



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL

19 March 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Parish  
Link

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Rev'd Anne writes...

As we've seen time and time again, Jesus turns things upside down in his community. Healing on the Sabbath is a sin according to the Pharisees - yet Jesus, a disciple of Moses, breaks the law and heals the blind man on the Sabbath. A man blind from birth, through an act of Jesus, can miraculously see clearly. There is confusion among the neighbours - is this the same man, blind yet healed? His parents know the healed man is their son, but afraid of the authorities, tell them to go to their son and ask questions. After some confusion in the once-blind man himself, suddenly, not only can he use his eyes to see, but his heart is no longer clouded and he recognises Jesus as sent by God. Jesus searches for the man who was run out of town, and, on finding him, puts the question to him - "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

That's the question we must ask ourselves today - "Do I believe in the Son of Man?" Is it possible that we are still spiritually blind and cannot fully see the precious gift of God - Jesus Christ, the Light of the World?

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**Week 4 Creating a Sacred Space:** Bring nature into your sacred space. For me, a sacred space is not complete unless it incorporates a garden, a plant or even a beautiful photo of a special landscape or flower. God often speaks through the created world, and I think this is important for all of us to include nature in our sacred spaces.

*Hymns:* Introit 447 • Psalm TIS 145 • Gradual 129

*Offertory:* see *sheet* • Communion 633 • Final 675

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month retiring collection for parish outreach**

**Sentence:** Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Joel 2.13

## Special Prayer

### Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and one another: call forth our penitence and acts of love, and strengthen us to face our mortality, so that we may look with confidence for your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Prayer at the time of choosing an incumbent:** Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments; an encourager who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling. Give to those who will choose wisdom, discernment and patience, and give to us warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

### First Reading: 1 Samuel 16.1-13

<sup>1</sup> The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'  
<sup>2</sup> Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord."  
<sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.'  
<sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?'  
<sup>5</sup> He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.  
<sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.'  
<sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.'  
<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.'  
<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.'  
<sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.'  
<sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.'  
<sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.'  
<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came

mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

Psalm: 23

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> **He will make me lie down in green pastures: and lead me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> He will refresh my soul: and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the face of those who trouble me: you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 5.8-14

<sup>8</sup> For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup> Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup> but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John, Chapter 9, beginning at Verse 1

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

<sup>1</sup> As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' <sup>11</sup> He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' <sup>12</sup> They

said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.<sup>14</sup> Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.'<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided.<sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight<sup>19</sup> and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?'<sup>20</sup> His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;<sup>21</sup> but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.'<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.<sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.'<sup>25</sup> He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.'<sup>26</sup> They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?'<sup>27</sup> He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?'<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.'<sup>30</sup> The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.<sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.'<sup>34</sup> They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out.<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'<sup>36</sup> He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.'<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.'<sup>38</sup> He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.'<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?'<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.

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

### Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Years Mind

Millis Taylor, Betty Scott, Don Berkeley, Marjory Evans, Geoffrey Beaumont, Haig Seibel, and Isabel Murray, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



## Prayer Points

*The Church:* St Paul's Geelong (Nigel Pope); The Diocese of Riverina (Bp Donald Kirk, Clergy & People); Defence Force Chaplains; National Bishop's Conference.

*The Parish:* Pray for all those living with chronic, painful or disabling conditions.

*The World:* Pray for those injured in wars, disasters and through cruelty.

*The Nation:* Pray for our state and federal leaders.

## Daily Readings

|           |                    |              |                  |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Monday    | Isaiah 65.17-21    | Ps 30.8-12   | John 4.43        |
| Tuesday   | Ezekiel 47.1-9, 12 | Ps 46.1-7    | John 5.1-3, 5-16 |
| Wednesday | Isaiah 49.8-15     | Ps 145.8-13  | John 5.17-30     |
| Thursday  | Exodus 32.7-14     | Ps 106.20-24 | John 5.31-47     |
| Friday    | Wisdom 2.1, 12-22  | Ps 34.15-22  | John 7.25-30     |
| Saturday  | Jeremiah 11.18-20  | Ps 7.7-12    | John 7.40-52     |



*If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing before Friday at [anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com](mailto:anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com)*

**LENTEN STUDY:** 10.30am Saturday morning March 25, April 1  
7.30 pm Thursday evening Zoom March 23, 30

## MOTHERS' UNION MEETING 22 March

At our next meeting on Wednesday March 22, our guest speaker will be Reverend Anne.

## BULB ORDERS - Fundraiser

Don't forget to order your bulbs! Please take a form and use the safe online ordering system by April 6. Queries? Chat to Hilary. 0400 635 600



**MOTHERS UNION LADY DAY CHORAL EUCHARIST** Sunday 26th March  
4pm at St Paul's Cathedral. Preacher: The Rt Rev'd Kate Prowd. All welcome!

## FRIENDS OF ANGLICAN MUSIC (FOAM) Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March

St John the Evangelist Anglican Church, 5 Finch St., East Malvern

**Rehearsal:** 1.45pm **Service:** 4.00pm

Followed by Afternoon Tea



# Carbon Fast

March 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

for Lent

## **Fast from long showers and using the tumble dryer.**

- Save energy by reducing consumption
- Use a clothes-drying rack
- Take shorter showers

Prayer: God of blessings, the universe sings of your glory. Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awoken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other. Amen.

