

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; David Glover; Rick Fisher

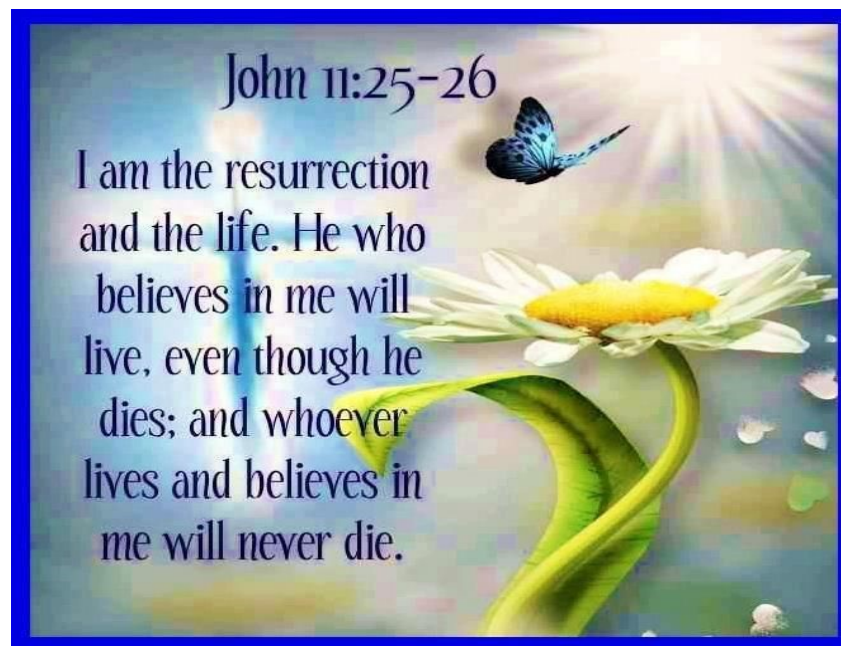
If you wish to make a bequest to the church, please follow the instructions on the Regulation for Bequests form which is available from the back of the church.

The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier (Berrin)

**Christ Church
Mount Gambier (Berrin)**

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

**26th March 2023
Fifth Sunday in Lent**



Whoever believes in Jesus shall live



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.

Whoever believes in Jesus shall live

In the first reading prophet Ezekiel is given a vision of a valley filled with dry bones, which represent the people of Israel who are dead in their exile. The Lord promises to put his spirit within them and restore them to life, bringing them back to their own land. Responsorial Psalm is a psalm of supplication and trust in the Lord's mercy and redemption. The psalmist cries out to the Lord from the depths and acknowledges that with the Lord there is forgiveness and plenteous redemption and encourages Israel to wait for the Lord and trust in his word. In the Second Reading – Paul teaches that those who live according to the flesh cannot please God, but those who live according to the Spirit have the Spirit of Christ within them and will have life. He declares that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead dwells within believers and gives life to their mortal bodies.

Today's Gospel records the raising of Lazarus. The raising of Lazarus is a revelation, a sign, a pledge of the power Jesus has over death. This past week we've heard Chapter 5 of St John's Gospel. There Jesus said: *As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will... Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life* (21,24).

In today's Gospel we see Jesus at the tomb of his friend: distressed, anguished, weeping. This a sign and foretaste of his own passion, which is clearly imaged in the details of the burial cave with a stone over its entrance, and in the burial cloths of Lazarus. The reaction of Jesus shows also that suffering and death come not from God, but from sin. God's response to our suffering is seen in Jesus: in his tears, his prayer, his grief, and in the horror of his own death. This event is a sign of hope for believers, as it points to the victory of life over death. The gospel also illustrates the reality of human suffering and the pain that comes with loss, as well as the compassion and empathy that Jesus shows towards those who are grieving.

It points in a twofold way to Jesus's power over the grave, that he's going to show us on Easter Sunday when he rises from the dead, and it also points forward to our own resurrection on the last day at the end of time when he will give life to us. Andrew of Crete was an Eastern Church Father, and he gave a homily on the raising of Lazarus which is basically written in a kind of song form where Jesus is speaking to Lazarus. And it's a meditation on Jesus's words, "Come out!" Where Jesus commands him to come out of the tomb. This is what Andrew of Crete said: "Lazarus, Come out!... As a friend, I am calling you; as Lord I am commanding you...Come out! ...Let the stench of your body prove the resurrection. Let the burial linen be undone so that they can recognize the one who was put in the tomb. Come out!... Come out of the tomb. Teach them how all creation will be enlivened in a moment when the trumpet's voice proclaims the resurrection of the dead".

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	—		
SUNDAY, 2nd April 2023 : Palm Sunday & Stations of the Cross (role played by the children) 8.00am—Eucharist / 9.30am—Eucharist			
Isa 50. 4-9a	Ps 31. 9-18	Philippians 2. 5-11	Matthew 27. 11-54
Server	Darren Schunke		
Readers	Helen Douglass / Denise McDonald		
Intercessions	—		
Sound desk	Richard Mills		
Morning Tea	Helen Douglass / Denise McDonald / Maree McIntyre		
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

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.

Rosters for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil at Mt Schank

There are several spots on the rosters for these services that need to be filled.

Please speak to Rick Fisher (0409 800 680) if you are able to help.

Put your hope in the Lord,
for with the Lord is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.
Psalm 130:7

So what Andrew is saying here is that, meditating on the words of Jesus, that in a sense, we should put ourselves into Lazarus's place because one day we too will die. And our bodies will decompose, and most of us are going to be in the grave a lot longer than four days, and yet that decomposition of our bodies, that experience of death, that experience of the tomb, is no barrier to life. It's no barrier to the friendship of Christ because on the last day, Christ will call us forth from our graves as our friend if we've lived in friendship with him. And he will command us as our Lord, the one who made the heavens and the earth, to come out of the tomb and to experience the resurrection of the dead, the new creation, and the life of the world to come.

cf.internet

LOST PROPERTY

There are several 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.



We welcome into our parish family, the parents, family and friends of Sadie Rose Tarca—who is being baptised today.



Children lighting a candle at the Interfaith service on Sunday, 19th March



Participants at the Retreat on Saturday, 18th March



Craig Bailey, facilitator, addressing the members of the workshop on Friday, 17th March.

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.