

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** 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, 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)

19th March 2023
Fifth Sunday in Lent
and Mothering Sunday



Give us Jesus, light and sight



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.

From Fr Neil

Give us Jesus, light and sight

Just as last week there was a dominant image of '*water*' that tied the Scripture Readings together, this week we have the image of '*light and sight*' that does the same, '*giving us joy in our heart*'. But, of course, the readings and their selection are much richer than just an image or symbol. The central theme of today's readings is that God makes everything new in and through Jesus Christ. We are children of the light baptized into the glory that is Christ. We are initiated into the life of Christ who is the light of the world.

In the First Reading from the 1st Book of Samuel, we have Prophet Samuel going in search of the new king in place of Saul who was not faithful to the Lord. When he finds David son of Jesse, God tells the prophet to anoint him because God himself has chosen him to rule over his people. There is much to learn today from our first reading. First, Samuel obeyed God by going to where he was sent to go to, specifically to Jesse's tribe. Humbly and patiently, he followed and obeyed God's instructions: "*Send for him, we will not seat down to eat until he comes*". He did not rush into fast decision by anointing any other person. Instead, he waited patiently until the right candidate arrived. So, we must be patient in carrying out God's command.

Also, we must not allow physical appearance to deceive us. It is quite unfortunate that often times we elect our leaders based on their physical qualities alone. The result has always been catastrophic. On the contrary, when we make the right choice people are truly liberated, the blind see, the lame work, the hungry are fed, and peace reigns.

The Gospel Reading from St John presents us '*Jesus as the light of the world*'. We have today the marvellous story about the cure of a man born blind. Once the blind man is cured, he is able to see Jesus as his Lord, something the religious leaders were unable to do. Here Jesus proves that he cares for the well being of his flock. This is especially, for the sick, the weak and the marginalized. Again, today he broke another cultural and religious barrier in order to save the blind man. He healed him on a Sabbath day. Without minding about the consequences, he attended to the very important need of the blind man. The miracle also tells us much about Jesus. It was initiated by Jesus, "He saw a man blind from birth". To 'see' for Jesus means seeing the possibilities for faith. The blind man did not ask for a cure. Jesus volunteered it. He was touched to the quick by the man's condition and offered the miracle. The lessons which we must learn from the man healed by Jesus, include that the man was obedient to the instruction given to him: "*Go wash in the pool of Siloam*". Second, we must be consistent with our words, faith, convictions, and the truth. In spite of all the intimidations from the Pharisees, the man remained truthful and firm without denying

SUNDAY, 19th March 2023 : Fourth Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday 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	Julienne Feast		
Welcomer	Helen Douglass		
Readers	David Clarkson / Anne Ashworth		
Intercessions	Sue Christopher		
Sound desk	Robyn Ashby		
Morning Tea	Virginia Kuhl; / Dianne Burton		
Flowers	—		
SUNDAY, 26th March 2023 : Fifth Sunday in Lent 8.00am—Eucharist / 9.30am—Pathways service & Baptism			
Ezekiel 37. 1-14	Ps 130	Romans 8. 6-11	John 11. 1-45
Server	Julienne Feast		
Welcomer	Raylene Milligan		
Readers	Bill Hudd / Robyn Ashby		
Intercessions	Rick Fisher		
Sound desk	Trevor Christopher		
Morning Tea	The Men		
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 Stacpoole; 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.



To Peter Charlton on his retirement from the Hawkins Medical Clinic after **many** years of service. May he and Sue enjoy all the benefits of a quieter retirement.
(photo courtesy of SE Voice)



To Darcy Hodges (Elizabeth's granddaughter) on her achievements at the recent SA State Long Course Swimming Championships. She came home with 8 medals all up—4 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze.

To Fr Neil—together with Confession barista Brooke Jean—who have joined ac.care's acTIVE.care campaign to raise funds to support homelessness and emergency relief services.

Christ. Instead, he insisted that it was Jesus that healed him. According to St. John Chrysostom: *"The Pharisees cast him out of the Temple; but the Lord of the Temple found him"*.

In the Second Reading from his Letter to the Ephesians, St Paul reminds the Ephesians that faith and Baptism rescued them from the darkness of sin and introduced them into the light of Christ. They are no longer blinded by the darkness of ignorance. So, he urges them to live lives that reflect the light of Christ they have received.

Finally, the salvation that Christ offers us is like an illumination. Christ himself, who was obedient to God unto death is our light. Whoever believes and accepts this illumination into his life is like one whose eyes were opened. This is because, men were born blind, in darkness. However, the good news is that Christ liberates and heals our spiritual blindness.

cf.internet

LOST PROPERTY



Have you misplaced your glasses and glasses case???? They were found in one of the pews on the right-hand side of the church, and are being held in the church office. So please speak to Fr Neil to collect them.

There are also several other items in the lost property box, so if you are missing an item, please check the box which is located outside the church office door. If they are not claimed by the end of March, they will be disposed of.



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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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

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.