

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 **no later**

9.00am Thursday mornings please

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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 Neil (Nalini); Fr Wayne Corker; Fr Lyndon Sulzberger, Bishop Michael Hough

Parish Counsellors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith,
Dick Hamson, Graham Savage, Robyn Sweetnam, Sandy Coulson

The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas
Port MacDonnell**

Epiphany : 13th February 2022



Blessed are you who trust in the Lord



As a Christian community, we acknowledge and pay respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands on which we gather and meet.

We pay our respects to the Elders—past, present and future.

**Wearing of face masks is mandatory, so please remember to wear your face mask when attending any services, the Bell Tower Op Shop or meetings at the church.
You must also register using the QR code or by manually filling out an attendance sheet.**

From Fr Neil

BLESSED ARE YOU WHO TRUST IN THE LORD

Trust in the Lord makes a whole world of difference; it is rewarded with blessings. This is a message underscored in the first reading, the responsorial psalm and the gospel reading.



In the first reading, the prophet Jeremiah contrasts the fate of the person who trusts in man with the person who trusts in the Lord God. The former “is like a shrub in the desert” (Jer. 17:6) which yields nothing; he/she is doomed. On the other hand, the person who trusts in God “is like a tree planted by water” which “does not cease to bear fruit” (Jer. 17:8); he/she is blessed (Jer. 17:7). Similarly, the Psalmist says that the wicked will perish (Psalm 1:4-5), and those who trust in the Lord will be blessed, like a fruitful tree planted besides flowing waters (Psalm 1:3).

Like both the prophet Jeremiah and the Psalmist, St Luke presents us with the contrasting pictures of the fate of those who trust in God and those who trust in something other than God Himself (cf. Luke 6:17, 20-26). Thus, unlike St Matthew who presents only the beatitudes of Jesus (Matt. 5:1-12), St Luke presents the beatitudes alongside the fate of those who do not trust in God. The Beatitudes are not just about the rich or the poor, happy or sad, hungry or satisfied etc. It is beyond our status in life but more of our status before God.

The world mainly refers to the rich, powerful, famous, and the like as the ones blessed. While those on the other side are regarded as cursed. But what if those riches, power, or fame are attained immorally, illegally, or unworthily? Before God’s eyes, they are not blessings at all. Anything against God’s commands is never a blessing. In the same way, the poor, hungry, the oppressed, and the like are not automatic curses.

An important reality to note is the fact that suffering is not sweet. Taking it straight, good health is preferred to sickness, joy is more acceptable than sorrow, success is more interesting than failure, riches are more cherished than poverty; and we can continue the thesis and antithesis. What we must confess not being so comfortable with is Jesus’ standard of “Blessedness” as we read in today’s gospel. The yardstick Jesus gave as the measures of being blessed are things so detestable in human standard that we can easily identify them as curses rather than blessings. To be “blessed” is to be “happy”. Some versions of the Bible use the expression “happy are those”we can then ask the questions: how can one be happy who is poor? How can one be happy who is hungry? How can one be weeping and still be happy? How can one be rejoicing when rejected, hated or cast out? There must be something more in the beatitudes than the ordinary human language.

Sunday, 13th Feb 2022 : Septuagesima / Ordinary Sunday 6			
Jer 17.5-8	Ps 1	1 Cor. 15.12-20	Luke 6. 17-26
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	Margaret Boardman / Rite Johnston		
Intercessions	Sue Christopher		
Sound desk	Trudy-Anne Doyle		
Flowers	Jan Hunt		
Sunday, 20th February 2022 : Sexagesima / Ordinary Sunday 7			
1 Sam 26. 22-23	Ps 103. 1-5	1 Cor 15. 45-49	Luke 6. 27-38
Server	Darren Schunke		
Readers	Lynn and Rick Fisher		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Flowers	Jan Hunt		

ROSTERS FOR	FEBRUARY
GARDENING 	Richard Strickland
 MOWING ROSTER	Darryl Grant
FOOD and FREEZER MINISTRY	N.B. Due to COVID restrictions, we are 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



FEBRUARY

1st Heather Allen
 4th Peter Coulson
 6th Pam Miller
 8th Sandra Grant
 9th Maree McIntyre
 10th Fran Laslett
 13th Lisa Searcy
 14th Val Linder
 27th Glenyse Nott

MARCH

2nd Sadewu
 2nd Coral Chaffey
 6th Ruth Clarkson
 7th Tara McCracken
 8th Amanda McKinnon
 10th Matthew Allen
 19th Dot Saffin
 24th Denise McDonald
 28th Helen Douglass

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**

At this point, it becomes important to note that Jesus never left the “controversial blessedness” unexplained. In what followed, He said why such bitter moments should be preferred. Such reasons include the fact that there is truly endless joy at last. Consider the happiness of: ...”yours is the kingdom of God” “you shall be satisfied” “you shall laugh” “your reward is great in heaven”, these are states of happiness that does not know any end. The fact is that the road to true happiness is not always joyful at the beginning. The best way is not always the easy way, and the short cuts of life might often have adverse effects.

