



ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
TOORAK  
EST. 1859



Pentecost  
8 June, 2025  
*8am*

# Welcome

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. We are part of the Anglican Church of Australia and a member of the global Anglican Communion, comprised of 80 million people.

## Worship

Regular services of worship are held each Sunday at 8am and 10am, and Wednesday at 7pm. Services are followed by times of fellowship over food and drinks. All are welcome.

## Mission

Our mission is to know and love Christ and neighbour. We actively follow Jesus' command to love God, love one's neighbour and to care for all people. We 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.

## Visitors

If you're visiting for the first time please introduce yourself to a welcomer or member of the clergy, and fill out the blue 'Welcome' card found at the end of every pew so we can stay in touch with you.

## The Church

The church is decorated in red recalling the fiery tongues that descended upon the Apostles when they received the Holy Spirit. Red serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative power of faith and the abundant blessings that come with it.

## Cover Image

*Pentecost, 'Titian' Tiziano Vecellio (c.1488-1576),  
Oil on canvas, 1546,  
Santa Maria della Salute, Venice, Italy.*

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge we meet on the Traditional Lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the East Kulin Nations and pay our respect to their Elders past and present.



@stjohnstoorak



Like us on  
**Facebook**

*As you enter the church, please ensure your phone is switched off or on silent and use the time before the service for prayer or quiet reflection, allowing others to do the same*

## INTRODUCTORY RITE

*Please stand as the procession enters the church*

PRELUDE 'Prelude'

*William H. Harris (1883-1973)*

THE INVOCATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

GREETING

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

HYMN 'Filled with the Spirit's power' *sung together*



- |                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Filled with the Spirit's power, with<br>one accord<br>the infant church confessed its<br>risen Lord:<br>O Holy Spirit, in the church today<br>no less your power of fellowship<br>display. | 2. Widen our love, good Spirit, to<br>embrace<br>in your strong care all those of<br>every race:<br>like wind and fire with life among<br>us move<br>till we are known as Christ's, and<br>Christians prove. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

J. R. Peacey 1896-1971 *alt.* WOODLANDS (Tis 411)

COLLECT FOR PURITY

**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 TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord your God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

#### CONFESSION

The Spirit of truth comes to convict of sin, of righteousness, and of judgement.

*Silence is kept*

Let us then open our hearts and confess 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.**

#### COLLECT FOR THE DAY OF PENTECOST

O God, who in smoke and fire upon Mount Sinai gave the law to Moses, and who revealed the new covenant in the fire of the Spirit: grant, we pray, that, kindled by that same Spirit which you poured forth upon your apostles, we may fulfil with joy your commandment of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### THE FIRST READING Acts 2.1-21 *read by Brenda Mouritz*

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.

And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

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

THE PSALM Psalm 104.24-34 *said*

Lord, how various are your works:

in wisdom you have made them all,  
and the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the wide, immeasurable sea:

there move living things without number, great and small;

There go the ships, to and fro:

and there is that Leviathan  
whom you formed to sport in the deep.

These all look to you:

to give them their food in due season.



When you give it to them, they gather it:  
when you open your hand  
they are satisfied with good things.  
When you hide your face, they are troubled:  
when you take away their breath,  
they die and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit they are created:  
and you renew the face of the earth.  
May the glory of the Lord endure for ever:  
may the Lord rejoice in his works.  
If he look upon the earth, it shall tremble:  
if he but touch the mountains, they shall smoke.  
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live:  
I will praise my God while I have any being.  
May my meditation be pleasing to him:  
for my joy shall be in the Lord.  
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 Romans 8.14-17

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

THE GOSPEL John 14.8-17

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.**

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.'  
Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees her nor knows her. You know her, because she abides with you, and will be in you.

