



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL

11 February 2024

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

# Parish Link

From Father Victor...

## **Gospel: Jesus Heals a Leper (Mark 1:40–45)**

Mark shows the warmth of Jesus' humanity and his concern for the leper. The leper had no right even to approach Jesus, but must have felt that he would get a favourable response, no word of reproach. 'Jesus felt sorry for him' is a weak expression; the Greek is far stronger: colloquially, it can literally be translated 'was gutted'; Jesus felt it to the depths of his being. Then Jesus touched him, both touching someone ritually impure and risking the infection. There have been famous repetitions of this brave and heartfelt gesture: Francis of Assisi kissing a leper's hand, Princess Diana shaking hands with an AIDS sufferer (when the sickness was thought to be contagious by touch). One can imagine the awestruck horror of the bystanders at this outrageous expression of love and sympathy. Why, then, does Jesus 'sternly send him away'? A more faithful rendering would be not 'sternly' but 'in anger'. It is possible that the anger is directed at the leprosy, considered as an exterior invasion, so 'sent *it* away'. At least Jesus' wholehearted emotional involvement with the sufferer is palpable.

Gospel reflection: Wansbrough, Henry. *The Sunday Word: A Commentary on the Sunday Readings*. London; New York: Burns & Oates, 2012.

*Hymns*: Introit: 594 • Psalm: 30 (hymn 18) • Gradual: 703 (twice) •  
Offertory: 609 • Communion: 794 Final: 561

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

**Sentence:** A great prophet has arisen among us! God has visited his people!  
Luke 7.16

**Prayer of the Day:** Everliving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, healed the lepers and brought good news to the despised and outcast: grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control, that in serving others in their need we may strive for the imperishable wreath that you bestow on all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**First Reading:** 2 Kings 5.1-14

<sup>1</sup> Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. <sup>2</sup> Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' <sup>4</sup> So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. <sup>5</sup> And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel. 'He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. <sup>6</sup> He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' <sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.' <sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' <sup>11</sup> But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup> But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?'  
<sup>14</sup> So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

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

## Psalm: 30

- <sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up from the depths:  
and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.
- <sup>2</sup> **O Lord my God, I cried to you: and you have made me whole.**
- <sup>3</sup> You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence:  
you saved my life from among those that go down to the Pit.
- <sup>4</sup> **Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones:  
and give thanks to his holy name.**
- <sup>5</sup> For if in his anger is havoc, in his good favour is life:  
heaviness may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
- <sup>6</sup> **In my prosperity I said 'I shall never be moved:  
your goodness, O Lord, has set me on so firm a hill.'**
- <sup>7</sup> Then you hid your face from me: and I was greatly dismayed.
- <sup>8</sup> **I cried to you, O God: and made my petition humbly to my Lord.**
- <sup>9</sup> 'What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit:  
can the dust give you thanks, or declare your faithfulness?
- <sup>10</sup> **'Hear, O Lord, and be merciful: O Lord, be my helper.'**
- <sup>11</sup> You have turned my lamentation into dancing:  
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,
- <sup>12</sup> **That my heart may sing your praise and never be silent:  
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.**

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9.24-27

<sup>24</sup> Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. <sup>25</sup> Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. <sup>26</sup> So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; <sup>27</sup> but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

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

## The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Mark, Chapter 1, beginning at verse 40

### Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

<sup>40</sup> A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' <sup>41</sup> Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' <sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. <sup>43</sup> After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, <sup>44</sup> saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' <sup>45</sup> But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to

spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

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

**Post Communion Prayer:** God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Church House Publishing 1997

## The Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen

**Prayer of the Week:** Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Years Mind

Marjorie Wright, Jan Smale, John Morris, Leonard Miller, Allan Gale Lily Tighe, and William Bailey, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



## Prayer Points

**The Church:** Redemption Church Craigieburn; Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander people of Australia (Torres Strait Islander Clergy & People); Brotherhood of St Laurence (Conny Lenneberg, CEO, Michelle Trebilcock, Debra Saffrey-Collins, chaplains); Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Abp Justin Badi Arama); Pastoral visits to: St James' Dandenong (Abp Philip Freier) and Bellarine Anglican Parish – (Bp Brad Billings); St Alban's Coburg West and Pascoe Vale South – Confirmation Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Clyde North - morning service (Bp Paul Barker); Ormond Anglican Church – Episcopal visit (Bp Kate Prowd).

