

**Proclaiming Christ in word and action;  
Growing in care, love and service**

**Western Fleurieu Anglicans**  
(A Parish of the Diocese of The Murray)

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**Next Wednesday:** 9.00 am Holy Eucharist: St Margaret:

**Next Saturday** 5.30 pm Holy Eucharist: St Stephen

**Next Sunday: Lent 5**

9.00 am Family Service: St Ann

9.00 am Holy Eucharist : Christ Church

10.30 am Holy Eucharist : St Margaret

10.30 am Holy Eucharist: St Nicholas:

No Service: St James

**Readings:** Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:3-14; John 12:1-8



**Acknowledgement of Country:** We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nation Peoples & are thankful for the community we share together. We pay our respects to the Kaurna People.

**Sentence**

**Lent 4, March 27 2022**

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ, and given us the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18

**Collect**

God of compassion, you are slow to anger, and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts: receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you, and seat them at your bountiful table, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

**Thought for the Week:** Today we read St Luke's well-known parable of the prodigal son, although the writer Barbara Brown Taylor has described it as the 'parable of the dysfunctional family – a story about a weak patriarch with an absentee wife and two rebellious sons he seems unable to control, who is willing to sacrifice his honour to keep his community together'. A younger son does the unthinkable and asks his father for his inheritance well before his death. Once the son possessed his newly gained wherewithal, the money was soon frittered away in the fleshpots of the Gentile world. The son then had to earn some money in order to live. He gained a job as an assistant to some swineherds – the lowest of the low, and hardly a good job for any self-respecting Jew. On coming home, he addressed his father formally and with respect. His father rejoiced, clothed the son in fine clothing and ordered that a feast be held. Meanwhile, on returning from the field, the elder son heard the hubbub and asked a slave what was going on. The answer enraged him and he took his father to task, addressing him without respect or even acknowledging that the prodigal is his brother. The father's answer to the elder son is likely to be regarded as problematic by anyone with a parent who plays favourites. Nonetheless, the story does make us wonder, as the Canadian theologian Chris Haslam notes, 'at the end of the era, will godly people be ready to be joyous in sharing the Kingdom with reformed sinners and a God who loves them?'

- Lord, may I always come back to you in repentance if I wander away. May I always demonstrate love and fairness to others, not assuming that either are evident. May I put all bitterness aside so that joy can fill my life.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of South India, remembering especially today their ministry in a predominantly non-Christian context

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## Joshua 5:2-12

*A reading from the book of Joshua.*

At that time the Lord said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites a second time." So Joshua made flint knives, and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath-haaraloth. This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the warriors, had died during the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt. Although all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people born on the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. For the Israelites traveled forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the warriors who came out of Egypt, perished, not having listened to the voice of the Lord. To them the Lord swore that he would not let them see the land that he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. When the circumcising of all the nation was done, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

*Hear the word of the Lord;  
thanks be to God.*



## Psalm 32

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

<sup>3</sup>While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

<sup>10</sup>**Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

## 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.*

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*Hear the word of the Lord,  
thanks be to God.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

### Luke 15:11-32

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## *In the Parish This Week*

All items for Church Chatter should be either e-mailed ([sanderwt@bigpond.com](mailto:sanderwt@bigpond.com)) or texted (0410 548 040) to the Editor by Wednesday evening. Thank you for your cooperation.

Today: Mothering or Refreshment Sunday: Simnel Cake & Posies

Monday: Another day to be with the Lord

Tuesday: Another day to be with the Lord

Wednesday: Another day to be with the Lord

10.00 am Lenten Study: S. Margaret

7.00 pm Contemplative Prayer, Christ Church

Thursday: Another day to be with the Lord

11.30 am Ecumenical Penitential Taizé service

SCC

7.00 pm Lenten Study: S. Ann

Friday: Another day to be with the Lord

1.00 pm Lenten Study: S. Nicholas

6.00 for 6.30 pm Shared Tea S. Margaret

Saturday: Another day to be with the Lord



### ***Prayer of the week:***

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nation by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; though Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### ***Church Chatter:***

**Christian Care and Support Centre**— needs supplies for March 2022. Place staple items in the outside basket or deliver to the Centre. Forget? Make a donation!

### ***Those we pray for this week:***

We pray for ABM and the Anglican Alliance Development, Relief & Advocacy. We pray for Anglican Mothers' Union Australia & for International Matters. We give thanks for the Sudan Literacy Centre in Arua, Uganda. We pray for The Diocese of Willochra, Bp John Stead, the clergy and people. We give thanks for the BCA staff Luke and Julia Collins, Moranbah, Qld, and Jennifer & Colin Hercott, Central Queensland Registry, Rockhampton, Qld. We pray for War Widows and Widowers and the work of Legacy.

In our Diocese we pray for Bp Keith Dalby and for his wife Alice and family; and for all Parishes in the Diocese. We give thanks for the work of Australian Anglican missionary societies and social welfare agencies. We give thanks for the ministry of Pastoral Care worker Gina Hunt, Myponga and Rapid Bay Primary Schools.

### ***Those we continue to pray for:***

Jac Bishop: Eileen Cook; Yvonne Scrutton; Brenda; Ted & Joyce and Miriam; Catherine Cooling; and *any others we wish to remember.*

***From the beginning of Lent this new prayer list is being created. If you wish to add***