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

THE SERMON The Assistant Priest, The Revd Dr Wendy Crouch

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 *led by Brenda Mouritz*

*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.**

PARISH NOTICES

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*

OFFERTORY

*As the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward, a monetary collection for the life of St. John's is taken. Please give by contributing to the collection plate, at the paypoint at the rear of the church or by scanning the QR code.*



OFFERTORY HYMN 'Come down, O Love divine' *sung together*



1. Come down, O Love divine,  
seek now this soul of mine,  
and visit it with your own ardour  
glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear  
and kindle it, your holy flame  
bestowing.

2. There let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes, in its heat  
consuming;  
and let your glorious light  
shine ever on my sight  
and clothe me round, the while my  
path illuming.



3. Let holy charity  
my outer garment be,  
and lowliness become my inner  
clothing:  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part  
and for its own shortcomings sighs  
with weeping.
4. And so the yearning strong  
with which the soul will long  
shall far outpass the power of  
human telling;  
for none can guess its grace  
till we become the place  
in which the Holy Spirit makes her  
dwelling.

Bianco da Siena d.1434  
*tr.* Richard Frederick Littledale 1833–90 *alt.*  
DOWN AMPNEY (TiS 398)

PRAYER FOR RECEIVING THE OFFERTORY

Blessed are you, O God, for you have brought forth bread from the earth. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, O God, for you have created the fruit of the vine.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed be God, who feeds the hungry, who raises the poor, who fills our praise. **Blessed be God for ever.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*All remain standing*

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 Great Thanksgiving Prayer continues to the following*

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

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.**

BENEDICTUS

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Great Thanksgiving Prayer continues to the following*

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Great Thanksgiving Prayer ends with the following*

... songs of never ending praise *or* ... now and for ever.  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident 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 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

**Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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. Communion is available as consecrated bread, which is given to each person, and wine which may be drunk from the chalice. A separate chalice for intinction (dipped) is also provided. If you would prefer a blessing, please come forward and indicate this by keeping your arms behind your back. Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand*

*The prayer ends with the following*

**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.**

FINAL HYMN 'There's a spirit in the air,' *sung together*



1. There's a spirit in the air,  
telling Christians everywhere:  
'Praise the love that Christ  
revealed,  
living, working in our world.'

2. There's a Spirit in the air,  
calling people everywhere:  
'Praise the love that Christ  
revealed,  
living, working in our world.'

Brian Arthur Wren 1936- LAUDS (TiS 414)

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE 'Eternal source of light divine'

from Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne, HWV 74 G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

*As the postlude is played please remain seated or leave quietly*



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)

**Support St John's, Toorak**

Your support of St John's is greatly appreciated!

Donations can be made directly to:

St. John's Anglican Church General Account, Westpac

Account Name: St John's Anglican Church | BSB: 033 086 | Account: 871931.

International transfers please include SWIFT code WPACAU2S.



**Wednesday Night Service**

You are invited to join us each week, Wednesday at 7pm,  
for Eucharist in the Chapel of St. Michael and All Angels.  
The service is usually followed with supper and fellowship. All  
are welcome. We hope to see you there!



## CURRENT NOTICES

### 'Hope25: Hope in An Uncertain World'

#### A National Anglican Initiative

# HOPE25

Between Easter and Pentecost, we joined with every Anglican Church in Australia in sharing *hope* in our uncertain world. We committed ourselves to a season of prayer for our Parish of St John's, our community and the world. It was very encouraging that 38 people signed up and then a number gathered together to share their prayer experiences after church on a couple of occasions. Although the HOPE25 program has now officially finished, our prayer does not stop! If any are interested in continuing to meet at times to learn more about prayer then please contact Assistant Priest Wendy through the parish office, or by email at [assistantpriest@saintjohnstoorak.org](mailto:assistantpriest@saintjohnstoorak.org)

### Trinity Sunday 15 June 3pm, Combined Ecumenical Service

There will be a Combined Ecumenical Service held for Trinity Sunday, 3pm at St. Peter's Catholic Church.

