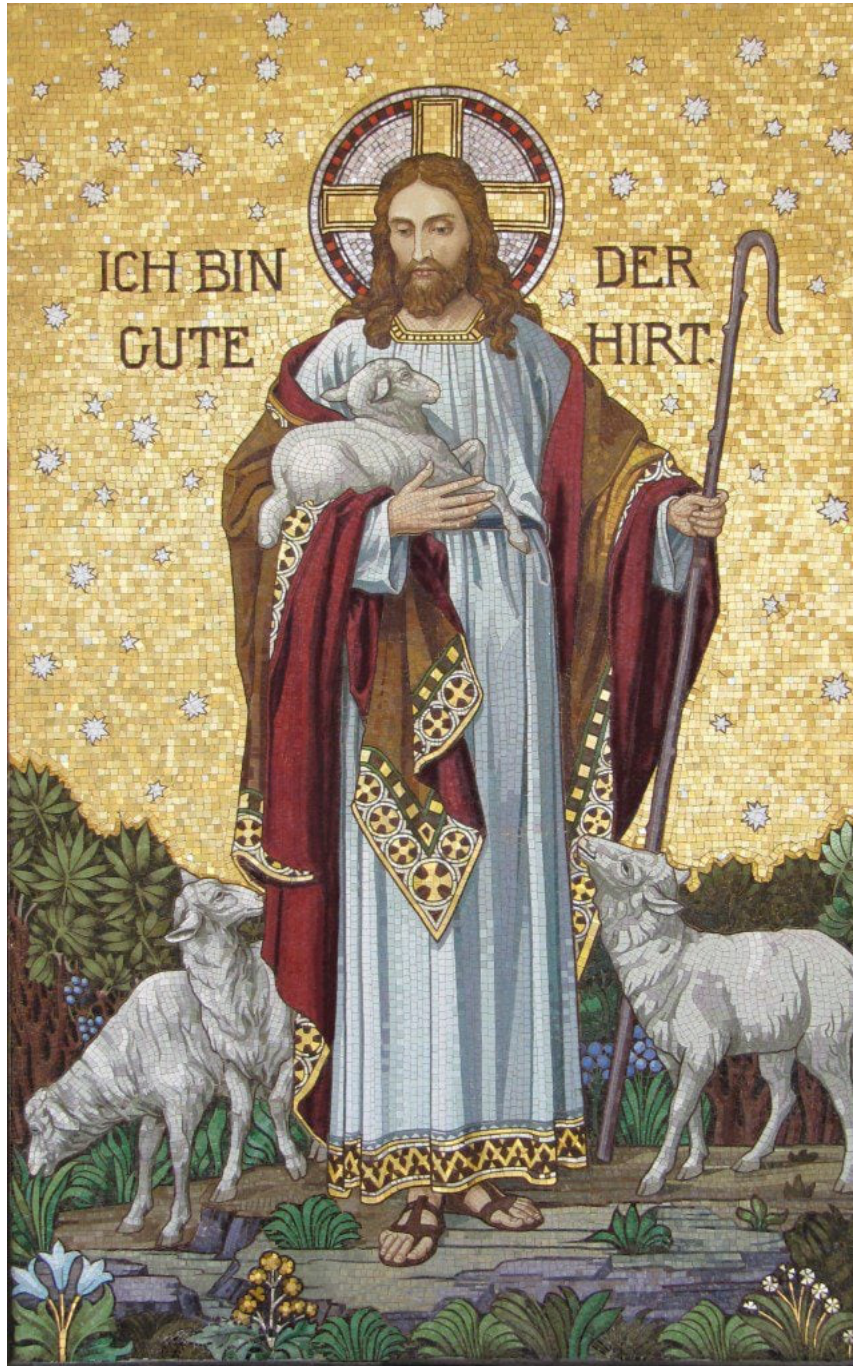


*Welcome to*  
**CHRIST CHURCH ST KILDA**  
*YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME*



Christ the Good Shepherd; Kufstein Cemetery, Austria. 19th century. Public domain.

## **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**9.30am Blessing of Animals and Parish Eucharist**

**11 May 2025**

**Setting: Dudman**

*Christ Church St Kilda Parish acknowledges the  
Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung with deep respect.  
We give thanks to God for their Elders, both past and present,  
and their continuing relationship to this land.*

## **CHRIST CHURCH ST KILDA: YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME.**

We gather to worship God and explore faith in Jesus, welcoming and celebrating the diverse St Kilda community.

