



3rd March 2024

Hymns: 567 496 534 463



Sentence

God spoke these words and said, 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.' (*Exodus 20:1*)

The Collect

Lord God, our Redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and death and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the book of Exodus, chapter 20, beginning at verse 1.

And God spoke all these words: 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 'You shall have no other gods before me. 'You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. 'You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. 'Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. 'Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you. 'You shall not murder. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal.

‘You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. ‘You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.’

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 19

R: Richer and purer than gold is the law of the Lord.

The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork; One day tells it to another: and night to night communicates knowledge. There is no speech or language: nor are their voices heard; Yet their sound has gone out through all the world: and their words to the ends of the earth.

R...

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul: the command of the Lord is true, and makes wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, and gives light to the eyes. **R...**

The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever: the judgements of the Lord are unchanging, and righteous every one. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold: sweeter also than honey, than the honey that drips from the comb.

R...

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the mastery over me: so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight: O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **R...**

Second Reading

A reading from Paul’s 1st Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 1, beginning at verse 18.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.’ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom

of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Jesus said 'destroy this temple, and in three days I shall raise it up again.'

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, chapter 2, beginning at the thirteenth verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, 'Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!' His disciples remembered that it is written: 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then responded to him, 'What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.' They replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?' But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith: receive the prayers we offer.

Guide with your wisdom and power the leaders of the nations, so that everyone may live in peace and mutual trust, sharing with justice the resources of the earth. Give the people of this land a spirit of unselfishness, compassion, and fairness in public and private life. We pray especially for peace and resolution to the conflict in the Middle East. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Send out the light and truth of your gospel and bring people everywhere to know and love you. Enable those who minister among us to commend your truth by their example and teaching. May we gladly receive and obey your word. We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons, and for all who are discerning a vocation to ordained ministry. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Safeguard all children and young people from ungodly influences, and those who wish to do them harm. Open their hearts and minds to the truth of the gospel, and open ours to empathise with them, to seek an understanding of their experience and perspective. May there be a renewal of youth in your church throughout the world, and an openness to fresh expressions of worship. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your fatherly care, merciful God, all who are in sorrow, sickness, discouragement or any other trouble. Give them patience and a firm trust in your goodness. Help those who care for them, and bring us all into the joy of your salvation. We pray for those in need of healing in body, mind or spirit; particularly those known to us: *Gail Piechowiak, Father John Young, Fran Cohn, Mary Dodge, Lyn Overend, 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 give thanks for the life and work of the faithful departed, and pray especially for the repose of the soul of Alison Thomson. We praise you for all your servants whose lives have honoured Christ. Encourage us by their example, so that we may run with perseverance the race that lies before us, and share with them the fullness of joy in your kingdom. We remember those whose year's mind occurs at this time: *Ernest Bidstrup, Jamie Buck, Mavis Eades, Doris Inness, Pearl Foster, Lawrence Foster, Alfred Parry, Eleanor Homewood, Eddie Napper, Abraham Noest, and Violet Bowden.* 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

Lenten Study

Due to multiple absences on Tuesday, there will be no morning session of the Lenten Study group. Printouts will be provided for reading in your own time. The evening session will be on Wednesday 6th March, at 7.30pm in the Vicarage next to Christ Church Kilmore.

Baptism

Congratulations to Noah Hanson on his baptism into the Body of Christ today. We will continue to pray for him and his family, and support them in their continuing faith journey.

World Day of Prayer

Thank you to all who attended, assisted and catered for either of the services on Friday. Both were well attended, in good and open spirits by various Christians from the local area. We hope this will start to inspire a move to greater ecumenism and collaboration between denominations this year.

Aged Care

This week is the first week of the month, where Fr. David takes services at Caladenia and Dianella on Wednesday afternoon. If you know of any residents who might appreciate a particular pastoral visit, please let Fr. David know.

Painting Workshop

Due to popular demand, another painting workshop with Fr. David is being planned. Depending on people's keenness and availability, this may be in March or April after Easter. If you would be interested in attending, please indicate to Fr. David when you'd be available, so that we can cater to as many people as we can.

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 4th March: 10am-12pm Op Shop Trading

Wednesday 6th March: 10am: Kilmore Art Society, Christ Church Kilmore

1pm: Caladenia RACF Service

2.30pm: Dianella RACF Service

7.30pm: Lenten Study, Christ Church Vicarage

Thursday 7th March: 10am Mass, St Matthew's Broadford (RED for St. Perpetua)

10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Friday 8th March: 10.30am Blue Cross RACF Service

10am-4pm Op Shop Trading

Saturday 9th March: 10am-12pm: Op Shop Trading

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday): Numbers 21:4-9; Ps 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

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
Monday 4th March	Ps 11; 12	Ps 13; 14
	Jeremiah 32:1-15	Genesis 46:26-47:12
	Hebrews 10:5-18	Luke 15:1-10
Tuesday 5th March	Ps 15; 16	Ps 17:1-16

	Jeremiah 32:16-35	Genesis 47:13-31
	Hebrews 10:19-31	Luke 15:11-32
Wednesday 6th March	Ps 18:1-31	Ps 18:32-52
	Jeremiah 32:36-33:9	Genesis 48
	Hebrews 10:32-39	Luke 16:1-13
Thursday 7th March	Ps 19	Ps 119:1-16
<i>Perpetua and Companions</i>	Jeremiah 33:10-26	Genesis 49:1-21
	Hebrews 11:1-12	Luke 16:14-31
Friday 8th March	Ps 20; 21	Ps 24; 26
<i>St John of God</i>	Jeremiah 34:1-22	Genesis 49:22-50:6
	Hebrews 11:13-28	Luke 17:1-19
Saturday 9th March	Ps 22:1-22	Ps 22:23-32; 23
<i>Sister Emma SSA</i>	Jeremiah 35	Genesis 50:6-26
	Hebrews 11:29-40	Luke 17:20-37

Parish Contacts

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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

Whilst church buildings may be beautiful, it saddens me to see so many plaques on windows, bricks and chairs. Because the money put towards these material gestures could have more wisely gone into a trust fund for the resourcing of youth groups, student ministers, choristers, musicians and deacons in any given parish. If you buy a brick, that's what you get: a brick. If you buy a pew, but your children and grandchildren will never sit in it, that is not money well spent. Material gestures, nostalgia and sentimentality no longer cut it in this crunch time for the Church. We are obese with assets, and starved of committed believers. Throwing money at an institution, but stepping back from the actual work of teaching, faith-building and evangelism, speaks more of unresolved personal inadequacy than qualifiable Christian service. What's the good in keeping a building standing, when you're not inviting people to come and enjoy it? You are effectively decorating mausoleums and cushioning coffins for your own peace of mind. Insufficient outreach is not always a matter of money; it's a matter of insufficient personal commitment. Bricks and windows don't attract people, only people attract people. The world doesn't need more cemeteries, it needs people to actually care about other people. If all you're thinking about is where you're getting buried, you've clearly stopped reading your Bible and listening to sermons long ago. God has never been, and never will be in a palliative state; but unless we rethink how our resources are used, our Church will swiftly find itself in one. The past is the past. Bricks and windows are not the future. Our children are. Get them looking for Jesus Christ in a church, rather than a plaque with your name on.