### SAVE THE DATE Saturday 28 June 7pm, St John's Soirée

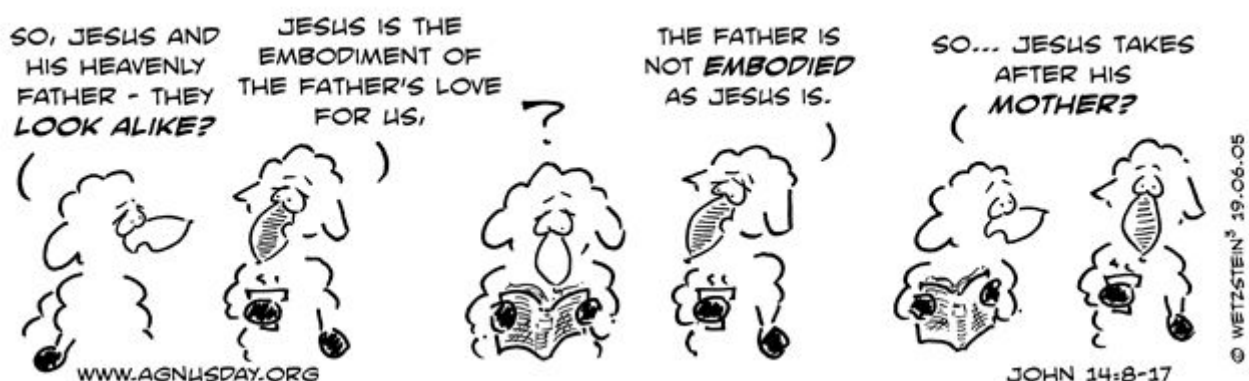
### Friday 4 July, Invitation to Shabbat Service & Dinner

Melbourne Hebrew Congregation warmly invites St John's to 'Breaking Bread', a Shabbat service and dinner for solidarity and unity. The Shabbat service will be followed by a L'Chaim (cheers), guided tour of the historic and magnificent Synagogue, and a three course traditional Shabbat meal. 4.30pm arrival for a 4.45pm service. Dinner at 6pm. Limited spots available so book in quick! Bookings can be made via: [events.humanitix.com/mhcdinner](http://events.humanitix.com/mhcdinner)

### Winter Warmth for those in need

As we move into the colder months, please take a moment to pray for those experiencing hardship and homelessness. Please consider making a donation to local Anglican initiatives supporting those in need in our community:

- + St. Mark's Fitzroy Community Centre [www.stmarksfitzroy.com/donate](http://www.stmarksfitzroy.com/donate)
- + Christ Church Mission Community Centre, St. Kilda [www.ccm.org.au/help](http://www.ccm.org.au/help)
- + Richmond Churches Food Centre  
[richmondchurches.weebly.com/donating-to-the-food-centre.html](http://richmondchurches.weebly.com/donating-to-the-food-centre.html)



## PENTECOST

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings  
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays  
Today the church draws breath at last and sings  
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.

This is the feast of fire, air, and water  
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.

The earth herself awakens to her maker  
And is translated out of death to birth.

The right words come today in their right order  
And every word spells freedom and release

Today the gospel crosses every border  
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace  
Today the lost are found in His translation.

Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.

*Malcolm Guite (1957 - )*



### *Need time for prayer? Some quiet space?*

The church is open every day from 9am until 5pm for you to come and pray, meditate, or sit quietly. There are prayer books and prayer booklets in the Angel Chapel and the Narthex for use, the latter of which you can also download [here](#).

## REGULAR NOTICES

---

### **Safeguarding and Wellbeing**

St. John's is committed to safeguarding all people and protecting their wellbeing, including young and vulnerable people, especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children with diverse needs. All relevant staff and volunteers are trained in child safety and have appropriate clearance for service or ministry. If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of children in this parish, contact Kooyoora on 1800 135 246 or [www.kooyoora.org.au](http://www.kooyoora.org.au). If you have concerns about your wellbeing or that of another churchgoer, please contact the clergy.

