



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL

Fifth Sunday in Lent

29 March, 2020

Parish Link

Our Vicar writes...

We continue to give thanks to God for God's rich blessings to us as we all together live through these challenging times. St Peter's church building may be closed but our parish is not! The clergy and pastoral care team have taken it upon themselves to ring every parishioner every week to see how things are going and where we can be of help. We are directing people to our parish web page as we increase our on-line presence and ministry. You will find there links to a sermon, as well as readings and prayers for each of the Sunday that we are unable to meet together physically. There will be links to morning and evening prayer resources which we encourage people to use each day knowing that we are all praying together. The parish bell has been repaired and the bell will be rung for several minutes each day at 5pm as a sign of our presence here in Box Hill. While these circumstances are difficult we know that as Julian of Norwich once said, "This too shall pass!" We continue to remember in our prayers those less fortunate. I encourage us all to continue buying basic supplies and dropping them off at the church on Saturday mornings from 9am to 10am at the Undercroft. If you are unable to drop them off we can pick them up from your front door if you contact us. Let us continue to use this prayer as part of our prayers:

Lord Jesus Christ, healer and friend, come and care for all of us through the danger and uncertainty of the coronavirus epidemic. To people who are sick, bring healing. To people who are displaced, isolated, or cut off from family, friends or work, bring comfort and companionship. Work with medical staff as they care for the sick, and protect them from harm. Give skill and fruitful research to scientists as they search for treatments, prevention and a cure. To public health authorities, give wisdom to decide the best ways to manage both this crisis and our anxieties. When communities are fearful, give a calm spirit, and kindness to neighbours and strangers. Through this testing time, and through all the risks we face together, teach us once again how we can love one another as you have loved us. Amen

Mission Statement

Sharing the Good News

Telling the story afresh

Expressing God's love

Nurturing and sharing faith

Equipping to serve

Serving the community

Vision

To ensure that there continues to be a living, committed, communal Anglican presence of liturgical celebration, nurture and outreach in Box Hill.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FIRST AID KIT – Located in the office and kitchen.

TOILETS – Located in the Church Hall and in the church building through the church doors front right.

WHEELCHAIR – Located in the toilet for the disabled upstairs.

FIRE & EMERGENCY – Please make yourself aware of the nearest escape route in the event of an emergency or fire.

OH&S – Please ensure that any incidents/accidents are reported to the Vicar or Wardens and incident report completed.

Sentence

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord; 'whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.' John 11.25–26

Prayer of the Day

Life-giving God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death: breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

First Reading: Ezekiel 37.1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

Psalm: 130 in the *APBA* prayer book, p.364

Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear my voice;

O let your ears consider well:

the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong:

who then, O Lord, could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you:

so that you shall be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him:

and in his word is my hope.

My soul looks for the Lord:

more than watchmen for the morning,

more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:

and with him is ample redemption.

He will redeem Israel:

from the multitude of their sins.

Second Reading: Romans 8.6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John, Chapter 11, verses 1-45

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard

it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said,

'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

For the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Years Mind

Iris Tiller, Patrick Robinson, Frances Joyner,
Alma Locke, Irene Watson

whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: Season of Prayer and Repentance in the Anglican Communion; Diocese of Rockhampton (Bp David Robinson, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Stonnington (Howard Langmead); St Mary's Melbourne North (Jan Joustra); St John's Sorrento w. St Andrew's Rye – Pastoral Service (Bp Paul Barker); St Columbs Hawthorn – Pastoral Visit (Bp Genieve Blackwell); St Stephen's Werribee (Karen Congregation) – Confirmation Service (Bp Kate Prowd).

The Parish: Pray for all our congregations as we support each other and remain faithful in this time of trouble.

The World: Pray for strength and protection for all health professionals (doctors, nurses, ambulance crews and more) caring for those affected by the virus.

The Nation: Pray for those made unemployed, business owners who have lost their businesses, those afraid and anxious.

