



Christ Church Chronicle

Number 30

March 2015

LENT 2015

Christ Church seeks to be a centre for the worship of Almighty God, providing strength and assistance for all who enter, and enabling God's love in Christ to reach out to the community and world in which we live

The Vicar

WRITES

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

By the grace of the Lord our journey together continues into the season of Lent and offers us yet another opportunity to deepen our connection with Christ. That connection leads us to the blessed assurance that God's love is always there for us and that God's guidance can assist us in all circumstances and support us even in the most difficult times. The Lenten journey leads us to Easter where we hear of the crucifixion of Christ and then the glorious Resurrection that gives us the wonderful hope of eternal blessedness, the everlasting life free from misery, terror, war and illusion.

Many people think of Lent as a time for giving up some little activity as an austerity but the real purpose of the season is to expand the capacity of our hearts and mind that the Lord's grace may enter more fully there. Our spiritual capacity is expanded by our surrender to the Lord and the art of surrender is based on the principle of accepting all that is favourable for the service of the Lord and rejecting that which is unfavourable for the service of the Lord. Even if one is not very religious or pious this practise of living according to the principle of devotional surrender to God removes the fear of uncertainty that comes with living in this temporary world.

It requires great wisdom to even see the necessity of surrendering to the Lord, to understand that all other shelters we seek in this life are fallible and that God is the one



in our villages, towns & cities

infallible shelter, unfailing in all circumstances. One surrenders by thought, word and deed and the all merciful Lord reciprocates far beyond our aspiration to strengthen our devotion and love. The unprecedented, gracious reward of surrender is that the Lord fills our hearts with his sweet absolute presence and that in turn dispels the unhappiness that comes from thinking we are the centre, the doer and the supreme controller.

An important fruit of unconditional surrender is the conception of belonging to the Lord. Surrender to the Lord brings all spiritual perfection, it leaves nothing else to be attained. That is what Jesus meant when he said seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all else will be added unto you. When we offer ourselves to



Christ we do so without any sense of ego or independence from the Lord. By regularly falling at the Lord's feet (mentally, not physically) we

attain the soul's natural state of being subordinate to God and are established in the eternal, glorious position as the

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We at Christ Church acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and in particular the Wathaurong people, as the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which Christ Church and its buildings now stand; and we acknowledge our gratitude that we share this land today, our sorrow for the costs of that sharing, and our hope that we can move to a place of justice and partnership together.



Lord's servant.

The Supreme Lord always remains in the company of his surrendered servants but we become blind to the presence of the Lord if we remain a self-asserting egotist. Lent like all other seasons of the church help us to align our hearts with the will of Christ. Our lives join with him who came to us, shared our human life that we might join his eternal, divine life. I pray for everyone in our parish that we might take advantage of this gift of Lent by attending worship, joining the Lenten study groups, praying more and becoming more absorbed in the life of Christ. Finally I pray that we and all our families and loved ones have a safe and happy Easter.

The Lord be with you.

Fr Russell

THE PARISH WEB PAGE

...Have you looked at the parish Web Page recently? You can find the web address below (or just Google "Christ Church Geelong" and it should come up!). On the web page you can find details of services and celebrations for the present season in the church calendar, links to readings and addresses from our Pastoral team and visiting clergy,, and photos, details of parish events, and lots more!



Christ Church Parish Office

Ph 5221 8055

Email chchurch@ncable.net.au

www.christchurchgeelong.com.au

The Parish Office is open on **Thursday** mornings

HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2015



Easter Monday (March 30th) - Stations of the Cross 7.30pm

Easter Tuesday (March 31st) - Morning Prayer 8.30am, Mass 6.15 pm, Meditation 7pm

Wednesday (April 1st) Masses 8 & 10am, and 7.30 pm,

Maundy Thursday (April 2nd) Morning prayer 8.30am, Mass 7.30pm

Good Friday (April 3rd) - 9.30am reserved sacrament Mass and Adoration of the Cross, 11.15am CAFS service

Easter Saturday (April 4th)- 6pm Mass, followed by dinner from 7.30pm

Easter Day (5th April) - Masses 8am and 9.30am.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL 2014-2015

The 2014-15 Council (as elected at the 2014 AGM) is -

Vicar's Warden - Ruth Christian

Wardens - David Peek, Gai Scully

Vestry Members - John Aldridge, Evelyn Twaddell, Peter Dohnt, Pat Peacock, Mary Lewis,, David Osbourne, Jan McGowan & Sue Wong (together with Fr Russell as Vicar)