**The Parish:** Pray for Reverends Joseph and Esther while they are away.

**The World:** Pray for those suffering in war, especially for children.

**The Nation:** Pray for all in education, teachers, students and administrators.

## Daily Readings

|         |               |              |              |
|---------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Monday  | James 1.1-11  | Ps 119.65-72 | Mark 8.11-13 |
| Tuesday | James 1.12-18 | Ps 94.12-19  | Mark 8.14-21 |

|           |                      |             |                 |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Wednesday | Isaiah 58.1-12       | Ps 51.1-17  | Matthew 6.1-21  |
| Thursday  | Deuteronomy 30.15-20 | Ps 1        | Luke 9.22-25    |
| Friday    | Isaiah 58.1-9a       | Ps 51.15-19 | Matthew 9.14-15 |
| Saturday  | Isaiah 58.9b-14      | Ps 86.1-7   | Luke 5.27-32    |



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

### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The first Parish Council meeting for the year will happen on Tuesday, February 13, in the Undercroft. All reports should reach the Secretary, Garry P, in time for distribution.

### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

Fr Victor will be holding Bible studies this Lent, at two different times:

**Wednesdays 11.30am** (morning tea after 10.30am service, followed by Bible study). **February 21 – March 20**

**Saturdays 10.00am**, followed by morning tea, (office) **February 24 – March 23**

### **TESSELAARS BULB DRIVE**

Orders are now open for the successful Tesselaars Bulbs for you to buy while supporting our parish. They make a wonderful Easter gift for family and friends. The order forms are available from Hilary. Bulb orders are delivered directly to your home.

**Last Dates for orders April 11.**

(If you are uncomfortable with ordering online please contact Hilary Blakeman on 9899 7553 or 0400 635 600.)



### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024**

March 1, Box Hill Baptist Church, 7.30pm. See Jan Gunst for details 0425 757 778

### **MOTHERS UNION 28 February, 1.30 pm.**

At the first meeting for 2024 our Vicar, Revd Victor Fan, will give us a Lenten message and meet members. All parishioners welcome!

### **FASHION PARADE!**

U&I Designs will be having a fashion parade and opportunity to buy in the Undercroft on Wednesday, **March 27 at 1.30pm**. Come and enjoy the fun!

## FOOD COLLECTION

Many thanks for the food that continues to be donated and passed on to those in need. Dixon House has suggestions for items to be donated: muesli bars, spreads such as peanut butter and jam, cereal, cheese and cracker packs. Also noodle cups that can be reconstituted with hot water are easy to use for homeless people.

## THE SRL EAST - SUBURBAN RAIL LOOP EAST

Survey opportunity: <https://www.srleastvisions.com.au/box-hill>

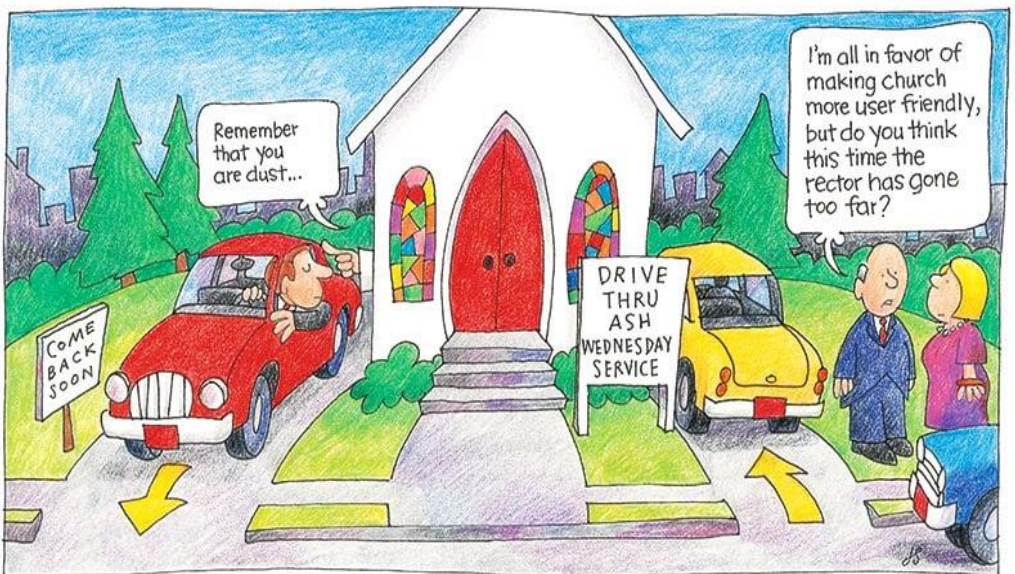
**Closes midnight Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

