

PEW SHEET

Easter Sunday

5th April 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

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

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

Weekday Eucharists

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes')

10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

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

BLESSING AND PROCLAMATION OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Text marked with ♪ is sung at 9:30am. Please stand and turn to face the Paschal Candle when the bells are rung.

At the 8am Eucharist the Paschal Candle is blessed and lit for the first time. At 9:30am the following is said around the lit Paschal Candle

✠ 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!

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him, and all ages:
**to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

At 8am the Paschal candle is lit for the first time

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

♪ The light of Christ!
Thanks be to God!

At 9:30am the Paschal Candle is proclaimed by the minister in the words of the Exultet, the traditional Hymn of Proclamation usually sung at the Easter Vigil

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

My dear friends, standing with me in this holy light,
join me in asking God for mercy,
that he may give his unworthy minister
grace to sing his Easter praises.

♪ The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right
that with full hearts and minds and voices
we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful Father,
and his only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,
and paid for us the price of Adam's sin
to our eternal Father!

This is our Passover feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain,
whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.

This is the time when first you saved our fathers:
you freed the people of Israel from their slavery
and led them dry-shod through the sea.
This is the time when the pillar of fire
destroyed the darkness of sin!

This is the time when Christians everywhere,
washed clean of sin
and freed from all defilement,
are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the time when Jesus Christ
broke the chains of death
and rose triumphant from the grave.
What good would life have been to us,
had Christ not come as our Redeemer?

Father, how wonderful your care for us!
How boundless your merciful love!
To ransom a slave
you gave away your Son.

O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,
which gained for us so great a Redeemer!
Most blessed of all times, chosen by God
to see Christ rising from the dead!

Of this time scripture says:
"The night will be as clear as day:
it will become my light, my joy."
The power of this holy time
dispels all evil, washes guilt away,
restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy;
it casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride.

Time truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth
and man is reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this time,
receive our sacrifice of praise,
your Church's solemn offering.

Accept this Easter candle,
a flame divided but undimmed,
a pillar of fire that glows to the honour of God.

Let it mingle with the lights of heaven
and continue bravely burning
to dispel the darkness of this age!

May the morning Star which never sets
find this flame still burning:

Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead,
and shed his peaceful light on all mankind,
your Son who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The Ministers and Choir process to the sanctuary as the Opening Hymn is sung. The Mass Setting sung by the choir this morning is by Michael Dudman.

OPENING HYMN

**1. At the dawning of salvation;
in the morning of the world,
Christ is raised, a living banner
by the love of God unfurled,
Through the daylight, through the darkness,
Christ leads on his great array:
all the saints and all the sinners
he has gathered on his way.**

2. He is risen in the morning,

he is risen from the dead;
he is laughter after sadness,
he is light when night has fled.
He has suffered, he has triumphed,
life is his alone to give:
as he gave it once he gives it
evermore, that we may live.

3. For the glory of salvation
in the dawn of Easter day
we will praise you, loving Father;
we rejoice to sing and pray
with the Son and with the Spirit
Lead us on, your great array,
saints and sinners celebrating
your triumphant love today.

Jock Curle 1919-?
TIS 392

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us, so let us keep the Feast and 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.
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 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

Brightness of God's glory, whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison: as you have shared our frailty in human flesh, help us to share your immortality in the Spirit; let no shadow of the grave terrify us, and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days, as the First and the Last, the Living One, our immortal Saviour and Lord. **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 Jeremiah

[31.1-6]

At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

Thus says the Lord:

The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,
the Lord appeared to him from far away.
I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.
Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel!
Again you shall take your tambourines,
and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.
Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant,
and shall enjoy the fruit.
For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
'Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the Lord our God.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

[118.1-2, 14-24]

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
his mercy endures for ever.

**Let Israel now proclaim:
that his mercy endures for ever.**

The Lord is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.

**The sounds of joy and deliverance:
are in the tents of the righteous.**

The right hand of the Lord does mighty things:
the right hand of the Lord raises up.

**I shall not die but live:
and proclaim the works of the Lord.**

The Lord has disciplined me hard:
but he has not given me over to death.

**Open me the gates of righteousness:
and I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

This is the gate of the Lord:
the righteous shall enter it.

**I will praise you, for you answered me:
and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected:
has become the head of the corner.

**This is the Lord's doing:
and it is marvellous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the Lord has made:
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians.

[3.1-4]

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia**,

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. [28.1-10]

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

Glory ✠ to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.” This is my message for you.’ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, ‘Greetings!’ And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.’

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God our Father, by whose power our Lord Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. We rejoice and celebrate that he who was dead is alive, that he who was buried is risen. Death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory. Lord, make present to us the Risen Christ in our lives. Empower the Church to proclaim the Good News, 'He is risen!' In the power of the risen Lord, lead your people out of darkness into light.

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

Lord Jesus, as we rejoice this day, we remember your words to the disciples, 'Do not be afraid'. Cast out fear from our world, that we might rise above all that would cause strife and conflict, that your victory over the powers of evil may be allowed to work in your world.

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

Risen Lord, as you appeared to Mary in the garden, to the disciples in the Upper Room, to the travellers on the road to Emmaus, be known among us. Christ be in our homes, in our work and in our journeying. Risen Lord, let your people walk in your presence and peace.