In the next three to five years we aim:

- to grow an energetic and committed worshipping community.
- to provide an open, inclusive and welcoming space for everyone.
- to communicate a vibrant, joyful and loving faith.
- to build connections with the local community.
- to be faithful stewards of Church Square and its buildings.

### ***THIS WEEK AT 9.30AM***

*Monday to Thursday – Morning Prayer*

*Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off*

© 1995 The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation, material from the text of *A Prayer Book for Australia* published under the imprint of Broughton Books. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise stated, words and music for hymns are from *Together in Song: The Australian Hymn Book II*.

When hymns are not public domain, they are reprinted with permission: CCLI License 133938.

Scripture quotations are taken from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible (Anglicised edition)*, ©1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches in the USA. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*All gather outside the church  
(or in the narthex if it is raining)*

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Words of welcome*

Holy God, Creator and Lover of all that is,  
We confess to you that we have sinned.

We have failed in our care for the land and its creatures. We have been greedy, destructful and wasteful of the resources you entrusted to us.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

We have polluted air and water, eroded soil and salty earth, left birds and animals deprived of habitat, and left neighbours hungry and thirsty.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy**

We do not know how to restore what we have damaged, and we repent in sorrow and distress. Give us grace to change our ways, to make amends, and to work together for the healing of the world.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

*The celebrant pronounces the absolution*

Our Saviour Jesus Christ, the good shepherd of the sheep, died and rose again so that for all who live in him there is new creation. Our sins are forgiven in his name.

**Amen. Send out your Spirit , O Lord.**

**Renew the hearts of your people.**

**Renew the face of the earth.**

*All animals present receive a general blessing.*

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. Jesus Christ, the good shepherd of the sheep, showed his love for all creation in the saving acts of his Passion, Death and Resurrection. We ask you to bless these animals, our companions in that creation. By the power of your love, enable them to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures!  
**Amen.**

*After the general blessing we sing "Gloria in excelsis" as the animals are blessed with holy water. We repeat the Gloria until the blessing is complete.*

①  
 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, ②  
 in ex - cel - sis De - o!

③  
 5 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a! ④  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*When the blessing is complete, all say together:*  
**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

*Those remaining for the Parish Eucharist assemble at the rear of the church. Pets (appropriately restrained) are welcome to remain with you for the service. When all are inside the church we process to our places singing the hymn:*

**All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing  
alleluia, alleluia!**

**O burning sun with golden beam,  
and silver moon with softer gleam,  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**Swift-rushing winds that are so strong,  
and clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise him, alleluia!**

**Fresh-rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
and lights of evening, find a voice:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**O flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear,  
alleluia, alleluia!**

**O fire, so masterful and bright,  
providing us with warmth and light,  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfold rich blessings on our way,  
O praise him, alleluia!**

**All flowers and fruits that in you grow,  
let them his glory also show;  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness;  
O praise him, alleluia!**

**Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

*Based on Laudato sia Dio mio Signore the 'Canticle of the Sun' of Francis of Assisi 1182–1226  
by William Henry Draper 1855–1933 alt.*

*Music from the English Hymnal by permission Oxford University Press. Tune: Lass tuns Erfreuen. TiS 100, vv1-4, 7.*

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The celebrant reads 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*All sit*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*9.36-43*

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. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. 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." 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. 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. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.


For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

*Repeat the response after the cantor and as indicated*

### Response:

*Response 1* Eb Ab Bb Eb Fm Bb7 Eb



My shep - herd is the Lord, no - thing in-deed shall I want.

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. **Response**

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness,  
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort. **Response**

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes;  
my head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **Response**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **Response**

To the Father and Son give glory,  
give glory to the Spirit:  
to God who is, who was, and who will be  
for ever and ever. **Response**

*tr.* The Grail (1966, 1986)

Anthony Gregory Murray 1905-92

Words and music by permission A. P. Watt, London. TiS 11

Reproduced with permission

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. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!" 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 worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who 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. 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. They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, 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."