Prayer of the Week

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: we pray that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his presence abiding in us he may raise us to joys eternal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Daily Readings

Monday	Susanna 41b-62	Ps 23	John 8.1-11
Tuesday	Numbers 21.4-9	Ps 102.18-22	John 8.21-30
Wednesday	Daniel 3.14-20, 24-28	Song of the 3YM APBA p.399	John 8.31-42
Thursday	Genesis 17.3-9	Ps 105.7-11	John 8.51-59
Friday	Jeremiah 20.10-13	Ps 18.1-7	John 10.31-42
Saturday	Ezekiel 37.21-28	Ps 85.8-13	John 11.45-57



*If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing **before** Thursdays or email anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com
Please keep notices succinct and to the point as space is limited.*

CHURCH SERVICES

For the present, there will be no formal services held in the church, nor will it be able to remain open. Please use our website, www.anglicansboxhill.org.au to see the Link and to access many useful websites and services.

DONATIONS OF ESSENTIAL ITEMS

The current run on supermarkets has meant that some of our families are very short of groceries. With lack of transport and small children to care for they cannot get to shops early and don't have the means to buy in bulk. It would be **really appreciated if any of the following supplies could be donated on a Saturday morning to the hall:**

long-life or powdered milk, breakfast cereal, rice, pasta, toilet paper.

PALM CROSSES

Some of us will be making palm crosses. Contact Shane if you want to pick up some fronds and instructions. People may like to deliver a cross to members of the congregation.



RECYCLING TO HELP CHARITIES



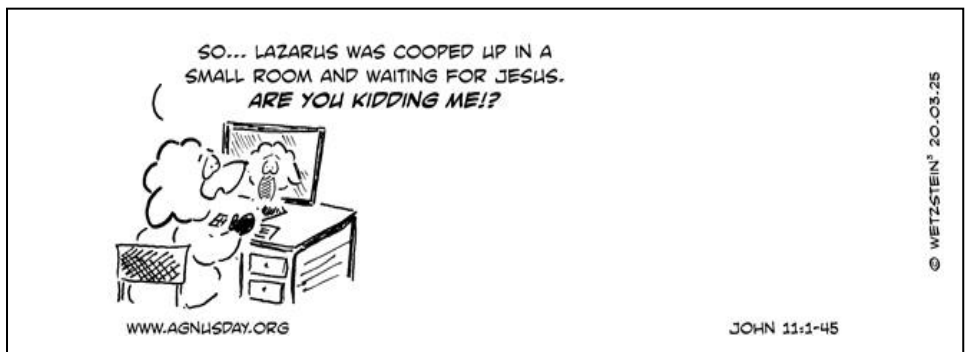
Don't forget that ring pulls from cans can be saved and used for various charitable projects. Also, Jan has now found an outlet for plastic bottle tops and corks. Keep collecting!

A BIG THANK-YOU

Over the last week there has been intense work going on in the offices at the front of the hall, formerly occupied by FAN. Carpet has been removed, floors scaped, walls and windows sanded and painted. The Men at Work with some willing accomplices have achieved an enormous amount of hard work in a short time and we are very grateful for these efforts. The work will proceed with some professional painters and carpet laying in readiness for leasing by Box Hill TAFE.

SHARING

Please let the Vicar or Cecilia know of any news that can be shared in the Link amongst our church community. The Link will remain available online and will be delivered to anyone who can't access the website.



This Week

TODAY

SUN 29.3.20

Fifth Sunday in Lent

MON 30.3.20

TUES 31.3.20

8.30am-12.30pm **Office open**

WED 1.4.20

THU 2.4.20

10.00-2.00pm **Office open**

FRI 3.4.20

Richard of Chichester, d. 1256

SAT 4.4.20

SUN 5.4.20

Sixth Sunday in Lent

PALM SUNDAY



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Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Thu 10.00am – 2.00pm

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Sophia Errey 9878 6297

Garry Plumridge 9898 5193

Baptism, marriage & funeral by arrangement. Clergy are available for confession / counselling by appointment.

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