

Anglican Parish of Avon

Priest in Charge, The Rev. Dave Perryman

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Services of Holy Communion at:
8.30am All Saints Church, Briagolong
10am Holy Trinity Church, Stratford

HARMONY
DAY 21
MARCH



Everyone Belongs!

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: 'Be thou my vision' TiS 547

1 Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2 Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, thy child let me be ;
Thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

3 Riches I scorn and the world's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart;
O King of glory, my treasure Thou art.

4 High King of heaven, after victory won
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall;
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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Greeting

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

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.

Welcome/Acknowledgement of Country

Call to Worship

Lord, help us hear your words of hope and courage.

Lord, give us open hearts and spirits to receive your healing love.

Open the skies and pour down your grace
upon your people.

Open our hearts to hear your voice.

Let the thunder of your presence awaken us!

Have mercy on your people, O God.

Restore within us the joy of your salvation.

Draw us nearer to Jesus, our Christ!

The Sentence

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”

(2 Corinthians 1. 3-4)

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

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Silence for self-reflection

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God.

**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.**

Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Trisagion

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

The Prayer of the Day

We thank you, heavenly Father,
that you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
we pray that
as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his presence abiding in us he may raise us
to joys eternal;
through Jesus Christ your Son 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 the Book of Jeremiah

¹¹For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, *Jer. 29.11-13*

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51. 1-12

1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:
according to the fulness of your compassion
blot out my offences.

**2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:
and cleanse me from my sin.**

3 For I acknowledge my rebellion:
and my sin is ever before me.

**4 Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your eyes:**

**so you will be just in your sentence
and blameless in your judging.**

5 Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth:
and in sin my mother conceived me.

**6 You that desire truth in the inward parts:
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.**

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**8 Make me hear of joy and gladness:
let the bones which you have broken rejoice.**

9 Hide your face from my sins:
and blot out all my iniquities.

**10 Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.**

11 Do not cast me out from your presence:
do not take your holy spirit from me.

**12 O give me the gladness of your help again:
and support me with a willing spirit.**

Early Talk

Gospel Reading

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus began to weep. So the

Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

John 11.32-37

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

Guest speaker – Don MacRaid

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.

Hymn: 'Build your kingdom here'

1 Come set Your rule and reign,
in our hearts again,
increase in us we pray,
unveil why we're made,
come set our hearts ablaze with hope,
like wildfire in our very souls,
Holy Spirit come invade us now,
we are Your church,
we need Your pow'r in us.

2 We seek Your kingdom first,
we hunger and we thirst,
refuse to waste our lives,
for You're our joy and prize,
to see the captives' hearts released,
the hurt the sick the poor at peace,
we lay down our lives for heaven's cause,
we are Your church,
we pray revive this earth.

Chorus:

*Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray*

3 Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r,
reaching the near and far,
no force of hell can stop,
your beauty changing hearts,
you made us for much more than this,
awake the kingdom seed in us,

fill us with the strength and love of Christ,
we are Your church,
we are the hope on earth.

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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
because you are the source of light and life;
you made us in your image
and called us to new life in him.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;

loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free

and fill your Church with power from on high.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

**Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
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

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us

that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters

we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

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/Kid's time

Final Hymn: 'Amazing grace' – MP 1151

1 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Chorus:
My chains are gone, I've been set free,
my God, my Saviour has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
unending love, amazing grace.

3 The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.
My chains are gone...

4 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,

the sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me here below
will be forever mine.
My chains are gone...

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The Blessing

God who has called you is faithful.
Go into the world with joy,
forgive generously, love extravagantly, live abundantly.
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

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BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

Everlasting God, your son chose twelve disciples to work together to spread the good news of the gospel to the whole world, help us as we work together in our Chaplaincy for the common good. May we delight in sharing in each other's spiritual gifts and enabling everyone to make their own contribution however small. May we always be ready to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will.

We pray:-

- *For care of the environment and world-wide conscientious efforts to control climate change.
- *For peace in places of conflict and violence. Provision of safe-haven and new beginnings for refugees.
- *For an end to the racial, social, and domestic violence and social injustices around the world and particularly in our own country.
- *For the people of Myanmar suffering suppression and persecution at the dictatorship of the military.
- *May people from all nations benefit from the blessing of vaccines to

control Covid-19

*For the worldwide church, our Diocese, and the churches in our local community.

*For Bishop Richard and his family as, he leads the faith-life of the Diocese.

*For Dave as he leads the ministry, discipleship and pastoral caring in our parish and community.

*For Emma and their 4 children.

*We ask you to walk closely with Dave, Emma, and children in this remarkably busy and at times challenging year.

*For all who support the op shop. Coordinator Bev, volunteers, and all who donate to our ministry and mission.

*For the mainly music team, and for the families who gather here each Thursday morning.

*For our preparation and contemplation through the Holy Season of Lent

*For our Retiring Offertory – **Vanuatu - Prevention of Blindness.**

We raise before you now those who need healing in their lives and give you thanks where healing has taken place.

We pray especially for Val, Marion, Cliff, Paul, Aubrey, Bev, Julie, Liliias, Marj, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Crystal, Daryl, Jan and Mick.

We reflect and give thanks for the lives of Val Websdale, Joan McIllwain, and Marj White.

