



Anglican Parish of Avon

Sunday 8 May

Fourth Sunday of Easter: **He is Risen!**



Happy Mother's Day

to all mothers and carers

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: 'Comfort, comfort' – TiS 647

Refrain:

*Comfort, comfort all my people
with the comfort of my word.
Speak it tender to my people:
All your sins are taken away.*

1 Though your tears be rivers running,
though your tears be an ocean full,
though you cry with the hurt of living,
comfort, comfort.

Every valley shall be lifted,
every mountain shall be low,
every rough place will be smoother:
comfort, comfort.

Comfort, comfort all my people...

2 Though your eyes see only darkness,
though your eyes can see no light,
though your eyes see pain and sorrow:
comfort, comfort.

Every night will have its morning,
every pain will have an end,
every burden will be lightened:
comfort, comfort.

Comfort, comfort all my people...

Greeting

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.

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Acknowledgement of Country/Welcome

Call to worship

Christ is our shepherd.

We are Christ's sheep.

The shepherd is calling us to join God's flock.

We will follow our shepherd.

Let us rejoice, for no one can snatch us from the shepherd's hand.

In God's flock, we rest secure.

Come! Let us worship.

The Sentence

“The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

(Revelation 7. 17)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

**Loving Shepherd,
in the midst of sorrow and loss,
you wipe away every tear from our eyes.
May the wonders of your love reach down to us this day.
As Peter raised Tabitha from the dead,
raise us also to new life.
Help us cling no longer to the darkness
threatening to overcome our world,
that we may reside in the glory of the Lamb.
Wake us from the slumber that numbs our spirit,
even as you nourish us in the strength of your Spirit.
May the world see the shepherd living in us,
and may we come to dwell in your pastures,
which remain ever green. Amen.**

The Confession

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Silence for self-reflection

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

**Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have broken your holy laws
and have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins
and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit,
enable us to live for you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

God who has called us is faithful,
and will not remember our sins.
Our sins are forgiven,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Let us live by the Spirit's transforming power,
and forgive as we have been forgiven. **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day

Gracious God,
you sent Jesus, the good shepherd,
to gather us together:
may we not wander from his flock,
but follow wherever he leads us,
listening for his voice and staying near him,
until we are safely in your fold,
to live with you for ever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside

him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner. *ACTS 9.36-43*

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 23 – Together

**1 The Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.**

**2 He will make me lie down in green pastures:
and lead me beside still waters.**

**3 He will refresh my soul:
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.**

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.**

**5 You spread a table before me
in the face of those who trouble me:
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup shall be full.**

**6 Surely your goodness and loving-kindness
will follow me all the days of my life:
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

The Second Reading

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God,

¹² singing,
'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might

be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?'

¹⁴ I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.' *Revelation 7.9-17*

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of

Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' ²⁵ Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.' *John 10.22-30*

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

Early Talk

Homily

The Affirmation of the Resurrection

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe. 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

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia!

The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: 'Psalm 23' – MP 1008

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

Refrain:

And I will trust in You alone,
and I will trust in You alone,

for Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And I will trust...

3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for You are with me, and Your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

And I will trust...

*Words adapted by Stuart Townend
Music by Stuart Townend
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Offertory Prayer

Blessed 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 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.

With all our hearts we praise you, faithful God.
In the beginning, you called light to shine in darkness,
you made living things to grow and flourish
and you created human beings in your image.

You chose us in love,
guided us by your presence
and blessed us with your holy law.
Yet we chose our own sinful ways.
We broke your commandments,
persecuted your prophets,
forgot your wisdom
and, time after time,
refused to answer your call.

So you spoke an eternal word in a human voice
in Jesus of Nazareth, son of Mary, Son of God.
He called and people followed,
leaving every other loyalty.
He set us free to praise your holy name.

But hatred and violence shouted Jesus down.
Betrayed and abandoned and nailed to a cross,
he laid down his life for the world he loved,
and broke the chains of evil and death.
Then you turned our sorrow into joy.
On the third day you raised him up
to lead your people into life.

