

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 Lyndon Sulzberger
Fr Neil (Nalini),

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

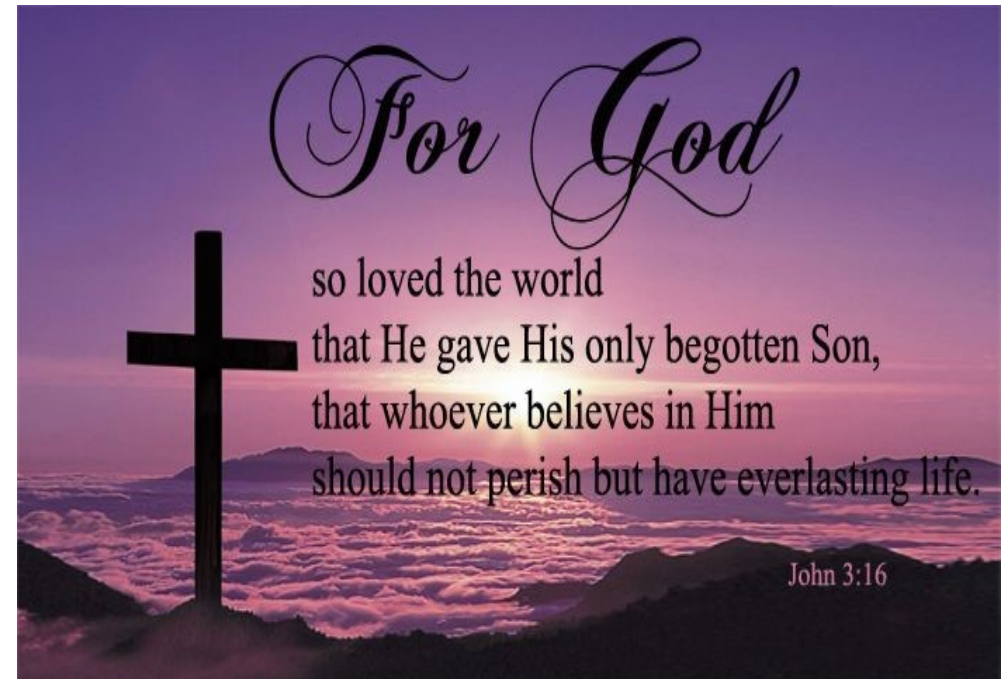
The Anglican Pastoral District of Mount Gambier

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas
Port MacDonnell**

Lent 4 : 14th March 2021



Whoever believes may have eternal life



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our church

Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens

From Fr Neil

Whoever believes may have eternal life

The search for God. Every human being searches for God. People of every era and culture have sought to know and understand God and somehow rise up to meet and encounter Him.

You have probably often observed a tired or frightened child trying to climb up into the arms of Mum or Dad. Try as he might, he can't do it! Mum's just too tall! He needs Mum or Dad to bend down and pick him up. Our search for God and our desire to encounter Him is similar. Our human attempts to understand God and to rise up to meet Him are destined to failure. We need God our Father to reach down to us and pick us up. And God has reached down to us: he has told us what he's like; he has shown us who he is. God has revealed himself to us. He has told us and he has shown us how much he loves us. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (John 3:16). These few words summarise so well the entire Gospel and the whole life of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

God has always loved us. Our first reading from Chronicles reminds us that in the Old Testament times God's people were continually unfaithful to Him. But God never abandoned them; he was not impatient or spiteful as we sometimes might be when people continually offend us. Instead, God sent them messengers and prophets to call them back to him. And when they did not listen and would not change their ways, God allowed a punishment to befall them which came in the form of being exiled from their homeland. This punishment was not so that God could vent his anger. No! It was so that his people might see the error of their ways and turn back to him. God never abandoned them. And when the time was right, when the people had had enough time to reflect on what they had done and realise their mistakes, he sent King Cyrus to deliver them.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God.