It is painful that humanity treasures quick enjoyment more than taking pains that would bring lasting joy. Rather than labouring in dignified jobs, people would cheat, rob, steal, engage in ritual killing or drug trafficking in order to make it fast. Man can offer us what is called “creature comfort” that does not last but God lets us pass through the wilderness in order to bring us to the promised land.

Creature comfort could be quick but deadly. A Divine comfort could be subtle, painful but everlasting. Those who sought creature comfort in the history of the bible lost out and regretted—e.g. Esau, Samson, King David, Judas Iscariot. On the other hand if we also check those who were truly blessed in biblical history never found it quick and easy—e.g. Abraham, Moses, Mother Mary, Apostles

Cf.internet

URGENT — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

GARDENING ROSTER

We need of more people to go on the gardening roster. Both the front garden and the Memorial Garden require attention with weeding and general tidying up.

If you feel you could help fill some of the gaps on the roster, please contact Robyn Sweetnam on 0498 968 394 as soon as possible.

MORNING TEA ROSTER

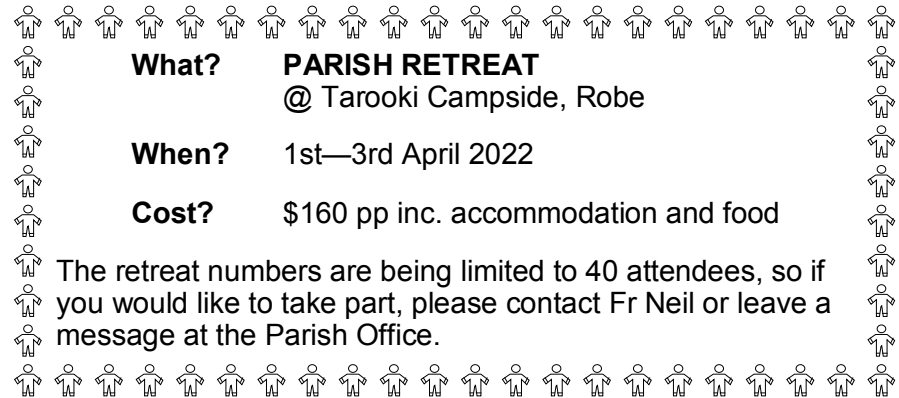
Volunteers are required if we are to reinstate morning tea following the 9.30am service.

Please speak to Julienne Feast or Fr Neil if you are able to go on the roster.

BELL RINGER ROSTER

We are seeking at least one other person (or 2 !) who would like to ring the bell prior to the 9.30am Sunday service. On-the-job training will be provided.

Please prayerfully consider where you might be able to help ‘fill the gaps’ on the above rosters.



What? PARISH RETREAT
 @ Tarooki Campside, Robe

When? 1st—3rd April 2022

Cost? \$160 pp inc. accommodation and food

The retreat numbers are being limited to 40 attendees, so if you would like to take part, please contact Fr Neil or leave a message at the Parish Office.

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 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 all understanding, as we place our trust in Jesus, in whose powerful name we pray.
 Amen.

Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Val Linder; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; June Willcourt; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Shirley Stacpoole; 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 occurs this week.

Please pray for the family and friends of John Harley (who was Chancellor of the Diocese for approx. 20 years) who passed away 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—preferably 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 COVID 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.

N.B. Please remember to wear a face mask and register via the QR code or manually complete an attendance sheet when attending the Op Shop.

Please note

With the passing of the Parochial Administration Ordinance 2021 at Synod last year, the date for the Annual Meeting (previously known as the Annual Vestry Meeting) has been set for all parishes in the Diocese to be held on **SUNDAY, 13th MARCH 2022.**

Please mark this important date in your diary and be part of the support mechanism and decision making of our Parish for the forthcoming year.

Services and events in the Parish

Fr Neil conducts 3 services weekly at Christ Church as follows:

Friday 11.00am
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am
Maximum of 100 attendees per service @ Christ Church

And 1 service at St Luke's, Mount Schank on the 2nd Sunday of each month
Maximum of 31 attendees per service @ St Luke's

Numbers attending services are limited within the body of the church due to COVID 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
3rd Tuesday	2.00pm	Mothers' Union meet in Ashworth Room
1st & 3rd Thursdays	3.30-4.00pm	Tea and coffee
Thursdays	4.00-5.00pm	Charismatic prayer group in hall

Tues, 15 Feb	3.15pm	Fundraising meeting in Ashworth Room
Wed, 2 March		ASH WEDNESDAY Lenten Studies commence
Thurs, 4 March		World Day of Prayer
8—10 March		Diocesan Clergy Training
Sun, 13 March	following 9.30am service	Annual Meeting (previously known as Annual Vestry Meeting)
Sun, 27 March		Mothering Sunday
1-3 April		Parish Retreat at Tarooki Campsite, Robe