



PEW SHEET

First Sunday in Lent

21st February 2021

Welcome to Saint John's! Public worship has recommenced in accordance with government restrictions and with cleaning and safety protocols in place. In line with government restrictions, all services are at the moment restricted to 230 persons indoors. Please ensure you have signed in for contact tracing purposes.

You can find out more about us as well as resources for Worship at Home at www.saintjohns.org.au.

The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes

5-7 Finch Street East Malvern VIC 3145

Phone: 03 9571 6616

Email: secretary@saintjohns.org.au

SERVICES

Sunday

8:00am: Said Eucharist (St John's)

9:30am: Choral Eucharist (St John's)

9:30am: Sung Eucharist (St Agnes')

6:00pm: Choral Evensong

(St John's, 1st Sunday)

6:00pm: Congregational Evensong

(St John's, 3rd Sunday)

Weekday Eucharist

9:00am - Tuesday (St. Agnes')

10:00am - Thursday (St John's)

Vicar

Fr. Alex Ross

0431 308 703

vicar@saintjohns.org.au

(Day-Off: Monday)

Associate Clergy

Fr. Ken Hewlett - 0427 772 003

Fr. Gary Bouma - 0409 234 960

Churchwardens

Susan Haycox - 9569 8714

Robin Richards - 0412 545 002

David Arden - 0408 174 028

Director of Music

Lachlan McDonald - 0488 278 139

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this place and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all and on which we worship the God of all Reconciliation and Hope

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Text marked with 🎵 is sung at 9:30am. The Mass Setting sung by the choir this morning is by Martin How. Please stand when the bells are rung.

At 9:30am the Lent Prose is sung. The Ministers and Choir enter before the Opening Hymn is sung.

LENT PROSE

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against thee.**

1. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesus, to our supplications.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against thee.**

*ATTENDE
NEH 507*

OPENING HYMN

**1. Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild,
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled:**

**2. let us your endurance share
and from earthly greed abstain,
with you watching unto prayer,
with you strong to suffer pain**

**3. And if Satan on us press
flesh or spirit to assail,
Victor in the wilderness,
grant we may not faint or fail.**

4. Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
 ever constant by your side,
 that with you we may appear
 at the eternal Eastertide.

GEORGE HUNT SMYTTAN 1822-70 &
 FRANCIS POTT 1832-1909 alt.
 TIS 591

✠ In the name of the Father,
 and of the Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Cantor

All

Pu - ri - fy me, O Lord, with hys - sop and I shall be clean:

Fine

wash me, O Lord, and I shall be whi - ter than snow.

Cantor

Have mer - cy on me, O God, in your en - du - ring good - ness:

All

ac - cor - ding to the fulness of your compassion blot out my of - fen - ces.

Wash me tho - rough - ly from my wick - ed - ness:

Cantor

and cleanse me from my sin. Glo - ry to God:

All

Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Spi - rit: as in the be - gin - ning so now,

Repeat antiphon

and for e - ver. A - men.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ Jesus said ‘This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off. Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

♪ Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECTS

O Lord, who for our sake fasted forty days and forty nights: give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the spirit, we may ever obey your godly will in righteousness and true holiness; to your honour and glory, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made, and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please sit.

Before the Liturgy of the Word all children and their parents are invited to come forward to receive a prayer and blessing before proceeding to the Belltower for children's activities.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

[9:8-17]

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh;

and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

[25.1-10]

In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:
in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**Let none who wait for you be put to shame:
but let those that break faith
be confounded and gain nothing.**

Show me your ways, O Lord:
and teach me your paths.

**Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:
for you are the God of my salvation.**

In you have I hoped all the day long:
because of your goodness, O Lord.

**Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness:
for they are from of old.**

Remember not the sins of my youth,
nor my transgressions:
but according to your mercy think on me.

**Good and upright is the Lord:
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.**

The meek he will guide in the path of justice:
and teach the humble his ways.

**All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

[3.18-22]

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Harden not your hearts today,
but listen to the voice of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

[1.9-15]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Sermon is followed by a period of reflection.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together stand to affirm the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Please kneel.

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father for the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, for the unity of all Christians, for their common witness and proclamation and for their growth in discipline and devotion during this holy season of Lent.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, let us pray to the Father.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For those preparing for baptism, confirmation, and a reaffirmation of their faith, for all new Christians and those who seek to support them, their teachers and sponsors, let us pray to the Father.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer. Particularly we pray for Alan, Marg, Ali, Patricia, Christine, Greg, Warwick, Andrew, Tom and Alan.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness, we commend to God all those who have died and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time, Alice Comins Reid, Alice May Cove, Brian William Treyvaud, and the crew of HMAS Perth.