Diary dates and reminders...

some dates for 2015

Sat 5th March - Saturday Club visit to Geelong Gallery (see p.7 for more details)

12th March - Blue Illusion (Pakington Street) - Fashion Parade and sale

March 29th - Palm Sunday

3rd April - Good Friday

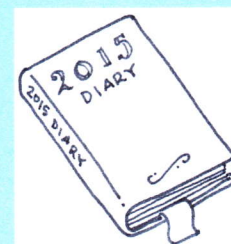
5th April - Easter Day

Sunday 12th April - Bp Philip Huggins to visit Christ Church

17th May - Community Concert at Christ Church (see details on p.5)

Sat 23rd May - Winter Market (Parish Hall) - lots of goodies for winter!

...and watch the Parish Press for details of other celebrations and Parish events, film notes (Mondays) which will be starting soon!



including the 2015



THE LORD IS ALL ATTRACTIVE

The very gist of all religions is that knowingly or unknowingly, every soul is searching for divine love. Still different varieties of obstacles come to dissuade us from our campaign. But the heart won't be satisfied unless and until it reaches that goal of divine love. The Lord is that divine love, the feeling of that love is infinite joy and that joy is all-attractive, it is what we have been searching for our whole lives. The grace of the Lord is such that He has designed us to seek pleasure and yet never be satisfied until we find the pleasure of service at His feet.

Once begun, our journey towards the Lord can never be stopped by anyone. It is merely a question of time, it may take ages but the ultimate success of all of God's children cannot be checked. The Lord alone can really attract us. We cannot relish anything else from the depth of our heart and accept it as our final destination. We want only the beauty of love, not power or mundane knowledge.

It may seem that we want power, we sometimes think that we must have everything, we want that controlling capacity. We want that everything will come under our control, that whatever we want shall be done. But that is not what we truly want. It may seem that we want power but power cannot satisfy us. And sometimes we may think that we want to know everything but that is also not the ultimate end which can fulfil our inner necessity. If we seek the Lord in the innermost chambers of our hearts, He will help us to understand that our actual situation is that we are all beggars of love and affection.

That love and affection we are seeking is present to an infinite degree in the Lord, in fact the Lord is the source of the love and affection we find in anyone. By being centred in the Lord we tap into that infinite source of love and affection and thus we grow in that love and increasing our capacity for love become a source of God's love for others. Loving adoration is the innermost necessity everywhere and that may only be completely satisfied in the Lord.

So remember the innermost hankering of every soul is for beauty, love, affection and harmony; not for power, mundane knowledge or anything else. The Lord is the source of all wisdom, love and affection, all power belongs to Him. There is a great need for people to understand the real necessity of the heart. If we want peace in our lives and indeed in the world we may begin by satisfying the hankering of our own hearts by sheltering in the Lord and helping others to do the same so that we and they may find peace and

be a source of peace. The whole creation cries out for this.

The Lord be with you

(Fr Russell)

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY !



In 2013 on Foundation Day it was announced that there would be a 5 year project to extend the written history of Christ Church and publish a book in 2018, our 175th Anniversary. Margaret Tembo offered to co-ordinate this project and has started to gather historical research material. This is our community project and needs to be assisted by all members of Christ Church. At this stage a writer has not been commissioned.

We are collecting research from the past documents but for a history to live we need reflections and living memories from current members. You can be interviewed by our Researcher or you can write down in letter form your reflections of belonging to Christ Church Community, including memories of participation in the worship, the fellowship, the social activities and the organizations which you enjoyed – Choir, Home Groups, Ladies Guild, Mother's Union, Boys and Girls clubs, sports clubs or anything that is significant in your Christian journey. You may also wish to donate photos for our archives.

All parishioners are part of the history of Christ Church, so every member of Christ Church community can contribute to this project. Your contribution is significant and will be respected and appreciated. Future generations will read this history as a testament of God's action in this community.

You will need time to reflect and compose your contribution. We need your offering by 30th September 2015. If you would prefer to be interviewed then our Researcher would make an appointment to talk with you at a convenient time. Contributions included in the history, whether written or from interviews will always be discussed with you before inclusion and publishing.