So we praise you, holy God, with angels and archangels and all your
faithful people:

**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.

On the night before he died,

Jesus gathered with his friends
to share a meal and wash their feet,
teaching one more lesson of love.
He took bread and blessed you and broke it.
He gave it to them and said:
“Take this and eat it.
This is my body.”

He took a cup of wine
and blessed you
and gave it to them.
He said: “Take this and drink it.
This is my blood,
sealing God’s promise to forgive your sins.
Whenever you do this,
do it in memory of me.”

**As we share these holy gifts,
we remember the Lord Jesus.**

**For the love you taught us,
the sacrifice you made for us
and the hope you give us,
we acclaim you, O Christ:
Dying you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory.**

**And now, faithful God,
send us your Spirit
to feed us with the body and the blood
of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Make us one body in Christ.
Send us as your messengers in the world
and fill us with energy, courage and love.**

**Now to you, most holy God,
through Christ your Son and in the Spirit’s power,**

**we bring our worship and our songs of praise:
Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours 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.

Let us 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

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Send us, we pray, in the strength of this meal,
to tell the Good News to neighbours and strangers
with creative words**

**and compassionate service,
walking the way of Christ.**

Announcements

Final Hymn: 'Whole world in his hands' – MP 1236

1 When all around is fading
and nothing seems to last;
when each day is filled with sorrow,
still I know with all my heart:

Chorus:

*He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
I'll fear no evil, for You are with me,
strong to deliver, mighty to save.
He's got the whole world in His hands.*

2 When I walk through fire,
I will not be burned;
when the waves come crashing round me,
still I know with all my heart:
He's got the whole world...

*Words and music by Tim Hughes
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The Blessing and Dismissal

Go now with the love of God, the grace of the Risen Jesus Christ,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.
Go to share your faith and your lives.
Go to proclaim the good news of Easter,
and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

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BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

Good Shepherd, lead us through our daily lives, especially when we walk through the wilderness times, to those green pastures where we might feed on your abundant provision.

We pray:-

***For Mothers on Mothers' Day**

On this special day set aside to honour mothers we ask for a special touch from the Lord for each and every mother figure. May each mother, mother to be, mother figure or carer of others, grandmothers, and God mothers, be granted a special blessing. May all of the work of their hands not be forgotten in Your sight. Let their example to children be a guiding force in their lives, and may wisdom be passed down to the next generation of mothers.

Amen

- *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 the people of Ukraine suffering intolerable cruelty as their country is invaded and destroyed by a brutal invader.
- * For the people of Russia, unable to demonstrate their disapproval of the invasion and suffering effects of harsh economic sanctions and death of family members.
- *For an end to the racial, social, and domestic violence and social injustices around the world and in our own country.
- *For the forth coming elections. That the outcome will be the most just and trustworthy government for all people.
- *May people from all nations, poor and rich, be able to defeat the threat of the Covid-19 virus and its variants.

*Faithful God, we think of your church today celebrating all over the world, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, of Christ's resurrection. Language race and nationalities may be different but our worship and joy on the Day of Resurrection make us one in the Gospel. We pray that The Holy Spirit may guide and strengthen us in mission and service praying that day by day we may grow in love for you and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

*We pray for 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 Bishop Richard and Registrar Richard attending General Synod at this time.**

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

*For Emma and their 4 children.

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

*For the mainly music team, and for the families who gather here each Thursday morning. May this ministry to families grow.

*For our Retiring Offertory in support of the people of BCA

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

We pray especially for Kim, Timothy, Julie, Paul, Gail, Ivan, Joy, Ron, Cliff, Nathan, Marion, Bev, Lillas, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Jan.

We pray for those bereaved by the loss of a loved one, thinking of the family and friends of Anne and specially of Jillian and Marion her loving nieces. May they find comfort in your love, peace, and reassurance. May Anne rest in peace and rise in glory when the day comes.

Good Shepherd, support us by your grace through all the hours of life's day: until the shadows lengthen, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and the evening comes. Then Lord, in your mercy: grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen

NEWS AND NOTES

Good morning and welcome,

Today, on Mother's Day, we honour all mothers, mothers to be, mother figures - carers of children, grandmothers, God mothers, and those who selflessly gave their child into an adoptive family. May they all have a beautiful day with family, partners, or friends.

