

# Anglican Parish of Avon

**Sunday 8 November, 23rd Sunday of Pentecost.  
The Sunday nearest Remembrance Day!**

**AGM of the Parish 11am today at Holy Trinity  
Priest in Charge, The Reverend Dave Perryman.**

**Be Ready...**



*Matthew 25:1-13*

**Welcome – Wunan Njinda to: -  
8.30am at St Mary's Munro and  
10am Worship at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford,  
ALSO Via Zoom, Facebook or 'Phone-in'.**

***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: 'Give me oil in my lamp' – MP 167**

1 Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,  
give me oil in my lamp, I pray;  
give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,  
keep me burning till the break of day.

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
sing hosanna to the King!*

2 Give me joy in my heart, keep me singing,  
give me joy in my heart, I pray;  
give me joy in my heart, keep me singing,  
keep me singing till the break of day.

*Sing hosanna...*

3 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
give me love in my heart, I pray;  
give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
keep me serving till the break of day.

*Sing hosanna...*

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## **Welcome/Acknowledgement of Country**

### **Greeting & Call to Worship**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

We lift our eyes to the Lord.  
**God created the heavens and the earth**

We raise our voices in songs and speech  
**We raise our voices in prayer and praise.**

Lord, hear our prayers, accept our praise.  
**Lord, open our hearts to receive your blessings of peace.**

## **The Sentence**

“Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.”

*(Matthew 24. 42, 44)*

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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 Confession**

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

*Silence for self-reflection*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness,

**O Lord our God,  
you know us better than we know ourselves.  
As we come before you now,  
believers and doubters alike,**

**we all share a deep need,  
for we are all lost without your grace.  
Search us, O God, and know our hearts,  
test us and know our troubled thoughts.  
Give us true repentance.  
Forgive us all our wrongs.  
Transform us by your Spirit to live for you each day,  
to learn to serve each other  
and, through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to come at last to heaven. Amen.**

## **The Absolution**

May God our Father forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to the fellowship of his table  
with his saints for ever.  
**Amen.**

## **The Prayer of the Day**

Eternal God,  
you have taught us that the night is far spent  
and the day is at hand:  
keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom,  
so that when Christ, the bridegroom, comes  
we may go out joyfully to meet him,  
and with him enter into the marriage feast  
that you have prepared for all who truly love you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Ministry of the Word**

### **The First Reading**

#### **A Reading from Pauls First Letter to the Thessalonians**

9 Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one

another; <sup>10</sup>and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, <sup>11</sup>to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, <sup>12</sup>so that you may behave properly towards outsiders and be dependent on no one.

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4. 9-18*

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

**Psalm 78** – *We will say the Psalm together*

**1 Give heed to my teaching, O my people:  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;**

**2 For I will open my mouth in a parable:  
and expound the mysteries of former times.**

**3 What we have heard and known:  
what our forebears have told us,**

**4 We will not hide from their children,  
but declare to a generation yet to come:  
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,  
his mighty and wonderful works.**

**5 He established a law in Jacob  
and made a decree in Israel:  
which he commanded our ancestors**

**to teach their children,**

**6 That future generations might know,  
and those yet unborn:  
that they in turn might teach it to their children;**

**7 So that they might put their confidence in God:  
and not forget his works, but keep his commandments.**

## **Early Talk**

### **Gospel Reading**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

25‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” 7Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” 9But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” 10And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” 12But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” 13Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

*Matthew 25. 1-13*

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

### **The Affirmation of Faith**

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:  
**We believe in one God,  
who made and loves all that is.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was born, lived, died and rose again,  
and is coming to call all to account.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit  
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,  
and brings all things to their true end.  
This is our faith, the faith of the Church:  
We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **The Prayers**

*Please sit or kneel for prayer as you are able.*

*Response:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,  
**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.**

## **The Greeting of Peace**

We are the body of Christ.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

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

## **Offertory Prayer**

Lord of blessings and hope, we give to you these gifts as tokens of our lives. Use these gifts for healing and hope in your world.  
Use us as instruments of peace.  
**Blessed be God forever.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

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 our thanks and praise.**

And now we give you thanks  
that he is the King of glory,  
who overcomes the sting of death  
and opens the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
He is seated at your right hand in glory  
and we believe that he will come to be our judge.

Therefore, with people of every nation, tribe and language,  
with the whole Church on earth and in heaven,  
joyfully we give you thanks and say:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you.

He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood,  
the new promise of God's unfailing love.  
Do this to remember me.

