



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL
Fifth Sunday of Easter
10 May, 2020

Parish Link

Our Vicar writes...

Welcome to worship today as we continue to be physically distant but spiritually close. We hear today from a well-known passage in John's Gospel chapter 14. This passage speaks of Christ preparing a place for us. What does that mean? Is Christ building terrace houses in the heavenly realm? Hardly. It has been suggested that he builds our eternal home with the materials that we send him. Actually, does it really make a lot of sense to describe heaven as a place? Isn't heaven and hell determined by our relationship with the Lord? Heaven is any place where the Lord is and Hell is any place where God does not dwell. "I go and prepare a place for you." What the Lord is really saying here is that we shouldn't be afraid of death. If we know him, we will always be with him. He is the Lord, but also our gracious host, who opens his arms of welcome to us at the end of our life's journey. There is a drinking song that goes like this: "Show me the way to go home. I'm tired and I want to go to bed. I had a drink about an hour ago and it went straight to my head." This silly song has a serious side to it. Many people in our world today are lost. They don't remember the way to go home. In an attempt to override their anxiety, they have drunk deeply of this world's pleasures, which have further muddled their sense of direction. Someone needs to show them the way to go home. Jesus offers himself as the way, the truth and the life and we, as God's people, need to be people who help others by pointing them in the right direction – not only by words but also by our very lives. As we journey together in this Easter season may we live as Resurrection people; people who know Christ as the way to eternal life.

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 way, and the truth, and the life,' says the Lord. 'No one comes to the Father except through me.' John 14.6

Prayer of the Day

Everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

First Reading: Acts 7.55-60

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

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

Psalm: 31.1-5, 31.17-18

¹ To you, Lord, have I come for shelter:
let me never be put to shame.

² **O deliver me in your righteousness:
incline your ear to me and be swift to save me.**

³ Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me:
for you are my high rock and my stronghold.

⁴ **Lead me and guide me for your name's sake:
bring me out of the net that they have secretly laid for me,
for you are my strength.**

⁵ Into your hands I commit my spirit:
you will redeem me, O Lord God of truth.

¹⁷ **All my days are in your hand:
O deliver me from the power of my enemies
and from my persecutors.**

¹⁸ Make your face to shine upon your servant:
and save me for your mercy's sake.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2.11-25

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹² Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

¹³ For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. ¹⁶ As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. ¹⁷ Honour everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honour the emperor. ¹⁸ Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh. ¹⁹ For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²² 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' ²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John, Chapter 14, verses 1-14

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?' ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵ Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶ Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on

you do know him and have seen him.’⁸ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”?’¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

Years Mind

Elizabeth Gellert, George Knack, Mildred Stork,
Ella Sheldrick, Mae Buckingham, Kathleen Griffiths,
Jean White, Phyl Allen

whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: Anglican Church of Kenya (Abp Jackson Ole Sapit); Religious Orders serving within the Anglican Church of Australia; Diocesan Liturgical Committee; Church of the Ascension Springvale (Inpa Eliezer).

The Parish: Pray for the families of our Sudanese congregation as they manage home schooling, economic difficulties and supporting their community.

The World: Pray for those countries with limited medical facilities and impoverished populations.

The Nation: Pray for our state and federal leaders as they lead the country through this crisis.

Names of those in our parish who need our prayer:

Charles Crooks who is now receiving palliative care. Miriam, Dianne, Kent, Lorraine, Neville, Nancy, Kate, Russ, Betty, Jessie, Don, Jim, Alma, Muriel, Faye, Eileen, Nola, Margaret.

Prayer of the Week

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

Prayer in time of an epidemic

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

Daily Readings

Monday	Acts 14.5-18	Ps 115.1-7	John 14.21-26
Tuesday	Acts 14.19-28	Ps 145.10-13	John 14.27-31
Wednesday	Acts 15.1-6	Ps 122	John 15.1-8
Thursday	Acts 15.7-21	Ps 96.1-6	John 15.8-11
Friday	Acts 15.22-31	Ps 57.8-12	John 15.9-17
Saturday	Acts 16.1-10	Ps 100	John 15.18-21

ABM Pew Reflections

We read that St Thomas said to Jesus, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Many of us will feel like that in these straitened times. What does the future hold? Despite our apprehension and disquiet, if we follow Jesus we cannot feel lost for very long. Pray that we who yearn for direction may find it in Jesus Christ, the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of Pakistan.