This project is exciting and we hope you will lend your voice to the story. Do you see yourself as a keeper of the story of Christ Church Geelong? You can contact Project Co-ordinator Margaret Tembo at m.tembo@bigpond.com or Ph 5221 5130

Thank you - Vicar and Wardens of Christ Church



LOVING SEARCH FOR THE LOST SERVANT (MARCH 2015)

At Christmas time we celebrated the incarnation of Christ and marvelled at the wonder of God taking birth in the humble manger at Bethlehem. Now as we journey through Lent we contemplate the mysteries of why the infallible Lord incarnated, why he shared our life and death, even death on the cross. Saint Francis pointed to something that I think is very important in understanding something of this mystery. He said we are here in this world in exile from our real homes in heaven. God has come here as Jesus to call us back to our eternal home. This world is full of the glories of God but those glories point to the eternal place where the life, beauty and all relationships exist in eternal, undying perfection.

Christ comes here to search for us His lost servants, we are the lost sheep the shepherd has left His herd to find. The search for the lost servant is a loving one, it is not ordinary but from the heart. Who can estimate what kind of search the Lord is engaged in? Although he is full in all respects, the Lord still feels pangs of separation for everyone of us, however small we may be. In spite of his supreme position, he has room for us in a corner of his loving heart. This is the nature of the infinite whose love and kindness are infinite and who thus searches for us to bring us home.

Otherwise we have no hope, our solace, our consolation in life, is that ultimately we are under the care of such a loving Lord. As we befriend the Lord this inner assurance grows, that desperate encouragement comes within us. We delight in the fact that Jesus is our friend, with him behind us, what do we care? We may proceed in our service to Christ fearless and confident that the Lord is with us and will take care of us, both in life and in death.

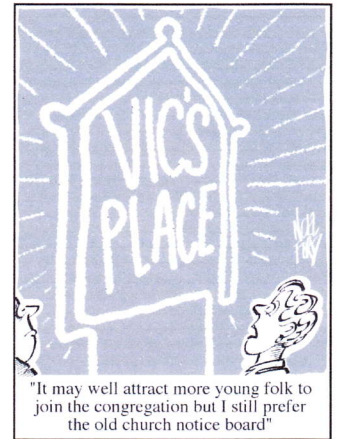
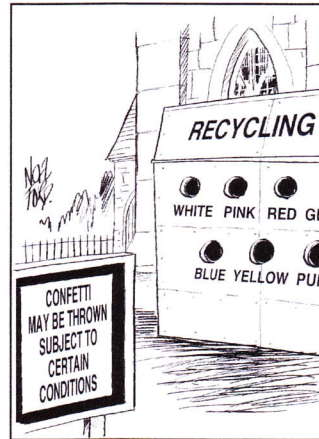
By the grace of the Lord we may enter into a deep loving relationship with the Lord who has come to inform us about our ultimate prospect in life. The Lord calls us a prodigal children telling us we don't have to live a though we are impoverished souls trapped by our littleness and mortality. We are eternal souls, blissful servants of God who live forever in an atmosphere of love and peace. That love and peace are within our own hearts but we busy ourselves with games and politics and are blind to all that is good.

The Lord reminds us of the infinite wealth of devotion that far outweighs the destitution of atheism. By example The Lord reveals to us that we

have a guardian who is so loving, so high, so merciful that we only have to remember Him to receive His blessings and causeless mercy. Let us fall at the feet of that great person who has come to give us this eternal gift of His very Self.

The Lord be with you

Fr Russell



CONGRATULATIONS!

Have you heard....????

On Sunday 22nd February 2015

Canon Barry Smith celebrated 50 years since his ordination.

Christ Church has been truly blessed to have Fr Barry first as Vicar in the 1980s and, more recently, in his retirement from full-time ministry, as one of our Occasional Celebrants and Preachers. Thank you Fr Barry for your wisdom, insights, warmth, humour and care - for all of us - and for your continuous, gentle drawing us back to Jesus Christ - the reason we are all here. It is a joy to have you with us at Christ Church. - and may it long continue.



From the Parish Registers December 2014 to February 2015 Baptisms

13th December - Evia Lea
28 December - Grace Rush
24 January - Sienna Hobbs
24 January - Ava Warby

Funerals & Memorial Services

13 January - Richard Maxwell Bell
6th February - Pam Firth
15th February - Harvey Streager



Marriages

7th February - Paige Williams and Luke Chrzanowski



God in the Arts

Editor: Rev Michael Burgess (UK) looks at great works of Christian art. You can see the image described by googling Sandro Botticelli's 'Primavera'.

