

SALT

ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CHELTENHAM

PARISH NEWSLETTER: FEBRUARY – MARCH 2016

A WORD FROM OUR VICAR...

The Collect.

Almighty and everlastyng God, whiche hatest nothyng that thou haste made, and doest forgeve the synnes of all them that be penitente; Creat and make in us newe and contrite heartes, that wee worthily lamentyng oure synnes, and knowlegyng our wretchednes, maye obtaine of thee, the God of al mercye, perfect remission and forgeuenes; thorough Jesus Christ.

Only the spelling has changed! The Collect for 'The Fyrst Day of Lent, commonly called Ash-Wednesday' as found in the First Prayer Book of Edward VI published in 1549 is the same Collect that is used for Ash Wednesday in the present Prayer Book.

However, those who grew up in the 'C of E' will remember that the Ash Wednesday Collect was the Collect for the season and was used every day throughout Lent following the Collect for the Day. In some parishes (as in ours) this custom continues and we are constantly reminded that we are working through a period of repentance, reflection and renewal in preparation for our celebration of Easter.

Not only has the spelling changed but also custom and attitude. Remember your 'fast' or 'self-denial' of the Lents of your childhood? (And often not self but imposed by an adult!!) Today, we are encouraged to give generously to local and overseas bodies but to take on something extra. As an example, that 'extra' may take the form of a weekly prayer diary so that we can better pray 'for the world and for the church'. A simple example might look like this –

Sunday – The parish church, clergy, office bearers and general congregation.

Monday – His world including places of turmoil, violence and war; areas affected by natural disaster and those who bring peace, comfort and compassion.

Tuesday – Our local community; those who sustain us; those who provide transport; those who keep us safe and well.

Wednesday – The three tiers of Government: Local, State and Federal remembering our leaders and their functions.

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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 Family service with
Sunday School

Wednesdays

10am Eucharist (not in January)



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

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 & PARISH COUNCIL

Sue Polites – Vicar's Warden
Julie Johnston – Peoples' Warden
Phil Whelan – Peoples' Warden

Rob Johnston – Treasurer
Harold Daly, Marlene Gale & Andrew Napier

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

A WORD FROM OUR VICAR...

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Thursday – Those involved in education in all its forms especially praying for educators and students known to us and not forgetting groups such as U3A.

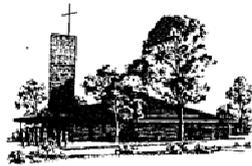
Friday – The gifts of creation and our care of His natural world to ensure we have something precious to pass on to those who come after.

Saturday – And (as the week comes to a close) we 'gather' our families, our neighbours and our friends but not forgetting 'ourselves, our souls and bodies'.

The list is not exhaustive! Nor is the order important; we simply follow our Lord's example to go 'out to the mountain to pray' – wherever your mountain may be.



Fr Ron White,
Parish Priest.



GOODBYE FROM NATHAN

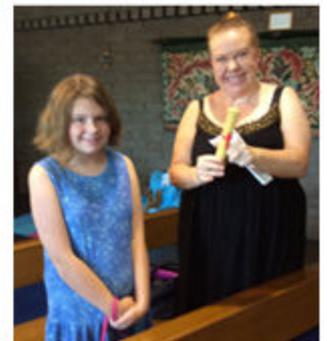
From Nathan, who came into the life of the church a few weeks before Christmas but unfortunately has had to return home to Hong Kong.

He writes 'Thanks for giving me the opportunities to serve others in church. It was encouraging that I could use my flute to contribute. Whenever I played flute in services, I felt God was with me and there was peace that went into my heart. It's my pleasure and honour to meet everyone at St Matthew's.'



CANDLEMAS

Candlemas or the Festival of Candles reminds us of the Christ who is 'the light to lighten the Gentiles'. The candles that will be used during the year (or a portion of them) are blessed (set aside for a holy task) as are others to be used in homes. It was a treat to see the Sunday School children make and decorate their own candles and have them blessed before they took them home to be used strictly under adult supervision!!



PARISH FUNCTIONS



We will hold our Parish Luncheon on the following dates:
3 April (BBQ), 5 June (soup),
7 August (finger food), 2 October (BBQ)
& 4 December (BBQ)

The dates for our Parish Breakfast this year are:
29 May, 31 July & 30 October



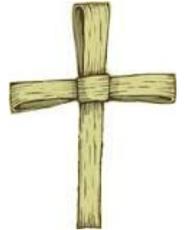
Please note these dates and don't forget these are an opportunity to bring members of the family, friends and neighbours and introduce them to our fellowship.

PALM CROSSES

We will once again be making palm crosses which we use for our procession on Palm Sunday. We usually have a small but enthusiastic group who enjoy a good chat and morning tea whilst making the crosses.

We will continue this tradition on Saturday 19 March at 9am in the Parish Office.

We will provide the palms and instructions (and morning tea!) and if you have never made one before help will be at hand so please join us!



FUNDRAISING!!

Christmas Special Effort!

