



PEW SHEET

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

6th September 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 'Missa Brevis' by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. Please stand when the bells are rung. The Ministers and Choir enter while the Opening Hymn is sung.

OPENING HYMN

1. God is love, let heav'n adore him;
God is love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
God, who laid the earth's foundation,
he who spread the heavens above,
and who breathes through all creation
God is love, eternal love.

2. God is love, and gently enfolding
all the world in one embrace,
with unfailing grasp is holding
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then they find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.

3. God is love, and, though with blindness
sin afflicts our human hearts.
God's eternal lovingkindness
holding, guiding, grace imparts.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.

✠ 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.

♪ Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	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

♪ Glória in excélsis Deo
et in terra pax homínibus
bonae voluntátis.

Laudámus te, benedícimus te,

here it is customary to make a slight bow

adorámus te,
glorificámus te, grátias ágimus tibi
propter magnam glóriam tuam,
Dómine Deus, Rex caeléstis,
Deus Pater omnípotens.

Dómine Fili unigénite,

here it is customary to make a slight bow

Jesu Christe,
Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Fílius Patris,
qui tollis peccáta mundi,
miserére nobis;
qui tollis peccáta mundi,

here it is customary to bow for the duration of the words 'súscipe deprecationem nostrum'
súscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserére nobis. Quóniam tu solus
Sanctus, tu solus Dóminus, tu solus
Altíssimus,

here it is customary to make a slight bow

Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spíritu: in ☩ glória Dei
Patris. Amen.

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

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and so great dangers that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our 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 Ezekiel

[33.7-11]

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked ones, you shall surely die’, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: ‘Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?’ Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

[119:33-40]

Sung by the Choir at 9:30am

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes:
and I will honour it to the end.

**Give me understanding, that I may keep your law:
that I may keep it with my whole heart.**

Guide me in the path of your commandments:
for therein is my delight.

**Incline my heart to your commands:
and not to selfish gain.**

Turn away my eyes from looking on vanities:
as I walk in your way give me life.

**Make good your promise to your servant:
the promise that endures for all who fear you.**

Turn aside the taunts that I dread:
for your judgements are very good.

**Lord, I long for your precepts:
in your righteousness give me life.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

[13.1-10]

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgement. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due to them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honour to whom honour is due.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

‘Where two or three are gathered in my name,’ says the Lord, ‘I am there among them.’ **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. [18:10-20]

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

‘Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

‘If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.’

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

God of all aspiration, we pray for all who are seeking to set standards, to raise morale, all who are seeking holiness and dedication, all who are living heroic lives, and all striving to live simply: may they reach perfection in you. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Guide and direct, O Lord, all who have lost sight of spiritual values, all who are caught up in sheer materialism and who can measure only by possession or wealth. Bring justice to all who suffer from hunger, poverty or inadequate housing. Turn the hearts of all who are caught up in debauchery and licentiousness.

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

May our homes reflect your acceptance and love. Forgive our quarrelling and our jealousy. Teach us tolerance and compassion. We give thanks for all who have tolerated us, and given us their love. We pray that you would make this parish community welcoming, hospitable, kind and generous.

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

Raise up all caught up in drunkenness or vice, all who are alcoholics or addicts. Release those who are bound by sin or weakness, and bring safety and freedom to anyone who is subjected to violence or abuse. Heal the sick, comfort the grieving, bring recovery to the injured, and give rest to the weary. In our own community we pray particularly for: Andrew, Warwick, Harriet, Diane, Geoffrey, Bev, Thomas, Robert, and Yainni.

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

We give thanks for all who have walked the way of your commandments, who have fulfilled your laws and done your will. Following their example, may we come to share with them in your everlasting glory. We commend into your gracious keeping those who have died recently, Emma Perry, and those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: Frederick Stanley Rice, Florence Maud McFadyen Joy Yvonne Treyvaud, Edward David Armstrong, Margaret Hamilton Winwood, Gwen Pretorius.

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

REETING 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. Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the everlasting king!

2. Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,

slow to chide, and swift to bless:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
glorious in his faithfulness!

3. Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
widely as his mercy flows!