## **SPECIAL MORNING TEA FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY/REFRESHMENT SUNDAY**

**19th March, after 9.30 service**

At the Special Morning Tea, there will be an opportunity to donate funds to the Bor Orphanage, either in cash or through an electronic funds transfer. Please give generously to this project that will protect over 400 children in South Sudan.

**Anglican Parish of Box Hill:** Bank ANZ, Acc no: 2971 18084, BSB 013225

## **ELECTION OF SYNOD MEMBERS**

It's time to elect two Lay members from our congregations to represent our Parish at the New Synod meeting in October. This vital role enables you as members of the Diocese of Melbourne to have your thoughts considered in the wider forum. Synod involves three consecutive evenings (not all compulsory and some may be by Zoom) and a Saturday at the Cathedral. It's interesting, and a great place to meet other Anglicans fulfilling their roles in the governance of the Church. The election will be held on **2nd April**. Nomination forms are available from the Acting Vicar.

## **TO MAKE YOU SMILE...**

Pastor Paul had been advised by his doctor to lose 30 pounds or risk serious health consequences. The good pastor took his new diet seriously, even changing his driving route to the church building to avoid his favourite bakery. One morning, however, he arrived for Bible study carrying a gigantic devil's food cake. The class chuckled and chided him, but the good pastor's smile remained cherubic.

"This is a very special cake," he explained. "I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window were a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, 'Lord, if you want me to have one of those delicious cakes, let me have a parking place directly in front of the bakery.'

And sure enough," he continued, "the eighth time around the block, there it was!"

## Week Ahead

### SUNDAY 19.3.23

Fourth Sunday in Lent,

**Mothering Sunday**

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Peter's*

4.30-5.30pm Farsi Service, *St Aidan's*

### MON 20.3.23

Vicar's day off

9.30-10.30am Tai Chi *hall*

6.30-8.30pm Tai Chi *hall*

### TUES 21.3.23

9.00-4.00pm Men@Work

1.00-4.30pm Office open (this week only)

6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing, *hall*

### WED 22.3.23

10.30am Eucharist

9.30-11.30am Play group *kindergarten*

10-11.30am Wellways Tai Chi *hall*

8.00-9.00pm Choir practice, *Undercroft*

### THU 23.3.23

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

7.30pm Lenten Study by Zoom

### FRI 24.3.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

### SAT 25.3.23

10.30am Lenten Study, *office*

10.30am-1.30pm SAIL, *hall & Undercroft*

### SUNDAY 26.3.23

Fifth Sunday in Lent, Palm Sunday

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Peter's*

4.30-5.30pm Farsi Service, *St Aidan's*

## For the Diary

### March 23

Thurs Lenten Study by Zoom, 7.30pm

### March 25

Saturday Lenten Study, 10.30am

### March 26

Mothers Union Lady Day Choral Eucharist

4.00pm, St Paul's Cathedral

### April 2

Election of Synod reps

### April 6

Final day for bulb fundraiser

### April 30

Celebration of St Philip's Day

## SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK and EASTER April 4-9

**Tuesday** 7.30pm Holy Communion

**Wednesday** 10.30am Holy Communion;  
7.30pm Tenebrae

**Maundy Thursday** 7.30pm Institution of  
the Last Supper, and Stripping of the Altar

**Good Friday** 7.30pm Service of Reflection

**Holy Saturday** Eve 7.30pm Prayers at the  
Tomb

## EASTER DAY

9.30am Choral Eucharist

## 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 near 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

Eanglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

W [www.anglicansboxhill.org.au](http://www.anglicansboxhill.org.au)

### Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Fri 8.30am – 12.30pm

### 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.

### Reporting Child Abuse

All child safety concerns must be reported to

Kooyoora Professional Standards

1800 135 246

### Vicar

Reverend Anne Kennedy (Acting Vicar)

T 0429 123 478

E robann29@bigpond.com

Assistant priest:

Reverend Alasdair MacKinnon-Love SCP

0438 323 059

E alasdair@mackinnonlove.com

### Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439 E esther\_win@hotmail.com

### Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken 9939 5881

### Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

T 0431 541 535

E aroujoseph18@gmail.com

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Sophia Errey 9878 6297

Garry Male 0421 056 706

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## Roster for Sunday 9.30am service

|             | <b>Today 19.03.23</b>                          | <b>Next week 26.03.23</b>              |
|-------------|--|--|
| SIDESPEOPLE | Michele M, Barbara P                           | Rob K, Martin F                        |
| SERVERS     | Rosemary S, Elizabeth B, <i>Kim C</i>          | Michele M, Elizabeth B, <i>Garry M</i> |
| READERS     | Laurence L, Keith W                            | Jan G, Edwin C                         |
| INTERCESSOR | Keith W  | Elizabeth B                            |
| COUNTING    | Charles B, Lyn B                               | Hilary B, Elizabeth B                  |
| MORNING TEA | <b>Cecilia</b> , Margaret R, Jennifer F, Jan G | <b>Barbara P</b> , Dianne A, Keith W   |

St Peter's is part of the Anglican Church of Australia and the worldwide Anglican Communion. St Peter's church is on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and we acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land.