

Parish Priest

Fr Neil Fernando Mobile: 0478 085 894
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Parish Hall Bookings

Lynn Fisher : Mobile: 0407 186 174

Pew Sheet

All notices/information for pew sheet to Parish Office by 9.00am Thursday mornings please

Parish Office

Telephone: (08) 8723 1353 Email: churchan@bigpond.net.au
Postal Address: PO Box 1357, Mt Gambier, SA, 5290

Church Addresses: Christ Church, 26 Bay Road, Mount Gambier
St Thomas, Church Street, Port MacDonnell
St Luke's, Post Office Road, Mount Schank

Web site : www.anglicanmountgambier.org.au

Details for giving by Direct Debit : The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier
BSB : 105-002
A/c number : 041 398 740



We pray for the Diocese of The Murray and Parish Council Members

Bishop Keith Dalby (Alice) ; Very Rev. David Price (Dean) (Lesley);
Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

and in the Limestone Coast

Fr David Patterson; Fr Wayne Corker; Fr David Withers (Ann);
Fr Neil (Nalini), Fr Lyndon Sulzberger

Parish Counsellors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith,
Lisa Searcy, Graham Savage, Faye Hill, Lynn Fisher

Diocesan Prayer

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love so that we are wholly yours and may love each other and grow as a community of faith. Fill us and use us to share your healing power with those with whom we work, live and worship. Ignite within us a passion for your Gospel so that we can be beacons of love, justice and mercy using our gifts and talent for your glory. Open our hearts and our minds to your truths given to us in scripture and to the needs of others. Strengthen us to share these truths within our community, that we may produce a greater harvest for your kingdom. Come Holy Spirit; renew and empower us to that we can face all things with courage knowing that you are with us. In Jesus' name, Amen

The Anglican Pastoral District of Mount Gambier

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas
Port MacDonnell**

Epiphany 3 : 24th January 2021



Come follow me



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our church

Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens

From Fr Neil

Come, follow me

Today, we have the calling of Jesus's disciples.

It seems rather sudden. Jesus comes and he sees Peter and Andrew, his brother, and he says, "Come, follow me," and they follow him. Then he goes on a little bit further and there are the sons of Zebedee, John and his brother James, and he says, "Follow me," and they leave everything and follow him. It seems quite simple. It probably wasn't originally that simple.

And yet there was some kind of immediacy. It was like no turning back. Once you are called, the time has come. In the Old Testament, everybody gets called by God.

It's not that we make the first move, He makes the first move. Down through the ages, this is the way it has been: God calls and we respond.

But in the calling, we must remember that He is not only calling us to something, He's calling us away from something. God says, "You must leave the things of your past life. You must come away with me, Abraham. You must leave your family, your traditions, everything, and come and I will show you a new way

What does it mean to leave everything and follow God? It doesn't mean...

You can do it sitting in your seat right here and now. It doesn't mean necessarily

a geographical move like Abraham. He gives a hint. Jesus says, when he says to his disciples, "Leave your nets," he knows they are fishermen, and he says to them, "Leave your nets, and I will make you fishers of men."

"I will make you fishers of men" means, for us, in a very simple way, it means forget the things and turn to the people, to leave your fish and turn back to human beings.

Mark's Gospel is written to answer two questions: 'Who is Jesus?' and 'What are Jesus' disciples meant to be like?' The Gospel is a response to the first question, with the additional fact that Jesus proclaims the Good News of God—not just any good news, but God's good news for the world. Today we get the beginning of an answer to the second: anyone can be a disciple—spectacular gifts or

education are not requirements for eligibility. What matters is availability and a willingness to follow where Jesus leads. Discipleship also involves a change in our values until they measure up to the values of Jesus.

The Gospel scene locates the moment when Jesus launches his public life—after John had been arrested or handed over. There is a subtle hint here that this may happen to Jesus, and likewise to his disciples. They will need courage to stay the course.

John the Baptist, because of his arrest, is no longer in active ministry. His desire that Jesus rather than he should be center stage is now fulfilled (however unforeseen and unfortunate the circumstances). Notice how aware Jesus is of the continuity between himself and John. His preaching begins precisely where John left off: "The kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news".

A Christian is a person who has a personal relationship with Jesus. The invitation to Peter, Andrew, James and John is an invitation into such a relationship. "Follow me": be with me, get to know me, enjoy my friendship. But also, share my mission. "I will

READINGS for Sunday, 24th January 2021—Epiphany 3			
Jonah 3. 1-10	Ps 25. 1-9	1 Cor 7. 29-31	Mark 1. 14-20
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Young people		
Intercessions	Young people		
Sound desk	Andrew Hogg / Trevor Christopher		
READINGS for Sunday, 31st January 2021—Ordinary Sunday 4			
Deut 18. 15-20	Ps 95	1 Cor 8. 1-13	Mark 1. 21-28
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Trevor and Sue Christopher		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound desk	Trevor and Sue Christopher		



ROSTERS FOR	JANUARY
GARDENING	Volunteer required
MOWING ROSTER	Rick Fisher
FREEZER MINISTRY <small>(Please remember to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container)</small>	Anne Ashworth Larnka Foran

Please remember in your prayers the people of Lucindale as they come to terms with their losses as a result of the recent fire—and also give thanks for the work of all those people who fought the fire.

