

PEW SHEET

Fifth Sunday of Easter

28th April 2024

Welcome to Saint John's Finch Street at the heart of the East Malvern community. This iconic sandstone church is home to a welcoming and hospitable community committed to the worship of God in beauty and holiness in the classical Anglican tradition as well as loving and joyful outreach as disciples of Jesus Christ.

You can find out more about us at www.saintjohns.org.au

The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes

5 Finch Street East Malvern VIC 3145
03 9571 6616
secretary@saintjohns.org.au

Vicar

Fr. Alex Ross
0431 308 703
vicar@saintjohns.org.au
(Day-Off: Monday)

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday

8:00am: Eucharist (Saint John's)
9:30am: Choral Eucharist (Saint John's)
9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint Agnes')
6:00pm: Choral Evensong
(Saint John's, First Sunday)
6:00pm: Congregational Evensong
(Saint John's, Third Sunday)

Associate Clergy

Fr. Peter Richards 0427 631 383
Fr. Ken Hewlett 0427 772 003
Bp. Brad Billings

Churchwardens

John Hooper 0416 185 005
Anne Kerin 0411 587 180

Director of Music

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

Weekday Eucharists

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes')
10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

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 together by both congregation and choir at 9:30am. The Mass Setting this morning is by William Mathias.

Please stand when the bells are rung. The Ministers and Choir enter while the Opening Hymn is sung.

OPENING HYMN

1. Come, God's people, sing for joy,
shout your songs of gladness,
for the hope of Easter day
overcomes our sadness.
Come with all God's people here,
who with true affection
join again to celebrate
Jesus' resurrection.

2. Years before, as Moses led
Israel's sons and daughters
from their bonds to exodus
through the Red Sea waters:
so the living Lord of life
speaks through our baptism
of the new life which we share
with him who is risen.

3. That first Easter he arose,
his disciples greeting;
Christians now in every place
still their Lord are meeting.
Christ, who died for all the world,
in his death brings healing;
and his rising from the grave
is God's power revealing.

*Keith David Pearson 1925-
based on John of Damascus d. c. 754
TIS 391*

✠ 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.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us pray.

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.’

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

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.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, 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 GLORIA

♪ Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Saving God, who called your Church to witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be reconciled to you; through him who died for us and rose again and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Acts

[8.26-40]

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the

Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ He replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.’

The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

[22:26-32]

From you springs my praise in the great congregation:

I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:

and those who seek the Lord shall praise him—

may their hearts rejoice for ever!

Let all the ends of the earth remember
and turn to the Lord:

and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

**For the kingdom is the Lord's:
and he shall be ruler over the nations.**

How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:
or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

**But he has saved my life for himself:
and my posterity shall serve him.**

This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of John.

[4.7-21]

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

[15.1-8]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Sermon is followed by a time 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

Father of all, we pray for your church, that it may be a caring, loving and accepting church. Prosper the outreach of your church, enable it to seek out the needy, the outcasts and the rejected; that love may be revealed in action.

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

Hear the cry of your people in this world who have been denied freedom or peace. Help rebuild communities which have been destroyed, and families which have been divided or separated, reunite children who have lost contact with their parents. Build up all who seek to heal that which divides.

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

We give thanks for areas where people can exercise their talents, where people are free to think and to act without hindrance. Continue to encourage all who are enriching our world with their gifts, particularly those from within our own parish community.

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

Uphold all who feel weighed down by their past: for lives destroyed by bad memories, hatred, guilt or resentment. Strengthen all who are weary of life, who are tired of serving others. In the power of the risen Lord we ask for renewal, refreshment, restoration. Hear our prayers today particularly for: Ali, Christine, Andrew, Alan, Christine, Daniel, Jayachandran, Mary and Stephen.

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

Lord of life and love, we praise you for all who have borne fruit in your service, for all who have forwarded your kingdom, for all who have shared their love and goodness. Receive the faithful departed into your gracious care, as today we remember on their anniversary: Harold Blank Brearley, Alice Shelton Norton, Dorothy Woodfill Heathcote, Norman Hartnell Heathcote, Lilian Julia Fraser, Francis Harold Besanko.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord: **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The prayers of intercession may conclude with a final prayer, after which all stand

GREETING OF PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to let the captive free,
and take away transgression,
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with help and mercy
to those who suffer wrong,
to raise the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls condemned and dying
were precious in his sight.
3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go,
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.
4. Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;

his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

5. O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
that name to us is love.

James Montgomery 1771-1854 alt
TIS 275

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
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

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

♩ 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.