For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

*All stand. Repeat the response after the cantor, and then as indicated*



**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
 I know my sheep, and mine know me.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

10.22-30

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. 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." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all else, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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

*All sit*

*Sermon – Fr Craig D’Alton*

*All stand*

I ask you to affirm as yours the faith you proclaimed at your baptism:

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*All kneel or sit*

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*After each prayer*

**...hear our prayer**

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.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia.!**

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

*The altar is prepared and a collection is taken as all sing:*



**Holy God, we praise your name,  
Lord of all, we bow before you;  
all on earth your power proclaim,  
all in heaven above adore you;  
boundless is your vast domain,  
everlasting is your reign.**

**Hear the loud celestial hymn  
angel choirs above are raising;  
cherubim and seraphim,  
in unceasing chorus praising,  
fill the heavens with sweet accord:  
'Holy, holy, holy, Lord!'**

**Holy Father, holy Son,  
holy Spirit, three we name you,  
while in essence only one,  
undivided God we claim you,  
and adoring bend the knee,  
while we own the mystery.**

King of glory, God's own Son,  
humbly our poor nature sharing,  
now to save us you have come,  
all our sin and sorrow bearing;  
you have brought us saving grace,  
freed from guilt our sinful race.

Spare your people, Lord, we pray,  
by a thousand snares surrounded;  
keep us free from sin today,  
never let us be confounded:  
grant us with your saints a place;  
all our trust is in your grace.

Anon. German, ?18th cent., from *Te Deum laudamus*  
tr. composite based on Clarence Alphonsus Walworth 1820–1900  
Reproduced with permission  
Tune: Grosser Gott. TiS 127

*The response to the Offertory Prayers is:*  
**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.

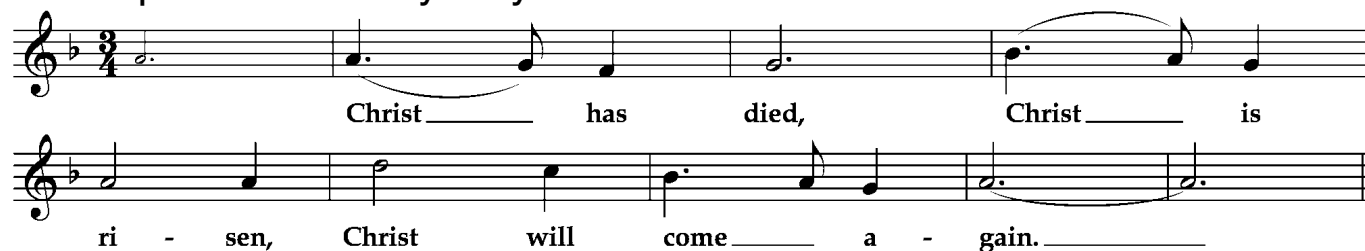
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving continues....* praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bles - sed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

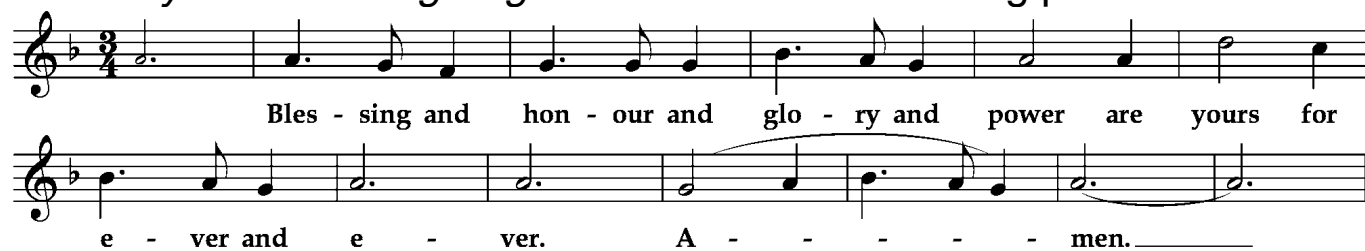
*The Prayer of Thanksgiving continues...*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ \_\_\_\_\_ has died, Christ \_\_\_\_\_ is  
ri - sen, Christ will come \_\_\_\_\_ a - gain. \_\_\_\_\_

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving continues.... never-ending praise:*



Bles - sing and hon - our and glo - ry and power are yours for  
e - ver and e - ver. A - - - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_

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.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION**

