



ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
TOORAK
EST. 1859



The Second Sunday after Epiphany

16th of January, 2022

Welcome

On behalf of everyone at St. John's, Toorak, a very warm welcome to this church and faith community. St. John's welcomes everyone to all services and events, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race or background.

This is a wonderful and historic church, founded in 1859, a faithful Christian presence for over 160 years. We are part of the Anglican Church of Australia and a member of the global Anglican Communion.

This church actively follows Jesus' command to love God, love one's neighbour and to care for all people. Our clergy and parishioners regularly visit the sick, home-bound, and the dying. We care for the poor and needy through service and charitable giving, through our Opportunity Shop run in partnership with the local Catholic and Uniting Churches, and by supporting the work of Anglicare, The Brotherhood of St. Laurence and The Anglican Board of Mission. Our clergy regularly baptise new members of the church, preside at weddings and care for the grieving through our funeral ministry. If we can be of service to you or your family, please do not hesitate to get in touch. If you would like to give of your time and talents in the service of others, please also contact the church.

If you're visiting for the first time please introduce yourself to a welcomer or member of the clergy.

Services of Worship during January Sundays at 10am



@stjohnstoorak



Cover Image

MASTER of the Catholic Kings *The Marriage at Cana* c. 1495/1497
Oil on panel, 137 x 93 cm National Gallery of Art, Washington

INTRODUCTORY RITE

THE INVOCATION

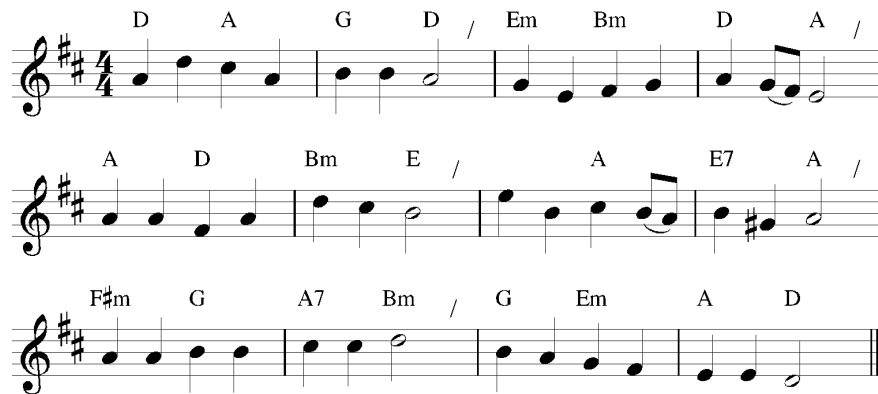
Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

HYMN 'Christ, whose glory fills the skies'



1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph over shades of night;
dayspring from on high, be near;
day-star, in my heart appear.

3. Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more yourself display,
shining to the perfect day.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
if you seem not close to me;
joyless is the day's return,
till your mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my
heart.

Charles Wesley 1707–88 *alt.*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *said together*

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.

CONFESSION

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all. Let us bring our weaknesses and infirmities to him, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION *Here absolution is pronounced by the celebrant*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Gloria



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the

Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on

us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

From Parish Eucharist - Michael Dudman (1938-1994)

THE COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CHILDREN'S ADDRESS *all children are invited to the chancel step*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 62.1-5 *Read by Keith Beecher*

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

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

THE PSALM Psalm 36.5-10

⁵ Your unfailing kindness, O Lord, is in the heavens:
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

⁶ Your righteousness is like the strong mountains:
and your justice as the great deep;
you, O Lord, save both man and beast.

⁷ How precious, O God, is your enduring kindness:
the children of Adam shall take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.

⁸ They shall be satisfied
with the good things of your house:
and you will give them drink
from the river of your delights.

⁹ For with you is the well of life:
and in your light shall we see light.

¹⁰ O continue your merciful kindness

toward these who know you:
and your righteous dealing
to those that are true of heart.

