



Anglican Parish of Maryborough

OUR MISSION

To experience and share God's love.



29 April 2020

From the Rectory by the River

Grace and peace from the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

This week brings us to the month of May. Last Sunday was Easter 3 and there are 3 more Sundays in Easter before we celebrate Pentecost. My prayer is that we will celebrate it together in St Paul's with a lovely get together afterwards. We will see.

There is a slight change in the weather today with the hint of rain which, while not desperately needed, it will be lovely to have the earth refreshed.

Friday is the 1st of May, and with it comes the slight easing of the restrictions that we have been living under. It is only to be hoped that it will not lead to an increase in the cases of Covid 19.

What this time in isolation is showing, is how important contact with others is, friends, family, even those whom we only have brief contact with, those who serve us in shops, receptionists and many others.

John Donne wrote, 'No Man is an Island' which very much reflects what we are experiencing now, because those ordinary everyday connections are missing from our lives. It is also a time when it has become very apparent how our actions affect others, sometimes adversely, and hopefully we have all become more mindful of our own actions in respect to others.

The gospel readings for the past few weeks have focused on the appearances of the risen Christ to the disciples. What many of the stories have in common is the failure of the disciples to initially recognise him. How often do we fail to recognise the presence of God in our lives? The God who is present in the hands and hearts of those who reach out to love and care for us. As St Teresa of Avila said, Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless his people.

The stories of the risen Christ also tell how those who met him were transformed. Their grief turned to joy, their fear to courage, their focus on themselves reorientated to focus on others. The stories remind us that we meet Christ in other people every day, just as others meet Christ in us. We can transform the lives of those we meet by how we interact with them, by how we listen, talk, show respect, and care, just we can be transformed by them when we are listened to and are treated with care and respect.

The question on everyone's lips is, will this experience transform us? We can see Christ at work in so many ways as people reach out to others. When we emerge from this time of confinement, will we have a new appreciation of the world around us, the people in it and the lifestyle we enjoy. Or will everything be exactly the same as before. What happens is up to each of us.

Just a quick note about what is happening technology wise for those who are not on email. Zoom church is happening every Sunday at 9 am. It is recorded and the recording is posted on Facebook for those who want to look at it later. What we are hoping to offer for next Sunday is a DVD version of the service for those who don't have access to a computer or mobile phone. If you would like to have a copy of the service on DVD, please let me know. The number is 0419873457

On a personal note, life at the Rectory on the River is a hectic as ever. Jeff has been reinstated as rector of his parish but will continue to work from Maryborough. The dogs are enjoying the freedom of having a fenced yard and Jeff and I working at home! Remember I am able to be contacted if needed for anything!

Prayers and blessings, *Rev'd Sue*

No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as any manner of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

Parish Celebrations for May

Birthdays

Len Pappin	4 th May
Joy Brims	17 th May
Lis Ruska	18 th May
Linda Garlepp	19 th May
Barbara Todd	22 nd May
Rosalie Flinn	24 th May
Jenifer McLean	24 th May
Christine Jeffress	25 th May

Wedding Anniversaries

Ian & Elizabeth Miles	4 th May
Beris & Graham Trainer	5 th May
Mitch & Wendy Eckert	15 th May
Hilary & John Vale	24 th May
Jan & John Downman	31 st May

Happy Birthday to you,
May Jesus bless you,
May he guide you and keep you
Happy Birthday to you.

A picture to colour if you have run out of cupboards to clean! Or you can offer to do mime!



Weekly Morning and Evening Prayer and Sunday Readings for May

Date	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
26-Apr	Isaiah 62.6-12		Psalms 45
Sunday	Psalms 89.1-9		Ezekiel 1.4-15
Mark	Ephesians 4.7-16		2 Timothy 4.1-11
	Mark 16.1-15		
27-Apr		Psalms 140	Psalms 141; 142
Monday		Leviticus 22.31-23.11, 23.15-	Exodus 19.1-15
		John 9.1-12	1 Corinthians 1.1-9
28-Apr		Psalms 143; 146	Psalms 119.153-176
Tuesday		Leviticus 22.23-38	Exodus 19.16-20.17
		John 9.13-23	1 Corinthians 1.10-19
29-Apr		Psalms 145	Psalms 147
Wednesday		Leviticus 24	Exodus 20.18-21.6
Catherine of Siena, spiritual teacher (d. 1380)		John 9.24-41	1 Corinthians 1.20-31
30-Apr		Psalms 148; 149	Psalms 144; 150
Thursday		Leviticus 25.1-24	Exodus 22.20-23.3
		John 10.1-18	1 Corinthians 2.1-11
1-May		Psalms 27	Psalms 33
Friday		Job 23.1-12	Proverbs 4.10-18
Philip & James, Apostles & Martyrs		Acts 2.37-47	John 6.1-14
2-May		Psalms 5; 6	Psalms 7; 8
Saturday		Leviticus 26.27-45	Exodus 23.20-33
Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, teacher		John 10.31-42	1 Corinthians 3.5-17
3-May	Acts 2.42-47		Jeremiah 23.1-8
4th Sun in Easter	Psalms 23		Psalms 98
	1 Peter 2.1-10		Revelation 7.9-17
	John 10.1-10		
4-May		Psalms 11; 12	Psalms 13; 14
Monday		Numbers 3.5-13, 3.40-51	Exodus 24
		John 11.1-16	1 Corinthians 3.18-4.5
5-May		Psalms 15; 16	
Tuesday		Numbers 6.1-8; 6.22-7.5	Exodus 25.1-22
		John 11.17-37	1 Corinthians 4.6-21
6-May		Psalms 112	Psalms 97
Wednesday		Exodus 33.7-11a	Isaiah 28.14-29
John		John 1.1-18	1 John 5.1-12

