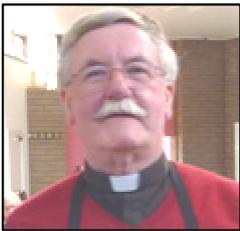


SALT

ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CHELTENHAM

PARISH NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY / MARCH 2013

A WORD FROM OUR VICAR...



MINISTRY OF CHILDREN

Please make widely known our Family Service on the 1st Sunday of the month. During the Eucharist the children meet in the Narthex for their activities (remember Sunday School – but

lighter!) They then join us to display what they have made and stay for the rest of the service. The service is followed by morning tea and our BBQ in the Hall.

Children are the church of today don't wait until tomorrow!!

AND NOW FOR THE SHOCK...!

Easter is less than 2 months away!! In many cases we've only just packed away the Christmas decorations and now Lent is upon us! All this because the date of Easter changes – it's a moveable feast' – and the date of Christmas is fixed. All this in the midst of school recommencing (and roads clogged in the morning!!) and commerce and industry is well and truly 'back to business'. Have you caught your breath yet?!

Lent gives us the opportunity to do just that – catch our breath, slow down a little and contemplate / meditate but paradoxically it may mean doing more! More prayer time, more reading / studying the Bible, opportunity to attend the Wednesday Eucharist – all things to make us pause and give time to God. Perhaps it's as simple as arriving 10 minutes early for Mass and spending time in prayer or reading the passages of scripture for the day – leave the greetings and the chatter until after the service. In other words it's a time to rediscover the benefits of lent – or in the words of Jesus – "Come ye apart and rest a while". Journey with him in the silences; listen to him in the quiet; talk with him in times of rest and be ready for the drama and trauma of Holy Week so that Easter is a time of resurrection and new life.

Fr Ron White
Parish Priest



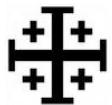
WORSHIP

ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Corner Nepean Highway & Park Road,
Cheltenham, VIC, 3192

Sundays

8am Eucharist with Hymns
1st Sunday of the month BCP service



10am Sung Eucharist

1st Sunday of the month service followed by BBQ

Wednesdays

10am Eucharist

FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS

Community of the Holy Name (CHN)
40 Cavanagh Street, Cheltenham, VIC, 3192
Phone: (03) 9583 2087

Sundays

9.30am in the Prayer Room at the Community
of the Holy Name (CHN)

CLERGY & STAFF

Fr Ron White – Parish Priest & Bayside Area Dean
The Rev'd Margot Poole – Priest Associate
Fr Andre Hassing – Priest Associate
Marlene Davies – Organist / Musical Director
Claire Johnston – Parish Secretary

WARDENS & VESTRY

Julie Johnston – Vicar's Warden
Sandra Cooper & Lesley Boyd – People's Warden
Rob Johnston – Treasurer
Joy Avery – Vestry Secretary
Val Fielder, Iris Hughes, Shirley Lewis, Sue Polites,
Phil Whelan

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Office

161 Park Road, Cheltenham, VIC, 3192

Hours: Wednesday to Friday, 9am to 4pm

Phone: (03) 9583 2205 Fax: (03) 9583 9660

Email: stmatthewsanglicanchurch@bigpond.com

Website: www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au

SHROVE TUESDAY

With the coming of Autumn we look towards Lent and Easter. Lent begins with Shrovetide. Shrove Tuesday is "Pancake Day" and the Monday is still known in some districts as "Collop Monday". Both refer to the days when the Lenten fast was more strictly observed, and all the meat and eggs and cream had to be eaten up before the Lenten season began on Ash Wednesday. "Collops" means bits of meat, and pancakes are of course made lavishly with lots of eggs and cream and milk.

Obviously, with Lent coming up, Collop Monday and Pancake Day are times of fun and feasting before the solemn period sets in. In parts of Europe, the celebrations are much more in evidence: it is Carnival time. The word "Carnival" comes from the Latin words for meat and for goodbye-it literally means "goodbye to meat" and the Carnival period was the time of hectic gaiety and good eating that preceded Lent. It is fun to allow something of the Carnival tradition into our own pancake celebrations.

We will enjoy yummy pancakes on Sunday 10th February during our morning tea after the 10am Mass in recognition of Shrove Tuesday. Please join us!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 'I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME'

The World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of all traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday of March each year.

Friday 1st March at 10.30am

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Cheltenham

As St Matthew's is the host this year please bring a plate of finger food for light refreshments after the service.

The service is open to everyone and may be of interest to other friends who do not normally attend church, so please pass the word around.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashes are a very ancient symbol of mourning and repentance. A very old tradition has penitents going about wearing "sackcloth and ashes". Ashes are distributed in churches on Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. The priest dips his thumb in a small dish of ashes-made by burning the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday-and then makes a cross with this thumb on a person's forehead, saying "Remember, man, that thou art dust, and into dust thou shalt return" or some other formula such as "Repent, and believe in the Gospel". In many churches, Ash Wednesday, together with Good Friday, is a day of fasting and abstinence. This means that only one main meal (plus perhaps two light snacks as necessary) may be eaten, and no meat.

You will sometimes see, as you go about a town on Ash Wednesday, people with the distinctive mark of ashes on their foreheads.