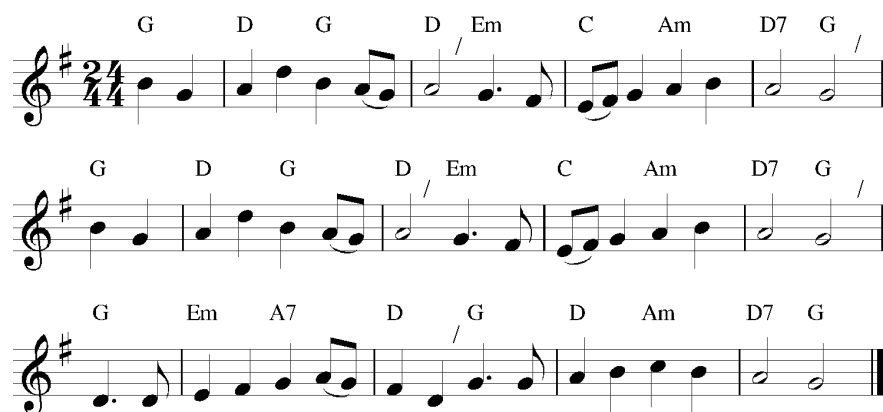
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.

THE SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12.1-11 *Read by Fiona McLeay*

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

HYMN 'Blessed Jesus, at your word'



1. Blessèd Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you;
let our hearts and minds be
stirred
now to seek and love and fear
you;
by your gospel pure and holy
teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

2. All our knowledge, sense and
sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night
with your beams of truth
unclouded;
you alone to God can win us,
only you work good within us.

3. Glorious Lord, yourself impart,
light of light from God
proceeding;
open lips and ears and heart,
help us by your Spirit's leading;
hear the cry your church now
raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and
praises.

Tobias Clausnitzer 1619–84

tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827–78 *alt.*

please stand and turn and face the Gospel as it is read

THE GOSPEL John 2.1-11

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' ⁴And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' ⁵His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' ⁶Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have

kept the good wine until now.’ ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.
For the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE SERMON The Revd. Emily Fraser

ANTHEM Anthem *If with all your heart* [Elijah] Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)
Finn Gilheany, *tenor*

If with all your heart ye truly seek me,
shall ever surely find me, Thus saith our God.
that I knew where I might find Him,
might even come before His presence.

Ye
Oh,
That I

THE NICENE CREED *said together, standing*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *kneeling Led by John Horan*

The Prayers end with the following

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE *standing*

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

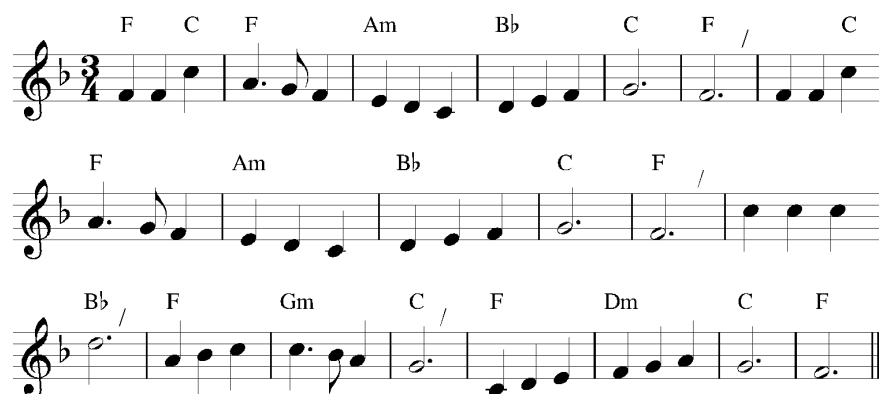
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

All share with each other a 'COVIDsafe' sign of peace

PARISH NOTICES *given by the clergy*

OFFERTORY *A monetary collection for the life and ministry of St. John's is taken here. You may give by contributing to the brass collection plate, the paypoint at the rear of the church, or by prior arrangement with the parish office*

HYMN 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King '



1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is
your health and salvation.
Come all who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.
2. Praise to the Lord who in all
things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle,
uplifting, sustaining:
have you not seen
all that is needed has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who will
prosper our work and defend us;
- surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend us:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do
as with his love he befriends us.
4. Praise to the Lord, who when
darkness of sin is abounding,
who, when the godless do
triumph, our best hopes
confounding,
sheds forth his light,
scatters the horrors of night,
saints with his mercy
surrounding.
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is
in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come

now with praises before him.
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ever adore him.

Joachim Neander 1650–80

tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827–78 and others

PRAYER FOR RECEIVING THE OFFERTORY

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

All stand

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.

