

# Anglican Parish of Avon

**Sunday 17th Feb. 2019, 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

**Priest in Charge, The Reverend Dave Perryman.**

**Welcome – Wunan Njinda to: - A Service of Holy Communion at: -**

**8.30am, All Saints Briagolong.**

**10am, Holy Trinity Church Stratford.**

You are invited to light a 'Prayer Candle' and enjoy morning tea after the Services. Toilets are located at the rear of the Hall. Holy Trinity is fitted with a hearing loop. Please note that the Holy Trinity Chancel floor slopes up from the front pews to the Lectern; please use the handrail as needed and take care, thank you.

*We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the original inhabitants of this land. We acknowledge their elders past and present and their children who are their hope for the future.*

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

**Opening Hymn: MP 30 'Alleluia alleluia ...'**

**Welcome and Introduction**

**Greeting and Sentence.**

Blessed are you when people hate you on account of the Son of man. Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. *Luke 6.23*

**The Prayer of Preparation.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Righteous God,  
you challenge the powers that rule this world  
and you show favour to the oppressed:  
instil in us a true sense of justice,  
that we may discern the signs of your kingdom  
and strive for right to prevail;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Great is your reward in heaven...*



Luke 6:23

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### **BEING BLESSED**

*While we all like to receive gifts, we sometimes respond uncomfortably to the idea of being blessed. Blessed can take on mixed connotations. To be blessed is to be given a gift unexpectedly and without strings. Under such freedom granted, it's easy to see how some people might mistake being blessed for being entitled, enabling the receiver to assume a higher status. Conversely, we can see blessings as burdens, requiring something of the receiver. The passages for today show us the unique status that being blessed is for human beings. A blessing can change the core of who we are.*

### **A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah**

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord :

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the Lord .

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the Lord ,  
whose trust is the Lord .

<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse—  
who can understand it?

<sup>10</sup> I the Lord test the mind  
and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

Jeremiah 17.5-10

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

## Psalm 1

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed are they  
who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:  
nor followed the way of sinners,  
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.
- <sup>2</sup> But their delight is in the law of the Lord:  
and on that law will they ponder day and night.
- <sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted beside streams of water:  
that yield their fruit in due season.
- <sup>4</sup> Their leaves also shall not wither:  
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.
- <sup>5</sup> As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:  
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.
- <sup>6</sup> Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up  
at the judgement:  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- <sup>7</sup> For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:  
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

*Psalm 1 offers two types of people in this life: the happy and the wicked. The happy have strong roots near an endless source of refreshment, but the wicked are unmoored and at the mercy of the wind.*

## A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Corinthians

<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; <sup>14</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. <sup>15</sup> We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup> If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. <sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

Hear the word of the Lord

**thanks be to God.**

Children's Spot



## **The Gradual Hymn: MP 220 ‘He is Lord . . .’**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

### **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>17</sup> Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

<sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

<sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> ‘Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

‘Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> ‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

<sup>23</sup> Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> ‘But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> ‘Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

‘Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> ‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.            Luke 6:17–26

For the Gospel of the Lord

### **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Luke 6:17–26 repeatedly intones “Blessed are you who.” What does it mean to be blessed? Is it necessarily a good thing? The film *Steel Magnolias* gives a lens into just how fraught it is to receive a “blessing” from someone. When Clairee Belcher and Ouiser Boudreaux dissect the flaws and misfortunes of each of Shelby’s wedding guests, then wipe away their bitterness with: “Bless her heart,” the gig is up for people who use this phrase as a smokescreen to discuss the most unfortunate events or salacious gossip. The *Urban Dictionary* defines “bless your heart” as “the most*

