

# Anglican Parish of Avon

**Sunday 9 February, 5th After Epiphany**

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

**A Very Warm Welcome to The Reverend Heather Toms, Presiding & Preaching in the Parish Today.**



Salt and Light. Matthew 5:13-20

***Welcome – Wunan Njinda to: -***

***A Service of Holy Communion - 8.30am at St Mary's,  
10am Holy Trinity Church, Stratford.***

**All are welcome!!**

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 Kumai 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: TiS 106 'Now thank we all our God . . . '**

**Welcome and Introduction.**

**Greeting and Sentence**

'Is not this the fast that I choose,' says the Lord: 'to loose the bonds of injustice, and to let the oppressed go free?' Isaiah 58.6

**Prayer of Preparation. Gloria**

**Prayer of the Day**

Faithful God,  
you have appointed us your witnesses,  
to be a light that shines in the world:  
let us not hide the bright hope you have given us,  
but tell everyone your love,  
revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

### ***SHINE***

*Jesus teaches that we are salt and light, as we seek to live as God's people in the world. With the Spirit's help, we offer our gifts and talents to extend the reach of God's realm. With Isaiah and the psalmist, we learn what it means to "practice righteousness" as we live out the heart of our faith.*

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**A Reading from the Book of Isaiah**

<sup>1</sup> Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practised righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgements,  
they delight to draw near to God.

<sup>3</sup> ‘Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?’  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day,  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the Lord ?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.

<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

- <sup>11</sup> The Lord will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.
- <sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.      *Isaiah 58:1-12*

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

## **Psalm 112**

- <sup>1</sup> O praise the Lord. Blessed are they fear the Lord:  
and greatly delight in his commandments.
- <sup>2</sup> **Their children shall be mighty in the land:  
an upright race who will be blessed.**
- <sup>3</sup> Riches and plenty shall be in their house:  
and their righteousness shall stand for ever.
- <sup>4</sup> **Light arises in darkness for the upright:  
gracious and merciful are the righteous.**
- <sup>5</sup> It goes well with those who act generously and lend:  
who guide their affairs with justice.
- <sup>6</sup> **Surely they shall never be moved:  
the righteous shall be held in everlasting remembrance.**
- <sup>7</sup> They will not fear bad tidings:  
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
- <sup>8</sup> **Their hearts are confident and will not fear:  
they will see the downfall of their enemies.**
- <sup>9</sup> They give freely to the poor:  
their righteousness stands for ever,  
their head is uplifted in glory.
- <sup>10</sup> **The wicked shall see it and be angry:  
they shall gnash their teeth and consume away;  
and the hope of the wicked shall fail.**

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

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.

<sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

<sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.

<sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

<sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish.

<sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.

<sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

<sup>9</sup> But, as it is written,

‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him’—

<sup>10</sup> these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

<sup>11</sup> For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

<sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

<sup>13</sup> And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup> Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are discerned spiritually.

<sup>15</sup> Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup> ‘For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?’ But we have the mind of Christ. *I Corinthians 2:1-16*

Hear the word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God**

**‘Early Talk’**

## **Gradual Hymn: TiS 643. ‘I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light . . . ‘**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew,

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>13</sup> ‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup> ‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. <sup>17</sup> ‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. *Matthew 5:13-20*