The celebrant continues, concluding with

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:

Sanctus 2

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Benedictus

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

From Parish Eucharist - Michael Dudman (1938-1994)

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer continues until the following

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer ends with the following

... songs of never ending praise. or ... now and for ever.

Acclamation

Bless - ing and hon - our and glo - ry and power are yours for

ev - er and ev - er. A men.

From Parish Eucharist - Michael Dudman (1938-1994)

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Please pray the Lord's Prayer of your custom, in your own language, or using the following translation*

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 forever. Amen.

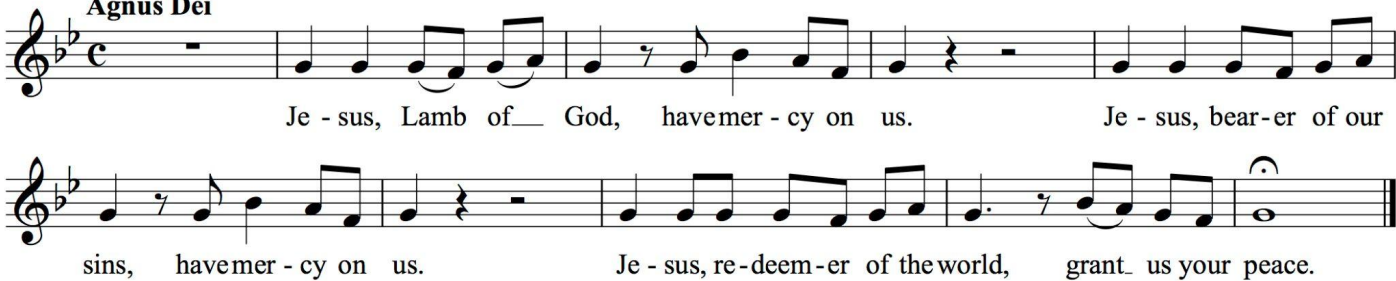
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.**

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world, grant us your peace.

From Parish Eucharist - Michael Dudman (1938-1994)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *kneeling or standing*

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please come forward and indicate this by keeping your arms behind your back. Please maintain social distancing during Holy Communion.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Comfort ye* [Messiah]

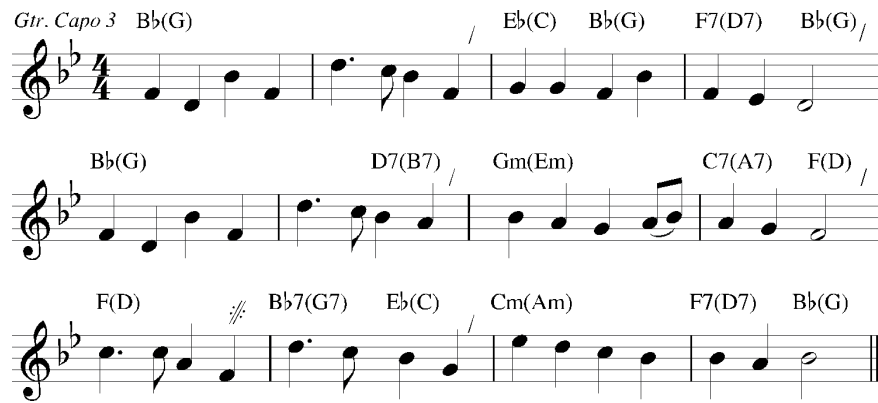
GF Handel (1685–1759)

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished; that her iniquity is pardoned. [Isaiah 40]

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *which ends with*

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.

HYMN 'Glory be to God the father'



1. Glory be to God the Father,
glory be to God the Son,
glory be to God the Spirit,
God almighty, Three in One!
Glory, glory, glory, glory
while eternal ages run.
2. Glory be to him who loved us,
washed us from each spot and
stain;
glory be to him who bought us,
made us kings with him to reign;
glory, glory, glory, glory
to the Lamb that once was slain
3. Glory to the king of angels,
glory to the church's king,
glory to the king of nations,
heaven and earth, your praises
bring;
4. 'Glory, blessing, praise eternal!'
thus the choir of angels sings;
'Honour, riches, power,
dominion!'
thus its praise creation brings;
glory, glory, glory, glory,
glory to the King of kings!

