

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 4 : 31st January 2021

*Come, let us
sing to the
Lord*

Allow the Lord to speak to you



**We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to
our church**

*Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest
or Wardens*

From Fr Neil

Allow the Lord to speak to you

The First Reading is a very famous passage from the Book of Deuteronomy. The context: at the end of his life, Moses is giving his valedictory speech to the people of Israel (which is basically the whole Book of Deuteronomy), and amongst his various warnings and promises, he prophesies that God will one day send the people of Israel a prophet like himself, to whom they will need to listen in order to be saved. The Gospel shows how this new prophet is Jesus himself, the great prophet for all times. In speaking with God's own voice, Jesus makes a deep impression on the people. He speaks with a deep authority we cannot ignore.

On the basis of this prophecy in Deuteronomy 18, the "Prophet like Moses" became one of the standard anticipated eschatological figures in Judaism, along with the prophet Elijah (based on Malachi 4:5) and the Son of David (based on Ezek 37:24-25 and many other texts). This is necessary background information for understanding what the priests and Levites mean when they ask John the Baptist, "Are you the Prophet?" in John 1:21.

The psalm also urges us to listen to God's voice. Focusing our attention on God's word and deeds helps us move towards a deeper awareness of him. St Paul, in the second reading, expresses his concern for the effect of worldly distractions on the faithful. He encourages us to avoid anything that might distract us from listening to God, so we can give the Lord our 'undivided attention'.

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus' teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus' authority and contrasting it with the scribes. In the prescientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds.

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		
READINGS for Sunday, 7th February 2021—Ordinary Sunday 5			
Job 7. 1-7	Ps 147. 1-11	1 Cor 9. 16-23	Mark 1. 29-39
Server	Faye Hill		
Readers	Brian Smith and Raylene Milligan		
Intercessions	Anne Ashworth		
Sound desk	Bill Hudd		



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

Fr Peter Carlsson's funeral is to be held in Adelaide on Monday, 1st February at St George's, Goodwood. People from the Diocese are welcome to attend. If you will be attending, please contact Fr Neil as soon as possible.

Please keep Fr Peter's sister Esther and brother Paul in your prayers as they prepare to say farewell to their much loved brother.

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

It is important for us to realize that the Lord's prophetic mission did not end when he returned to the Father. He clearly indicated that his followers would, in every age, be called on to carry on this mission in their world. It was perhaps the most significant element of the ritual of baptism in the early church that the newly-baptized person was anointed with sacred oil with the words: "As Christ was anointed priest, prophet and king, so may you live always as a member of his body...". In the ritual for the celebration of Baptism, this anointing with holy chrism, or christening, is highlighted as most significant; it should characterize the entire life and spirit of the baptized Christian.

And if we are indeed prophets, then we can be assured that our proclaiming of the Gospel is done with the authority that Jesus has given us. May our prophetic witness to the Gospel preserve and strengthen the gifts of faith and freedom for future generations.

And may we accept the challenge of Jesus to live our lives in a loving way that allows the world to experience the God through us and to see His face through ours.

cf.internet



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!!

Saturday, 20th February

Garage Sale and Mini Market

8.30am – 12.00 noon

All welcome!



**GARAGE
SALE**

Don't forget

If you have recently updated your phone (and/or contact details) - please don't forget to let the Parish Office know so that your updated information can be placed on our data base to ensure you continue to receive timely Parish information.

Thank you


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 and for Fr Peter Carlsson, both of whom died recently.

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). Forms for this purpose can also be found at the back of the church.



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
Wed 17 Feb	5.00pm	Parish Council meeting
20 Feb	8.30am - 12 noon	Garage Sale and Mini Market