

From Fr Neil

SHOW COMPASSION TO OTHERS

A very important and central theme to the readings of this Sunday is the redemption, reunification and the restoration of God's people. So, this Sunday, the Church invites us to celebrate Christ, the true king and compassionate shepherd who redeems and restores his people to the Father.

Our first reading is a messianic prophesy. That is, a prophesy about the coming of Christ, the Messiah. The scattering of a people is a sign that something has gone wrong. It is a sign of bad leadership and system failure. So, like sheep without a shepherd the poor masses have to scatter in search of survival. This is the image we see all over the world today.

Hence, this first reading bears a serious warning against all rulers, priest or pastors, parents, directors, governors, presidents and indeed, anyone in a leadership position who out of negligence and indifference has allowed his people to go astray and suffer. The Lord says, *"I will take care of you for your deeds!"*. This simply means that judgement is coming.

Second and most important there is good news. It is a message of the hope of the redemption and restoration of God's people (the remnants of Israel). Christ is the *virtuous branch from the line of David*. He is the true Davidic king who has come to find and save the lost people of God. In other words, this prophesy has been fulfilled in Christ.

The responsorial psalm, as always, expresses a reaction to the first reading. It speaks of the goodness of God as shepherd. God will act as guide for the faithful who walk in the darkness of this world. Eventually He shall lead them to a banquet (a sign of abundance) and to the Lord's own house, the temple (a sign of security in union with god). No matter how weak and disappointing human shepherds can be, the Lord and His guidance will eventually triumph.

In the second reading, Paul reminds us that: *"...You that used to be so far apart have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ"*. This simply means that Christ is the fulfillment of the messianic prophecy. He is our peace and has broken down the barrier which used to keep us apart. Through his sacrifice, he has reunified us with God.

In the gospel, Christ also demonstrated that he is that promised Davidic king and Good Shepherd. He will not rest until our souls and our land is completely healed and restored to his Father. Jesus clearly wants to have time for Himself, time to pray, time to be alone. Yet when Jesus sees the people, His heart is moved to be with them. "When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things". As a compassionate and wise king, Jesus knows our situation. He is doing something about it and, will not rest until we are redeemed and restored to God. He does not keep quiet over our situations. He sees and knows that we have been abandoned by negligent shepherds.

READINGS AND ROSTERS FOR			
Sunday, 18th July 2021—Trinity 7			
Jer 23. 1-6	Ps 23	Eph 2. 11-22	Mark 6. 30-34
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	David Clarkson / Anne Ashworth		
Intercessions	Sue Christopher		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Morning Tea	Diane Burton / Alice Gladigau / Barbara Wardley		
Flowers	Robyn Sweetnam		
Sunday, 25th July 2021—Trinity 8			
2 Ki 4. 42-44	Ps 145. 8-21	Eph 4. 1-6	John 6. 1-15
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Bill Hudd / Robyn Ashby		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound desk	Trevor Christopher		
Morning Tea	David & Ruth Clarkson / Vivienne Ortega		
Flowers	Robyn Sweetnam		

ROSTERS FOR	JULY
GARDENING	Robyn Sweetnam
MOWING ROSTER	Richard Strickland
FREEZER MINISTRY <small>(Please remember to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container)</small>	Anne England Elizabeth Hodges Jenny Bowman Ronda Strickland
<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 from the supermarket such as frozen packaged foods/meals are acceptable.</p> <p>If you can help by donating some pre-packaged frozen foods, it would be most appreciated.</p>	



PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



For July

2nd Lynn Fisher
 3rd Donna Winckel
 5th Judy Geddes
 7th John Allen
 16th Robert Sims

For August

1st Sue Christopher
 2nd Warwick Hummerston
 2nd Millicent Kasule
 2nd Eleanor Hogg
 18th Anne Ashworth
 19th Kathy MacIntosh
 21st Alexander Lynch
 21st Emily Lynch



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

be
KIND
TO OTHERS.

WANTED !!



A flat screen TV and DVD player for use by the Children's Ministry in the Vestry.

If you can help in any way with this, please talk to Fr Neil as soon as possible.

Thank you

It is more important to be with the people and to show them the road to life than to be off by oneself, even in prayer to God. We are not usually so consistent and far too often we push people out of our lives so that we can pray. We are invited to become more and more like Jesus: never pushing the people out of our lives but always finding time to pray.

Compassion is putting oneself in the other person's position and trying to see things the way the other person sees them. Compassion is the Mohawk proverb that says, "Do not criticize your neighbour until you have walked a mile in his moccasin". Today let us ask Jesus to give us his spirit of compassion so that we can be as sensitive and responsive to the needs of people around us as he was. And let us be prepared to live lives of compassion whether it calls for a change in our plans for the winter or in our plans for the rest of our lives.

"The Lord is my shepherd. There is nothing I shall want!"

cf.internet

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

Mothers' Union



Our next meeting will be held in the Ashworth Room on **Tuesday, 20th July**, commencing with welcome and prayer at 2.00pm and guest speaker at 2.30pm.

Anelia Blackie from the Mt Gambier Migrant Resource Centre (A.M.R.C.) is the guest speaker. The Centre assists those arriving in the city on humanitarian and other migrant programs to settle with confidence into the community. It provides training, information and support to those newly arrived in the district. Please come and join us to learn more about how the services provided help families grow secure and optimistic about the future.

Afternoon tea to follow after meeting. All welcome.

Hostesses Judy Geddes
 Kaylene Barreira

Anne Ashworth
 President

Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

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); Sandy Coulson; Terry Wilson; Anne Barry (Glen Solomons' godmother); Allan Hincks

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—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.*



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

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— 11.00am	Bible Study in church Vestry
Wed, 21 July	10.00am	Strategic Planning Meeting in Ashworth Room
Wed, 21 July	4.00pm	Parish Council meeting in Ashworth Room
Thurs, 5 Aug	9.30am	Men Do Coffee @ Limestone Coast Pantry
Sun, 8 Aug	9.30am	Confirmation Service
Sun, 15 Aug	9.00am service	Presentation of Strategic Plan to the parish (N.B. There will be only one service in the parish on this date)