Date	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
7-May		Psalms 19	Psalms 119.1-16
Thursday		Numbers 10.35-11.15	Exodus 28.1-6; 29.1-9
		John 11.45-54	1 Corinthians 6.1-11
8-May		Psalms 20; 21.1-7	Psalms 24; 26
Friday		Numbers 11.16-33	Exodus 29.38-30.8
Julian of Norwich, holy woman and mystic (d.1417)		John 11.55-12.8	1 Corinthians 6.12-20
9-May		Psalms 22.1-22	Psalms 22.23-32; 23
Saturday		Numbers 12	Exodus 31
		John 12.9-19	1 Corinthians 7.1-11
10-May	Acts 7.55-60		Acts 8.1b-13
5th Sunday in Easter	Psalms 31.1-5, 31.17-18		Psalms 135.1-4, 13-21
	1 Peter 2.11-25		Revelation 10
	John 14.1-14		
11-May		Psalms 28; 29	Psalms 30; 32
Monday		Numbers 13.1-3, 13.17-19	Exodus 32.1-14
		John 12.20-33	1 Corinthians 7.12-24
12-May		Psalms 33	Psalms 31
Tuesday		Numbers 13.30-14.25	Exodus 32.15-35
		John 12.34-43	1 Corinthians 7.25-35
13-May		Psalms 35.1-17	Psalms 35.18-29; 36
Wednesday		Numbers 14.26-45	Exodus 33.1-17
		John 12.44-50	1 Corinthians 7.36-40
14-May		Psalms 34	Psalms 119.17-40
Thursday		Numbers 16.1-19	Exodus 33.18-34.10
		John 13.1-11	1 Corinthians 8
15-May		Psalms 37.1-17	Psalms 37.18-41
Friday		Numbers 16.20-40	Exodus 34.11-24
		John 13.12-20	1 Corinthians 9.1-14
16-May		Psalms 38	Psalms 39
Saturday		Numbers 16.41-17.12	Exodus 34.27-35.9
		John 13.21-35	1 Corinthians 9.15-27
17-May	Acts 17.22-31		Acts 8.14-25
6th Sunday in Easter	Psalms 66.7-19		Psalms 66.1-8
	1 Peter 3.8-22		Revelation 11.15-19
	John 14.15-21		
18-May		Psalms 41; 44.1-9	Psalms 44.10-27
Monday		Numbers 20.1-21	Exodus 35.20-36.7
		John 14.8-17	1 Corinthians 10.1-11