In the first part of the conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. In the second part, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

READINGS for Sunday, 14th March 2021—Lent 4			
2 Chron 36. 15-21	Ps 137. 1-6	Eph 2. 4-10	John 3. 14-21
Server	Faye Hill		
Readers	Bill Hudd and Robyn Ashby		
Intercessions	Sue Christopher		
Sound desk	Darren Schunke and Trudy-Anne Doyle		
Morning Tea	Raylene Milligan / Jenny Tilby / Beryl Heard		
READINGS for Sunday, 21st March 2021—Lent 5			
Jer 31. 31-34	Ps 51. 1-10	Heb 5. 7-9	John 12. 20-33
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	David Glover / Anne Ashworth		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Morning Tea	Diane Burton / Alice Gladigau / Barbara Wardley		



ROSTERS FOR	MARCH
GARDENING	Robyn Sweetnam
MOWING ROSTER	Darryl Grant
FREEZER MINISTRY (Please remember to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container)	Julienne Feast
N.B. Due to COVID restrictions, we are currently unable to hand out home cooked goods to people presenting for Emergency Relief. However, pre-prepared goods such as frozen packaged foods are acceptable.	

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



For March

2nd	Coral Chaffey		
2nd	Sadewu		
6th	Ruth Clarkson	19th	Dot Saffin
7th	Tara McCracken	24th	Denise McDonald
10th	Matthew Allen	28th	Helen Douglass

For April

8th	Joan Tremelling	16th	Glen Solomons
10th	Darryll Grant	19th	Nora Smibert
11th	Sandy Coulson	24th	Kelvin Smibert
14th	Roger Jones	30th	Sue Ongley

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

This weekend, we farewell Judy (Mengying) Zhu and offer our warm thanks for her assistance with the children's activities over the past four weeks during her professional teaching experience placement at St Martin's College.



Next weekend, she returns to Adelaide to continue her education studies at UniSA, before a final placement during the winter, in a second, regional school. We thank her for her practical help, fresh ideas and handy skills as the children fabricated a variety of craft and models to illustrate the teaching of each week's readings and enjoyed creating word stories that developed both literacy and numeracy skills.

We wish Judy well as she continues her studies.

Kaylene Barreira



Mothers' Union wishes to thank all those involved with the preparation and presentation of the World Day of Prayer Worship Service last Friday evening, 5 March.

Many who attended from across the community have passed on their thanks and appreciation. Our thanks to Fr Neil for his vision of a community event and to the Church Office and COVID Marshall who helped make this possible.

We are grateful, too, for the generosity of musicians, choristers, the sound desk and technical support, welcomers and visiting participants from other city churches.

MU Meeting

The next Mothers' Union meeting will be held in the Ashworth Room on **Tuesday, 16th March at 2.00pm**. Looking forward to seeing you there. COVID restrictions will apply.

Anne Ashworth, President



Services for Holy Week



March

Sunday, 28th Children's Service—Holy Communion
Palm Sunday

Tuesday, 30th 5.30pm—Holy Communion

Wednesday, 31st 5.30pm—Holy Communion

April

Thursday, 1st 7.00pm—Maundy Thursday service
(until 12 midnight)

Friday, 2nd 9.00am—Good Friday service
(there is only 1 service in the parish today)

Saturday, 3rd 7.00pm—Mt Schank service
8.30pm—Easter Vigil

Sunday, 4th 9.00am—Easter Sunday service
(there is only 1 service in the parish today)



We Care take-away dinner

Friday, 19th March 2021
from the Ashworth Room
@ 6.00pm

Rogan Josh Lamb—\$20.00 per
serve

This is a fundraiser to support
vocational training in Sri Lanka
and autistic children in our
local community.



Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

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

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.

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. is not 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 donations being distributed to the organisations a month about.

We ask that as you make your shopping list, you put on a few extra items to support our community in need. Please 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 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 at Christ Church as follows:

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

and 1 service at St Luke's, Mount Schank on the 2nd Sunday of each month
Maximum of 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

1st Tues/month	10.00am	St Mary's Boandik service
1st & 3rd Fri/month	1.30pm	Boandik Lake Terrace East service
2nd & 4th Thurs	4.00-5.00pm	Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison
Mon & Thurs	5.15-6.30pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room
Wednesdays	1.00-3.00pm	Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room
3rd Tuesday	2.00pm	Mothers' Union meet in Ashworth Room
2nd & 4th Thurs	3.00pm	Bible Study group @ Elizabeth Hodges'
2nd & 4th Sat	10.00am	Bible Study in church Vestry
Saturdays	10.00-11.00am	Lenten studies
Fri, 19 March	6.00pm	We Care take-away dinner from Ashworth Room
Sat, 20 March	8.45am—4.00pm	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
Sun, 21 March	following 9.30 service	Annual Vestry Meeting
Thurs, 25 March	3.00pm	Bible Study @ Elizabeth Hodges' home
Sun, 28 March	1.00-4.00pm	Child Safe Environments refresher Course @ Christ Church