



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
29 August, 2021

**Parish
Link**

The Vicar writes...

Welcome to our online worship today! Today I will focus my sermon on St Aidan whose feast day is Tuesday. But I couldn't pass up the opportunity to say a word or two about the Gospel. It's important to note that Jesus doesn't condemn ritual hand washing in this story. He doesn't argue that all religious traditions are evil. What he indicts is the legalism, self-righteousness, and exclusivism that keeps the Pharisees from freely loving God and loving their neighbours. What he calls out is their elevation of rite over mercy, heritage over hospitality, ritual over compassion. What he grieves is the Pharisees' compulsive need to police the boundaries of their religion, based on their own narrow definitions of purity and piety. So what can we do? How can we discern whether our way of doing religion is life-giving or not? Jesus gives his listeners this advice: notice what comes out of you. Notice what fruit your adherence to tradition bears. Does your version of holiness lead to hospitality? To inclusion? To freedom? Does it cause your heart to open wide with compassion? Does it lead other people to feel loved and welcomed at God's table? Does it make you brave, creative, and joyful? Does it prepare your mind and body for a God who is always doing something fresh and new? Does it facilitate another step forward in your spiritual evolution? Or does it make you small, stingy, and bored? Fearful, suspicious, withholding, and judgmental? Like everything else Jesus offers us, his confrontation with the Pharisees is an invitation. It's an invitation to consider what is really sacred and inviolable in our spiritual lives. It's an invitation to go deeper — past lip service, past tradition, past purity, past piety. It's an invitation to practice what this week's epistle calls "pure religion." A religion of love for the widow, the orphan, the stranger, the outcast, and the enemy. A religion of trust in a surprising, innovating, and ever-creating God. The God of heritage and history, yes. But also the God of an ever-living, ever-changing now.

**The Sunday service will be live-streamed at 9.30am
on Sunday morning.
Please check the parish website for updates.
The church is closed for the present.**

Sentence: Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1.17

Prayer of the Day

Cleanse our consciences, O Lord, and enlighten our hearts through the daily presence of your Son Jesus Christ, that when he comes in glory to be our judge we may be found undefiled and acceptable in his sight; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Song of Songs 2.8-13

⁸ The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. ⁹ My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. ¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; ¹¹ for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. ¹² The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. ¹³ The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

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

Psalm 45.1-2, 45.6-9

¹ My heart is astir with fine phrases, I make my song for a king:
my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

² You are the fairest of men, grace flows from your lips:
therefore has God blessed you for ever and ever.

⁶ Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever:
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.

⁷ You have loved righteousness and hated evil:
therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

⁸ All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes and cassia:
music from ivory palaces makes you glad.

⁹ Kings' daughters are among your noble women:
the queen is at your right hand in gold of Ophir.

Second Reading: James 1.17-27

¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹ You must understand this, my

beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶ If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark, Chapter 7, verses 1-8, 14-23

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' ⁶ He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." ⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.' ¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' ¹⁷ When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸ He said to them, 'Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, ¹⁹ since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?' (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ And he said, 'It is what comes out of a person that defiles. ²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

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

Years Mind

Constance Cox, Father John Stockdale, Ron Bracken, William O'Brien, Heather Woods and Spencer Mack, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; The Diocese of Willochra (Bp John Stead, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Stonnington (Howard Langmead); Church of the New Guinea Martyrs Croydon South (Bruce Bickerdike, James Raistrick); St Mary's Caulfield – 150 years of worship – Oaktree Anglican Church, Caulfield (Abp Philip Freier); St John's Highton – Confirmation Service – Reverend Chris Lynch (Abp Philip Freier); St Matthew's Prahran – Confirmation Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); St Alfred's Blackburn North – Confirmation Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); St Paul & St Barnabas in Newcombe – Pastoral Services (Bp Kate Prowd).

The Parish: Give thanks for community life and fellowship.

The World: Pray for an end to the arms trade and weapon development.

The Nation: Pray for the health of those in rural aboriginal communities

Prayer of the Week

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABM Pew Reflections

James tells us to 'be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like'. James wants us to let what we have heard impel us into action. No sitting in the pews not letting the Spirit into our lives to disturb us. He wants us to 'welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save [our] souls and then get out and do something for God. Send your Spirit to us, Lord, that we might find ourselves disturbed into action for the sake of your kingdom. Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of South India.

Daily Readings

Monday	1 Thessalonians 4.13-18	Ps 96.7-10	Luke 4.16-30
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 5.1-6, 9-11	Ps 27.9-14	Luke 4.31-37
Wednesday	Colossians 1.1-8	Ps 52.8-9	Luke 4.38-44
Thursday	Colossians 1.9-14	Ps 98.1-6	Luke 5.1-11
Friday	Colossians 1.15-20	Ps 100	Luke 5.33-39
Saturday	Colossians 1.21-23	Ps 54	Luke 6.1-5



If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing **before** Thursday 9899 5122 or anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

THE GOOD NEWS

The good news is that the **Reverend Anne Kennedy** has offered to be the editor of our Good News magazine! Any material received has now been given to her for the next edition. Many thanks, Anne!