'He gave us eyes to see them': Sandro Botticelli's 'Primavera'

Each edition we are exploring a painting that celebrates the glory and wonder of creation. In this month of March the northern hemisphere world is moving from the cold and harshness of winter to new birth as the earth comes to life again in the season of spring. It is the theme of 'Primavera' by the 15th century Florentine artist, Sandro Botticelli. His work in the Sistine Chapel in Rome brought him to the attention of the Medici court, which commissioned this painting in 1482. The Medici dominated the political life of Florence, but Cosimo and his descendants were also great patrons of the arts. Humanism, which debated the place of reason in a world of faith, was the mood of the day in court life, and the work of artists at that time expressed the human form in all its beauty.

Scholars have never agreed on the exact meaning of 'Primavera,' but it is certainly a celebration of beauty and fertility. We can identify a host of classical figures: Mercury on the left of the canvas separating the clouds so that Spring may come; Zephyr, the west wind, on the right, who is pursuing Chloris; Flora, the goddess of abundance robed in a colourful dress and adorned with flowers. In the centre we see Venus, the goddess of beauty, with a blindfolded Cupid above, preparing to shoot an arrow at the three Graces, whose arms are joined in a stately dance. The setting is a wooded garden where the trees are filled with oranges, myrtle surrounds Venus, and wondrous flowers spring up from the earth.

At first glance the sensuousness and fruitfulness seem almost profane. But we look again and think we see not Venus in the centre, but the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose own fruitfulness gave birth to the Saviour. The three figures by her side could be the Christian virtues of beauty, truth and goodness who dance in her honour, while all around God's creation blossoms forth to bring joy and new life. It is the world of the Song of Solomon, which the early Fathers could only accept as an allegory of Christian love, where the individual soul seeks the Saviour. But that book of the Old Testament was written in praise of the love that moves human life, as much as

it moves the universe. And that can only be good because God the creator is good.

The writer invites the beloved to accompany her to the fields and vineyards and find fruits in blossom and plants in bloom: a wilderness transformed by growth and goodness. Just so, we enter the garden of this painting. The characters may be classical, some may be Christian, but as we look we see a creative Love that transforms the winter of death and darkness into light and Spring – the birthday of creation.

Community Concert

"KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING"



A Concert of Music and especially the Songs of World War One years. - performed by artists and groups from Geelong community to commemorate those who fought in WWI, known and unknown, and who gave their lives.

At Christ Church Geelong (Cnr Moorabool & McKillop Streets) **Sunday 17th May 2.30pm** followed by afternoon in Parish Hall



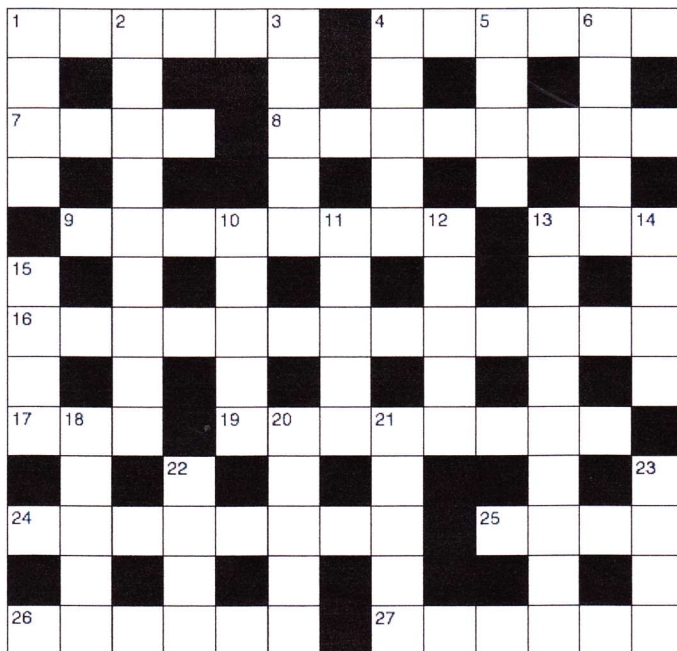
Cost **\$10.00** donation at the door - Children free

Christ Church Sudoku!

2					3	4	1	
	1		8					5
		6		9				
5							6	
	2	4		7		8	3	
	6							2
				8		6		
6					4		2	
	4	1	9					8



Biblical Crossword ... see how you go !!!



Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)
 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)
 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)
 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
 19 Where the Gadarene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
 25 The Venerable —, eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
 3 Gospel leaflet (5)
 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
 5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
 6 To put forth (5)
 10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
 11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles

- 15:5) (5)
 12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
 13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
 14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times ...' (Luke 22:34) (4)
 15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
 18 'When I —, I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
 20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
 21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
 22 Does (anag.) (4)
 23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)



Regular Services at Christ Church

Eucharist - Sundays at 8am, 9.30 am (sung) & 5.15pm

and during the week— **Eucharist** on **Wednesdays at 7am & 10am.**

Meditation every Tuesday from 7-8 pm (Chapel)

Morning Prayer at 8.30am on Tuesdays and Thursdays (Chapel)

Healing Services - 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month, at 7pm


Children's & Families Service (CAFS) - first Sunday of each month, and **Family Mass** on other Sundays, both commencing at 11.15am, **NOTE** - these CAFS services are NOT held in January each year.



CHRIST CHURCH SATURDAY CLUB - Events & Activities

Year Coordinators: Jan/Barbara/David

Meetings: Nominally on the first Saturday of each month

Saturday March 5th - Visit to Geelong Gallery	from 2pm at the Gallery - or meet at church at 1.45pm to car pool	There are three exhibitions at present, plus the permanent collection to view - no charge! Coffee to follow!
April and be- yond!	WATCH THE PARISH PRESS FOR DETAILS !!!!	... And remember - the Saturday Club is for the whole Parish - everyone is welcome!!! 

SERVICE FOR THE START OF THE LEGAL YEAR (CHRIST CHURCH, 12 JAN 2015)

It was good to see a number of parishioners supporting Father Russell, Adn Neil Hicks and Bp Phillip Huggins as they conducted the Service for the start of the Legal Year in Geelong. There was good support from the legal fraternity, including a choir. Bishop Phillip gave an outstanding address (you can listen to it on the Parish website) in which he drew upon the recent atrocities in France, and the French community response to them, with parades through the cities drawing millions of French people (and repeated throughout the world, including a small gathering in Johnstone Park here in Geelong). Noting the roots of the French belief in freedom of expression to the writings of Voltaire and the French revolution, from which ensued the French motto of *Liberté, Egalité and Fraternité*, (Freedom, Equality and Brotherhood), he exhorted the legal fraternity to be equally vigilant in their work this year and to dispense justice to and for all without fear of favour. It is a message that we can all take with us in our daily lives as we too see to treat all those, with whom we come into contact, with the same compassion and respect.

Gai Scully

(see pix on p12 - also more pix and audio of the Service on the Parish Web Page)

Helping with our flowers

If you would like to help with the flowers why not think about -

- joining the Flower Guild roster;
 - Offering flowers from your garden for the Church;
 - making a donation to purchase flowers for a special occasion, or for some other personal remembrance.
- Speak to **Jan McGowan** if you would like more details!



... the next Chronicle....

... is due in early **June 2015**
and contributions are welcome - send them
to Phillip Swain by email to -
spswain@westnet.com.au
...don't wait - do it **NOW !!**

Footy Parking for 2015



...well the AFL have announced the
dates for both the NAB matches
and the 2015 season, and the CATS homes
matches are -

NAB Cup Matches

Thursday March 12th (7.10pm) - Adelaide Crows

AFL Season 2015

Sunday April 12th (1.10pm) - Fremantle

Sunday April 19th (3.20pm) - Gold Coast Suns

Sunday April 26th (3.20pm) - North Melbourne

Sunday June 21st (3.20pm) - Melbourne

Saturday July 18th (1.45pm) - Western Bulldogs

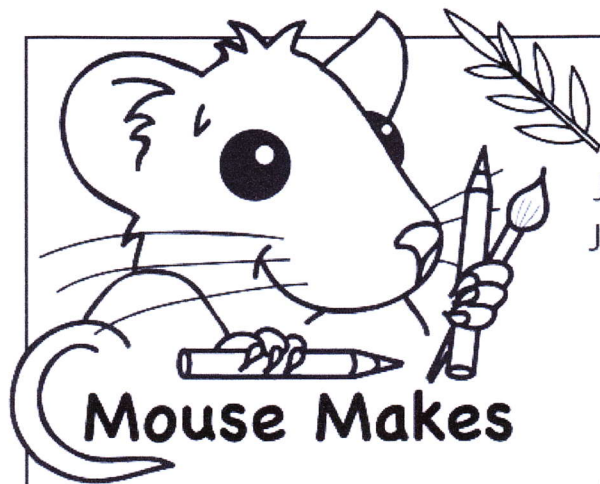
Saturday August 1st (1.45pm) - Brisbane Lions

Saturday August 8th (7.20pm) - Sydney Swans

Fri/Sat September 4th/5th - Adelaide Crows

Apart from being an important showcase for Christ Church, these matches are the easiest fund raising for the Parish ever - you just have to look sympathetic when fans suggest that their team might win... and for this they pay us a parking fee! In 2014 Footy Parking brought in \$2723 for the Parish, bringing to just under \$20K the total raised since Footy Parking began!

