

The priest says

May God, who has led us in the paths of justice and truth, lead us still, and keep us in his ways. **Amen.**

May God, whose Son has loved us and given himself for us, love us still, and establish us in peace. **Amen.**

May God, whose Spirit unites us and fills our hearts with joy, illumine us still, and strengthen us for the years to come. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The priest says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

From a Prayer Book for Australia.
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Please join Fr Ron for light refreshments in the Hall after the service.



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St Matthew's Anglican Church Cheltenham



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40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FR RON'S DEACONING CONVERSION OF ST PAUL



Friday 25 January 2019

6pm – Celebratory Mass

Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Ron White

Assisting: Fr Andre Hassing

Organist: Mr Christopher Cook

151 Years of Witness & Service in Cheltenham

THE HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Introit Hymn: 209 TIS

1. And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain —
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!
Amazing love! how can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!
2. He left his Father's throne above
(so free, so infinite his grace!),
Emptied himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free:
For, O my God, it found out me.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free:
For, O my God, it found out me.
3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night:
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
I woke; the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
4. No condemnation now I dread:
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.



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Together In Song

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

The priest greets the people

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Sentence of Scripture

I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what he has entrusted to me.

2 Timothy 1.12

**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 our 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.'

'Lord, have mercy'

Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy;** Lord, have mercy.

The Hymn of Praise, Gloria in excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

O God,
by the preaching of Paul your apostle
you have caused the light of the Gospel
to shine throughout the world:
grant that, as we remember his wonderful conversion,
we may show ourselves thankful to you by following his teaching;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Ministry read by Fr Andre

Almighty God, giver of all that is good,
by your Holy Spirit you have appointed
various orders of ministry in your Church.
We thank you for Ronald and all whom you have called
to the Order of deacons and priests.
So fill them with your truth, and clothe them with holiness,
that they may faithfully minister to the glory of your name
and the benefit of your Church.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.' Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.' Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

Jeremiah 1. 4-10

Hear the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 67

R Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you. R

1. Let God be gracious to us and bless us:
and make his face shine upon us,
2. That your ways may be known on earth:
your liberating power among all nations. **R**
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
4. Let the nations be glad and sing:
for you judge the peoples with integrity,
and govern the nations upon earth. **R**
5. Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
6. Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:
and God, our God, will bless us. **R**
7. God shall bless us:
and all the ends of the earth will revere him. **R**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

Acts 9.1-22

Hear the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 650 TIS

1. Brother, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey
And companions on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.
6. Sister, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.

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Together in Song

Remain standing for the Gospel Reading

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew
chapter 19 beginning at verse 27
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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

The Sermon

Silence may follow

The Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church.

**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

Fr Andre says

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

The response

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The priest says

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

Silence may be kept

Let us then run our race, laying aside every weight and bringing our sins to the Lord 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.**

The Absolution. The priest says

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

All stand. The Greeting of Peace is introduced

There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.

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

All may exchange a sign of peace

Offertory Hymn: 613 TIS

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Words: Joyce Placzek ("Jan Struther") 1901-53
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Together in Song

The gifts of the people having been brought to the Altar:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

[The Lord be with you.

And also with you.]

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth.

We give you thanks and praise
for your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Who came not to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.

He taught your word with boldness,
and offered himself to you in perfect obedience.
He cared for all as the good shepherd,
and laid down his life for his sheep.

By his death and rising to new life
he brought new life to your people.
In baptism you have united us to him,
and brought us out of darkness to light.

And now we give you thanks that
in fulfilment of your promise
you pour out your Spirit upon us,

filling us with your gifts and leading us into all truth.
You give us power to proclaim your gospel to all nations,
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

You ordain ministers to proclaim your word,
to care for your people,
and to celebrate the sacraments of the new covenant.

Therefore, with Our Lady, Matthew our Patron, Paul whose day this is
and all who have served you in every age,
we give you thanks and lift our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We who are many are one body in Christ,
for we all share in the one bread.

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.

The invitation to receive Holy Communion

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The sacrament is given with the following words, after which the communicant responds Amen

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Post Communion Hymn: 579 A&M (please kneel if possible)

1. I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.
2. And there's another country I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

Words: Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice 1859-1918
Ancient & Modern
Hymns & Songs for Refreshing Worship

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The priest says

Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit.

We thank you for raising up faithful servants for the ministry of your word and sacraments. May they be Godly examples in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life, that they may faithfully fulfil their ministry.

May your word spoken through them never fail. Make us, with them, faithful witnesses of the Lord Jesus and his resurrection, that at his coming we may go out with great joy to meet him, and be found worthy to worship you with all your saints for ever.

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.**

Dismissal Hymn: 531 TIS

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from his table take leave.
The supper is ended: may now be extended
The fruits of his service in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, our hungry souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for all humankind.
His grace shall incite us, his love shall unite us
To work for his kingdom, his purpose to find.
2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living
The tasks of our everyday life we will face,
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing as neighbours all those of each race.
One feast that has fed us, one light that has led us,
Unite us as one in his life that we share.
Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving,
Give honour to Christ and his name that we bear.

Words: Omer Westendorf 1916- alt
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Together In Song