SRL 'Box Hill "open space" session' at the Box Hill Town Hall on Wednesday 28/2/24 from 4 pm to 7 pm. This will most probably mainly focus on the proposed "linear public green space" along the south side of Whitehorse Road (after it has been transformed into four lanes of traffic on the north side of the Median strip, and all the mature trees on the northern edge have been removed!!!!) between Nelson Road and Linsley Street. **Lastly**, there is a pamphlet pinned on the Noticeboard in the Undercroft, if anyone wishes to read further.

## TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

Why did the Church's Congregation seem annoyed after leaving their Church's Ash Wednesday Service?

They all looked cross!



## Week Ahead

### SUNDAY 11.02.24

#### Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

11.30am Mandarin service

1.00pm Badminton, *hall*

2.30pm Dinka service

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

### MONDAY 12.02.24

6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft*

6.30-8.30pm Celestial Tai Chi, *hall*

### TUES 13.02.23

9.00am-1.00pm Office open

9.00 onwards Parish People@Work

6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing *hall*

7.30pm Commissioning service of new vicar

### WED 14.02.24

#### Ash Wednesday

9.30-11.30am Playgroup, *Kindergarten*

10.30am & 7.30pm Eucharist

10.00-11.30am Tai Chi *hall*,

### THU 15.02.24

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

### FRI 16.02.24

9.00am-1.00pm Office open

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

### SAT 17.02.24

10.30am-1.30pm Sat School

### SUNDAY 18.02.24

#### Second Sunday in Lent

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

11.30am Mandarin service

1.00pm Badminton, *hall*

2.30pm Dinka service

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

## For the Diary

### February 13

Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, U'croft

### February 14

Ash Wednesday

Services: 10.30am, 7.30pm

### February 21, 24

Bible Study

Wed 21/2 11.30am (U'croft) or

Sat 24/2 10.00am (church/office)

### February 28

Mothers' Union Meeting 1.30pm, U'croft

### March 1

World Day of Prayer, 7.30pm

Box Hill Baptist Church

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 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

**E** [anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com](mailto:anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com)

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

Usual Office hours:

Tue & Fri 9.00am – 1.00pm

### 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

Reverend Victor Fan

**T** 0402 948 390

**E** [vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au](mailto:vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au)

### Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang

**T** 0405 602 439 **E** [esther\\_win@hotmail.com](mailto:esther_win@hotmail.com)

### Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken 9939 5881

Reverend Anne Kennedy 0429 123 478

### Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

**T** 0431 541 535

**E** [aroujoseph18@gmail.com](mailto:aroujoseph18@gmail.com)

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Garry Male 0421 056 706

Linda Boyd

### Reporting Child Abuse

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

## Roster for upcoming services

|             | <b>Today 11.02.24</b>                   | <b>Next week 18.02.24</b>                     |
|-------------|---|---|
| SIDESPEOPLE | Noel W, Elizabeth B                     | Michele M, Barbara P                          |
| SERVERS     | Judy J, Michele M, <i>Garry M</i>       | Rosemary S, Elizabeth B, <i>Kim C</i>         |
| READERS     | Garry P, Martin F                       | Rosemary S, Dianne A                          |
| INTERCESSOR | Judy J                                  | Michele M                                     |
| COUNTING    | Garry P, Lyn B                          | Charles B, Margaret R                         |
| MORNING TEA | <b>Rosemary S</b> , Peter W, Margaret R | <b>Cecilia</b> , Jan G, Jennifer R, Barbara M |

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.