Loving God, we pray for all who mourn the death of loved ones, the Websdale family members and friends; Jillian, Kerrin and Andrew McIllwain their families and friends; Judy, Alison and Kerrie and the loving descendants of the late Marj and Jack White. Grant them all your loving comfort and peace as they mourn the death of their loved ones.

Loving God as we go forth from this time of worship, help us to remember that you do infinitely more for us than we can ask or imagine. Hear our prayers for all your creation and gather us in the embrace of your abundant and life-giving Spirit.

NEWS AND NOTES

Greetings Everyone,

Welcome to guest speakers Don and Meg McRaid. Don is an articulate and informative speaker whose mission our parish is supporting this month. As we all know, Don and Meg founded the Vanuatu Prevention of Blindness Project some 21 years ago.

The Lorraine Lea Linen Party held last Saturday raised \$470 for parish funds from the commission on sales. Half of the \$470 being donated by Jeni Reed from her own earnings and half by the Lorraine Lea organisation.

Our thanks to Gail for coordinating the function, to everyone who assisted Gail and to those who contributed to the lovely afternoon tea.

****This coming Sunday, Palm Sunday, we will join with congregationers from our sister churches for another Ecumenical walk, similar to that of 2019. This time we will gather at St Andrews for commencement of worship, walk or drive from St Andrews to St Patricks and finally to Holy Trinity. Refreshments will be served at Holy Trinity after the conclusion of worship.**

We have received positive and encouraging feed-back on the semi-circular seating in Holy Trinity last Sunday. Enabling closer proximity to presiding and preaching leaders in a less formal more interactive setting is all part of our church moving towards being more relevant to the expectations of current generations. Certainly, for some of us it is not like church as we knew/know it, but we are all aware of the ever-increasing need for churches to move with the times

. . . thank you for coming on this journey.

The installation of the church chairs in 6 weeks' time will allow for more comfort and flexibility when setting up for different services.

Avon parishioners are saddened by the death of Mrs Marj White, a much loved and respected parishioner and friend of this parish. We hold in prayer, Judy K, Alison, and Kerry and their husbands many family members. Marj is now free of suffering and rests with her beloved Jack.

We understand that Avon parishioners will be providing refreshments after the funeral.

This Saturday, 27th at 11am, we will give thanks for the life of Joan McIllwain. Joan and her late husband were parishioners here in the 60's (or earlier) up to around 2003 when Ian's life was celebrated here in Holy Trinity.

Our parish has been asked to provide refreshments after the funeral.

Bev T and Wendy will be asking for assistance with baking and food preparation. How blessed we are to have Bev T and Wendy to coordinate our giving.

The Women's Craft Day, 10am to 3pm, this Saturday 27 March, will be held at the Senior Citizens Rooms. For further information, please speak to Sandra.

Today, March 21 is Australia's Harmony Day, which celebrates our country's cultural diversity. It coincides with the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The theme is 'Everyone Belongs'! and the theme colour is orange. People wear orange or an orange ribbon.

Harmony Day is a day to celebrate Australian multiculturalism, based on the successful integration of migrants into our community. Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values. Held every year on 21 March. Since 1999, more than 70,000 Harmony Day events have been held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia.



MARCH

- Thursdays* 9.30am mainly music. Parish Hall during School Term
Mission: Eye Care Vanuatu
- Tues 23 Parish Council Meeting
- Friday 26 Family Movie Night – probably on hold.
- Sat 27 10am Women’s Craft Group
- Sun 28 8am St Mary’s, 9.30am Holy Trinity,
11am Ecumenical Procession & Prayer.
- Tues 30 11am Chrism Eucharist and Renewal of Ordination Vows at
the Cathedral. A light lunch in the Delbridge Hall.

THURS 1 APRIL 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service at Holy Trinity

- Fri 2 9am Good Friday Service at Holy Trinity
- Sat 3 Holy Saturday. Easter Vigil. Avon parishioners to Cathedral
- Sun 4 Easter Day. Resurrection of the Lord. Easter Eggs for the
Parish. DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS
8.30am Holy Communion at All Saints
10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Family Worship
2pm Holy Communion at St Mary’s Munro
- Mon 5 Easter Monday
- Sun 11 Second Sunday of Easter
Healing Service
- Sat 17 Men’s Breakfast
- Sun 18 Baptism at Holy Trinity. Third Sunday of Easter
- Mon 19 School Resumes
- Tues 20 Parish Council Reports Due
- Fri 23 Family Movie Night
The Bard’s Birthday. Shakespeare April 23, 1564 – April 23, 1616.
St Mary’s Anniversary. Licensed 23/4/1922
- Sun 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter.
ANZAC Day. Dawn and 9am Services in the Memorial Park
Also ‘Armed Forces Day’ in Australia & New Zealand.

Sunday 28 March, Sixth Sunday in Lent Sunday of the Passion

Isaiah 50.4-9a. Ps31.9-18 Philippians 2.5-11. Mark14.1 - 15.27

Priest: Dave, Lit Assist: Gail. 1st Read Lilies. 2nd Julie Ferg.

Intercess: Gail. Org: Vic. Sides: Kerrie S, David S

Camera Paul PPT: Denise. Flowers: Lent

MT. Bev T. Kerrie S. Sac: Denise

Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035379.

[Email:davidjrperryman@gmail.com](mailto:davidjrperryman@gmail.com)