4. Frail as summer's flower we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone,
but while mortals rise and perish
God endures unchanging on.
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the high eternal one!

5. Angels, help us to adore him,
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise with us the God of grace!

Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847 alt
TIS 134

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:

During the 'Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus' it is customary to make a low bow

♪ Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.	Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
♪ Benedictus ✠ qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis	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

♪ Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	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, "I Heard a Voice" by Thomas Tomkins.

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.

At the 8am Eucharist, the service concludes here

CLOSING HYMN

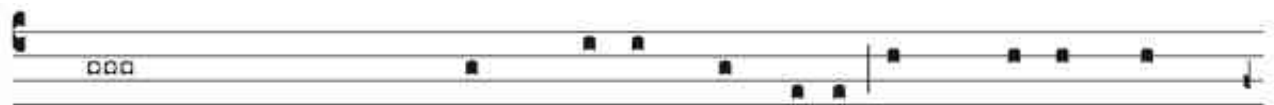
1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,

perfectly restored in thee:
 changed from glory into glory,
 till in heaven we take our place,
 till we cast our crowns before thee,
 lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley 1707-88 alt
TIS 217(i)

THE ANGELUS

The bell strikes three sets of three as all face Mary at the foot of the Crucifixion Rood



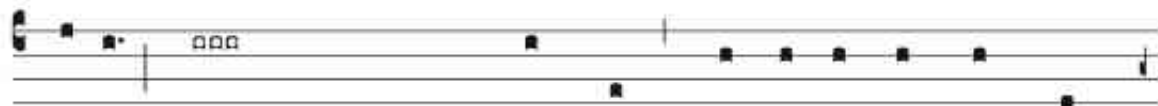
The angel of the Lord brought ti-dings to Ma-ry: **and she con-ceived**



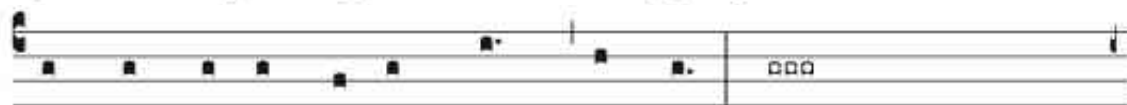
by the Ho-ly Ghost. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,



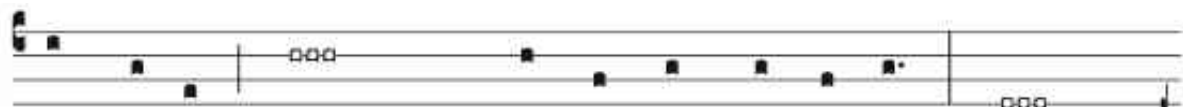
Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,



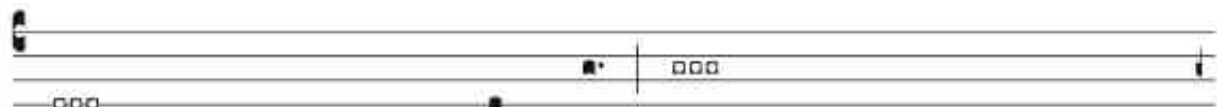
Je-sus: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sin-ners now



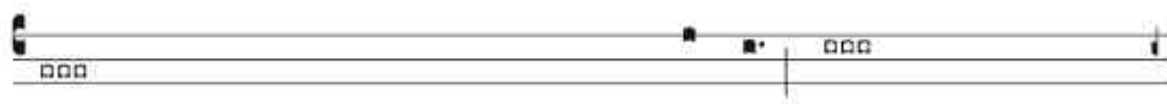
and at the hour of our death. A-men. Behold the handmaid