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

For January

3rd	Wendy Monger
6th	Peter Searcy
8th	Robyn Ashby
13th	Neil Geddes
17th	David Clarkson



For February

1st	Heather Allen
6th	Pam Miller
8th	Sandra Grant
9th	Maree McIntyre
10th	Fran Laslett
14th	Lisa Searcy
27th	Glenyse Nott



We wish them all a very happy birthday!!

Please check to see if your name is on the list at the back of the church — and if not, and you would like to have it appear — please add your name to the listing.

Thank you

PRAYER FOR AUSTRALIA DAY

We bless you, God of the Universe,
for this land,
for its contrasts of landscape and climate,
for its abundance of wealth and opportunity.
We bless you for our history,
with all its struggles in adversity,
its courage and hope.
Give us in our diversity,
tolerance and respect for each other
and a passionate commitment to justice for all.
Bless us so that we might be a blessing to others.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen.

Two things make it difficult to hear how Jesus invites each of us to be with him as his companions and to share in his work. One is our limitations and consequent feeling of insignificance. The second is how exalted Jesus is as God, even though the same Jesus walked our earth.

‘Come, follow me’. The ways of following Jesus are as varied as people themselves are. But they always entail breaking free from what one was before. We are true disciples when we challenge ourselves with the question: ‘How would Jesus act in the situation I’m in right now?’

Lord Jesus, is our life itself, pointing to what we can become and calling out all our power of service and devotion. We leave the frailty that is in us open to his touch. We commit the joy and the brokenness of our life to him.

Jesus begins his ministry by calling a group to follow him. He gives his disciples a mission – to catch people for the kingdom of God. He chooses as his companions very ordinary people, people with no wealth or position. What is striking is that they have no certainties, little knowledge of him and yet they risk all for him.

Lord you continue to call ordinary people - like me. In all my human interactions may I bring your good news to others.

Lord, you call the disciples to follow you and share in your mission. Their response is radical and immediate. May nothing hinder me from generously responding to your daily call to follow you.



The Recycled Runway won the SA Community Event of the Year Award, and representatives received the Award at the Australia Day Awards ceremony at Government House on Tuesday.

What a magnificent effort—and well done to all concerned!!

Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Bishop David McCall; Val Linder; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; Sally-Ann Geddes (daughter of Neil & Judy); June Willcourt; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Alice Gladigau; John & Phillis Beaven (brother & sister-in-law of Alice); Marion McDonald (Lynn's sister); Shirley Stacpoole; Esma Pratt (Donna's grandmother); Jean Hawkes

Pray for the repose of the souls of those near and dear to each one of us and for those whose yearly remembrance is this week.

*Please pray for the family and friends of **Margaret Gleed** who died on Tuesday, and for **Fr Peter Carlsson** who died last Wednesday. Margaret's funeral will be held on Thursday, 28th January @ 10.00am at Christ Church, and followed by her burial at Port MacDonnell*

If you wish for your name (or the name of someone you know) to be placed on the prayer list, please submit the request in writing—at present via email (including your name and the name of the person for whom prayers are required).



The Bell Tower Op Shop opening hours are:

Monday to Friday	10.00am to 3.00pm
Saturday	9.30am to 12.30pm

(unfortunately, the provision of tea/coffee etc. will not be allowed during this time of restrictions)

Please note : Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of the attendees at services and the Op Shop workers.

Bell Tower Op Shop Food Donation Bin

The Bell Tower Op Shop is in a monthly partnership with ac.care and with our very own Thursday Food Ministry, to collect non-perishable food items, with the December donations being donated to ac.care.

We are requesting that as you make your shopping list, you put on a few extra items to support our community in need. Bring these items into the Op Shop where our friendly volunteers will say thank you and we would love to say hello.

Suitable items are: tinned tuna or salmon, rice and noodles, cereals, tinned or packet soups and vegetables and casseroles, tinned fruits and long life full fat milk.

Many thanks for your small acts of kindness when you do your shopping, and know that it has real meaning to those individuals in need.

Services and coming events in the Parish

Fr Neil is conducting 3 services weekly as follows:

	Friday	11.00am
Sunday	8.00am and 9.30am	
Maximum of 66 attendees per service		

Numbers attending weddings and funerals are limited within the body of the church due to social distancing requirements and square meterage available

Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of all attendees at services

2nd & 4th Thursdays	4.00-5.00pm	Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison
Mondays and Thursdays	5.15-6.30pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room
Wednesdays	1.00-3.00pm	Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room (N.B. Craft will resume in February)
3rd Tuesday	2.00pm	Mothers' Union meet in Ashworth Room
2nd & 4th Thursday	3.00pm	Bible Study group @ Elizabeth Hodges'
2nd & 4th Saturdays	10.00am	Bible Study in church Vestry
Mon, 25 January	3.15pm	Parish Fundraising meeting in Ashworth Room

