

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

28th April 2024



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Please all stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN TIS 439

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

“Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” Jesus said: “This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.”

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (THE HYMN OF PRAISE)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY / COLLECT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, form the minds of your faithful people, that we may love what you command and desire what you promise, so that amid the many changes of this world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE PRAYER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated for the reading

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:26-32 APBA

26 From you springs my praise in the great congregation:

I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

27 **The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:**

**and those who seek the Lord shall praise him—
may their hearts rejoice for ever!**

28 Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord:

and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

29 **For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he shall be ruler over the nations.**

30 How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:

or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

31 **But he has saved my life for himself: and my posterity shall serve him.**

32 This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:

and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St John, 4:7-21.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN 513, verses 1 & 2 (sing verse 2 again after gospel)

THE GOSPEL (Please stand)

Alleluia, **Alleluia.**

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John 15:1-8.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN 513, verse 2

SERMON

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please stand as we affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed, each in our preferred language.

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the Forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *please kneel/sit*

Christ wanted his disciples to be united to him and one another like a vine and its branches. Let us pray for this unity for ourselves and for all of God's people.

(At the end of each section) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Conclude the prayer with:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers:

Grant that what we have asked in faith, we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

[Let us pray.]

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Christians are not a bunch of isolated individuals. Every Christian is linked to Christ and to all other Christians by an invisible bond. This bond is very precious. It was Christ who wished it, and it was he who best described it. He said: "I am the vine, you are the branches". Alas, we often live as if this bond never existed. We live for ourselves. We ignore and sometimes even hurt each other. (Pause).

Lord Jesus, you are the vine, we are the branches.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you make our lives fruitful.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, You bind us to one another so that the world will know that we are your disciples.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do:

**we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please all stand

OFFERTORY HYMN TIS 388 vs 1, 6, 7, 8

The offering is collected during the hymn. The gifts of the people, Bread and Wine and collection of money, are brought to the Lord's Table.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation:
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (Easter II)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,

..... (APBA P154-155)

for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.**
Merciful God, we thank you

..... (APBA P128-129)

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:

..... (APBA P129)

in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray, each in our preferred language:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE CONSECRATED BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

THE INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

COMMUNION

God invites everyone to gather around his table. We extend an invitation to all baptised Christians to come forward and receive this Holy Sacrament. Others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing by crossing arms over the chest.

COMMUNION HYMN TIS 551

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life: who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you by his life-giving Spirit to walk with him in the paths of righteousness and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The National Anthem of Australia

Advance Australia Fair

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are one and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in Nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia fair!
In joyful strains then let us sing,
"Advance Australia fair!"

(sung by choir)

The National Anthem of Aotearoa/New Zealand *God defend New Zealand*

God of Nations at Thy feet,
In the bonds of love we meet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend our free land.
Guard Pacific's triple star
From the shafts of strife and war,
Make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.

*Words: Thomas Bracken Arranged by
Indra Hughes*

RECESSIONAL HYMN TIS 680 Tune 586

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Introduction, *A Celebrant's Guide to the New Sacramentary*, Kevin W. Irwin; Pueblo Publishing Company, New York 1977. Invitation to confession: *Living Liturgy: Spirituality, Celebration, and Catechesis for Sundays and Solemnities, Year B, 2021*, Liturgical Press, 2021. Alleluia Verse, *The Sunday Missal*, 1982. 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. Reading Introductions, Ken Booth. Collect: *A Prayer Book for Australia*, Copyright Broughton Publishing 1995. Peace: *New Patterns for Worship*, Archbishops' Council 2002 and Church House Publishing. Post Communion Sentence, Church House Publishing 1997.



Parish Link

Notices & Information

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Parish Office: 03 9899 5122
E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com
W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au
Usual Office hours:
Tue & Fri 9.00am – 1.00pm

St Peter's, 1038 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. Vicar: Rev'd Victor Fan



Years Mind

Paul Wiltshire, Trevor Frost, Cyril White, Sandy Wilson, and Thomas Orange, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Daily Readings

Monday	Acts 14.5-18	Ps 115.1-7	John 14.21-26
Tuesday	Acts 14.1-28	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 14.12-17
Saturday	Acts 16.1-10	Ps 100	John 15.18-21

Prayer Points

The Church: St Thomas' Moonee Ponds (Vanessa Bennett); The Diocese of Willochra (Bp Jeremy James, Clergy & People); SparkLit (Michael Collie, National Director); The Church of Bangladesh (Bp Samuel Sunil Mankin); Pastoral visits: St Mark's Camberwell (Bp Kate Prowd); St Augustine's Mentone (Bp Paul Barker); Holy Trinity Williamstown (Bp Brad Billings).

The Parish: Pray for God's guidance, love and care of our people.

The World: Pray for those who died in helicopter accidents in Malaysia.

The Nation: Pray for all police personnel who risk their lives for our safety.

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.

FREE CPR TRAINING

St John's Ambulance are offering an online CPR eLearning course. Go to [Free Education & Training \(stjohnvic.com.au\)](http://Free Education & Training (stjohnvic.com.au)) to book or for more information.

MISSION ACTION PLAN (MAP)

This Saturday, **April 27** at **2.00pm**, there will be a meeting of those interested in developing a new MAP in the St Peter's Undercroft.

