

Parish Priest

Fr Neil Fernando Mobile: 0478 085 894
E-mail: frneilfdo@gmail.com

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,
Dick Hamson, Graham Savage, Faye Hill, Robyn Sweetnam

Prayer during COVID 19

Our heavenly Father, we come before you with contrite hearts, yearning for your comfort and your grace. In the midst of COVID 19 spreading across the globe, we ask in your mercy that you would stop this plague and restore harmony and health to the nations, and especially Australia.

And we pray for the families, especially those who have lost loved ones to this disease, or those suffering from its effects. May we know the peace that passes understanding, as we place our trust in Jesus, in whose powerful name we pray. Amen.

The Anglican Pastoral District of Mount Gambier

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas
Port MacDonnell**

Easter 4 : 2nd May 2021



Live in Jesus as He lives in us



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our church

Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens

From Fr Neil

LIVE IN JESUS AS HE LIVES IN US

Last Sunday Jesus revealed to us that he is the good shepherd who lays down his life for the flock. It is part of the “I am” sayings which emphasize his perfection and resounds his divine name as revealed to Moses in Exodus chapter three. Today he tells us another attribute of himself that points to his Divine name and perfection: “I am the true vine”. Vine represents spiritual good. We must be grafted to the true vine to have a share in The Vine life.

Jesus’ analogy of the true vine has deep background in the Old Testament. The Old Testament pictures Israel as the vine yard of God (Isaiah 5:7). Ezekiel 15 and 19:10 also liken Israel as the vine. Psalm 80:8 describes Israel as the vine God brought out of Egypt. This vine was eventually cut down and burned with fire (Psalm 80:14). These passages talk about Israel’s faithlessness to God. Thus, Israel was a degenerated vine which could give life to its branches. Consequently, the branches of a degenerated vine cannot bear fruit. Jesus calls himself the true vine in contrast to Israel, the untrue vine. The Greek translation of “true” is alethinos which literally means “real”, “genuine”. Jesus is saying that he is the vine that is most real and genuine, that does not disappoint its branches. The Jews believed that only consanguinity with Israel as a nation guarantees relationship with God, blessings and sustenance. However, true relationship with God can only be maintained by remaining in Christ the true vine. Jesus is the perfection of the degenerated vineyard of Israel.

We are the branches of the true vine. Two types of branches exist: those unattached and those that are attached to the stem. The unattached are those who cut themselves from the true vine. They are by themselves and cannot bear fruits. They can do nothing apart from Christ and they do not understand the implication. They cannot bear fruit. Consequently they are gathered and thrown away to the fire to be destroyed. The woods of vine are useless because they are too soft. Those attached to the vine are Christians who remain in Christ no matter what may. Storms of life are not too strong to break them from the major stem. Temptations and trials could not be more powerful as to make them fall away. Attached branches receive nourishment from Christ the true vine. Their prayers are answered “When he calls on me I will answer him” (Psalm 91:15). They bear much fruits.

God is the vine dresser. He carefully prunes the branches to bear fruits. God also prunes us through the experiences we undergo in life so that we may be stronger in the vine and bear much fruit.

Jesus wants us to abide in him always. Abiding in Christ means having an intimate relationship that overrides all earthly affection. There are many enticing philosophies and ideas in the world today that do not recognize the role of God in the world order. Their illusory success are nothing but mere rotten fruits. We should beware of such because they can easily make us drop grasp of the true vine. Christ echoes here, “for without me you can do nothing”.

