



PEW SHEET

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

8th February 2026

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

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: Evensong & Benediction
(Saint John's, Third Sunday)

Weekday Eucharists

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

Vicar

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

Associate Clergy

Fr Marc Billimoria
Fr Ken Hewlett
Archdeacon Colleen O'Reilly
Fr Luke Hopkins

Churchwardens

John Hooper	0416 185 005
Jane Fyfield	0412 543 545
Robert Buckmaster	0437 014 090

Director of Music

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

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

The symbol ✕ indicates where the Sign of the Cross is customarily made. Text marked with ♫ is sung together by both congregation and choir at 9:30am.

The Mass Setting this morning is the 'Short Service' by Charles Wood.

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

OPENING HYMN

1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land:
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain
whence the living waters flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

*William Williams 1717-91
tr. Peter Williams 1722-96 and William Williams alt
TIS 569*

✠ 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.

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.’

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God’s forgiveness.

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.
 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, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*
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:
Here it is customary to bow for the duration of the words 'receive our prayer'
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*
with the Holy Spirit,
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Father of all, who gave your only-begotten Son to take upon himself the form of a servant and to be obedient even to death on a cross: give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, that, sharing in his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory; where he lives 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 Prophet Isaiah.

[58.1-9a]

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,

to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practised righteousness

and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgements,

they delight to draw near to God.

Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day,

and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight

and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,

a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,

and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,

a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

[112]

O praise the Lord. Blessed are they that fear the Lord:
and greatly delight in his commandments.

**Their children shall be mighty in the land:
an upright race who will be blessed.**

Riches and plenty shall be in their house:
and their righteousness shall stand for ever.

**Light arises in darkness for the upright:
gracious and merciful are the righteous.**

It goes well with those who act generously and lend:
who guide their affairs with justice.

**Surely they shall never be moved:
the righteous shall be held in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not fear bad tidings:
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**Their hearts are confident and will not fear:
they will see the downfall of their enemies.**

They give freely to the poor:
their righteousness stands for ever,
their head is uplifted in glory.

**The wicked shall see it and be angry:
they shall gnash their teeth and consume away;
and the hope of the wicked shall fail.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

[2.1-13]

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him'—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand and turn to face the Book of the Gospels.

GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia,

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

[5:13-20]

Here it is customary to trace three small crosses on the forehead, lips and heart

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*
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,
Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until '...became truly human'
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 *here it is customary to make a slight bow*

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

We give thanks to you, O Father, for the light that shines in our lives through Christ our Lord. Fill your church with that light, that it may be a light to light all nations, that we may proclaim your presence and your glory. We pray for all visionaries, for all who wait patiently upon you. We pray for all who have dedicated their lives to you, and for all who work in your church today. By your grace may your church grow in this generation.

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

We pray for the nations who have difficult decisions to make and are not sure which way to turn. We pray for all who strive to bring in justice, to free the oppressed, to share with the hungry, to house the homeless and to care for the poor. We pray for leaders who feel they are working in the dark, for all who cannot find answers to the problems before them.

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

We pray that the dark places of our hearts, and all dark deeds, will be done away. That the darkness may be dispersed from our communities, that sin and vice, greed and violence may be done away, that our homes may be places of peace and light.

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

We pray that all who walk in darkness and in the shadow of death may see your light. We remember all who have lost hope, all who have ceased to trust. We pray for all captives, for the hungry and the helpless. In particular we pray today for: Ali, Andrew, Warwick, Harriet, Diane, Geoffrey, and Bev. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that life is eternal and remember loved ones who have gone before us and are in the fullness of light in your kingdom. May we, with all the faithful departed, one day walk in that light; as we commend now: James Leslie Diggle, Nancy Elizabeth Swanson, Bernard Hall, Harriet Grace Hall. 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

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

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. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bring, and adore him: the Lord is his name.**
- 2. Low at his feet lay your burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for you,
comfort your sorrows, and answer your prayerfulness,
guiding your steps in the way best for you.**
- 3. Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth you would reckon to own:
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to bring to his throne.**

4. These, though we bring them
in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear,
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling, and hope for our fear.

5. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bring, and adore him: the Lord is his name.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell 1811-75 alt
TIS 454

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, *here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist*
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... It is customary when the bells ring at the elevation of the Sacrament to make the ✠ Sign of the Cross

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

♪ O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us 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, 'Verily, verily I say unto you' by Thomas Tallis.

Notices may be given here, after which please stand.

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.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The priest pronounces the blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; *here it is customary to bow, or genuflect on the left knee* 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 peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

**1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name – the Lord, the Mighty One.

3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

*Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926-2024
based on Luke 1:46-55 in The New English Bible
TIS 161*

The organist plays the Postlude

Please join us for Morning Tea.

NEWS & NOTICES

EVENSONG CHEESE ROSTER

Please consider putting your name down to donate and serve cheese after one of our services of Evensong in 2026 – either Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of the month or the smaller service of Evensong & Benediction on the third Sunday of each month. Wine is provided by the parish – and with enough volunteers we aim for nobody to need to put their name down more than once or twice in the year. A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church. Thank you!