Horatius Bonar 1808–89 *alt.*

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE Fugue sur le thème du carillon des heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons [Op 12] Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

Order of Service from *A Prayer Book for Australia* 1995. Broughton Books by E.J. Dwyer (Australia) Pty Ltd, Unit 13, Perry Park, 33 Maddox Street, Alexandria, NSW 2015. © 1995, The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation.

With the Liturgical Psalter, Inclusive Language Version English text © 1995 by David L Frost, John A. Emerton, Andrew A. Macintosh. Hymns from *Together in Song Australian Hymn Book II*. © The Australian Hymn Book Pty Ltd 2006. Registered Office 14 Martin Place (Level 17) Sydney 2000. Used with permission. C.C.L.I Licence number 669476.

All readings from scripture are taken from The Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

PARISH NOTICES

Services at St. John's During Summer, 10 am ONLY

From 26 December until 30 January, there will be only ONE service on Sunday mornings. This is a great opportunity for both our Sunday congregations to join together in prayer and worship. On Sunday February 6, 2022, 8am and 10am Services will recommence.

Vicar On Leave

Our Vicar Peter will be on leave from 3 January until 17 January, 2022.

Locum for TODAY Sunday January 16, 2022, the Revd Emily Fraser

Today, Sunday January 16, we welcome The Revd Emily Fraser, who will be leading the 10 am service, preaching and presiding.

The Church is Open Daily

The Church is open each day from 9am-5pm. Please follow Covid-19 instructions, upon arrival sign in on the Q.R code, hand sanitiser is also available. All welcome.

The Melbourne Anglican (TMA)

The link to the latest edition of TMA is [here](#). The link to this week's Newstand is [here](#). The link to the December Prayer Diary and prayer resources is [here](#).

Be part of our Sunday Services

All our ministries are supported by volunteers. The Roster for January and February is now available. If you are able to assist with duties (fill the gaps) please contact the parish office on 0477 091 492 or at enquiries@saintjohnstoorak.org

Prayer apps to help us pray

Along with prayer books and the Bible, a number of apps are available, which can help us maintain an active and engaged prayer life. Here are a few for you to consider: [epray](#) [Daily Prayer app and podcast](#) [Pray as you go](#)

Clergy Days Off

Our clergy have one regular day off per week. Our Vicar Peter has Friday. Please respect their time away from work and unless in an emergency, please refrain from telephoning, texting, visiting the Vicarage, or emailing them on these days. Thank you.

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests can be sent to prayers@saintjohnstoorak.org. The clergy check emails for prayer requests daily, and pray in solidarity with anyone who would like prayers said for them.

Support St. John's

Your support of St. John's is greatly appreciated. The church often gets requests from members and friends about how best to support the church financially. With this in mind, donations can always be made directly to: St. John's Anglican Church General Account, Westpac, 509 Toorak Road, Toorak, Victoria, 3142, Australia. Account Name is St. John's Anglican Church. BSB is 033 086. Account No. is 871931. For international transfers please include SWIFT code WPACAU2S.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S?

For the latest details go to [Community & Events - St. John's Anglican Church, Toorak](#)

Sundays 26 December, 2021 - 30 January, 2022 Summer Sundays! One Service at 10am.

Sunday 6 February Return to 8 and 10am Services, with Welcome to new Asst. Curate, Lydia Thungadurai

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

From the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of England; The Diocese of Brisbane (Abp Phillip Aspinall, Regional Bps Jeremy Greaves, Cameron Venables, John Roundhill, Clergy & People); Firbank Grammar School (Jenny Williams, Principal; Christine Croft, chaplain); Bellarine Anglican Parish (David Willsher); St Thomas' Moonee Ponds – Pastoral Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Holy Trinity Hampton – Pastoral Visit (Bp Paul Barker).

For all those who lead us in the Anglican Church, especially: Our Primate The Most Revd Geoffrey Smith, Our Archbishop The Most Revd Philip Freier, and our Bishop, The Right Revd Genieve Blackwell.

For those who lead us in Government: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; Governor General David Hurley AC; Prime Minister Scott Morrison; Federal Member of Parliament for Division of Higgins, Dr. Katie Allen; Premier of Victoria, Daniel Andrews.

For Reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians: For Aboriginal Anglican clergy and lay-leaders around Australia, their spiritual health and physical well-being, and the people they care for. For Aboriginal and Government leaders and their work together.