May they rest in peace: **and rise in glory.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A collection is taken to support the life and mission of the parish.

At 9:30am the Offertory Hymn is sung.

OFFERTORY HYMN

**1. O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb.**

**2. Where is the blessedness I knew
when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
of Jesus and his word?**

**4. Return, O holy dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
and drove thee from my breast.**

**6. So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.**

WILLIAM COWPER 1731-1800
TIS 576

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

♪ The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest continues in thanksgiving...

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The priest continues with the prayer of consecration...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

♪ **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues...

... we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

♪ **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

Said at 8:00am

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Sung at 9:30am

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body:
For we all share in the one bread.

♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

All baptised Christians who seek Christ in this sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion. It will be assumed during this time that you wish to receive the consecrated bread only. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.

During the communion the choir will sing the Motet 'Ave Verum Corpus' by William Byrd.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Notices may be given here.

The priest prays a post-communion prayer, followed by

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

The priest says this blessing:

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

At 9.30am the Closing Hymn is sung.

CLOSING HYMN

1. Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthbound passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

2. Lord Jesus, think on me
by care and woe oppressed;
let me your loving servant be,
and taste your promised rest.

3. Lord Jesus, think on me,
amid the bitter strife;
through all my pain and misery
become my health and life.

4. Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point to the heavenly way.

5. Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the trial is past,
I may your radiant glory see,
and share your joy at last.

SYNESIUS OF CYRENE C.375-430
tr. ALLEN WILLIAM CHATFIELD 1808-96 *alt.*
TIS 546

The organist plays the POSTLUDE

Please join us for Morning Tea.

NEWS & NOTICES

CHURCH NOW OPEN DAILY

It is a delight to announce that the church is now able to open daily again for private prayer between around 8:30am and 5:30pm. Please sign-in for contact tracing purposes using the new format which offers either QR-Code or manual sign-in. This format will also be used for Sunday services.

MASKS IN CHURCH

Following the Premier's announcement on 17th February masks are now required to be worn indoors, which includes during church services.

EVENSONG 'TONIGHT'

Please join us at 6pm for the first of our Congregational Evensong services for the year, to be held on the third Sunday of each month. The service will take place in the High Altar Chancel and will be led by a Cantor with accompaniment on both organ and piano. Come and join in this opportunity to sing together some simple chant settings of the Psalm, Canticles and Responses. Followed – as usual – by wine and cheese!

CARITAS

Caritas welcomes you to 'By me, William Shakespeare'. Alan Dilnot's new book a study of Shakespeare's Handwriting and Identity. Alan will discuss this book on Monday 1st March at 8pm hosted by Janet and Alan Bell at 2/324 Glenferrie Road, Malvern. As house numbers will be limited it is necessary to RSVP promptly to Rosemary on 0417 532 118.

LENTEN STUDIES

A number of studies and opportunities for spiritual growth, study and faith exploration will be offered in the parish during Lent including:

'God Was On Both Sides Of The Beach', an exploration of the 150th anniversary of the 'Coming of the Light' celebration, commemorating the generous welcome extended by the people of the Torres Strait to the arrival of the London Missionary Society and the reciprocal kindness and courage which saw the Gospel take root in the Torres Strait and the growth of a powerful local church, largely unknown to the rest of the Anglican community.

Because of restrictions on home gatherings, the first two studies will be offered online for participants to work through in their own time. Please contact the Vicar (0431 308 703 or vicar@saintjohns.org.au) to be involved – a link with details of how to find the studies will be sent out. Assuming restrictions allow, the subsequent studies beginning on Monday 8th March at 6pm will be held at the home of Robin and David Richards when there will also be a re-cap of the previous sessions. Please RSVP.

‘Into the Desert’, a self-directed programme of 40 days of Bible readings, reflections and prayers that will take you on a spiritual journey into the Australian wilderness. ‘Into the Desert’ combines Australian history and literature with the centuries old wisdom of Desert monasticism. It is written by ABM's Reconciliation Coordinator Celia Kemp, who draws on her own experience of living in the Australian desert. Hardcopies can be purchased at the back of the church for \$11 or directly from ABM at <https://intothedesert.org/> and there is also a free app which can be downloaded and used on a mobile device.

‘God Encountered’, a programme throughout Lent for new Christians and enquirers and particularly for those preparing for Confirmation, Adult Baptism and public Affirmations of Faith in Eastertide. It will be led by the Vicar and explore the fundamentals of Christian belief and practice. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings throughout Lent, commencing **this coming Tuesday** on 23rd February to be held in the Church and thereafter, it is hoped, at the Vicarage.

