12	Luke 10:25-37
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ps 105:1-22	Ps 105:23-45
	Jeremiah 23:23-40	Genesis 37:25-38:11
	Hebrews 1:13-2:9	Luke 10:38-11:4
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ps 106:1-24	Ps 106:25-50
	Jeremiah 24	Genesis 38:12-30
	Hebrews 2:10-18	Luke 11:5-13

### **Parish Contacts**

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### **Parish Wardens:**

**Caroline Burge**, 20 Chrystobel Way, Kilmore, Mobile 0409 822 180

**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**

It never hurts to ask for help. Churches these days are dwindling in strength and in number, and to put it bluntly, Christians are fighting each other over the scraps off the table. It's impossible to agree on everything; friendships, relationships, marriages, leadership meetings teach us that. But it is possible to compromise and empathise. It is also entirely possible that we are worshipping the same Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I've been asked in the past whether I am 'Catholic or Christian', to which I've responded one can either be both, or neither. We are entitled to our own theologies; God has as many sides to him as there are people on this earth. But in terms of mobilising the Word of God, as is the mission of the Church universal, we will never get anywhere if we don't learn to swallow our pride and ask for help. When we are able to ask for help from fellow Christians, it will actually grow our courage sufficiently to interact with the wider world. Plenty of groups or even denominations think that there's a marble-sided, gold-plated room for them in Heaven and no one else. Number one, we've got this life to worry about before we even get to that. Number two, no one's got a special room in Heaven; God loves everyone equally. And number three, everything that we and our ancestors believed, toiled and fought for, will be for nought if we don't do something about our attitude. When able volunteers are running dry: ask for help. Because otherwise the people 'out there' beyond the Church asking for help; they will soon run out of Christians to turn to.