This year Ash Wednesday is on the 13th February and we will hold services at 10am and 6pm – Mass with Blessing and Imposition of Ashes.



PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday, the last Sunday before the celebration of Easter Sunday signifies the beginning of Holy Week. Churches around the world distribute Palm Crosses as the story of Jesus' triumphant entry into the city of Jerusalem is remembered. The story is recalled of Jesus travelling on a donkey into Jerusalem, when Palm Branches (hence the use of the Palm Cross) were laid across the road to Jerusalem by the crowds who gathered.

Please join us on Saturday 23rd March at 10.30am to make palm crosses.

We will provide the palms, instructions and a lovely morning tea! Helpers most welcome!



MOTHERING SUNDAY

400 years of tradition recalling the time (mid Lent: 4th Sunday in Lent – 10th March this year) when apprentices or servants were given ‘time off’ to visit their mothers. The family would attend their local (Mother) church and the opportunity was taken to give thanks for the Mother of all Mothers – ‘Our Lady’. In many cases the girls were allowed to bake a ‘Simnel Cake’ and take it to their mothers often with a posy. The cake was not always eaten at this time but kept for Easter. Recipes differed according to the regions of England and included one cake encased in a flour and water mixture when baked became impenetrable until smashed signifying the opening of the tomb. You may recall that Bishop Paul was with us for Mothering Sunday last year and he was thrilled to be part of our celebration because it reminded him of this time of ministry at St Phillips, Reigate in the UK. Please join us as we give thanks for our mothers and if you’re able bring your mother or someone else’s mum!! As is our custom we will bless and distribute Simnel Cake at both services on Mothering Sunday on the 10th March. If anyone can provide a Simnel Cake please contact the Parish Office.



MINISTRY TO THOSE IN NURSING HOMES

Four of the local nursing homes in Cheltenham are visited on respective Fridays each month. The Rev’d Margot Poole and Fr Andre join a small but dedicated group who assist in this ministry. However, ‘small’ is the operative word as over the last few years death and illness have diminished the size of the group. The parish is seeking volunteers who could give an hour of their time on a Friday (even once a month) to assist in this important ministry. Please speak to Sr Margot or Fr Ron if you feel the call to this important and rewarding task.

- 1st Friday of the month – Cheltenham Manor, 10-12 Bendigo Street, at 9.45am
- 2nd Friday of the month – Sandfield, 161a Centre Dandenong Road, at 11am
- 3rd Friday of the month – St James Terrace, 296 Warrigal Road, at 11am
- 4th Friday of the month – Autumdale Lodge, 13 Eagland Road, at 11am,
- 5th Friday of the month – no visit



A good neighbour story that Jesus told. Tell it in your own words.



Which one was being a good neighbour? Luke 10:25-34

NEIGHBOURS

Crack the code and find two rules Jesus gave us for living his way

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A CHRISTMAS THANK YOU!

To all who made known the Children's Crib Service to family, friends and neighbours – a big thank you! Some of the families who attended the Cheltenham Primary School Christmas Service were there and it was wonderful to see the fun and laughter as the children made their chains and decorations and then brought to life our previously empty Christmas tree.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

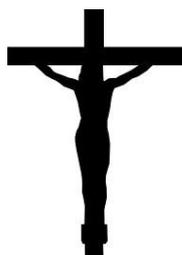
FEBRUARY

- 3rd Sunday Services – Presentation of Christ in the Temple / Candlemas
8am BCP & 10am Family Service followed by morning tea at 11am and Parish BBQ lunch at 12 noon
- 6th Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
- 10th Sunday Services
8am & 10am Mass followed by morning tea with pancakes at 11am
- 13th Weekday Services – Ash Wednesday
10am & 6pm Mass with Blessing and Imposition of Ashes
- 17th Sunday Services
8am & 10am Mass followed by morning tea at 11am. Healing service will follow the 10am Mass
- 20th Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
- 24th Sunday Services
8am & 10am Mass followed by morning tea at 11am
- 27th Weekday Service
10am Eucharist



MARCH

- 3rd Sunday Services
8am BCP & 10am Family Service followed by morning tea at 11am and Parish BBQ lunch at 12 noon
- 6th Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
- 10th Sunday Services – Mothering Sunday
8am & 10am Mass followed by morning tea at 11am. Healing service will follow the 10am Mass
- 13th Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
- 17th Sunday Services
8am & 10am Mass followed by morning tea at 11am
- 20th Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
- 23rd Making of Palm Crosses at 10.30am in the Parish Office
- 24th Sunday Services – Palm Sunday
8am & 10am Blessing of Palms & Procession followed by morning tea at 11am
- 25th Holy Week Service
10am Eucharist
- 26th Holy Week Service
10am Eucharist
- 27th Holy Week Service
10am Eucharist
- 28th Holy Week Service – Maundy Thursday
7pm Eucharist with Foot Washing
- 29th Holy Week Service – Good Friday
12 noon Devotions followed by refreshments
- 31st Sunday Services – Easter Day
6am Lighting of the New Fire, 8am & 10am Easter Holy Communion



PARISH EVENTS

PARISH BBQ

First Sunday of the month
in the Hall at around 12 noon

PARISH MORNING TEA

Every Sunday
in the Hall after the 10am service

PARISH BREAKFAST

Fifth Sunday of the month
in the Hall after the 8am service