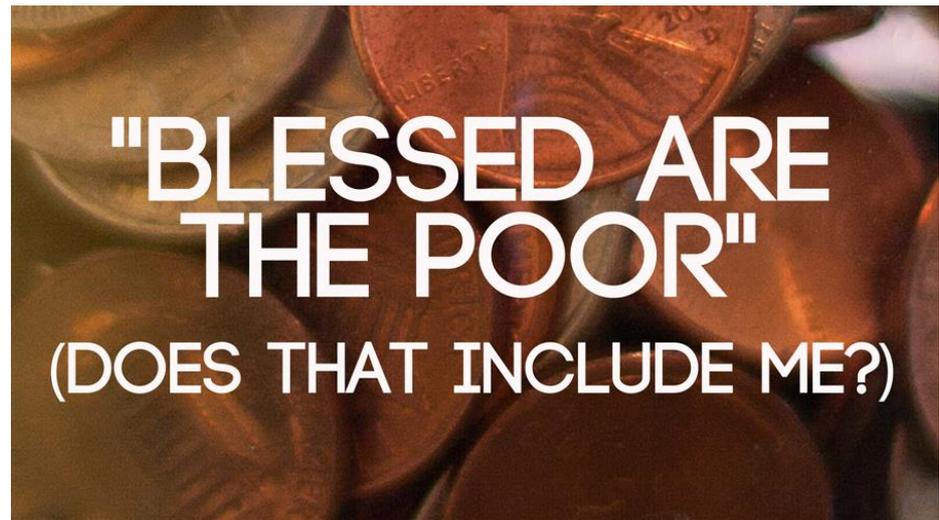
*Southern insult there is” It is used at the end of a phrase to “nullify any cruelty.” Even a phrase like “count your blessings” can be levelled unkindly and dismissively. It functions in the same way the more contemporary “first world problems” does in an attempt to trivialize the painful reality of a person in the face of another. The laundry list of blessed-ness in Luke’s beatitudes holds within it a similar ambivalence. Blessed are the poor, the hungry, the weeping, the hated and excluded, says Jesus in Luke. This is not exactly a typical idea of having privilege over others. We often create a distance between us and people we deem as blessed or gifted, putting them in separate social circles or school classes. This creates a barrier for sharing gifts with each other. It creates disconnection whether we mean it to or not.*

## **Sermon**

## **Reflection**

## **Affirmation of Faith**

## **Prayers of the People**



### **The World and The Church. We Pray for: -**

- War torn countries, for peace and an end to violence.
- World leaders and the UN, that they will find a way forward that leads to peace, an end to wars and political violence, for tolerance and reconciliation between all peoples.
- Refugees all over the world. For an end to despair and beginning of new hope.
- All who are suffering devastation from natural disasters throughout the world and especially those in our own land of extreme weather events. All who are suffering the devastation of the floods in Townsville, and the bush fires in Tasmania and Victoria
- Better and wiser decisions in caring for the environment. For ongoing issues of animal cruelty and environmental destruction.
- An end to violence against women . . . domestic, in the community and in countries like Saudi Arabia.

### **The local community: We pray for: -**

- Our mainly music program. May it always grow in ministry and success. For May and the team
- The op shop. All who shop and donate there. For Coordinators Bev and John and all volunteers.

**The Church: We pray for: -**

- Bishop Richard as he leads the clergy and ministry of the Diocese.
- The Parish of Traralgon, Jeff Richardson. Marilyn Obersby, Adrian
- The Cathedral Church. The Dean, Clergy, Canons, and Cathedral Chapter.
- Diocese of Willochra Bishop: John Stead.
- *All in the Parish of Avon, for David and his ministry in the parish and beyond. For Emma and their boys. For our ministry teams and programs. For the success of The Family Fun Fair this year as we reach out to families.*
- The Clergy Appointments Board – that God’s call to ministry may be heard and heeded. The vocational Panel. The Ecumenical Affairs Committee of the Province. Other denominations in our town and their clergy. All clergy who have Permission to Officiate in the Diocese.
- We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, and for those who care for them. We pray for the sick; for those who mourn; for those without faith, hope or love. We pray for those known to us and those who are in special need of our prayers at this time.  
Crystal, Pete, Cassidy, Prec, Bruce, Shane, David, Geoff, Ray, Isobel, Emma, Jacob, Daryl, Ned, Jan, Bob, Craig, Richard, Gail, Karen, Julie and Mick.

**We hold in our deepest thoughts and prayers:- our parish family . . . Coralie, Megan, Kristen and Paul; Tristan and Jon; Olivia, Violet and Nora, following the death of a beloved husband, father and grandfather, Steve.**

**Enfold them in Your comforting love Lord and grant them Your peace.**

**We hold in our prayers, Graham and all of the Snowden family; Gayle and the Mundy family. Lynette and Brian Teese and the Bertram families. May they feel your love and peace, and the countenance and support of your presence.**

**Confession      Absolution**

**Greeting of Peace.      Offertory Hymn MP 377 ‘Jesus Prince and Saviour . . .’**

**Holy Communion.**

**Announcements.**

**Final Hymn: MP ‘Hope of the world .. .’**

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## News and Notes

**The Healing service** has been postponed from this afternoon to 4pm next Sunday afternoon (24<sup>th</sup>). Dave is required to attend an Induction at Churchill this afternoon.

**The Memorial Service** for Steve Nichols on Tuesday last was a wonderful tribute to a quiet unassuming gentleman whose generous soul, loving spirit and unique sense of humour will long be remembered.

