

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 **no later** than
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 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; Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

and in the Limestone Coast

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

Parish Counsellors, Christ Church

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith, Lynn Fisher,
Dick Hamson, Graham Savage

If you wish to make a bequest to the church, please follow the
instructions on the Regulation for Bequests form
which is available from the back of the church.

The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier (Berrin)

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier (Berrin)**

**St Luke's
Mount Schank (Parreen)**

12th March 2023



Jesus, give us the living water



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 emerging.

JESUS , GIVE US THE LIVING WATER

“It shouldn’t have been like this!” As the Hebrews left slavery in Egypt, we can imagine they thought they would have a great future ahead of them. They trusted Moses’ leadership and that God was finally freeing them. But now in the first reading (Ex 17:3-7) we see that all is not going well. We can imagine them saying, “It shouldn’t have been like this”. They are tormented by thirst, and they are complaining. Now that they have run out of water, they feel that God is distant; they no longer trust God. They complained about why they were in the desert. Moses was afraid they might even stone him. Instead of trusting in God, they did the very opposite—they put God to the test. The Psalm invites us: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts as at Meribah. (Ps 95:7-8)

The first reading is not just about the Hebrews in the desert. The first reading is also about us. So when things are not as we think they should be, “Keep calm and carry on”. Maybe sometimes we murmur because we focus on what we don’t have or what we think we should have, rather than focusing on what God has already done for us. The Hebrews in the desert forgot one fundamental point: God had a plan for them and would see that plan through. Do we forget God has a plan for us and will provide for us?

In today’s Gospel we have the meeting between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. There are actually a lot of nuances in this Gospel by John but let us zero in on the message which is contained in the exchange between the two. Jesus began by asking the woman to give Him a drink. The woman was tentative because Jesus was a Jew. Jesus told the woman that if she knew Him, she would be the one asking for water to drink. Jesus revealed Himself to the woman. Jesus presented Himself as the living water, “ Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:14). Thus, the woman asked for that DRINK.

God also had a plan for the woman of Samaria (John 4:5-42). It seemed just like any other day. She was coming to the well on her own instead of with the women of the town, probably because she may have felt excluded due to her past. There she met Jesus and he knew everything about her, about her past, and her marriages. But Jesus also had a plan for her, and that plan was to lead her to him. Instead of the water of her plans, Jesus offered himself as the water to sustain. Jesus uncovered her past so that what was sinful could be healed. She came to the well bringing an empty water jar but she found much more than water, so she left her jar by the well and hurried back to the townspeople—whom she had been avoiding—to tell them that she may have found the Messiah. Just as the Hebrews in the desert in the first reading are a warning to us, the woman of Samaria is an example to us. By sheer grace, like her, we have heard Jesus offer us living water

The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people. The third level of the story is

SUNDAY, 12th March 2023 : Third Sunday in Lent 8.00am—Eucharist / 9.30am—Pathways Service @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier			
Exodus 17. 1-7	Ps 95	Romans 5. 1-11	John 4. 5-42
Server	Julienne Feast		
Readers	David Glover / Julienne Feast		
Intercessions	Julienne Feast		
Sound desk	Rick Fisher		
Morning Tea	Raylene Milligan / Jenny Tilby / Beryl Heard		
Flowers	—		
SUNDAY, 19th March 2023 : Fourth Sunday in Lent 8.00am—Eucharist / 9.30am— @ Christ Church, Mt Gambier			
1 Samuel 16. 1-13	Ps 23	Ephesians 5. 8-14	John 9. 1-41
Server	Darren Schunke		
Readers	David Clarkson / Anne Ashworth		
Intercessions	Sue Christopher		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Morning Tea	Virginia Kuhl; / Dianne Burton		
Flowers	—		

ROSTERS FOR	MARCH
GARDENING 	Fran Laslett
 MOWING ROSTER	Darryll Grant
FOOD and FREEZER MINISTRY	When preparing meals for the freezer, please remember to list all ingredients in the meal, and the date on which it was prepared. Pre-prepared goods such as frozen packaged foods and meals are still acceptable.

Fundraising News!!

MINI MARKETS

Our first Mini Market for 2023 & next Garage Sale will be on Saturday, 25th March.

We are planning to hold markets during the year on the following Saturdays:
27th May, 30th September, 4th November.

These dates may change depending on other events in the parish but we hope to be able to keep to them if at all possible.

Jeff Bowman
For Fundraising Team

Pray for those people who are unwell and for each other

Sue Ongley; Maree Lynch; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Shirley Stacpooles; Terry Wilson; Anne Barry (Glen Solomons' godmother); Sandy Coulson; Betty and Max Wright; Glenys Smith

Please pray for Maree Lynch and family as they mourn the death of Bob last week. Bob's funeral is to be held on Saturday, 18th March 2023 @ 1.00pm.

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.

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.