LOWER HALL GARDEN WORKING BEE SATURDAY 14 FEB 9:30AM

A significant challenge for the parish has been the effort over the last 12 months to lease the Lower Hall – a major stream of revenue which enables our mission and ministry. We are renewing our efforts at the beginning of this year and the first step is to organise a Working Bee with the Garden Group on Saturday 14 February at 9:30am to do some much-needed maintenance and approve the property's attractiveness to potential new tenants. This follows the extensive work which was done by parishioners at our last Working Bee in April 2025 – it is not envisaged there will be as much work to be done this time – but if you could spare some time to help out please come along on Saturday 14 February at 9:30am and, if possible, bring gloves, brooms, rakes and cutting implements.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – 6PM WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

There will be two Ash Wednesday services offered on 18 February to begin the Lenten season – a simple service with Imposition of Ashes at 9:30am at Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly, and a choral service also with Ashes at 6pm at Saint John's Finch Street which is followed by a simple meal and the first session of our Lenten Study. All are encouraged to observe this important day in the calendar.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES

featuring Byrd's Mass for Three Voices and the
Motet "Remember not, Lord, our offences" by
Henry Purcell

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY
6PM

followed by a simple
Lenten meal and the
first of our Lenten
Studies

SAINT JOHN'S FINCH STREET
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SAINT JOHN'S FINCH STREET

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS 2026

ASH WEDNESDAY *Wednesday February 18, 6pm*

TENEBRAE *Tuesday March 31, 7:30pm*

MAUNDY THURSDAY *Thursday April 2, 7pm*

GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTION *Friday April 3, 10am*

EASTER SUNDAY *Sunday April 5, 9:30am*

BACH CANTATA EVENSONG *Sunday May 3, 6pm*

SCHOLARS' SOIREE *Friday May 22, 7pm*

MIDWINTER COMPLINE *Sunday June 28, 8pm*

CHOIR SHOWCASE CONCERT *Friday July 31, 7pm*

CATHEDRAL EVENSONG *Sunday August 30, 4pm*

ALL SOULS' REQUIEM *Sunday November 1, 7pm*

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS *Sunday December 20, 7:30pm*

MIDNIGHT MASS *Thursday December 24, 11pm*

CHRISTMAS MORNING *Friday December 25, 9:30am*

SAINT JOHN'S EAST MALVERN

5 FINCH STREET EAST MALVERN 3145

TELEPHONE 9571 6616

WWW.SAINTOHNS.ORG.AU

ST AGNES[†]



ANGLICAN CHURCH

Worship & Event Highlights 2026

ASH WEDNESDAY *Wednesday February 18, 9:30am*

SRI LANKAN AFTERNOON TEA *Sunday March 22, 3pm*

LENTEN LABYRINTH WALK *TBA*

LENTEN TAIZE EVENING *TBA*

GOOD FRIDAY *Friday April 3, 12noon*

EASTER DAY VIGIL *Sunday April 5, 6am*

SWINGBAND AFTERNOON TEA *Sunday June 14, 1:30pm*

HOPPER & CURRY NIGHT *Wednesday August 5, 6pm*

DEDICATION FESTIVAL *Sunday November 15, 9:30am*

ADVENT LABYRINTH WALK *Wednesday December 9, 6pm*

COMMUNITY CAROL SINGING *Friday December 18, 6pm*

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS *Thursday December 24, 9pm*

ST AGNES[†] Vicar: The Rev. Dr Alexander Ross
0431 308 703
ANGLICAN CHURCH www.saintagnes.org.au

ROSTER	8 February 2026	15 February 2026
8.00am Eucharist		
Welcomer	Bev Kocsis	Lorainne Bisdee
Server	Sue McMahon	Roxane Hislop
Readers	John Jobling David Arden	David Richards Sally Wallis
9:30am Eucharist		
Welcomers	David Reece Sue Lockey	Chris Martin Maree Campbell
Sub-Deacon	Rick Burman	Sebastian Harvey
Crucifer	Satoshi Okita	Rick Burman
Acolytes	William and Manny	William and Manny
Gospel Bearer	Bella Ross	Bella Ross
Thurifer	TBA	TBA
Readers	Bron Williams Robert Buckmaster	Robin Richards Sue Lockey
Intercessor	Jenny Thomson	Anne Kerin
Organist	Tim Clarke	Yi-Shuen Chan
Post-Service Hospitality	Caroline l'Huillier Chris Martin	CK, Elizabeth & James
6.00pm		
Welcomers	--	John Jobling
Readers	--	Elizabeth Woods David Woods
Organist	--	David Brennan
Post Service Hospitality	--	Martin Family
Weekly Duties		
Flowers (for the Sunday)	Gayle Arden & Glenis Heath	Caroline l'Huillier & Ingrid Hogan
Bins (for the week after Sunday)	David Woods Recycling & Garbage	David Arden Garden & Garbage



Saint John's Finch Street

www.saintjohns.org.au