As mentioned in a previous Bulletin, Steve was a very generous supporter of Holy Trinity and the op shop.

We urge our faith community to continue supporting SF & CI Nichols Electrical Pty Ltd i.e. Coralie, Paul and all of their team.

Thank you to all who assisted in our preparation for the Service.

To the men who set up the hall and cleared away. To John for collecting extra chairs from the RSL.

To our wonderful cooks who so willingly ‘stepped up’ and to all those who assisted with the catering in a range of ways. To Judy Kelly who did all of the buying and most of the carting and to the Fire Brigade Ladies Auxiliary who donated all of the sandwiches.

**Safe Ministry.** As explained last week, we all need to ‘get on board’ with Safe Ministry Certification.

Dave and the Reverend Brenda Burney will be conducting a full day workshop here in the Parish Hall **this Friday week, 22<sup>nd</sup> February from 9.30am to 4pm. Dave will be speaking individually to those of us who have yet to attend a full day workshop or a half day workshop.** This is a great opportunity to “get it done”! and to move towards our parish achieving full compliance.

**The Family Fun Fair Planning Group** worked hard at the meeting last Thursday.

\*We need lots of wrapped cakes and slices for the cake stall please, NO cream . . . thank you. \*Linda Tatterson and Judy T need our help with supplying pot plants.

**This Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**:- Parish Council Reports are due and at 7.30pm Dave will be attending ‘The Second Robin Sharwood Lecture in Church Law’ at Trinity College.

**Please note in your diary** that the Ash Wednesday service at Holy Trinity will commence at 7.30pm rather than 7pm. This is to enable Dave and concerned parishioners to attend a service at the Cathedral at 5.30pm. A service of ‘contrition and lament’ in acknowledgement of the collective failure of the church toward victims and survivors of sexual abuse in Anglican institutions.

## WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

### **FEBRUARY**

*Op shop Easter raffle commences. ?Lions Dinner this month*

**Thursdays** 9.30am, mainly music during school term in the Parish Hall.

**Fridays** 9am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity

**Wed. 20<sup>th</sup>** UN World Day of Social Justice. Parish Council Reports due.  
7.30pm Dave attending 'The Second Robin Sharwood Lecture in Church Law'. Trinity College.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>.** 9.30-4pm. Safe Ministry Workshop, Parish Hall.

**Sun. 24<sup>th</sup>** 7th Sunday after The Epiphany

4pm Healing Service

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**Tues 26<sup>th</sup>** 3pm Freemason's Service.

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup>** 11am Family Fun Fair Planning Meeting. Parish Council.

### **MARCH**

**Thursdays** 9.30am mainly music in the Parish Hall. During School Term

**Fridays** 9am Morning Prayers at Holy Trinity

**Fri 1st** 7.30pm World Day of Prayer, Holy Trinity. *Slovenia*

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup>.** 10am to 2pm. Family Fun Fair

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**Sun 3rd** Last Sunday after The Epiphany

Harvest Festival at All Saints. Pancakes at Holy Trinity.

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup>** Shrove Tuesday. Pancake Outreach from the Op Shop.

**Wed. 6<sup>th</sup>** Ash Wednesday. 7.30pm Service at Holy Trinity

5.30pm at the Cathedral: a service of 'contrition and lament' in acknowledgement of the collective failure of the church toward victims and survivors of sexual abuse in Anglican institutions.

**Sun 10th** Dave away. Laurie Baker Preaching & Presiding. First Sunday in Lent.

1pm Wedding at Holy Trinity. Dave returning to preside at the wedding.

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup>.** Labour Day

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup>** 6.30pm Parish Dinner at Briagolong.

**Sat 16<sup>th</sup>.** 9.30 am-3.30pm. Anam Cara Quiet Day with Bishop Richard. Men's Breakfast

**Sun 17<sup>th</sup>** Lent 2. \*March 16th to 24<sup>th</sup> Cultural Diversity Week. Peter Down Preaching.

Harvest festival at St Mary's. Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity.

4pm Healing Service

### **ROSTER - 24th February, 7th Sunday after Epiphany.**

**Read: Genesis 45.3-11,15. Ps.37.1-11,40-41 1Cor. 15.35-50 Luke 6.27-38**

**Priest: Dave. Sunday School: Judy K. Lit. Assist: Gail. 2<sup>nd</sup> Judy T.**

**Readers: Wendy, Jan. Intercess: Gail. Org: Vic. Sides: Bev T. Bev H.**

**PPT: Denise. Flowers: Jillian. Morning Tea: Sandra Nola. Sac: May.**

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