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH ROSTER

If you would like to be on a **roster to provide a dish of food** for our integrated service lunch on the third Sundays, then please let Cecilia in the office know.

We are hoping to get enough people so that you would only be rostered on every two to three months and provide only one dish each. Easy to handle food such as sandwiches, slices, pies, etc, would be ideal although casseroles and soups would also be welcome. This roster would only be for the provision of food, not the serving or cleaning up. If you can't be part of the roster but would like to help, then we would be pleased to have a donation towards costs of the food provision.

Email Cecilia at anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com or call her on 039 899 5122.

THE SIXTH ROBIN SHARWOOD LECTURE by Ms Mandy Tibbey, barrister.

Church Law and Anti-Discrimination Law: do these need to collide?

Date: Wednesday 15 May 2024 **Time:** 7.30pm, followed by light refreshments

Location: The Craig Auditorium, Gateway Building, Trinity College

100 Royal Parade, Parkville VIC 3052.

Cost: Free, but bookings are essential.

RSVP: By 5pm, Friday 10 May 2024 [Click here to RSVP](#)

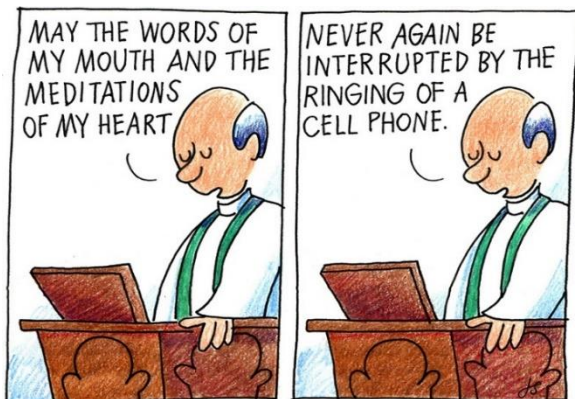
Enquiries: Briony O'Halloran | 03 8341 0216 events@trinity.unimelb.edu.au

MOTHERS UNION

22nd May, 1.30pm in the Undercroft

The speaker is from Mercy Ships. Please join us to hear of the amazing work done on these ships in countries needing medical help. We will have a small trading table with donations going to Mercy Ships.

TO MAKE YOU SMILE...



[Church Pension Group](#)

A dad told his 15 year old son that he would buy him a car...

...in 6 months on his 16th birthday if he (the son) got a job, made all "A's" in school, started going to church every week and cut his hair. The son agreed to do all four things.

Six months go by and the dad told his son, "Son, you got a job, you are going to church every Sunday and are making all "A's" in school. But you also agreed to cut your hair, which you have not done. So I'm sorry, but I will not buy you a car."

The son said, "Dad, like you said, I've been going to church every week and I've been looking at all the pictures of Jesus and HE had long hair, so why can't I?"

The dad replied, "He did have long hair and he also walked everywhere!"

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.

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.

ROSTER	Today 28.04.24	Next week 5.04.24
SIDESPEOPLE	Martin F, Noel W	Rosemary S
SERVERS	Elizabeth B, Michele M, Garry M	Michele M, Judy J, Kim C
READERS	Jan G, Charles B	Conrad H, Kim C
INTERCESSOR	Keith W	Elizabeth B
COUNTING	Rob K, Lyn B	Michele M, Rob K
MORNING TEA	Barbara P, Dianne A, Keith W	Elizabeth B, Lyn B, Laurence L

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

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

Week Ahead

SUNDAY 28.04.24

8.00am Eucharist, **9.30am** Eucharist
11.30am Mandarin service
1.00pm Badminton, *hall*
2.00pm Dinka service

MONDAY 29.04.24

Vicar's day off
6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft*
6.30-8.30pm Celestial Tai Chi, *hall*

TUES 30.04.23

9.00am-1.00pm Office open
9.00 onwards Parish People@Work
6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing, *hall*
7.15-9.30pm Elgar Contact, *Undercroft*

WED 1.04.24

9.30-11.30am Playgroup, *Kinder*
10.30am Eucharist
10.00-11.30am Tai Chi, *hall*
7.30pm Liturgy Group, *Office*
8.00-9.00pm Choir practice, *Undercroft*

THU 2.04.24

Rev'd Esther's day off
6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

FRI 3.04.2

8.00am-1.00pm Office open
7.30pm Chinese prayer
7.30pm Mandarin Bible Study, *Vicarage*

SAT 4.04.24

9.00am-4.30pm VMTA concert, U'croft & church
10.00am Bible Study *office*
10.30am-1.30pm Sat School *U'croft/hall*
2.00pm MAP meeting, *Office*

SUN 5.04.24

8.00am Eucharist, **9.30am** Eucharist
11.30am Mandarin service
1.00pm Badminton, *hall*
2.00pm Dinka service

For the Diary

May 4

Mission Action Plan meeting, 2.00pm, U'croft

May 5

Interment of the ashes of Sophia Errey directly after 9.30am Sunday service

May 18

10.30am Third Sunday of the month integrated service

June 11

Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, U'croft

June 16

Celebration of St Peter's Day
10.30am

CLERGY

Vicar

Reverend Victor Fan T 0402 948 390
E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang T 0405 602 439
E 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

WARDENS:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161
Garry Male 0421 056 706
Linda Boyd 0427 566 398

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.