Below is a message and video from Act for Peace featuring mothers from all over the world and thanking those who support mothers through the Ration Challenge. Dave is our Ration Challenge candidate.

Happy Mother's Day to all the courageous, dedicated, hard-working mums out there here. [We'd love to share this video](#) with you in celebration of all mothers around the world, and of course those who stand in their place.

Thank you for all you do ❤️ And, if you'd like to take the [Ration Challenge](#) or [trek the Larapinta](#), let us know!

Following this morning's service at Holy Trinity, a Congregational Meeting will convene over morning tea.

At 4pm there will be a Healing Service in Holy Trinity. Please speak to Dave if you would like to attend.

The Ecumenical Celebration of the Traditional 1662 Service Evensong was a delightful celebration with Bishop Richard presiding, Dave assisting and The Reverend Dr Nikolai Blaskow preaching via zoom. Nikolai's sermon was an eloquent intertwining of his own language of love and faith, love and great knowledge of the scriptures and the literary genius of Shakespeare . . . quite amazing.

The light tea served after the service was very much appreciated by those present. Thank you to all who cooked and to those who assisted on the evening. Thank you to Judy Kelly for coordinating the catering . . . well done!

Mainly music has got off to a good start this term. The Mother's Day session (last week and this week) was good and lively. Seven children with their mothers actively joined in. Each mother was presented with a rose.

Forthcoming events

1 The Autumn Parish Dinner: Friday 27 May at the Greyhounds, Sale.

2 The National Reconciliation Week 27 May to 3 June. The National Reconciliation Week 2022 theme for this year is, “Be Brave. Make Change.” a challenge to all Australians— individuals, families, communities, organisations and government—to Be Brave and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can Make Change for the benefit of all Australians.



Please refer to the flyer attached next page.

3 A Seminar at Trinity College: The Theological Response to the Pandemic, Saturday 21 May, 9.30am to 1.30pm. Old Warden's Lodge | Trinity College Theological School | 100 Royal Parade, Parkville 3052. \$50/\$35 concession. RSVP COB Wednesday 18 May 2022. Contact: 0393487127. theologyevents@trinity.edu.au

4 Parish Trivia Night on Saturday 4 June
Bookings essential, please speak to Gail Wager.

Celebrating Reconciliation Week 2022

@The Abbey Raymond Island

Gathering
Yarning
Telling Stories
Eucharist
Sharing Lunch Together



With
Rev Canon Aunty Phyllis Andy
and Rev Kathy Dalton



1-25 First Parade

Raymond Island 3880

12 noon, Friday 3 June 2022

ALL WELCOME

Please RSVP info@theabbey.org.au



We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people as the original custodians of the land on which The Abbey now stands and pay our respects to Elders—past, present and emerging.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

MAY

Thursdays mainly music, 9.30am. Parish Hall, During School Term

Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayers at Holy Trinity.

Mondays 7.30pm Bible Studies

General Synod Retiring Offertory: BCA

Sun 15 Fifth Sunday of Easter.

Mon 16-Sun 22 National Volunteers Week

Tues 17 Parish Council Reports Due

Sat 21 **Men's Breakfast** World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

Sun 22 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Tues 24 Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 26 National Sorry Day. Ascension Day. ***In Australia, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated between Ascension and the Day of Pentecost.*

27 May to 3 June *The Week of Prayer for Reconciliation and National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is held each year between 27 May and 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the Mabo decision.*

Fri 27 Parish Dinner at Greyhounds Sale.

Commencement of National Reconciliation Week

Sat 28 Avon Parish Women's Fellowship and Craft Day.

Sun 29 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Combined Avon Parish Worship

Ecumenical Service at St Andrews Church.

Sunday 15 May. Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11.1-18. Ps 148. Rev.21.1-6. John 13.31-35

Priest: Dave. Lit. Assist: Gail. 1st Read: Jillian. 2nd Jan C

Intercess: Gail: Org Vic. Sides: Bev T, Judy T

Camera: Paul, Denise: Flowers: Judy K. MT. Sandra, Judy K. Sac: Denise

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

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