We who are many are one body:  
**For we all share in the one bread.**



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

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Happy 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.**

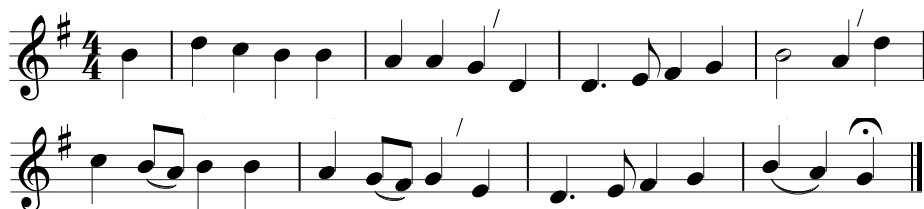
*Communicant members of any church are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest. Communion is offered in both kinds. Please queue to receive the host (bread) first, and then the wine if you wish. All are welcome to receive the wine, but none must, as the sacrament is fully present in both species. PLEASE DO NOT INTINCT (DIP) THE HOST IN THE WINE as studies suggest this may be less hygienic than drinking from the common cup.*

*During communion the cantor will sing "Christ is the world's redeemer"*

*After communion all stand*

Most glorious Lord of life, we thank you that you nourish us in these Easter mysteries. Fill us with the spirit of love and unite us in faith that we may witness to the resurrection and show your glory to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE**



**The king of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,**

**and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.**

Henry Williams Baker 1821–77  
based on Psalm 23  
Reproduced with permission  
Tune: Dominus regit me. TiS 145

*Announcements are made*

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love.  
**Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## WHOSE CHURCH IS IT?

*In preparing to think next Sunday about our ministries of welcome and hospitality, here is a theological reflection on the underlying nature of welcome in a church context*

“Welcome to our church” is a greeting I have heard more than once when visiting other parishes.

Such a greeting is, of course, meant to be encouraging – inviting visitors or newcomers into a friendly place. Both theologically and missionally, however, there is a problem with this sort of welcome language. The church is not “ours,” it is God’s. God is the host; we are ALL both the guests and the servants. The moment the church is described as “ours” then we are claiming ownership, and those who come seeking God become “you” or “them”; people who are by definition not inside and in consequence people who, at best, need to prove their worthiness or, at worst, need to be kept out at all costs.

Theologically, beginning a church service by invoking God’s name (Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and/or greeting one another in the Lord’s name (The Lord be with you) puts things in the right order. We are in God’s house after all. Depending on your Scriptural metaphor of choice we may be tenants, guardians, visitors or heirs, but ultimately ownership rests with another.

And missionally there is good reason for being very careful about how we use the word “our” in relation to the church: people may feel excluded. When visitors or newcomers are welcomed to “our church” or “our service” or offered some of “our hospitality” in “our hall” or “our meeting room” a barrier is instantly established between we who hold the keys, literally or metaphorically, and those who do not. Visitors, newcomers or seekers are instantly marginalised as “not us”. What is meant as friendliness instead can be perceived an assertion of power and control.

I vividly remember one Sunday some years ago when I visited a parish church in the UK with a not-very-churchy friend. After first being welcomed to “our” service we were asked at the end whether we’d like to come over to the hall for “our” morning tea. My friend’s naïve response was: “It’s ok. I wouldn’t want to intrude – I can go to a café.” Rather than being welcoming, the “our” language used in the invitation was perceived

as exclusion. Someone on the margins didn't feel comfortable responding positively to what seemed to be an invitation to a private gathering. I understood how the invitation was meant but I didn't intervene that Sunday because I could already guess at the quality of the coffee we were likely to be served.... My friend and I went to the pub for a nice lunch.

- Fr Craig D'Alton

[www.humanecatholic.net](http://www.humanecatholic.net) "Whose Church" 16 May 2023

## NOTICES

### WORKSHOPS ON THE SUNDAY LITURGY

Many in the parish have commented that attendances in recent months have been healthy. This is true, and is very welcome! It is important that we remain "on top of our game" in order to be able to continue to welcome new parishioners, and potential new parishioners, as they arrive, and to incorporate new people into the life of the parish and its worship. Over the remainder of this year there will be a series of workshops offered after Morning Tea, to encourage us to think about what we do, why, and how. The first two workshops are listed below. Anyone is welcome to attend, but especially if you are a newer member of the parish and interested in contributing to these important areas of what we do on Sundays.