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

Sermon

Creed

**The Prayers of the People.**

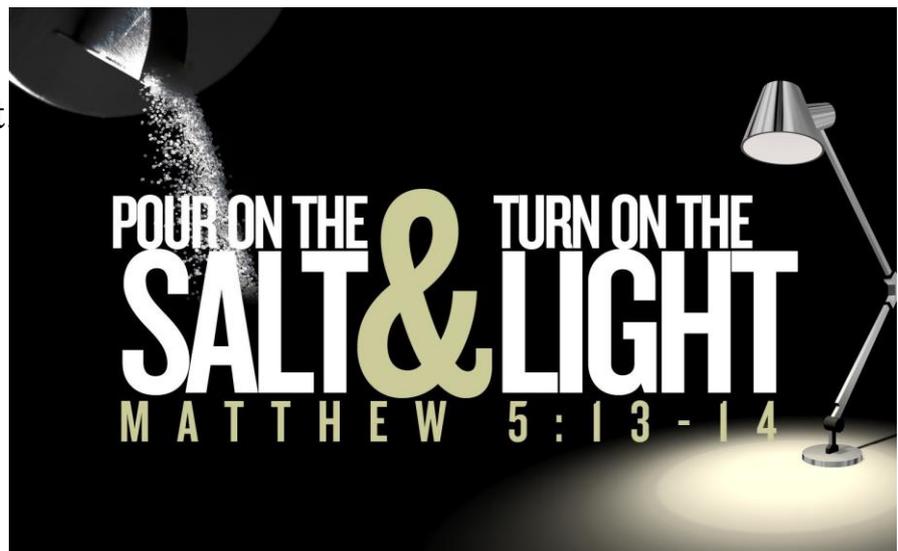
**We pray for:-**

\*Those who are caught in the world’s conflicts and natural disasters ; innocent men, women and children.

\* For those impacted by the coronavirus in so many ways – world-wide. For healing and control with eventual eradication of the virus.

\*Our fire-ravaged nation, especially for all who have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods and for the suffering animals. May we continue to face this crisis together with determination, courage and community spirit.

\*We give thanks for the heroic fire-fighters, emergency services personnel, defense forces and thousands of community volunteers and for the soaking rain



that has fallen in many areas. For those still stricken by drought and give rest and refreshment to all who toil in such harsh conditions.

\*For policy-makers in government, business and public life. May they put differences aside and work together to put effective fuel load reduction and climate change measures into action.

\*For the leaders of every nation in the Middle East. That they will renounce destructive hostilities and commit themselves to negotiations for peace.

\*We pray for church communities around the world, that they radiate the light of Christ and be an inspiring sign of God's saving love.

\*For our Bishop, Richard, as he leads the ministry of the diocese.

\*Our Minister Dave, giving thanks for his ministry among us. May the Holy Spirit guide us all in our ministry, mission and sharing of Christ in our community.

\*For Emma and their boys. Bless them and keep them well and safe.

For the Parish of Heyfield: Lyndon Phillips, Harry. The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn: Bishop Mark Short, Bishops: Trevor Edwards, Stephen Pickard.

\*For the coordinators of our op shop: Bev and John; of mainly music: May and Bev, and for all who volunteer to work with us.

\*We pray for the sick, the lonely, sad and suffering, and all who care for them.

We pray especially at this time *for Keith, Marion, Phillip, Peter, Ruth, Aileen, Peter T., Brenda, Mark, Alice, Kerrie, Scarlet, Boyd, Brian, Jacob, Emma, Crystal, Pete, Bruce, Geoff, Daryl, Jan, Bob, Craig, Richard, Gail, Karen, Julie and Mick.* In your goodness and mercy grant them health of body, soundness of mind and peace of heart.

Merciful God, you sent your beloved Son to be servant and saviour of all. Keep our hearts open to the gift of his grace and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Confession and Absolution.**

**Greeting of Peace**

**Offertory Hymn: TiS 414. 'There's a Spirit in the Air . . .'** **Offertory Prayer.**

**The Great Thanksgiving and Communion.**

**Sending out of God's people.**

**Announcements.**

**Final Hymn: 'Shine Jesus Shine . . .'**

**Blessing. Dismissal and Recessional Music** *APBA & NRS portions reprinted with permission, Copyright Broughton Publishing Pty Ltd*

## **NEWS AND NOTES**

### **Today we extend a very warm welcome to Heather and Max Toms.**

We welcome Heather as she leads us in worship and look forward to sharing fellowship with her and Max after the service.