READINGS FOR Sunday, 2nd May 2021—Easter 4			
Acts 8. 26-40	Ps 22. 23-32	1 John 3. 18-24	John 15. 1-8
Server	Darren Schunke		
Readers	Denise McDonald / Raylene Milligan		
Intercessions	Anne Ashworth		
Sound desk	Bill Hudd		
Morning Tea	Helen Douglass / Denise McDonald / Maree McIntyre		
READINGS FOR Sunday, 9th May 2021—Easter 5 (Mothers Day)			
Acts 10. 25-48	Ps 98	1 Jn 4. 7-10	John 15. 9-17
Server	Faye Hill		
Readers	David Glover / Julienne Feast		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound desk	Trudy-Anne Doyle / Darren Schunke		
Morning Tea	Raylene Milligan / Beryl Heard / Jenny Tilby		



ROSTERS FOR	MAY
GARDENING	Helen Douglass
MOWING ROSTER	Volunteer needed
FREEZER MINISTRY (Please remember to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container)	Julienne Feast
<p>N.B. Due to COVID restrictions, we are currently unable to hand out home cooked goods to people presenting for Emergency Relief.</p> <p>However, pre-prepared goods such as frozen packaged foods are acceptable. If you can help by donating some pre-packaged frozen foods, it would be most appreciated.</p>	

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



For May

17th Lance Kuhl
17th Cliffie Cox
25th Jenny Bowman

For June

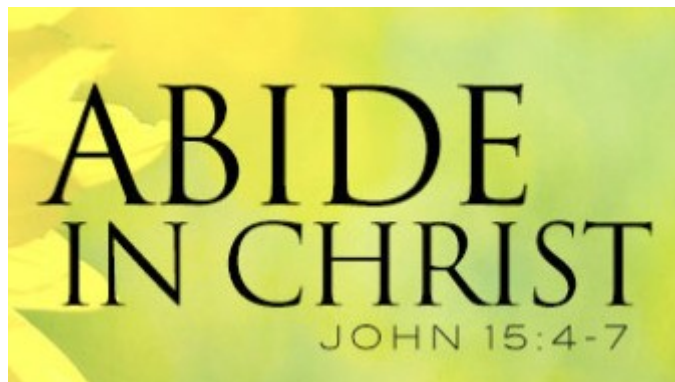
4th June Willcourt
5th Rick Fisher
9th Bev Hamson
11th Vivienne Ortega
19th Ryan Searcy
24th Alice Gladigau



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



Those who think they are succeeding without God should learn that their success is nothing before God. Those who think they are still bearing fruits even without remaining in the true vine are bearing nothing but rotten fruits that do not last beyond this present life. When we remain in Christ we bear much fruits that last forever. God is glorified in us, our prayers are answered and our joys will be complete. cf. Internet

OP SHOP NEWS - SHOPPING BAGS IN DEMAND

The Op Shop has been extremely busy since it re-opened in the new year, so much so that it is in urgent need of CLEAN PAPER, PLASTIC OR MATERIAL shopping bags to use for customer's purchases.

If you have any that you no longer require please drop them into the Op Shop during opening hours or label them and leave in the Vestry.

A big **THANK YOU** to all the workers involved in the working bee last weekend who trimmed the pittosporums on the southern side of the church gardens. A very big job well done.



Thank you also to Peter and Sandy Coulson for addressing the 8.00am and 9.30am congregations on Sunday, 25th April – Anzac Day.



Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Bishop David McCall; Val Linder; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; Joe Maier; June Willcourt; Alice Gladigau; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; John & Phillis Beaven (brother & sister-in-law of Alice); Shirley Stacpoole; Esma 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.

We remember especially at this time the family and friends of Lynn and Rick Fisher as they mourn the death of Lynn's sister, Marion, last Saturday morning.

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 100 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
Tues, 4 May	3.15pm	Fundraising Team mtg in Ashworth Room
Wed, 12 May	10.00am	Strategic Planning Group meeting in Ashworth Room
Thurs, 13 May	3.00pm	Bible Study @ Elizabeth Hodges' home
Fri, 14 May - Sat, 15 May		Synod in Murray Bridge

N.B. Fr. Neil will be attending the Provincial Clergy Conference at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre in Hahndorf from Monday, 3rd May until Thursday, 6th May inclusive.