With thanksgiving and hope we say:  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ;**  
**your death we show forth;**  
**your resurrection we proclaim;**  
**your coming we await;**  
**Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

**Father, as we bring this bread and wine,**  
**and remember his death and resurrection,**  
**send your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we who share these gifts**  
**may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.**

**Pour your Spirit on us**  
**that we may love one another,**  
**work for the healing of the earth,**  
**and share the good news of Jesus,**  
**as we wait for his coming in glory.**

**For honour and praise belong to you, Father,**  
**with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:**  
**one God, for ever and ever.**  
**Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread and Communion**  
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.**

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

*For those unable to receive Holy Communion this Sunday, you may like to practice the tradition of 'spiritual communion' as you watch and listen, the following prayer may be helpful:*

*O Lord Jesus Christ, through your tender mercy grant that as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so the soul of this your servant may be healed by like faith in you, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive. In union with the faithful at every altar-table in your Church I desire to be united with you and pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Let nothing ever separate me from your love, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## **The Sending Out of God's People**

God of peace,  
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom  
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:  
look with compassion on the suffering of the world,  
and by your healing power  
make whole both people and nations;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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.**

## **Announcements**

### **Final Hymn: 'Go forth in his name' MP 955**

1 We are His children, the fruit of His suffering,  
saved and redeemed by His blood;  
called to be holy, a light to the nations:  
clothed with His power, filled with His love.

*Go forth in His name,  
proclaiming 'Jesus reigns!'  
Now is the time for the Church to arise  
and proclaim Him, 'Jesus,  
Saviour, Redeemer and Lord.'*

2 Countless the souls that are stumbling in darkness:  
why do we sleep in the light?  
Jesus commands us to go, make disciples –  
this is our cause, this is our fight.  
*Go forth in His name...*

3 Listen, the wind of the Spirit is blowing,  
the end of the age is so near;  
powers in the earth and the heavens are shaking,  
Jesus our Lord soon shall appear!  
*Go forth in His name...*

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## **The Blessing**

The blessing of God the Father, who sent his Son to our Saviour,  
the blessing of the Son, who will come back to take us to be with him,  
and the blessing of the Holy Spirit, who helps us prepare for Jesus'  
return, be with us all, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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## **BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS**

**This Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November is Remembrance Day when we remember all who suffered and those who made the supreme sacrifice that we may have the freedom we are blessed with today.**

### **A Prayer for the defence and police forces of Australia.**

Eternal God, the only source of peace,  
we pray for all who serve in the defence and  
police forces of this land.  
Give them courage and comfort in danger,  
patience in waiting, and discipline in the just use of force.  
Help us to seek for all people  
the freedom to serve you and each other in compassion and peace.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *APBA p.204 #10*

#### **We pray:-**

- \*For our greater care and preservation of our environment.
- \*For peace in places of conflict and violence. Provision of safe-haven for refugees. Inspiration of world leaders with creativity and wisdom.
- For an end to the racial and social injustices in our own country.

For those living through ill health, social unrest and economic hardship viewed through the lens of a world-wide pandemic. We pray for the work of world medical scientists as they trial vaccines and other treatments.

- \*For all front-line health carers, for their energy and safety.
- \*For safe management of infection control in our own community, our op shop, all businesses and in our churches.

- \*For the worldwide church, our Diocese, and the churches in our local community. For guidance and inspiring energy for Dave as he leads the parish through continued lockdown and into an intergenerational post pandemic parish. For Emma and their 4 children.

- \*Help us in discipleship, to take your message of love and concern for everyone into our community.

- \* Bless and guide us through our parish AGM – that we will be

wise, considerate, discerning and committed to fulfilling your will in the parish.

\*For our mainly music families, that we can continue to connect with them.

\*For our Retiring Offertory – The Diocese of Gahini, Rwanda

\*For the Parish of Heyfield: Judith Lake, parishioners and friends.

\*Healing God, we lift to you those who are suffering in our parish. Those with physical, mental or emotional illness, those who are losing life and those who are mourning.

*We pray especially for Marion, Aubrey, Julie, Brenda, Liliias, Marj, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Crystal, Daryl, Jan and Mick.*

*God of Comfort, enfold Claureen, her family and friends in your loving comfort and peace following the death of David.*

**Everlasting God, wash away the wounds of war, violence, and hatred, help us to recognise how blessed Jesus named the peacemakers and to know that if we really wish for a peaceful world we should honestly pray – “Let it begin with me.”**

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## NEWS AND NOTES

Greetings friends,

The AGM of the parish will convene at 11am today at Holy Trinity.

We will join together on Zoom for a time of social fellowship later today, probably at 1pm.

The Healing services held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, 4pm in Holy Trinity, will re-commence today. This is a very special little service of reflection and peace.