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



If you do have an **EMAIL** but haven't received information through it from us, **then please email the office** so we can update our records and make sure you do receive all our mail.

DONATIONS OF ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Basic grocery items can still be donated on a Saturday morning to the Undercroft (or left in the office during the week). Thanks to Father Alasdair who is co-ordinating this effort.



Drop off time: 10.00-11.00am

OUR CHURCH SERVICES ONLINE

Fr Shane has now set up many resources through YouTube. **Here is the link to Sunday's service** (Control and click)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cuezf7J6thQ&feature=youtu.be>

If you are sending any letters or cards to the office, it is advisable to use the post box address as mail can get very wet in the letter box! The address to use is: **St Peter's Anglican Church, P.O. Box 1199, Box Hill, 3128.**



INTERCESSIONS

If you would like any people to be included in the list of names to be **prayed for**, then please email or phone through those names to Fr Shane or Cecilia in the office by Thursday.

ATTENTION KNITTERS, CROCHETERS, SEWING PEOPLE, CARD MAKERS, WOODWORKERS

During our time of isolation, please consider making items for future Church fund raising events. (when ever these may be!?) Then we will be well stocked and ready to go.

Please note that we have an ample supply of knitted and crocheted blankets in various sizes. So please consider donating these items to another charity.

Barbara Plumridge 0405 193 122



SAD NEWS FROM THE MOTHERS' UNION

A letter has come via email from our World Wide President of the Mothers' Union with distressing news. The Mothers' Union Central Charity, known as Mary Sumner House, our worldwide headquarters is facing an unexpected shortfall of some £1 million this year courtesy of the coronavirus. Senior staff have taken immediate salary reductions and others have taken leave. "The House" was built just over 100 years ago through donations from individual members giving one penny per month or one shilling a year which was a lot of money in those days.

Many MU members and parishioners have made the pilgrimage to Mary Sumner House when visiting the UK and prayed in the beautiful chapel. In many ways it is not just a building but the heart of the Mothers' Union, where help for women and families is co-ordinated worldwide and all projects we work for come from Mary Sumner House.

From a letter from Sharon Harper, MU World Wide Press: "If individual members are able to donate, say \$10 or even more, it will be a great help". Thanks to generous donations from MU members at our branch here, we have raised \$445. If any parishioners wish to donate, please contact Jan Gunst, local MU leader: 9890 6528.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE

I was very busy in early January purchasing all the stationery items while on special for the next Samaritan's Purse collections later this year. I have made up lots of 'Book bags' to be ready to go.

I have \$10 starter bags if you would like to purchase one early. Look out for specials when the shops are all open again, looking for shorts, T-shirts and other clothing to add to your bags. There will be a notice when boxes are available.

Jan Gunst, Co-ordinator
Samaritan's Purse



BREAD DELIVERY

- St Peter's is still receiving deliveries of bread, and as usual, some weeks there is more bread than others. If you would like to pick some up, ring Alasdair (0438 323 059) on Saturday mornings to find out if any is available and then come over to St Peter's to get the bread. Social distancing rules, of course, will apply.



Left over bread will be kept in the Office for collection until Thursdays.

Happy *WEDDING* Anniversary

Congratulations to Carole & Lewis Plumridge on their 48th Wedding Anniversary (6/5), and to Felicity & John Horwood on their 50th Wedding Anniversary (9/5).

Happy Birthday Shane!