For The Toorak Ecumenical Movement: Our partner churches, St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Toorak Uniting Church, and The Swedish Church.

For The Anglican Board of Mission, The Brotherhood of St. Laurence, and Anglicare.

For those celebrating birthdays: Sophia Stokes last Thursday.

For those who have died recently, and the families who mourn them: David Wells.

For schools in our parish: Geelong Grammar School Toorak Campus, Head of Campus Rachel George; St Catherine's School, Principal Michelle Carroll; and Toorak Primary School, Principal Julie Manallack.

For the sick and all in need: Rosie Creswell; Gwen; Jean James; Lachie Sullivan; Mary; Sue; Adrian Hall; Samantha; Anthea; Bp. Andrew St. John; Matthew; Gabriella; Bianca.

For those in aged care and those who are housebound: Teri Lawrence; Beverley Joyce; Val Hurst; Marcia Larsson; Gordon Kennett; Anne Myers; and Elizabeth Johnson.

Give thanks for those whose Anniversary of Death is this week: Sally Nixon; Pamela Taranto; Timothy Smith; John Coote; Richard Simpson; Reeves Vanderkelen.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

This commentary presents one interpretation; others may be possible. Comments are best read with the readings. Text from New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (NRSV)

Isaiah 62:1-5

Persia has conquered Babylon and has permitted the people of Israel to return to a small parcel of land round Jerusalem. The land is ravished, and after initial elation, the people feel that God has ceased to care for them. The prophet has told of a new Zion – of a renewed city and people. The new Jerusalem will be built by foreigners (61:5); people will be more faithful to God; he will establish a pact with them that will last forever.

Now either the prophet or God tells of the cleansing of Israel's reputation ("vindication", 62:1): it will break forth with the suddenness of dawn in the desert – there one moment it is dark, and the next light. So too will her "salvation" be seen – to the extent that "all the kings" (v. 2, all nations) will see God's glory, his power, reflected in, and radiated by, Israel. When God made a pact with Abram, giving him new status as "ancestor of a multitude of nations" (Genesis 17:5), he changed his name. So too will God's people enjoy a new status: they will be a "royal" (v. 3) people protected by God. V. 4 tells us Israel's new status: she will become God's spouse. The image of Israel's salvation as "a burning torch" (v. 1) is reminiscent of the many torches illuminating the city on the Feast of Tabernacles, a festival like our Harvest Thanksgiving. God promises that no longer will he give Israel's harvests to her enemies (v. 8), as punishment for disobedience. God will be seen to love Israel again: a truly joyous event.

Psalms 36:5-10

This psalm opens and closes in typical wisdom style. Vv. 1-4 tell of the "wicked", the ungodly: as the Spirit of God "speaks" in the very being of the godly, so "transgression" (personified) speaks to the ungodly. They convince themselves that God will not punish them (v. 2). They are thoroughly rotten; their ways are neither *wise* (v. 3) nor moral in God's eyes.

On the other hand, the faithful enjoy God's "love" (v. 5) and "faithfulness" (part of his covenantal pact with his people). God's integrity ("righteousness", v. 6) and justice is immense, as great as the "mighty mountains" and the "great deep". He restores, gives life to, all rational beings; he protects "all people" (v. 7). Vv. 8-10 say, using the image of a banquet, that knowing God's life-giving presence in the Temple ("your house") is the supreme experience of his love. In v. 9, to "see light" is to live.

God's luminance, as encountered in the temple liturgy, dispenses good ("fountain") and enables us to live. Vv. 10-11 are a prayer: please, God, continue to love us and to restore us who are faithful at heart! Do not allow me to be oppressed by "the arrogant", the ungodly!

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Early in this letter, Paul has noted that the Christians at Corinth "are not lacking in any spiritual gift" (1:7); even so, they appear to have written to him "concerning spiritual gifts" (v. 1): it seems that there are questions in the community. One gift is inspires speech. The tests for whether one speaks under the influence of the Holy Spirit are: (1) that one accepts Christ's authority and pledges obedience to him, "Jesus is Lord" (v. 3) and (2) that one does not *curse* Jesus (even under duress). Speech that fails these tests is influenced by other (*pagan*, v. 2) spirits.