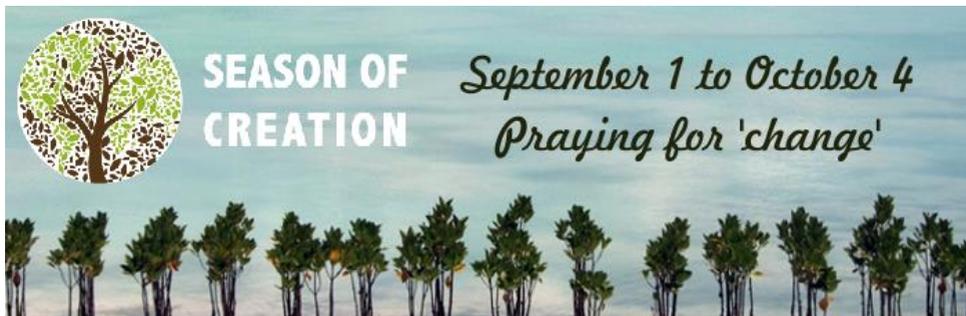
SAFE MINISTRY

Some of you will have received an email from the parish office regarding the Safe Ministry form that is required to be submitted to Kooyoora, the professional standards office representing the diocese. It is important that this form be submitted by mail or email ASAP. Please contact Cecilia with any queries.



OUR PARISH LOGO

We are very grateful to the Reverend David Lamont, former curate of this parish many years ago, for updating the logo he created at that time. We now have the logo in a format that will make it more usable and enable a better image. Many thanks to David for his kindness in donating his time and skill to us.



TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

A devout old shepherd lost his favourite Bible while he was out looking for a wayward lamb. Three weeks later, a sheep walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The shepherd couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the sheep's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"

"Not really," said the sheep. "Your name is written inside the cover."



Week Ahead

SUN 29.8.21

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9.30am live-streamed service

11.30am Mandarin live-streamed service

2.30pm Dinka service

All activities cancelled during lockdown

MON 30.8.21

9.30-10.30am Tai Chi *hall*

6.30-8.30pm Tai Chi *hall*

TUES 31.8.21

9.00-1.00am Men at Work

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

5.30-7.30pm Bellydancing, *hall*

WED 1.9.21

10.30am Eucharist

10-11.30am Tai Chi *hall*

2.00pm Play Group set up, *hall*

8.00pm Choir practice, *undercroft*

THU 2.9.21

10.00am-2.00pm Office open

9.30-11.30 Play Group, *hall*

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

FRI 3.9.21

7.30am Eucharist

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

SAT 4.9.21

10am-1.30pm Saturday School, *hall* and *Undercroft*

SUN 5.9.21

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9.30am Live-streamed service

11.30am Mandarin live-streamed service

2.30pm Dinka service

For the Diary

September 5

Creation Season starts

October 3

FACS Blessing of the pets
10.00am

October 4

Francis of Assisi Day

October 24

Shoebox Sunday

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

The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and are used by permission. All rights reserved.

OUR 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.



ST PETER'S

1038 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

Parish Office: 9899 5122

E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au

Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Thu 10.00am – 2.00pm

Reporting Child Abuse

All child safety concerns must be reported to
Kooyoora Professional Standards
1800 135 246

Mission Statement

Sharing the Good News
Telling the story afresh
Expressing God's love
Serving the community
Nurturing and sharing faith
Equipping to serve

Vision

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

Vicar

The Reverend *Shane Hübner*

T 0432 681 177

E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

Honorary Clergy

The Rt Rev George Hearn,

T 9840 7816

Reverends:

Betty Bracken 9939 5881

Alasdair MacKinnon-Love

0438 323 059

E alasdair@mackinnonlove.com

Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

T 0431 541 535

E aroujoseph18@gmail.com

Chinese Ministry

The Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439

Family Minister

Barbara Plumridge

T 0405 193 122

E barbara.plumridge@gmail.com

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Sophia Errey 9878 6297

Garry Plumridge 9898 5193



QR code
St Peter's

Limited Roster for 9.30am service

	Today 29.8.21	Next week 5.9.21
SIDESPEOPLE	<i>Not required</i>	<i>TBC</i>
SERVERS	<i>As per lockdown team</i>	<i>TBC</i>
READERS	<i>As per lockdown team</i>	<i>TBC</i>
INTERCESSOR	Sophia E.	Michele M
COUNTING	<i>Not required</i>	<i>TBC</i>
MORNING TEA	<i>Not required</i>	<i>Not required</i>