WEEKLY GIVING

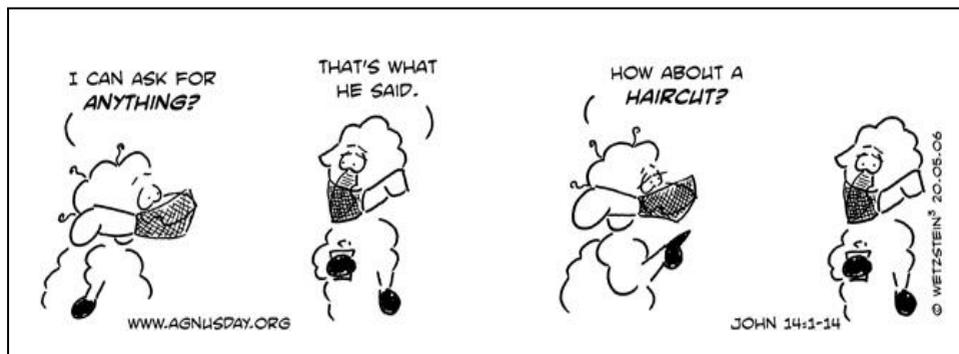
It is important that we continue with our planned weekly giving to support St Peter's. One way to do so is to give through direct payment to our parish bank account.

Acc Name: Anglican Parish of Box Hill

Acc Number: 2971 18084, **BSB** 013225

Reference: WFO (to help our Treasurer know what it is for)

If you do not want to use direct payment, then you can drop off your envelopes to the Parish Office on Tuesdays or Thursdays or at a time that suits you by arrangement with the Vicar. Or post a cheque.



PUZZLING...

CAN YOU FIND SIXTEEN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE HERE?

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible (merely by a fluke). It kept people looking so hard for the facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now. There really are sixteen names of books in this story.

(Thanks to Hilary, and solution next week)

TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

A member of an Anglican congregation offered to paint the outside walls of the old wooden church. The paint was bought for him and he started the job. Half way along the paint was running out and he filled up with paint thinner. Again the paint ran out and he did the same. Overnight there was a rain storm and much of the thinned paint was washed away. On Sunday morning the rest of the congregation complained he had done a poor job. He was very upset and looked up to heaven. "What shall I do, they are all angry with me?" A voice came from heaven. "Repaint, and thin no more."

Jesus, Moses, and an old man go golfing. The first one to tee off is Moses. He smashes the ball and it is heading right for the water hazard before the green. Moses raises his club, the water parts, and the ball makes it to the green. Jesus gets up to swing, cranks it out, and it is headed for the water hazard. Jesus closes his eyes and prays. The ball skips across the water and lands on the green two feet from the hole. The old man's turn comes and he drives the ball. The ball looks like it is going to drop directly into the water. A fish jumps from the water hazard swallowing the ball, as an eagle drops from the sky, grabbing the fish. As the eagle flies over the green, a bolt of lightning strikes the eagle, making it drop the fish. As the fish hits the green, it spits out the ball and the ball falls into the hole, making a hole in one. Jesus looks at Moses and says, "I don't think I'm going to play golf with Dad anymore!"

A man with long brown hair and a goatee is wearing a clear plastic cone around his neck. He is wearing a blue polo shirt with a logo on the left chest that says "South Coast Animal Hospital". To his right, a brown and white dog is sitting and looking at him. A speech bubble is positioned above the dog.

It's for your own good. You have to stop touching your face.

This Week

SUN 10.5.20

Fifth Sunday of **EASTER**

(Go to our website for services and reflections.)

MON 11.5.20

TUES 12.5.20

8.30am-12.30pm **Office open**

WED 13.5.20

THU 14.5.20

10.00-2.00pm **Office open**

FRI 15.5.20

SAT 16.5.20

Food drop off and bread delivery

SUN 17.5.20

Sixth Sunday of **EASTER**



ST PETER'S

1038 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

Parish Office: 9899 5122

Email

anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

Website

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Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Thu 10.00am – 2.00pm

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Sophia Errey 9878 6297

Garry Plumridge 9898 5193

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The Reverend Shane Hübner

T 0432 681 177

E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

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T 9840 7816

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Chinese Ministry

The Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439

Family Minister

Barbara Plumridge

T 0405 193 122

E barbara.plumridge@gmail.com

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

Prayers and Readings from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, Copyright Broughton Publishing 1995.

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