‘Diving into Discipleship’, a series of conversations and discussions for older children and teenagers to explore what it means to follow as a disciple of Jesus and live in the world and engage with contemporary issues as a Christian. This will also be appropriate for those in this age-group preparing for Confirmation. An introductory session will be held **next Sunday** 28th February in the Hall between 11am and 12noon, immediately after the 9:30am Choral Eucharist and before the monthly Parish Lunch.

Following this, it is envisaged that weekly meetings will be on Friday nights at 8pm throughout Lent commencing on 5th March at the Vicarage with pizza and soft-drinks provided for supper.

Please do be involved in one or other of these opportunities during Lent, bring a friend and encourage others to connect if it may be appropriate for them!

FEBRUARY PARISH LUNCH IN HALL NEXT WEEK

Please do join for the regular 4th Sunday of the Month 'Vicarage Lunch' transferred to the Hall next week, all are welcome to join from about 12noon for a simple chicken with assorted salads lunch. Ordinarily it would be held at the Vicarage but with restrictions on home visits uncertain it is likely this will not be possible. Please bring a salad or something to drink, there will be NO COST otherwise.

BAPTISM NEXT WEEK

Please also hold in your prayers Eloise Jean Morton and Georgia Officer and their families who will join us next week to be baptised into the Church of God during the 9:30am Choral Eucharist. Please do make them welcome and be encouraged to particularly attend next week to support them on this happy occasion.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A 'GUILD OF SERVERS'

As we come out of the Pandemic which necessarily saw a great disruption to our usual pattern of serving and altar ministries, it is with pleasure to announce that the 'Guild of Servers' is to be re-constituted to rebuild the sense of community amongst those who offer their service for this ministry and to rethink what we do and how we do it with regard to the liturgy in the changing dynamic of various levels of restrictions.

Next week the Vicar will be very pleased to commission Rick Burman as 'Head Server' to gather together and co-ordinate this group. We shall also have a meeting following the 9:30am Choral Eucharist on Palm Sunday, 28th March, to run-through the liturgical arrangements for 'regular' Sundays as well as look forward to the Holy Week and Easter services. This will be followed by lunch.

Further details will be sent to those already involved in these ministries – if you would like to become involved, please contact either the Vicar or Rick Burman!

EASTERTIDE CONFIRMATIONS

It is a delight to announce that Bp Genieve Blackwell will be visiting St John's on the 25th April 2021. The Vicar has promised the bishop that there will be candidates for Adult Baptism/Confirmation/Affirmation of Faith, etc, which is most appropriate during the season of Eastertide. Please continue to pray for candidates to present themselves – and I'm delighted to say we now have many so there is a good group for others to join – and if you know of anyone who would be interested in being introduced to the Christian faith or responding to Jesus' call to 'Follow me' please contact the Vicar.

CARITAS THEATRE NIGHT

Anyone is welcome to join with the Caritas Group at a theatre night to experience Lord Arthur Saville's Crime, based on the short story by Oscar Wilde, to be held on Thursday 25th March 8pm at the Clayton Community Centre, corner of Cooke Street and Centre Road Clayton. This production by Encore Theatre Group is being directed by our own Richard Burman. The price is \$25 per ticket which contributes also to the fundraising efforts of Caritas. More details with booking sheet are available at the back of the church, or you can contact Rosemary (0417 532 118).

ROSTER	This Week 21st February 2021	Next Week 28th February 2021
8.00am Eucharist		
Welcomer & Cleaner	John Jobling	Sandra Beauchamp
Readers	Greg Thompson Jim Morse	Barry Dance David Richards
9:30am Eucharist		
Welcomers & Cleaners	Deb Lauritz Liz Burman Anthony Clayton	Rita Wood Rosemary Wickett Margaret Garing
Sub-Deacon	Anne Kerin	Jane Dwyer
Readers	David Reece Sue Lockey	Michael Wood Margaret Garing
Intercessor	David Arden	Michelle Mehta
Organist	Tim Clarke	Bruce Fethers
Post-Service Hospitality	Margaret Garing and others	Michelle Mehta Rita Wood
6.00pm Evensong		
Welcomers	Robin Richards	--
Readers	Sally Wallis Jane Fyfield	--
Organist	David Brennan	
Post-Service Hospitality	Judith Jobling	--
Weekly Duties		
Bins	David Richards	Sally and Adrian Wallis <i>Including recycling</i>



The Anglican Parish of
Saint John & Saint Agnes

www.saintjohns.org.au

9571 6616