### **Pastoral Care**

Clergy and members of the Pastoral Care Team offer pastoral care on a regular basis to parishioners as well as to those who specifically request it. This may include Home Communion. They also visit local hospitals at the request of patients, family, friends or staff with the consent of the recipient. Clergy and Lay Pastoral Carers visit a number of local Aged Care facilities on a regular, usually monthly, basis. Parishioners and others are welcome to phone the church office to arrange a home visit by the clergy or a lay pastoral carer. Those who are no longer able to attend usual services at the church are visited on a regular basis.

### **The Melbourne Anglican (TMA) and Prayer Diary**

The latest edition of TMA is [here](#). The link to the June Prayer Diary is [here](#).

### **Contribute to Worship Services**

All our ministries at St John's are supported by our wonderful volunteers. The rosters for May & June are available [here](#). And you will note that volunteering for morning tea has now been added to the list of duties. If you can help fill any of the gaps please contact the parish office. Thanks in advance.

### **Parish Council**

Parish council meets monthly, and minutes are available on request.

### **Communion Instructions**

All are welcome at the altar and those baptised are welcome to receive Communion. Holy Communion is distributed via a chalice from which to sip or, a separate chalice into which the bread may be intincted (dipped). If you wish to simply receive the bread only that is perfectly appropriate. Gluten free wafers are available on request. A blessing only is also available.

### **Zoom Link**

Our 10am Sunday service is streamed here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86212089431?pwd=ZEN2M2xWRHRhMVhxTWWhwcmVwTzFEZj09> Meeting ID: 862 1208 9431 | Passcode: 541347

### **Prayer Requests**

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

### **Clergy Days Off**

Our clergy have one regular day off per week. Our Vicar Peter has Friday and Wendy usually works Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday only. 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.



# FOR YOUR PRAYERS

---

## **Prayers for Victims of War**

Give comfort, O Lord, to all who are torn away from their homes and their loved ones, by war, by famine, or by cruelty; give the world your peace and turn the hearts of those who will to war; grant that we who dwell secure in this insecure world may be generous in caring for our displaced brothers and sisters, of all faiths and none. We ask this in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**From the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** St Mark's Templestowe (Ben Lui Wong, Ivy Wong, Paul Hughes, Penny Charters, Terence Ng); Hope25: ongoing outreach and follow-up; The Diocese of Ballarat (Bp Garry Weatherill, Asst Bp Scott Lowrey); Archdeaconry of Frankston (Samuel Bleby); St Cuthbert's Grovedale – Pastoral service (Bp Brad Billings); St Stephen's Greythorn – Confirmation service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Christ Church St Kilda – Pastoral service (Bp Kate Prowd); The Anglican Church of Melanesia (Bp Leonard Dawea).

**For the Anglican Church:** The Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia, The Most Revd Geoffrey Smith; Archbishop-elect of the Diocese of Melbourne, The Rt Revd Dr Richard (Ric) Thorpe; Administrator and Assistant Bishop of Melbourne, Marningatha Episcopate, The Rt Revd Genieve Blackwell.

**For those who lead us in Government:** His Majesty King Charles III; Governor General Sam Mostyn AC; Prime Minister Anthony Albanese; Federal Member of Parliament for Higgins, Dr. Monique Ryan; and Premier of Victoria, Jacinta Allan.

**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 Catholic Church, Toorak Uniting Church, and The Swedish Church.

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

**For schools in our parish:** Geelong Grammar School Toorak Campus, Head of Campus Nicole Ginnane; St Catherine's School, Principal Natalie Charles; and Toorak Primary School, Interim Principal Sharon Wildermuth.