#### **1) Everybody Welcome**

An opportunity to think about how we greet, welcome and incorporate new parishioners: those here for a short time, and those visiting just for today.  
Sunday 18 May

#### **2) Serving at the altar**

An opportunity to find out what goes on "up there", to ask questions, and – if you're interested – to be trained in how to assist.  
Sundays 25 May and 1 June

### NEW CHURCH HEATING

Let us rejoice! Final Heritage Victoria signoff was received on Monday, and the new heating has been installed. We hope that it will be in full working order by Sunday, though it may not get programmed until the coming week. The old radiators have also been removed, and the walls will be patched and painted in the next few weeks.



## **ROSTER**

<b>Date</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Eucharistic Assistant</b>	<b>Offertory</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Fr Glenn	Fr Ken	Fr Ken	Charles	Geoffrey
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Lindy	Valerie	Fr Craig	Elisabeth	Charles
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Sandra	Will C	Geoffrey	Geoffrey	Gary

## **BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION**

Eastertide is the traditional time for the great rites of initiation into the Church. This year Bp Kate Prowd will be at the 9.30am Eucharist on Pentecost – the last day of Easter – to administer these rites. If you are not yet baptised or confirmed and would like to be, or you come from a non-Anglican background and would like to be formally received as a member of the Anglican Church, please speak to the vicar.

## **CHRIST CHURCH MISSION COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS**

At a Special General Meeting this week, the Mission agreed to some changes to the Constitution, which reconstitute the Management Committee as a Board, and make clearer the processes of appointment and accountability. These changes will modernise the Mission's governance structures, and ensure that we are in a strong position to oversee the Community Centre into the future.

## **PHOTOS FOR ARCHIVES**

I am collecting old photos of the church and surrounding grounds. I would also like any photos you might have of significant events you participated in or saw particularly those relating to previous clergy/lay people or musicians.

Lee Baird  
Archives



## INTERCESSIONS

### **For the World:**

For the renewal of the ceasefires between Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah, praying for the people of Palestine, Lebanon and Israel. For a just end to war between Ukraine and Russia. For greater care of the environment and the habitats of the animals of this earth; praying especially for those species endangered by human activity. That we may be better stewards.

### **For the Church:**

In the world-wide Community of Faith, we pray for our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic Church. In the Anglican communion we pray for the Anglican Church in Japan (Bp David Eisho Uehara). In this diocese for Bp Genieve, Diocesan Administrator, for the members of the Board of Nominators as they prepare for the election synod, and for the parish of All Saints Newtown/Geelong West (Stephen Pollard).

### **For the Community:**

For the economically deprived and the homeless.

For the anxious, the isolated, and those overcome by fear.

For Christ Church Mission and the Community Centre staff and volunteers.

For those celebrating Mothers' Day today, and those whom this day is difficult.

**For the Sick:** Gaye, Josie, Lee, Robyne, Annette & for those we name in our hearts.

Also remembering those with long-term needs for prayer: Danny Allan, Patty Dowd, John, Joe, Charles, Byron, Aaron, Helen, Fr Andrew, Evan, Ruth, Fran, Peter, Greg and Sharyn and family, Francesco.

### **For the Departed:**

those who have died recently, and those whose Year's Mind occurs this week: Ian Pulling, Raymond Milton Johnson, Rowena Thomasson.

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord & let light perpetual shine upon them.*

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

Vicar: Fr Craig D'Alton Ph. 0435152199

[cdalton@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:cdalton@melbourneanglican.org.au)

Hon Assoc Clergy:

Fr Ken Letts, Archdeacon Glenn Loughrey

Churchwardens: Charles Baird, Robyn Foy, Robert Breakwell

Website: [www.christchurchstkilda.org.au](http://www.christchurchstkilda.org.au)

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/christchurchstkilda](https://facebook.com/christchurchstkilda)

Postal Address: 14 Acland Street, St Kilda 3182

***Are you new to Christ Church?***

*Please provide us with your phone number and/or email address so that we can get in touch and get to know you better. Tear off this form and hand it to the vicar or one of the welcomers.*

.....

<i>Name(s):</i>	
<i>Phone:</i>	
<i>Email:</i>	