Date	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
19-May		Psalms 45	Psalms 46; 47
Tuesday		Numbers 20.22-21.9	Exodus 40.17-38
Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury (d. 988)		John 14.18-31	1 Corinthians 10.12-22
20-May		Psalms 48	Psalms 99
Wednesday		Numbers 21.10-35	Isaiah 63.7-14
		John 15.1-11	Colossians 2.20-3.4
21-May	Acts 1.1-11	Psalms 97	Psalms 47
Thursday	Psalms 110	Daniel 7.9-14	2 Kings 2.1-15
Ascension Day	Ephesians 1.15-23	John 13.36-14.6	Revelation 5.1-10
	Matthew 28.16-20		
22-May		Psalms 51	Psalms 52; 53
Friday		Numbers 22.1-20	Deuteronomy 29.1-21
		John 15.12-25	1 Corinthians 10.23-11.1
23-May		Psalms 54; 55.1-12	Psalms 55.13-28
Saturday		Numbers 22.21-40	Deuteronomy 29.29-
		John 15.26-16.11	1 Corinthians 11.2-16
24-May	Acts 1.6-14		Acts 1.15-26
7th Sunday in Easter	Psalms 68.1-10, 68.32-35		Psalms 68.11-20
	1 Peter 5		Revelation 14.1-7; 15.2-4
	John 17.1-11		
25-May		Psalms 62; 63	Psalms 64; 67
Monday		Numbers 22.41-23.12	Deuteronomy 31.1-15
	Bede of Jarrow, priest and teacher (d. 735)	John 16.12-24	1 Corinthians 11.17-34
26-May		Psalms 65; 70	Psalms 66
Tuesday		Numbers 23.13-30	Deuteronomy 31.23-32.9
	Augustine of Canterbury, missionary and bishop (d. 605)	John 16.25-17.5	1 Corinthians 12.1-13
27-May		Psalms 68.1-20	Psalms 68.24-35
Wednesday		Numbers 24.1-11	Deuteronomy 32.10-22
		John 17.6-19	1 Corinthians 12.14-31
28-May		Psalms 71	Psalms 119.65-88
Thursday		Numbers 24.12-25	Deuteronomy 32.23-38
		John 17.20-26	1 Corinthians 13
29-May		Psalms 69.1-16	Psalms 69.17-38
Friday		Numbers 27	Deuteronomy 32.39-52
		Acts 1.1-14	1 Corinthians 14.1-12
30-May		Psalms 72	Psalms 73
Saturday		Numbers 36	Numbers 11.16-17,
		Acts 1.15-26	1 Corinthians 14.13-25

Date	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
31-May	Acts 2.1-21		Joel 2.28-32
Sunday	Psalm 104.26-36		Psalm 103.13-22
Pentecost	1 Corinthians 12.1-13		Galatians 5.13-26
	John 7.37-52		

Reflections from ABM

Written by Robert McLean Partnerships Coordinator, ABM
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The Third Sunday of Easter– Sunday 26 April 2020

St Luke tells us about the walk to Emmaus where two of the disciples meet with the Risen Christ, yet they do not realize who he is until he breaks bread with them. Many of us have been watching the Eucharist online over the past few weeks. May God bless all those who have made their spiritual communion recently, keeping up their Eucharistic devotion in difficult times.

- In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united with you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we pray that you would come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves to you, and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live and die in your love. Amen.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Japan, the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai*.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter– Sunday 3 May 2020

The word, *panic*, comes from the name of the Greek god, Pan, whose flocks of goats and sheep were known to panic. Jesus tells us that sheep follow the shepherd's voice, and so we have no need to panic and scatter, mentally or physically, like a flock of startled sheep. Jesus knows each one of his flock and he calls out to each one of us by name – especially during this time of anxiety. Listen for the Shepherd's voice.

- Pray that you will hear Christ's reassuring voice today.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of North India.

St John, Apostle and Evangelist – Wednesday 6 May 2020

Today St John tells us that Jesus chose to reveal his Resurrection first to St Mary Magdalene. May we feel the same joy that she felt on Easter Day, whether we are in isolation or quarantine, or one of those who have an essential job.

- Pray for women's ministry, giving thanks for all the benefits that women bring to the Church.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of St John's Cathedral, Brisbane.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of Ceylon.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter– Sunday 10 May 2020

We read that St Thomas said to Jesus, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Many of us will feel like that in these straitened times. What does the future hold? Despite our apprehension and disquiet, if we follow Jesus we cannot feel lost for very long.

- Pray that we who yearn for direction may find it in Jesus Christ, the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of Pakistan.

St Matthias, Apostle and Martyr— Thursday 14 May 2020

Jesus says to us today that if we follow him closely, we will not be his servants but his friends. Our God is not ever distant and unknowable. We can know God, being called a friend, if we stick to his rule to love one another.

- Pray that the Jesus Christ, God himself, may number you among his friends because of the love in your heart that you show to others.
- Give thanks for all those elected to serve the Church in Australia, whether at parish, diocesan or national level.

The Sixth Sunday of Easter– Sunday 17 May 2020

As the song says, *Love changes everything*. In this time of quietness and confinement, how might we express love for others? How about by praying for doctors and nurses as they deal with those affected by Covid-19? How about calling someone you know who is elderly and shut in? How about doing shopping for someone who cannot do it easily themselves? In these difficult times, *What the world needs now is love, sweet love*, as another song says.

- Pray that you can change your neighbourhood this week by acts of *love, sweet love*.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of the Province of South East Asia.

Ascension Day – Thursday 21 May 2020

Today we hear of the task that Jesus leaves the disciples – to make disciples of all nations. One of the silver linings in the cloud that is the Corvid-19 pandemic is that many of our parishes have been jolted into using social media and other technology to keep in contact with their parishioners. Worship, Bible studies, theological forums – all kinds of things have been happening in the online world. This is a wonderful thing: the church can extend beyond its physical presence, and people can join in from wherever they are around Australia and beyond.