**For those who are celebrating birthdays this week:** Amanda Bagot & Jocelyn Elsey

**For the sick and all in need:** Rex, Nichole, Joanna, Ivan, Anthea, John, Tim, Joan, James, Karen, Trisha, Emma, Thomas, Rod, Robyn, Stephen, Stella, Risto, Louis, Nina, Bissie & Jane.

**For those in aged care and those who are housebound:** Beverley, Angela, Rosalind, Elizabeth, Russ & Sue.

**For those who have died recently, and those who mourn them:** Michael Entwistle

**Give thanks for those whose Anniversary of Death is this week:** Brook Drake (2009); Thomas Polk (2021); Georg List (2020); Diane Marshall (2017); Joan Moore (2013); John Wicking (2002); Thomas Lowe (1990); Poppy Edward (2016); Janet Hase (2016); Betty Murray (2024); Joan Richards (1994); Hector Bourne (1989) & Richard Cotton (2015).

## SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

---

### Acts 2:1-21

The day of Pentecost has come; it is now fifty days since Easter. The way Luke puts it shows that Pentecost is a milestone in the story of salvation: recall Luke 2:6, “the time came for her to deliver her child ...” and Luke 9:51, “When the days drew near for him to be taken up ...” These two are milestones, and the language is similar. Other translations have *had been fulfilled* for “came” – the coming of the Holy Spirit is *fulfilment*. Look at the manner in which the Holy Spirit comes: the sound is “like the rush of a violent wind” (v.2); and then, “divided tongues, as of fire” (v. 3). Luke attempts to describe the event in human terms, but it is never possible to explain a divine mystery: all we can do is say what it is like. The coming of the Holy Spirit is the gift inaugurating the final stage of the salvation story (or history, chronology); this era leads up to the end of time. His arrival is in fulfilment of Christ’s promise, recorded in 1:8 (“... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you ...”).

Acts is about mission, about speaking, proclaiming, the good news to people everywhere, in languages (and language) they can understand; Luke tells us that the Holy Spirit is the driving force behind this work, e.g. in the story of the Ethiopian Eunuch, we read “the Spirit said to Philip ...” (8:29). They spoke “in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability” (v.4). Divided into nations in antiquity, now all humanity is one; now God is in our midst. The Spirit is the launching pad for this mission. The list in vv. 9-11 includes Jews from the whole of the known world.

The mission to Gentiles will begin later. “God’s deeds of power” (v.11), of which all spoke, are explained by Peter in vv. 14-36, based on a quotation from the book of Joel (vv. 17-18): as the end of the era in which we are living approaches, many people will prophesy, and many will “see” things beyond what we call concrete reality. And this will happen because God pours out the Holy Spirit. *Prophecy* here is probably *enthusiastically sharing the faith*, “speaking about God’s deeds of power” (v.11). The “portents” (v.19, events that foreshadow the end of the era) are expressed in terms of *primitive science* but we need to realize that things will happen which make no sense to our rational minds, things we cannot explain.

### Psalms 104:24-34,35b

This psalm is a hymn of praise to God, as creator. Earlier verses have praised him for creating the heavens and the earth, for overcoming chaos, for continuing to care for the earth and all who live in it. God’s marvellous “works” are everywhere, all made in his wisdom. To Israelites, the sea was almost chaotic, beyond controlling, but God is so great that even “Leviathan” (v.26), the mythical sea monster, is his harmless, sportive creature. All living things depend on God at all times, for their “food” (v.27) and their very “breath” (v.29, life); without it, they die. Lack of God’s presence causes terror. His creative agent is his “spirit” (v.30).

Creation is *continuous*, continually renewed (v.30). The “glory of the Lord” (v.31) is the magnificence of the created world, his visible manifestation. His power is evident too in earthquakes and volcanoes (v.32). The psalmist vows to praise God throughout his life. Praise be to God!