The priest breaks the bread while the Agnus Dei is sung

♩ 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. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead. During Communion the Parish
Choir sing the Motet 'A New Commandment' by William Mundy*

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Notices may be given here. The priest prays the 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 pronounces this blessing:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia:
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN

- 1. The glory of our King was seen
when he came riding by,
and all the children waved and sang
'Hosanna, King most high!'**
- 2. The glory of our King was seen
when, with his arms stretched wide
to show his love for everyone,
Jesus was crucified.**
- 3. The glory of our King was seen
on the first Easter day,
when Christ rose up, set free from death,
to love, to guide, to stay.**

*Margaret Beatrice Cropper 1886-1980 alt
TIS 353*

The organist plays the Postlude

Please join us for Morning Tea.

NEWS & NOTICES

VICARAGE LUNCH TODAY

Join us today for the monthly Vicarage Lunch from 11:30am, entry through the side-gate into the garden. Please bring a plate of salad or dessert, BBQ main plus drinks will be provided. There is no cost – and do bring a friend! All are welcome.

CARITAS MONDAY 6 MAY 8PM

Everyone is most welcome to attend at the home of Margaret Joseph to hear Harold Ratnayake tell his interesting story of how he and his family journeyed to Australia from Sri Lanka. RSVP Rosemary (0417 532 118) by Friday 3rd May.

VICAR AWAY 6 TO 17 MAY INCLUSIVE

The Vicar will be away from the parish from the 6th until the 17th May inclusive. He will be in France attending the latest round of conversations of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC). Peter Richards will be at Saint John's Finch Street on Sunday 12 May, and Ken Hewlett at Saint Agnes'.

MEMORIAL GARDEN RE-DEDICATION AND BLESSING

Works to refurbish and rejuvenate our beautiful Memorial Garden at Saint John's Finch Street are now almost completed – please do spend some time in this reflective and sacred space which is the final resting place of generations of parishioners and their family members since its original dedication and consecration in 1965 in memory of a young and active parishioner Barry Shaw. Thanks to a generous bequest by the late Dorothy Thomas we have been able to further enhance the landscaping of the garden. We had originally hoped to celebrate this work in early May – however it now seems best to wait until the Spring when more parishioners will be able to be present, particularly those who have led this recent process of rejuvenation, and also some final fixtures can be installed such as a large plaque on the floor of the Lych Gate as well as – if some further funding can be found – the water feature which forms part of the central concept design. Please 'watch this space' for a date in the Springtime for this celebration which will include a re-dedication and blessing of the garden. In the meantime, however, the garden remains open and available to parishioners and the public and is now once more available to receive the ashes of parishioners and their immediate family for interment.



Songs of
Farewell...

A Showcase Concert of the Parish
Choir of Saint John's Finch Street
Friday 24 May 2024 7PM
Tickets: \$30/20 followed by cheese & wine

Featuring the 'Songs of Farewell' by
Charles Parry together with the 'Funeral
Sentences for Queen Mary' by Henry
Purcell and other music by Elgar, Reger,
Whitacre, Ramsay and Swarbrick

5 Finch Street, East Malvern
www.trybooking.com/CRJBT

ROSTER	This Week 28 April 2024	Next Week 5 May 2024
8.00am Eucharist		
Welcomer	TBA	David Richards
Server	Pat Syer	Sue McMahon
Readers	Joel Ringrose TBA	Greg Thompson Bev Kocsis
9:30am Eucharist		
Welcomers	Rosemary Wickett Sue Lockey	Rosemary Wickett Daniel Morshedi
Sub-Deacon	Sebastian Harvey	Anne Kerin
Crucifer	Rick Burman	Rick Burman
Acolytes		
Thurifer	TBA	TBA
Readers	Preetham Kumar Anne Kerin	Robert Buckmaster Sebastian Harvey
Intercessor	Jenny Thomson	Sue Lockey
Organist	Tim Clarke	David Brennan
Post-Service Hospitality	Caroline l'Huillier Chris Martin	Betty Ladbury Rosemary Wickett
6.00pm		
Welcomers	--	Chris Martin
Readers	--	David Arden Gayle Arden
Organist	--	Bruce Fethers
Post Service Hospitality	--	Sally Wallis
Weekly Duties		
Flowers (for the Sunday)	Robin Richards & Caroline l'Huillier	Robin Richards & Mary Balon
Bins (for the week after Sunday)	David Woods <i>Garden & Garbage</i>	David Arden <i>Recycling & Garbage</i>



Saint John's Finch Street

www.saintjohns.org.au