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

Lighten the burden, O Lord, of all who walk in fear, all who are weighed down, all who are heavily laden. In their need at this time we pray particularly for Ali, Andrew, Warwick, Harriet, Diane, Geoffrey, Bev, David and Leon. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We rejoice in the glory of our Risen Lord and of all your saints who have shared in your triumph over the grave and death. We commend to you Lord all those who have died in that Easter hope, particularly all those who have died in this last year, and whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Margaret Alison Stone, Robert Ashenden Leahy, Maurice James Hayes, Mary Winifred Dietrich, Asa Pope Thompson, Norman Lee Boteler Crofts. May they rest in peace: **and ✠ rise in glory.**

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. Light's reddening dawn gleams
through the sky;
heaven thunders forth its victory;
alleluia, alleluia!
the glad earth shouts her triumph high
and groaning hell makes wild reply:
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!

2. while our Lord Christ, the mighty king,
despoiling death of all its sting
and trampling down the powers of night
brings forth his ransomed souls to light.

5. From every weapon death can wield
your own redeemed for ever shield:
O Lord of all, with us abide
in this our joyful Eastertide.

Part 2

6. That Eastertide with joy was bright,
the sun shone out with fairer light,
when to their longing eyes restored
the apostles saw their risen Lord.

7. He showed to them his hands, his side,
where yet the glorious wounds abide:
the tokens true which made it plain
their Lord indeed was risen again.

8. Jesus, the king of gentleness,
come now yourself our hearts possess,
that we may give you all our days
the tribute of our grateful praise.

*Anon., Latin c. 7th century.
tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt
TIS 360*

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
be 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 the communion the Parish Choir sing the Motet, 'This Joyful Eastertide' by Charles Wood.

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.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The priest says 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; *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 the peace of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia:
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, *alleluia!*
our triumphant holy day, *alleluia!*
who so lately on the cross, *alleluia!*
suffered to redeem our loss, *alleluia!*

2. Hymns of praise then let us sing
unto Christ, our heavenly king,
who endured the cross and grave
sinners to redeem and save.

3. But the pain that he endured
our salvation has procured;
now exalted he is king,
and the angels ever sing:
alleluia!

*Anon., Lyra Davidica 1708 alt
Based on a 14th-century manuscript
TIS 362*

The organist plays the Postlude

Please join us for a festive Morning Tea.

NEWS & NOTICES

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME

Welcome to Saint John's Finch Street for this joyful celebration of the new life and hope we have in Jesus who has conquered death and by his resurrection has wrought a new creation and transformed humanity. He is the first fruit and all who are baptised into his death, and are sustained in the life of faith by his Body and Blood, may hope with confidence to be raised in a resurrection like his.

If you are visiting us this morning, please stay for a celebratory morning tea and if you would be happy for us to keep in touch please complete one of the 'Welcome Cards' and return to the Vicar.

VICARAGE GARDEN EGG HUNT

The young – and young-at-heart – are invited to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt in the Vicarage Garden following the 9:30am Choral Eucharist. Entrance through the side gate (it will open when all is ready). Good luck!

CONGREGATIONAL EVENSONG & BENEDICTION TONIGHT

There will be a service of Evensong and Benediction at 6pm tonight – sung by the whole congregation in the chapel. Please join us to complete the celebrations of the day with this simple and reflective service of song, Scripture and prayer together with the blessing of the Sacrament. Followed by cheese and wine.

EASTER CLEAN UP & SET UP THANK YOU

Thanks to all who volunteered on Holy Saturday to clean up the church, garden and grounds in readiness for Easter Sunday – and to all who have contributed in various ways to our observance of Holy Week and Easter. It has been a wonderful time of devotion and celebration only made possible by the efforts and gifts of our wonderful parishioners. Thank you all again!

PARISH CHOIR AND ORGANISTS - THANK YOU!

Our Director of Music, Rowan Swarbrick, Parish Choir and organists have devoted an extraordinary amount of time and effort to lift up our hearts to the glory of God through their gift of music! They have spent something around 20 hours in the church in rehearsal and services in this last week – thank you!

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 September 20, 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.SAINTJOHNS.ORG.AU

ROSTER	EASTER DAY 5 April 2026	LOW SUNDAY 12 April 2026
8.00am Eucharist		
Welcomer	Lorraine Bisdee	Gayle Arden
Server	Sue McMahon	Greg Thompson
Readers	Roxane Hislop John Jobling	Joel Ringrose David Arden
9:30am Eucharist		
Welcomers	Chris Martin Glenis Heath	Sue Lockey Nikki Morshedi
Sub-Deacon	Anne Kerin	Jane Dwyer
Crucifer	Rick Burman	TBA
Acolytes	Manny & William	Manny & William
Gospel Bearer	Bella Ross	Bella Ross
Thurifer	TBA	TBA
Readers	Sebastian Harvey Don Heath	Bron Williams Jane Fyfield
Intercessor	Robert Buckmaster	Jenny Thomson
Organist	Tim Clarke	David Brennan
Post-Service Hospitality	Jenny Mills Betty Ladbury	Marg Garing Maree Campbell
6.00pm		
Welcomers	TBA	--
Readers	TBA	--
Organist	Yi-Shuen Chan	--
Post Service Hospitality	TBA	--
Weekly Duties		
Flowers (for the Sunday)	All Flower Guild	Caroline P'Hullier & Glenis Heath
Bins (for the week after Sunday)	Chris Martin <i>Recycling & Garbage</i>	David Arden <i>Green Waste & Garbage</i>

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