Why not join the Footy Parking Team for 2015 - even just for the odd match? Watch the Parish Press for details or contact Peter Dohnt (52214704) or Phillip Swain (52219956).



Mouse Makes

Some believed Jesus was
God's Saviour, the
Messiah, but some did not.

What do you believe?

Read these stories from
Mark's Gospel - 1:40-45,
4:35-41, 5:1-43 and 6:30-56

JESUS COMES TO JERUSALEM AS KING
As Jesus and his disciples approached
Jerusalem they came to the Mount of Olives.
Jesus sent two disciples ahead of him and said
*"You will find a donkey and her colt,
untie them and bring them to me."*

A large crowd spread their coats
and branches cut from the trees onto the
road in front of Jesus and shouted:

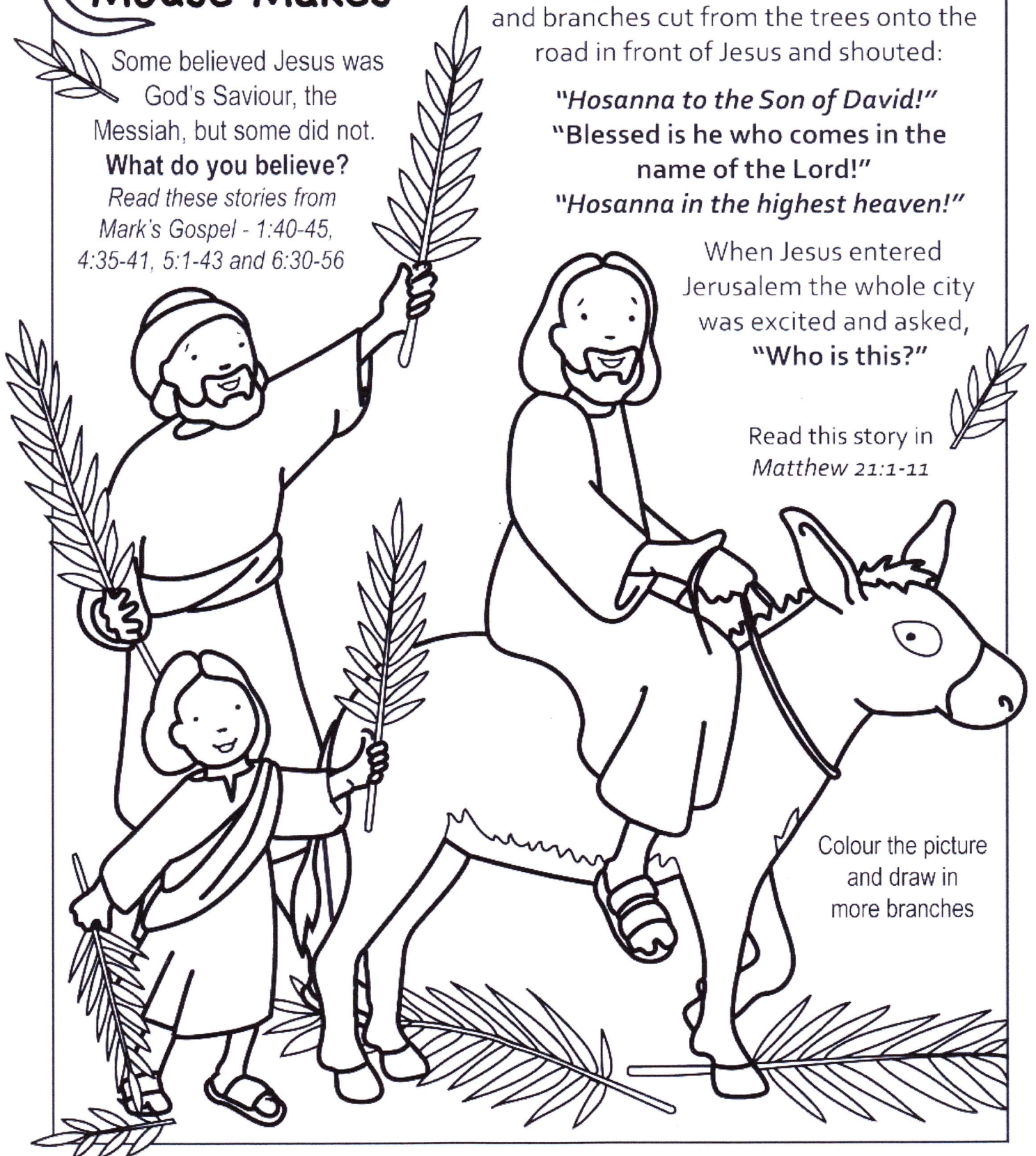
"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