### **This Thursday 13, is the Anniversary of the National Apology to the Indigenous Australian "Stolen Generation".**

On 13 February 2008, Prime Minister **Kevin Rudd** made a formal **apology** to Australia's Indigenous peoples, particularly to the **Stolen Generations** whose lives had been blighted by past government policies of forced child removal and Indigenous assimilation. It is estimated that between 1883 and 1969 more than **6,200 children** were stolen in NSW alone.

### **News from Parish Council:**

(1) **Council resolved to add \$500** to the \$375.60 donated through the Retiring Offertories to the Diocesan Trust Fund for the victims of the East Gippsland Bush Fires.

(2) **Parish Council resolved that an Avon Parish Craft and Activities group be formed.** The group will gather on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, 9am to 1pm, commencing in March, 2020. The formation of the group was proposed by Sandra Meredith. Morning tea can be 'bring and share' with tea / coffee and use of the hall provided by the parish. The men enjoy the 'Men's Breakfast' group and soon we'll have a craft and hobbies group for the women. We encourage all the ladies in our parish to come along and enjoy a social chat while sewing, scrap booking, knitting or any other favourite activity.

**Easter raffle at the op shop.** **The collection of Easter fare needs to commence ASAP.** Would our generous parishioners please assist with a collection of Easter eggs and other similar fare for a good raffle – thank you.

**Shrove Tuesday morning:** we will be serving pancakes, tea and coffee, alfresco, in front of the op shop from 10am to 12md. Please come for morning tea and a chat with people from our community We will again deliver pancakes to businesses in Stratford and our supporters elsewhere.

**Shrove Tuesday evening:** at 6pm, St Andrews parishioners will be serving a pancakes dinner in the hall, Jones St., at a cost of \$10 per person or \$30 per family. All welcome!

**St Andrews 'Old time / Good time fun': 8pm to 11.30pm at St Andrews Hall,** Friday 14 February, 2020. Dance to music provided by Norm Lade, play table games or just listen to the music and enjoy an old-fashioned supper. All for just \$10 entry. Everybody welcome!

**Denise Vranek.**

## PARISH DIARY & HOLY TRINITY ROSTER

### February 2020

*Op shop Easter raffle commences.*

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

*Fridays 9am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity*

### **Retiring Offertory: MAF.**

**Thurs. 13 National Apology to the Stolen Generation.**

**Fri 14 8pm. Old time / good time fun. St Andrews UCA Stratford.**

**Sat 15 Men's Breakfast group.**

**Sun 16 Sixth Sunday after The Epiphany.**

**Rev Heather Toms Preaching & Presiding**

**Wed. 19 Parish Council Reports due.**

**Thurs 20 UN World Day of Social Justice**

**Fri 21 Lenten Conversation. + Richard & + Patrick at the Abbey,  
10am – 3.30pm.**

**6pm-8.30pm. Dave leading Safe Church Ministry, Warragul**

**Sat 22 9.30am-4pm Safe Church Ministry Workshop, Warragul.**

**Sat.22 Scout Founders Day.**

**Sun. 23 Last Sunday before Lent. Transfiguration Sunday.**

**MAF speaker at Holy Trinity.**

**7.30pm Community Carols Planning group Meeting.**

**Tues. 25 Shrove Tuesday. 10am Pancakes at the Op Shop.**

**7.30pm Parish Council**

**Wed. 26 Ash Wednesday. 7pm Service at Holy Trinity**

### March

**Pastoral Care Training Day by the end of this month at Bairnsdale. Date to be finalized.**

### **Retiring Offertory: Eye Care Vanuatu**

**Sun 1 First Sunday in Lent Harvest Festival at All Saints.**

**All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity. Congregational Meeting (1)**

### Holy Trinity Roster – 16 February, Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

**Deut.10.12-22 Ps.119.1-8. 1 Cor 3.1-9 Matthew 5.21-37**

**Priest: Heather. Lit Assist Vic, Judy K. Read: Julie Fitt, Sandra**

**Intercess: Vic. Org: May. Sides: Judy T, Nola. PPT: Denise**

**Flowers: Nola. MT: Kerry C, Megan/Tristan. Sacristan: Judy T.**

**Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035 379.**

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