"Gifts" is widely defined, and includes "services" (v. 5, *ministries*) and "activities" (v. 6, *operations*). Note the suggestion of the Trinity: "same Spirit ... same Lord ... same God" (vv. 4-6), and note also: (1) the Spirit himself is a gift of the Father; (2) Christ was sent to serve or minister; and (3) the Father is the source of all being and "activities", i.e. ways in which God's power is applied. With a common origin, all gifts are shown through the Holy Spirit, not for personal edification but "for the common good" (v. 7), for building up the Church. While the gifts in vv. 8-10 can be grouped, the precise meanings are uncertain: (1) "wisdom ... knowledge ... faith"; (2) "healing ... working of miracles ... prophecy"; (3) "discernment ... tongues ... interpretation". "Wisdom" and "knowledge" seem to be the ability to instruct; "faith" seems to be exceptionally deep faith – that God can do anything. "Discernment" is the ability to tell whether gifts genuinely come from God. "Tongues" may be unintelligible speech which needs "interpretation". Each of us receives a gift (perhaps not one listed); God chooses, not us.

John 2:1-11

John uses symbolism extensively in his telling of the good news. He says in 20:31: "these [signs] are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name". Our reading looks forward to Jesus' resurrection and glorification ("on the third day", v. 1), the Last Supper, and the messianic banquet expected at the end of time, when Christ comes again. The "mother of Jesus" appears for the first time in the gospel; the last time is when she stands at the foot of the cross. On both occasions, Jesus addresses her as "Woman" (v. 4), a title roughly equivalent to *Madam* today: Jesus is guided in his ministry only by the Father's will ("my hour ..."). Mary's words in v. 5 suggest that she believes in Jesus, as she does at the foot of the cross. Jesus has the water jars filled completely ("to the brim", v. 7) with water. In Judaism, the "rites of purification" (v. 6, washing before and after eating) were ceremonial, but in totally transforming water into wine, Jesus replaces the old (Judaism) with the new; wine is a symbol originating in Christ. In Isaiah, marriage between God and his people symbolizes the fulfilment of God's purpose for his people; here the abundance of good wine symbolizes the joy accompanying the arrival of the end of

the era (as foretold in several prophetic books). John presents “signs” (v. 11) as aids to people in reaching his objectives (20:31). Jesus shows that God is present in his very nature (“his glory”).

FOOD for FRIENDS in COVID TIMES

Again, we are not able to do our usual Supermarket collections.

So, as we did last year with remarkable success, we again are asking for money donations.

This money is spent during the year on food requirements for each nominated agency. This proved to be the best as the agencies were receiving increasing demands through the year as the Covid fallout showed its effect.

So, please consider donating this way...to

The Toorak Ecumenical Fund CBA Toorak

bsb:063177 acc: 10026147. Please mark it F for F.

No receipts will be issued. This money will be spent on food throughout 2022.

Thank you for your support



Food delivery to Christ Church Community Centre St Kilda

THIS SUNDAY

10am Service

First Reading: Isaiah 62.1-5, read by Keith Beecher

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 12.1-11, read by

Fiona McLeay

Gospel Reading: John 2.1-11

Intercessor: John Horan

Preacher: The Revd Emily Fraser

Celebrant: The Revd Emily Fraser



Vicar The Reverend Dr Peter French
vicar@saintjohnstoorak.org

Wardens Mrs Amanda Bagot,
Mrs Stella Jongebreur,
Mr Anthony Mannering

NEXT SUNDAY, 23rd January

10am Service

First Reading: Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10, read by
Ted Mouritz

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 12.12-31, read by
Brenda Mouritz

Gospel Reading: Luke 4.14-21

Intercessor: Brenda Mouritz

Preacher: The Revd Dr. Peter French

Celebrant: The Revd Dr. Peter French

Parish Council

Mr Dougal Colhoun, Mr Craig Cooper,
Mrs Vivienne Brown, Ms Diana Dunlop,
Dr Jessica Hall, Mr Michael Kirwan,
Mr Harrison Young

Director of Music/Organist

Mr Christopher Cook
accook2001@yahoo.com.au

Parish Administrator/Child Safe

Compliance Mrs Sally Robertson
enquiries@saintjohnstoorak.org
0477 091 492

Child Safe Officer Mrs Vivienne Brown

Sunday School Teachers Mr Clive Wright,
Ms Shierly & Miss Jo Patterson

Archivist Professor Geoff Quail OAM
geoffrey.quail@monash.edu