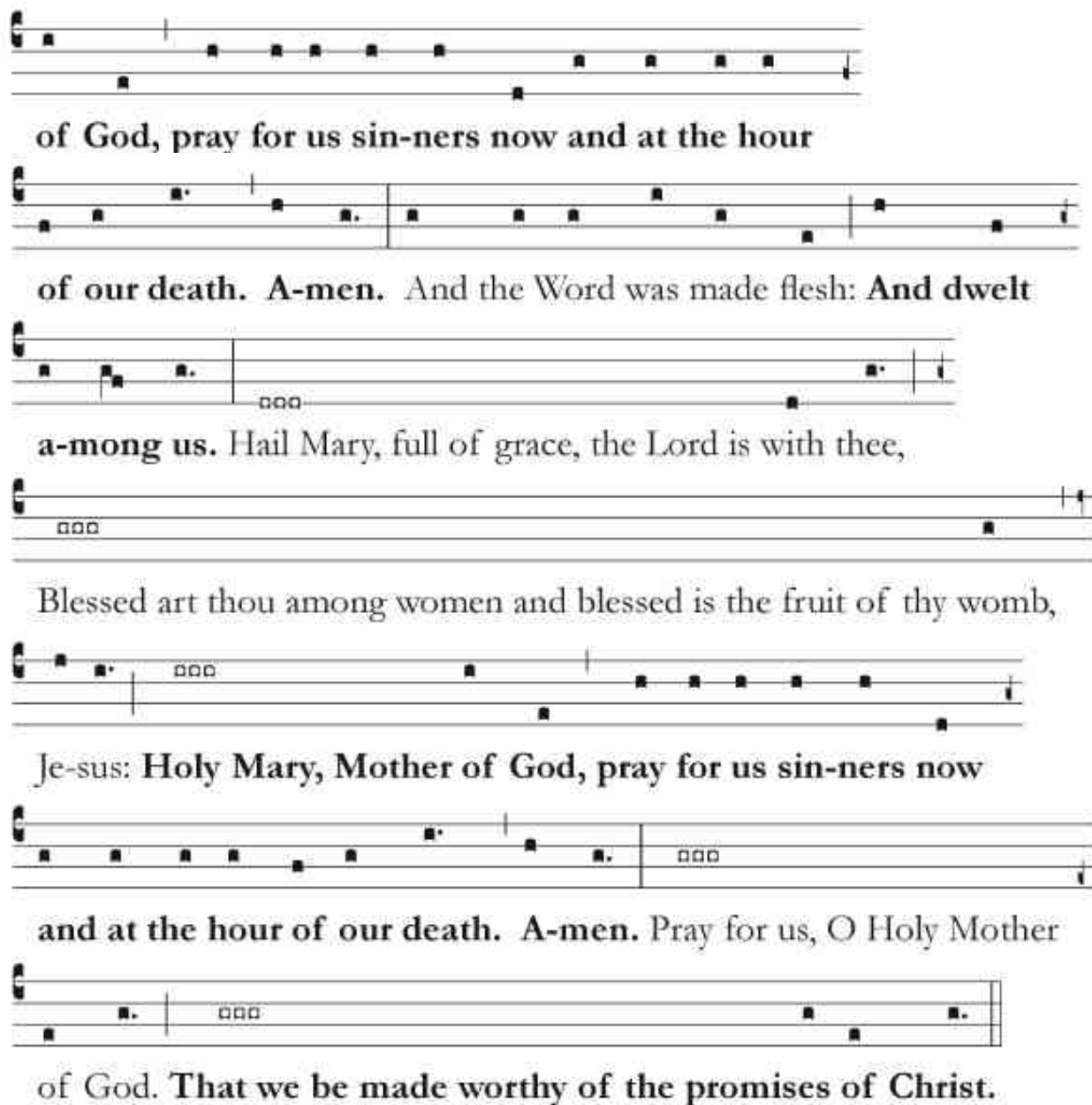
of the Lord: **Be it unto me ac-cor-ding to thy word.** Hail Mary,



full of grace, the Lord is with thee, Blessed art thou among women



and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Je-sus: **Holy Mary, Mother**



of God, pray for us sin-ners now and at the hour
of our death. **A-men.** And the Word was made flesh: **And dwelt**
a-mong us. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Je-sus: **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sin-ners now**
and at the hour of our death. A-men. Pray for us, O Holy Mother
of God. **That we be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

The bell strikes nine times as the priest sings the Collect

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his ✠ cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[Book of Common Prayer, 1662]

The organist plays the Postlude

Please join us for Morning Tea.