***"Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord!"***

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered
Jerusalem the whole city
was excited and asked,
"Who is this?"

Read this story in
Matthew 21:1-11



Colour the picture
and draw in
more branches



St James the Least of All

Editor: The Rev Dr Gary Bowness
(Parish Pump, UK) continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...



On the perils of parking near church

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I cannot be wholly sympathetic because your church car park is now inadequate, only having space for 100 cars. Your solution of advising members of the congregation to park in the adjoining supermarket car park may not have been wise. The maximum time people can stop there is 90 minutes, and as your sermons alone often reach that length, returning to find their cars clamped may not make you universally popular – although it may give your congregation the opportunity of practising Christian forgiveness.

Since the medieval architect who built St. James the Least was not overly concerned with car parking, the only space we have is along the road by the church. Inevitably, it gets blocked, which causes us all immense satisfaction when those not attending church but intending to have a morning shopping, find themselves unable to get out of the village until Matins is over.

I did once encourage people to walk to church across the fields, but when the present Earl of Stowe started to get his staff to lay waterproof sheeting along the paths so he could avoid getting mud on his shoes, I decided the idea was best dropped.

For most, the inconvenience of parking only makes attending church more of a pleasurable challenge; we so enjoy having something to complain about. Major Hastings, however, who has complained endlessly about parking problems, made a point last Christmas by leaving his car in the middle of the vicarage lawn. I was so pleased he happened to park just where I had had a garden pond filled in only the previous week. He returned to find that the car had sunk up the windscreen and needed a crane to remove it. And it would have made a charming garden feature; I could even picture it with garden gnomes on its roof.

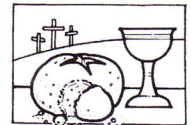
For weddings, a farmer allows us to use the field adjoining the church. While he rarely attends church on Sundays, he is always there the week before – I suspect praying for heavy rain, so he can make a fortune

charging to tow out with his tractor those who have got stuck. Perhaps the greatest act of witness your church could perform would be to get everyone attending church to park on the ring road, bringing the entire town to a halt until your three hour Sunday morning Service is over.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Home Communion



The Parish Clergy are always very happy to bring Holy Communion at home to those unable to come to church for services.

Please speak with Fr Russell or one of the Clergy team to arrange a time.....

Bookings Calendar

Ruth Christian maintains a booking diary for the year covering **ALL** bookings of parish Facilities (Hall, Schoolroom, grounds, & the Church itself), for Parish functions and outside events. Please check with Ruth **before** you plan your activity, to make sure the space you need is free!



VARIOUS COLLECTIONS

you might like to support.....

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring along items for the various collections from Christ Church. There are baskets in the Children's Area for the following -



STAMPS—to support ABM;

GLASSES & GLASSES CASES—which are forwarded for use in Third World countries;

CORKS—to support research into MS;

SHOE BOX GIFTS—gifts are included in the boxes forwarded to OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD through MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS

.... And please watch the weekly Parish Press for monthly special donations items that are being sought..





puzzle solutions... (from pp5 & 6)

N	E	S	I	R	A		S	U	S	N	C	E
A		S			I		A		E		K	
E	D	E	B		D	A	E	H	D	A	L	B
L		N			Y		D		O		W	
	E	D	S	I	L	L	H		R	A	W	
Y		N		U		E		S		E		E
N	O	I	A	T	P	I	C	I	T	A	R	P
E		L		S		R		R		E		S
D	E	B		E	D	U	T	I	T	A		
	D		T		I		C		L			H
S	U	T	S	U	G	U	A		E	U	T	R
	X		U		I		R		D			A
D	E	G	G	U	R		T	E	N	A	L	P



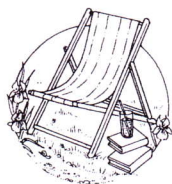
8	5	3	2	9	6	1	4	7
7	2	9	4	3	1	5	8	6
1	4	6	7	8	5	2	3	9
2	7	5	9	1	4	3	6	8
9	3	8	5	7	6	2	4	1
4	6	1	8	2	3	9	7	5
3	8	7	1	9	2	6	5	4
5	9	2	6	4	8	7	1	3
6	1	4	3	5	7	8	9	2

Having difficulty hearing the sermon on Sundays.....?

