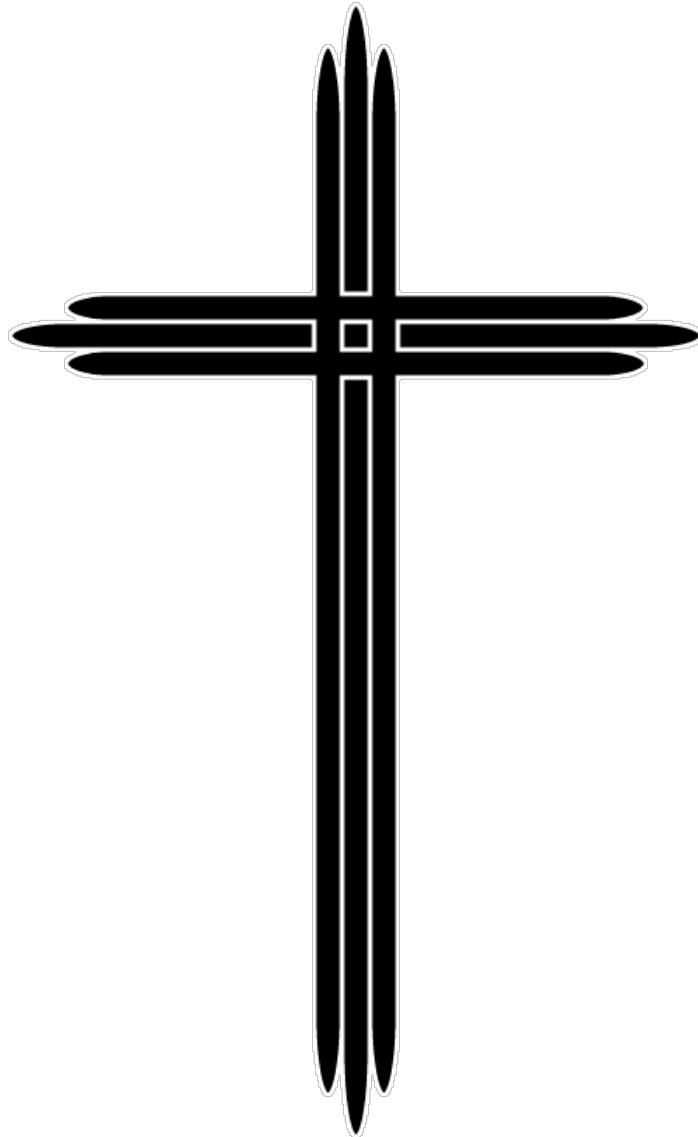


CHRIST CHURCH
THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST KILDA



Lent–Holy Week–Easter
2024

FROM THE VICAR

This booklet is an encouragement for us all to use the time of Lent well. Lent is the traditional preparation time of forty days from Ash Wednesday up to Good Friday, and the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day. It is a season of spiritual reflection, and an opportunity for “clearing the decks”. Often people choose to give something up for Lent – such as alcohol or chocolate. Sometimes people choose to take on something extra – an extra spiritual discipline, or even an exercise programme. How might you choose to mark out Lent as a special time of year?

The Easter Liturgy of Holy Saturday includes an opportunity for all baptised Christians to renew their baptismal vows, and Eastertide is the most appropriate time of the year both for Baptism and Confirmation. If you have not been baptised or confirmed and would like to be, Lent is the perfect time to prepare! Candidates for Baptism or Confirmation should speak to the vicar as soon as possible.

Please be encouraged, and have a good Lent!

God bless you,
Fr Craig

WHY DO WE OBSERVE LENT?

From about the 4th century the Church has observed a period of 40 days of fasting in preparation for Easter. The custom arose from the prescribed fast of the candidates for Christian initiation at the conclusion of their long period of instruction and preparation. As the event of their Baptism approached, this intensive preparation of the weeks before Easter began and the whole Church took up this process as being a period of renewal of their own baptismal promises. This we still do at the Liturgy of Holy Saturday.

The austerity of the Lenten season reminds us that our faith is centred on the essentials of human living, thus we dispense with some of those external symbols of our religious background in order to concentrate more fully on what they represent. Paintings and images are removed or veiled, flowers are removed, the exultant passages of praise, such as the Gloria and Alleluias are omitted from the Liturgy. The dominant colour is purple, the colour of royal mourning.

LENTEN SERVICES

ASH WEDNESDAY – 14 February

9.30am	Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
6.30pm	Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

SUNDAYS IN LENT

9.30am	Parish Eucharist
11.00am	Study Group (in the CFS Room)
	The Liturgies of Holy Week
	18, 25 Feb, 3, 10, 17 March
	Leader: Fr Craig D'Alton

WEEKDAYS IN LENT

Daily Office	9.30am	Morning Prayer (Monday – Tuesday, Thursday),
Eucharist	9.30am	Wednesday
Study Group	10am	Friday (in the Vestry)
		An idea of Abiding
		16, 23 Feb, 1, 8, 15, 22 March
		Leader: Fr Ken Letts

MAKING YOUR CONFESSION

Lent is traditionally a time for making use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, commonly known as Confession. Anglican use of this sacrament has never been universal. The general Anglican rule regarding the practice of confession is “all may, none must, some should.” If you have never made your confession before, or have not done so for a long time, perhaps this Lent might provide an opportunity to engage in this process of self-examination. The vicar is happy to discuss this sacrament with you, and it is always wise to consult a priest before your first confession.

HOLY WEEK DIARY

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY – 24 March

9.30am Blessing of Palms and Parish Eucharist

Holy Monday Eucharist 9.30am

Holy Tuesday Eucharist 9.30am

Holy Wednesday Eucharist 9.30am

MAUNDY THURSDAY – 28 March

7.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

(The Church will remain open for the customary vigil for an hour.)

GOOD FRIDAY – 29 March

12 noon The Celebration of the Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY – 30 March

9.00am Morning Prayer, followed by working bee

8.00pm Great Vigil of Easter

EASTER DAY – 31 March

9.30am Easter Day Eucharist

EASTERTIDE DIARY

The fifty days of Easter run from Easter Day until Pentecost.

SUNDAYS IN EASTERTIDE

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11am Study Group 21, 28 April, 5, 12 May

Naming God as Trinity

WEEKDAYS IN EASTERTIDE

9.30am Morning Prayer (Monday - Thursday)

ASCENSION DAY Thursday 9 May

9.30am Eucharist

PENTECOST Sunday 19 May

9.30am Parish Eucharist