The St Matthew's Christmas Special Effort was drawn on Sunday 20 December, and the lucky winners were...!!!

- 1st prize – Marlene Gale
- 2nd prize – June Mullens
- 3rd prize – Julie Johnston



We hope the winners enjoyed their prizes!!

Thanks to everyone who supported our Special Effort - we raised \$290!



The Christmas prizes



Marlene and Fr Ron with 1st prize

Easter Special Effort!

Tickets for the Easter special effort will be available towards the end of February so start collecting your gold coins!

Tickets will be \$1 each or 3 for \$2 and there will be a number of prizes

The special effort will be drawn on Palm Sunday, 20 March after the 10am Mass, at the morning tea



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Our Christmas celebrations began early when we welcomed over 530 staff, students and parents from Cheltenham Primary School for their annual service.



Our own Children's Crib Service was once again a wonderful messy affair as bon bons with jokes and toys were made by the children with enthusiastic help from the parents. At the end of the service each child received a gift and enjoyed a sausage sizzle.

On Christmas morning the Sunday School children lit the Christmas candle and after the Gospel presented the story of the birth of Jesus and the visit of the shepherds. They were suitably dressed in costume and invited the congregation to join in singing the carols that illustrated the story.



WORKING BEE

Our first working bee for this year will be held on Saturday 5 March at 9am (weather permitting!). This is our opportunity to tidy up the grounds around the church for Easter.

Helpers are needed so please come and join us!
Morning tea provided.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH REGISTER

Funerals

23 December – Don Anderson

23 December – Keith Foreman

7 January – Ken Sampson



OUR PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

Breakfast for the masses from the Masses. It was a wonderful time of fellowship when the congregation from 8am gathered with the congregation from 10am for an early celebration of Shrove Tuesday. This is necessary in this parish as many people are of an age when they don't come out at night – a sensible health and safety consideration. The pancakes were delicious with a variety of fillings and Julie had been working from a very early time to satisfy our appetites!!



MOTHERING SUNDAY

Please join us as we give thanks for our mothers. As is our custom we will bless and distribute Simnel Cake at both services on Mothering Sunday, 6 March.

This is of course an opportunity to bring your mother to church or indeed someone in your community who is a mother.



If anyone can provide a Simnel Cake please contact the Parish Office.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER

Lent is one of the two times of the church's year when we don't decorate the building with flowers. This is to remind us of the austerity of Lent when we try to live with less; however when we come to Easter we want to reflect the joy and the light of the celebration and flowers burst onto the scene again.

If you would like to donate towards flowers for Easter please put the money in an envelope marked 'Flowers for Easter' and place in the collection plate.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 3 Weekday Service – First Anglican Service at Sydney Cove
10am Eucharist
- 7 Sunday Services – Candlemas
The Presentation of Christ in the Temple
8am BCP & 10am Family Service
9am Pancakes
- 10 Weekday Service – Ash Wednesday
10am Eucharist & Blessing & Imposition of Ashes
followed by Lenten Bible Study
6pm Eucharist & Blessing & Imposition of Ashes
- 11 2pm Anglican Men's Society
- 14 Sunday Services – First Sunday in Lent
8am & 10am Mass
Healing service will follow the 10am Mass
- 17 Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
followed by Lenten Bible Study
- 21 Sunday Services – Second Sunday in Lent
8am & 10am Mass
- 22 1.30pm Friends of St Francis
- 24 Weekday Service – Matthias
10am Eucharist

Mothers' Union following the 10am service
- 28 Sunday Services – Third Sunday in Lent
8am & 10am Mass



Morning tea follows the 10am Mass on Sundays



MARCH

- 2 Weekday Service – Chad
10am Eucharist
followed by Lenten Bible Study
- 5 9am Working Bee
- 6 Sunday Services – Mothering Sunday
8am BCP & 10am Family Service
- 9 Weekday Service – Sr Emma SSA
10am Eucharist
followed by Lenten Bible Study
- 10 2pm Anglican Men's Society
- 13 Sunday Services – Passion Sunday
8am & 10am Mass
Healing service will follow the 10am Mass
- 16 Weekday Service
10am Eucharist
followed by Lenten Bible Study
- 19 9am Making of Palm Crosses
- 20 Sunday Services – Palm Sunday
Procession & Blessing of Palms
8am & 10am Mass
- 21 Holy Week Service – Monday
10am Eucharist
- 22 Holy Week Service – Tuesday
10am Eucharist
- 23 Holy Week Service – Wednesday
10am Eucharist
followed by Lenten Bible Study

Mothers' Union following the 10am service
- 24 Holy Week Service – Maundy Thursday
7pm Eucharist with Foot Washing
- 25 Holy Week Service – Good Friday
12 noon Devotions followed by refreshments
2pm Stations of the Cross
- 27 Sunday Services – Easter Day
8am Lighting of the New Fire & Eucharist
10am Easter Holy Communion
- 28 1.30pm Friends of St Francis
- 29 Easter Week Service – Tuesday
10am Eucharist
- 30 Easter Week Service – Wednesday
10am Eucharist