Archdeacon Neil Fernando

The Limestone Coast Archdeacon will be Fr. Neil Fernando, and he will be responsible for the whole of the Limestone Coast of Mount Gambier, Lower Limestone Coast, Upper Limestone Coast, Kingston-Robe and Tatiara. In addition, in accordance with the Vision Weekend at Sevenhill, he will head the team to look at reaching out to young families and young people in the Diocese.

The Right Reverend Keith Dalby
Bishop of The Murray

What is the role of archdeacon in Anglican church?

An archdeaconry is a legal division of a diocese for administrative purposes within which the archdeacon exercises an ordinary jurisdiction. The essential nature of the role has been described as 'being a good steward so that others are freed to be the worshipping, witnessing and ministering Church'. He is also responsible for the area's church buildings and pastoral care for clergy.

educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

If we have Jesus, we have an eternal wellspring in US.

cf.internet

Annual Meeting ; Sunday, 19th March (following 9.30am service)

Could all reports to Vestry for the Annual Meeting please be submitted to the Parish Office no later than **Sunday, 12th March** to enable the information to be collated and distributed.

Please forward the reports electronically for ease of integration.

There are currently positions vacant on Parish Council, so please commit to prayer whether you have some skills that would be of use on Council. Nomination forms are available at the back of the church.

Budget 2023

Parish Council is currently developing the budget for 2023 to be presented at the AGM on 19th March. Unfortunately, our weekly giving has dropped significantly with a total reduction of 20% over the last two years. This affects our ability to maintain full-time ministry in the parish. Keeping our Church open and maintained, with a full-time priest requires approx. \$3,865 per week.

Currently, we receive on average per week:

Belltower op Shop	\$1,020
Fundraising	\$ 340
Hall Hire etc.	\$ 145
Current Giving	<u>\$1,790</u>
Total	<u>\$3,295</u>

That is a shortfall of around (\$570) per week. Currently we have approximately 33 parishioners who give regularly.

To meet the shortfall we would require a 32% increase in giving, or 11 new families willing to give \$50 per week.

A parishioner currently giving

\$20 per week	16% increase = \$3	32% increase = \$6
\$50 per week	16% increase = \$8	32% increase = \$16
\$100 per week	16% increase = \$16	32% increase = \$32

The Parish Council is looking for your feedback on how we can turn this situation around in order to maintain a full-time priest in the Parish.

The Bell Tower Op Shop opening hours are:

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm



***Wearing of face masks is no longer mandatory.
You may—as a matter of personal choice—choose to wear one
when attending any services, the Bell Tower Op Shop
or meetings at the church.
However, hand sanitizing is still strongly recommended.***

PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



MARCH

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



We wish them all a very happy birthday!!

***If you would like your name on the birthday list, please
contact the Parish Office so that your details can be included.
Thank you***

A Tour to Sri Lanka and A Pilgrimage To The Holy Land

**** note change of dates ****

Pilgrims from Australia and Sri Lanka could join the Pilgrimage under the spiritual guidance of Fr Neil Fernando, Parish priest, Christ Church, Mount Gambier, South Australia.

26th June to 17th July 2023

If you are interested in joining this tour, please speak to Fr Neil as soon as possible. *(Bookings for the Holy Land tour by 15th March, and Sri Lanka by end of May)*

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

3 groups are being held as follows:

Wednesdays 11am—12 noon @ Christ Church
Led by Robyn Ashby

Fridays 10am—11am @ Christ Church
Saturdays 10am—11am @ Christ Church

Services in the Mt Gambier Parish

There are 4 services conducted weekly at Christ Church as follows:

Friday 11.00am
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am
10.45am in hall (commencing in the New Year)

And 1 service at St Luke's, Mount Schank on the 2nd Sunday of each month @ 11.30am

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However, you may—as a matter of personal choice—choose to wear
one when attending any services, the Bell Tower Op Shop or
meetings at the church. Hand sanitizing is still strongly recommended.***

2nd & 4th Thurs	4.00-5.00pm	Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison
3rd Thurs	7.00pm	Pro Life meetings
Wednesdays	8.00am 1.00-3.00pm	Ministers' prayer and Association meeting Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room
Mondays and Thursdays	5.15-6.30pm	Meditation Group in Ashworth Room
1st & 3rd Fridays		Boandik Service
1st Tuesday of month		St Mary's
1st Friday of month		Healing service
2nd Thursday of month		The Oaks
2nd Tuesday of month		Resthaven

World Day of Prayer 2023 – Taiwan.

To all Mothers' Union members and others who helped to make this an enjoyable event for those who could attend, a very big thank you. Special thanks to Glenyse Nott for her leadership of the evening service, Fr Neil, Robyn Ashby for facilitating the music and to Trevor Christopher for his vital role on the sound desk.



Palm Sunday : The story of Christ's Passion – The Stations of the Cross

Please consider joining the children to perform this re-enactment. Characters we need are: Jesus, Pilate, soldiers, Mary, mother of Jesus, Simon of Cyrene, Veronica, John, the beloved disciple, the women of Jerusalem and Joseph of Arimathea. If you, children you know or your grandchildren would like to be involved, please speak with Fr Neil or Kaylene as soon as possible.