### **Romans 8:14-17**

Paul has told us that Christian living is centred in life “in the Spirit” (v.9) rather than on the desires of the flesh, or self-centeredness. People are still subject to suffering, to bearing crosses and affliction, but not to condemnation. Not being condemned, we have hope. The Christian is under an obligation to Christ: to live according to the Spirit. Now he says that those who live in the Spirit are children of God. This implies a new relationship with God. The Christian, he says in v.15, does not lose his or her freedom when baptised, but rather is adopted as a child of God. When we acknowledge God as “Father”, we speak in the Spirit. We are not only God’s children, but also “heirs” (v.17) having a hope for the future. (In the Old Testament, the land of Israel is God’s *inheritance* for his people.) We are “joint heirs” with Christ in the sense that we will share in the Father’s glory, as he does now.

### **John 14:8-17,(25-27)**

Judas Iscariot has left to do his dastardly deed. Jesus now prepares his disciples for his departure. Belief in God includes belief in him (v. 1). He is going, through resurrection and ascension, to the Father, to prepare a place of permanent fellowship for them (vv.2-3). Philip shows by his question in v. 8 that he still does not understand (“know”, v.9) Jesus, for Jesus is the revelation of God. The Son is present (“dwells”, v.10) in the Father, and the Father in the Son; the deeds Jesus has done are the Father’s. A master entrusted his agent to act on his behalf in every way. Jesus is the Father’s *agent*, empowered to act completely for the Father. Jesus says, in essence, if you do not *buy* this *mutual presence*, then trust in me on the basis of what I do: you are seeing the Father’s “works” (vv.10-11).

The faithful will continue these works. (The ones they do will be “greater”, v.12, because Jesus has nullified sin.) By asking Jesus in prayer, as his agent (“in my name”, v. 14), God will do whatever the faithful ask. Fidelity to him is both loving and obeying (v.15). Jesus is their *first advocate*, i.e. helper and counsellor. He will ask the Father to “give you another Advocate” (v.16), “the Spirit of truth” (v.17), i.e. the Holy Spirit. That the Spirit exists and what he does is known only to believers, not to “the world”. Philip (and others) may not understand now, but they will, for the Spirit will “teach ... [them] everything” (v. 26) and will help them recall Jesus’ message. What he teaches will be the same as what Jesus has taught. Jesus gives “peace” (v.27, wholeness, well-being, tranquillity, concord with one another and with God), a permanent gift which will never be revoked.

## MUSIC COMMENTARY

---

### PRELUDE 'Prelude'

*William H. Harris (1883-1973)*

Harris served as assistant organist at Lichfield Cathedral, before appointment to New College, Oxford in 1919, where he eventually succeeded Sir Hugh Allen also as conductor of the Oxford Bach Choir. In 1929 he moved to Christ Church and four years later was appointed organist at St George's Chapel, Windsor, where he remained for nearly 30 years. He was appointed Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order in 1954. He is known principally for his compositions for the liturgy of the Church of England and for choral settings designed for the Three Choirs Festival and for royal occasions, including the coronations of 1937 and 1953.

### POSTLUDE 'Eternal source of light divine'

from Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne, HWV 74 *G.F. Handel (1685-1759)*

Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne was a secular cantata composed in 1713 to a libretto by Ambrose Philips. It celebrates Queen Anne's birthday and the accomplishment of the *Treaty of Utrecht* to end the War of the Spanish Succession. Queen Anne was said by the Duke of Manchester to be "too careless or too busy to listen to her own band, and had no thought of hearing and paying new players, however great their genius or vast their skill." Nevertheless, and whether or not she ever heard this ode for her birthday, she granted Handel a "pension" (subsidy for living expenses) of two hundred pounds a year, for life.