The Parish Raffle stationed at the op shop needs to be built up ASAP. We are asking for donations of Christmassy fare to be left in the basket at the back of Holy Trinity or at the op shop please – thank you.

The Second Session of the Thirty-Ninth Synod, 2020.

This Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom, Synod will commence at 7.30pm with a pre-recorded Synod Service from St Pauls Cathedral, Sale, and will include the Presidential Address.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> at 8.30am, will commence with Morning Prayer, sessions will continue till closing Prayers at 12.20pm and conclusion at 12.30pm.

Please remember that when intending to come to church, please contact Dave early in the week. If for some reason you have a change of plans, please then cancel your booking ASAP so that Dave knows exactly how many folks to expect.

A project for us all!

You may recall that the current Diocesan Strategic Direction Brochure (blue) 'JESUS CHRIST, HERE AND NOW FOR GIPPSLAND' was/is current from 2017 to 2020.

As part of a consultative process in renewing the strategic directions for 2021/24, Bishop Richard is keen to involve all parishioners and clergy, and as an initial action at the parish level.

The questions Bishop Richard wants us to seriously think about and then discuss as a group (at an appointed time) are:-

*Following the experience of the recent months of 'shutdowns' and eventual* 14

return to gathered worship etc.

- 1. What is something we want to START?**
- 2. What is something we may need to STOP?**
- 3. What is something we need to KEEP? (keep doing)**

**We look forward to your thoughts!!**

**Dave has asked that we share the following message:**

**Catherine Muston, Community Development Officer | Parish Partnerships, Anglicare writes:**

*Many of you will be aware through your own work of the cycle of trauma-addiction-violence-imprisonment that is the reality for so many local Aboriginal men. You will also know that having stable affordable accommodation can be very difficult to find for those leaving prison.*

*A group of mostly Aboriginal people have been working to develop a way to address this cycle through the establishment of a culturally sensitive accommodation and training place for Aboriginal men leaving prison. To date, 25 acres of land has been donated at a peppercorn rate for 50 years, many local leaders and organisations (including AV) have provided letters of support, and there have been undertakings for employment and education to be provided once the program is established. **The next step is to incorporate Warrigunya and to build a membership base.***

*Membership of Warrigunya is open to anyone who is interested in supporting this project. There may be people in your congregations who would be interested in becoming a member of this organisation, and there may be others who would feel called to pray for its development. This has been led by uncle Alan Coe who is a worshipping member of the lakes Entrance Baptist church and Merryn Stevenson who is a member of the Cathedral parish. It is free and only requires the completion of the attached form to be returned to Merryn Stevenson at [nenya@westnet.com.au](mailto:nenya@westnet.com.au) .*

*For more information please feel free to call or email me. I have also attached the latest newsletter which has more information or you can check out their Facebook page.*

*Kind regards  
Cathrine*

**Copies of the newsletter and application form are available on email (from Denise) or hard copies in Holy Trinity.**

## **WHATS ON IN THE PARISH**

### **NOVEMBER**

**OP Shop / Parish Raffle.**

**Retiring Offertory: Rwanda**

- Wed 11 Remembrance Day.  
Fri 13 Synod.  
Sat 14 Synod: full day of business.  
Sun 15 Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Pentecost.  
Commissioning of the New Parish Council.  
Thurs 19 Parish Council Reports Due  
Sat 21 Men's Breakfast  
Sun 22 Christ the King. Twenty-fifth, LAST Sunday in Pentecost  
Thurs 26 First Meeting of the New Parish Council  
Fri 27 Kid's Movie Night.  
Sun 29 First Sunday of Advent  
10am Combined Church Centres Worship at All Saints.  
Mon 30 ?? Christmas Afternoon Tea for volunteers.

### **DECEMBER**

*School Holidays: Saturday 19 December to Wednesday 27 January 2020.*

**Retiring Offertory: Christmas Bowl**

- Tues 1 Alfresco Morning Tea for the Community  
Fri 4 Parish Council Meeting - Parish Christmas Party.  
Sun 6 Advent 2  
10am All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity  
Sun 13 Advent 3  
Healing Service  
Sat 19 Men's Breakfast Group.  
Sun 20 Advent 4. ??? **Ecumenical Carolling Street Walk.**

**Holy Trinity Roster Sunday 15 Nov. 4th Sunday in Pentecost**

Judges 4.1-10. Ps 123. 1 Thess. 5.1-11 Matthew. 25.14-30

Priest: Dave. Lit Assist: Vic. Intercess: Vic. Org: Vic.

Camera: Denise. Flowers: Judy T. Sac: Kerrie/Dave

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

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