- Pray for all those who have been grappling with technology to bring services, studies and so on out from the church into people’s homes. May God’s love be shared ever wider this way.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan.

The Seventh Sunday of Easter– Sunday 24 May 2020

We read that Jesus said ‘I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do’. We know what our work is because Jesus told us last week: we must share God’s love. So, how about praying for epidemiologists and virologists and all who are working towards a vaccine? How about saying thank you to the teachers in your area for helping to keep kids’ education on track at this difficult time? How about thanking the checkout operator at your local supermarket? – they will probably have seen some pretty bad behaviour from customers recently.

- Pray that you can change your neighbourhood this week by more acts of *love, sweet love*.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Philippine Independent Church, the *Iglesia Filipina Independiente*.

Pentecost (Whitsunday)– Sunday 31 May 2020

We hear from St Luke (Acts 2.1-21) of the ‘Birth of the Church’ where the Holy Spirit descends on the believers who then speak in many of the languages of the then-known world. Today we have many people living in Australia who speak languages other than English, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and those from overseas who have chosen to call Australia home. At this time of crisis, how can we ensure that all the people living in the country know God’s love?

- Pray that this week – and in all others – we might be able to befriend someone from a new culture and show them God’s love through our love for them.
- Give thanks for the work of those who translate the Scriptures into languages that have not yet had a version of the Bible.

BEATITUDES
FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS




FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS; THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS.



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED,



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

Catherine of Siena

Reformer and Spiritual Teacher (29 Apr 1380)

Catherine Benincasa, born in 1347, was the youngest of twenty-five children of a wealthy dyer of Sienna (or Siena). At the age of six, she had a vision of Christ in glory, surrounded by his saints. From that time on, she spent most of her time in prayer and meditation, over the opposition of her parents, who wanted her to be more like the average girl of her social class. Eventually they gave in, and at the age of sixteen she joined the Third Order of St. Dominic where she became a nurse, caring for patients with leprosy and advanced cancer whom other nurses disliked to treat.

She began to acquire a reputation as a person of insight and sound judgement, and many persons from all walks of life sought her spiritual advice, both in person and by letter. (We have a book containing about four hundred letters from her to bishops, kings, scholars, merchants, and obscure peasants.) She persuaded many priests who were living in luxury to give away their goods and to live simply.

Catherine is known as a mystic, a contemplative who devoted herself to prayer, as a humanitarian, a nurse who undertook to alleviate the suffering of the poor and the sick; as an activist, a renewer of Church and society, who took a strong stand on the issues affecting society in her day, and who never hesitated (in the old Quaker phrase) "to speak truth to power"; as an adviser and counsellor, with a wide range of interests, who always made time for troubled and uncertain persons who told her their problems -- large and trivial, religious and secular.

Catherine of Siena Quotes

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."

"Proclaim the truth and do not be silent through fear."

"Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring."

"All the way to heaven is heaven, because Jesus said, "I am the way."

"If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world on fire!"

Julian of Norwich

Julian (or Juliana) of Norwich, also known as Dame Julian or Mother Julian (1343 – after 1416), was an English anchoress of the Middle Ages. She wrote the earliest surviving book in the English language to be written by a woman, *Revelations of Divine Love*. She lived practically her whole life in the English city of Norwich, an important centre for commerce that also had a vibrant religious life. During her lifetime, the city suffered the devastating effects of the Black Death of 1348–50; the Peasants' Revolt, which affected large parts of England in 1381; and the suppression of the Lollards. In 1373, aged thirty and so seriously ill she thought she was on her deathbed, Julian received a series of visions or "shewings" of the Passion of Christ. She recovered from her illness and wrote two versions of her experiences, the earlier one being completed soon after her recovery, and a much longer version, today known as the Long Text, being written many years later. For much of her life, Julian lived in permanent seclusion as an anchoress in her cell, which was attached to St Julian's Church, Norwich. Four wills in which sums were bequeathed to her have survived, and an account by the celebrated mystic Margery Kempe exists, which provides details of the counsel she was given by the anchoress.

Julian of Norwich quotes

"All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well."

"He said not 'Thou shalt not be tempested, thou shalt not be travailed, thou shalt not be dis-eased'; but he said, 'Thou shalt not be overcome.'"

"The greatest honour we can give Almighty God is to live gladly because of the knowledge of his love."

"If there is anywhere on earth a lover of God who is always kept safe, I know nothing of it, for it was not shown to me. But this was shown: that in falling and rising again we are always kept in that same precious love."

"God loved us before he made us; and his love has never diminished and never shall."

"And all shall be well. And all shall be well. And all manner of things shall be exceeding well."