## ART COMMENTARY

---

The art work on today's pewsheet is simply named *Pentecost*. It is a late renaissance work by the Italian artist Tiziano Vecellio known as '*Titian*'. Titian painted the art for the main altar of a Venice Church. The artwork invites us into the upper room where the apostles are gathered, depicting the main event of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descends in tongues of fire upon the apostles and Mary. You may see that it is visually divided horizontally into three segments. At the top, the domed ceiling is curved. Circles fittingly signify the heavens since they have no beginning and no end. Conversely, on the bottom segment, the dominating shape is rectangular, symbolizing the sturdiness of the earth. This visual division shows the heavenly (the backdrop for the Holy Spirit) coming down to the earthly (the backdrop for the apostles). At the same time, the eye is drawn to the figures of the apostles and Mary, where you are greeted with a flurry of movement and activity. The figures eagerly reach upward, while others seem to be inexplicably pulled towards the radiating light from the dove. The light rays can be seen pointing directly to each figure but spread even beyond that in an abundance of light. The light spreads in every direction, illuminating the faces of those who look upon it.



We warmly invite you to

# *Breaking Bread*

A Shabbat service and dinner for solidarity and unity

In a time of global division, we welcome our friends & neighbours of St. John's Toorak, to join us for a special Friday night service followed by a traditional meal, sharing in customs and culture.



## Friday 4 July

**4:30pm Arrival**

**4:45pm Service**

**6pm Dinner**

The service will be followed by a L'Chaim (cheers), guided tour of the historic and magnificent Synagogue and a three course traditional Friday night Shabbat meal.



**BOOKINGS  
ESSENTIAL  
\$60 per person**

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
TOORAK  
EST. 1859

Melbourne  
Hebrew  
Congregation  
EST. 1841

## This Week

SUNDAY, 8 June 2025

### Day of Pentecost

8am Said Eucharist

10am Sung Eucharist &

Visit of Commonwealth Societies

12pm Baptism of Charles William Jobson

MONDAY, 9 June 2025

### King's Birthday Holiday

OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, 10 June 2025

7pm Parish Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, 11 June 2025

7pm Service, in the Angel Chapel

THURSDAY, 12 June 2025

9am Geelong Grammar School Service



## Next Sunday, 15 June

### Trinity Sunday

#### 8am Eucharist

First Reading: *Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31*, Volunteer Required

Second Reading: *Romans 5:1-5*, Vivienne Randall

Gospel Reading: *John 16:12-15*

Intercessor: Vivienne Randall

Preacher: The Revd Dr Peter French

#### 10am Eucharist

First Reading: *Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31*, Richard Uglow

Second Reading: *Romans 5:1-5*, Glenda Strike

Gospel Reading: *John 16:12-15*

Intercessor: John Horan

Preacher: The Revd Dr Peter French

Morning Tea: Anthony Mannering



ST. JOHN'S  
ANGLICAN  
CHURCH  
TOORAK  
EST. 1859

#### Parish Office

Open 9am - 5pm | Monday - Friday

9826 1765 or 9826 1434

[enquiries@saintjohnstoorak.org](mailto:enquiries@saintjohnstoorak.org)

#### Wardens

Mr Keith Beecher OAM,

Mr Adriaan den Dulk

Mr Jason Pennell

#### Parish Council

Mr Rob Condon, Mr Richard Uglow,

Mr Craig Cooper, Mr John Horan,

Ms Hsinhui Huang, Mr Anthony Gissing

#### Vicar

The Revd Dr Peter French

[vicar@saintjohnstoorak.org](mailto:vicar@saintjohnstoorak.org)

#### Assistant Priest

The Revd Dr Wendy Crouch

[assistantpriest@saintjohnstoorak.org](mailto:assistantpriest@saintjohnstoorak.org)

#### Director of Music & Organist

Mr Zachary Hamilton-Russell

#### Parish Administrator & Child Safe Compliance

Ms Alicia Groves

[enquiries@saintjohnstoorak.org](mailto:enquiries@saintjohnstoorak.org)

#### Child Safe Officer

Mr Clive Wright

#### Archivist

Professor Geoff Quail OAM

[geoffrey.quail@monash.edu](mailto:geoffrey.quail@monash.edu)