NEWS & NOTICES

CHORAL EVENSONG TONIGHT 6PM

Please join us tonight at 6PM for our monthly service of Choral Evensong – a beautiful service sung by our Parish Choir of Scripture, prayer and song. Music tonight includes the Introit ‘Beati Quorum Via’ by Charles Villiers Stanford, Preces and Responses by William Smith, Canticles from Herbert Howells’ ‘Collegium Regale’, the Anthem ‘O Salutaris Hostia’ by Edward Elgar, and the Organ Postlude ‘Toccata in C Major’ by J. S. Bach. Followed by wine and cheese!

CARITAS MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 8PM

All are invited to join on Monday 7 September at 8pm at the home of Glenis and Don Heath. Glenis, who is a super cook, will demonstrate some nice and easy Winter foods and we are rewarded by eating it for supper. All are welcome to attend but RSVP to Rosemary (0417 532 118) is essential by Fri 4 September.

CHOIR SING EVENSONG AT ST PAUL’S CATHEDRAL 20 SEPT 4PM

All are invited to our annual outing to St Paul’s Cathedral, opposite Flinders Street Station, as our own Parish Choir sings Choral Evensong on Sunday 20 September at 4pm. It promises to be a wonderful occasion, followed by a parish dinner in Chinatown. All welcome!

PARISH GIVING ENVELOPES & ANGLICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

The parish has reached a critically low level of envelope giving and so is phasing out the envelope system, but of course do not want to lose your valuable contribution to the life of the parish. We are encouraging all parishioners to use the direct debit system administered by the ADF (Anglican Development Fund). It is the preferred method of most parishioners. For more information please speak with the Parish Recorder Jane Fyfield. The form to set up a Direct Debit with the ADF is on the Saint John’s website: www.saintjohns.org.au/ADF/

“WHAT ABOUT THE DAMP, VICAR?” – NOTE THE COMMA!

The Wardens and Parish Council are now well-advanced in planning with heritage architects Lovell Chen to address the ingress of water into the church which is causing damp and damage to plaster. We hope to go out to tender in the next few weeks, with internal and external works expected to cost about \$250,000, to be done either just before or after Christmas to minimise disruption.

CHORAL EVENSONG

A service of music, prayer and Scripture led
by our outstanding Parish Choir, followed by
wine and cheese

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 6PM



THE CHOIR OF
SAINT JOHN'S
FINCH STREET

SING

CHORAL
EVENSONG

AT

SAINT PAUL'S
CATHEDRAL
MELBOURNE

20 SEPTEMBER 2026
4PM

FOLLOWED BY DINNER IN TOWN

ROSTER	6 September 2026	13 September 2026
8.00am Eucharist		
Welcomer	Lorraine Bisdee	Gayle Arden
Server	Roxane Hislop	Greg Thompson
Readers	John Jobling Joel Ringrose	David Arden Roxane Hislop
9:30am Eucharist		
Welcomers	Sue Lockey Niki Morshedi	John Stuckey Rosemary Wickett Maree Campbell
Sub-Deacon	Tim Clarke	Anne Kerin
Crucifer	Satoshi Okita	Robert Buckmaster
Acolytes	William & Mani	William & Mani
Gospel Bearer	Beatrix	Beatrix
Thurifer	TBA	TBA
Readers	Sebastian Harvey Jane Fyfield	Shelby Suter Bron Williams
Intercessor	Don Heath	NA
Organist	David Brennan	Tim Clarke
Post-Service Hospitality	Heath Family	CK, Elizabeth & James
6.00pm		
Welcomers	Chris Martin	--
Readers	Elizabeth Woods Sebastian Harvey	--
Organist	Yi-Shuen Chan	--
Post Service Hospitality	Rosemary Wickett	--
Weekly Duties		
Flowers (for the Sunday)	Gayle Arden & Robin Richards	Caroline l'Huillier & Glenis Heath
Bins (for the week after Sunday)	David Arden <i>Recycling & Garbage</i>	Joel Ringrose <i>Garden & Garbage</i>



Saint John's Finch Street
www.saintjohns.org.au