...don't forget there is a Hearing Aid Loop in the Church—tune to "T".

TRAVEL PLANS FOR 2015

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Kahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Kahoots with someone.



I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognises you there

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

I may have been in Continent, but I'm not certain It's an age thing. They tell me it is very wet and damp there.

(Jim Medlock)

Thanks!

North Geelong Secondary College says a big thank you to all who responded to their request for help for newly-arrived refugees.



–A year 7 Burmese girl has received a new bike, helmet and lock.

– 9 girls are able to get the school uniform skirts for winter –numerous students have exercise books (the previous supply ran out the day I delivered the new lot!), pencil cases, tights, polo shirts and other goods.

–5 girls received new soccer balls from the World Cup tournament. Parents of boys will sometimes be able to buy balls for their sons but never for the girls. Comments such as " Instead of watching TV or doing nothing, I now play soccer with my friends. I love it."

The need is ongoing. If there are any other contributions, they may be left in the clothes basket in the coffee area.

(Barbara Peek)

(and see the notes from students on p12)



SUNDAY BREKKIES @ CHRIST CHURCH

(from Laurie Christian, & Jenny & Les Harrison)

Parish breakfasts continue on a monthly basis. - with various cereals and toast (and varieties of fruit loaf), fruit, yoghurt, coffee and tea.... It's a great opportunity to get together and enjoy breakfast and a chat - come after the 8am service or before heading off to the 9.30am service !!

In most months brekky is on the **3rd Sunday**, but watch the Parish Press for details of dates– and come and join your fellow parishioners for brekky!!



AN EAST AFRICAN ADVENTURE

Late last year I went on an East African safari to Kenya and Tanzania and did the Gorilla Trek in Rwanda.

My starting point was Nairobi, Capital of Kenya and I must say I was glad to leave the metropolis behind me. Nairobi is a teeming, chaotic city where it is unsafe to venture out at night alone. In fact we even had to be escorted to and from dinner by armed guards within our hotel complex.

Right - A baby mountain gorilla enjoying a bamboo shoot in the Parc des Volcans in the Ruhengeri



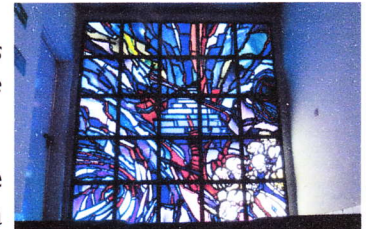
It was a different story as soon as we left the city behind. The landscape was barren in parts, with numerous oases, the National Park areas, where the animals were abundant. We toured 8 parks: Amboseli, Lakes Naivasha and Nakuru, the Masai Mara and Ngorongoro Crater in Kenya, and Tarangire, Lake Manyara and the Serengeti in Tanzania. The local people were very friendly, the lodges were amazing and the animal experiences were amazing. We were a group of 8 and travelled in 2 landrovers with raised roofs. I was surprised both at the variety of animals and the close encounters we experienced. We saw animals stalking, eating, lazing playing fighting, mating, swimming, roaring and more. Whilst most animals were to be found in all the parks, each seemed to have its own speciality: the endangered white rhino at Lake Nakuru, the elephants at Amboseli (and the magnificent backdrop of Mt Kilimanjaro).

I was surprised to see the extent to which the Christian churches had made an impact and the extent to which the government depended on them for education, particularly in the vast rural areas. A church (of various denominations) was at the centre of most villages we passed, and a boarding school was attached. On Sundays it was common to see the villagers walking long distances in their Sunday-best clothing, along the road to attend the morning services and the children decked out in their school uniforms. All of our tour guides spoke of education as their main wish for their own children and a desire for tertiary education.

Rwanda was a pleasant surprise. I did not know what to expect after the genocide. I had read *Hotel des Mille Collines*, the true story of the hotel manager who had managed to save over 1200 Tutsis from death during

the genocide (and on which the film *Hotel Rwanda* is based), and was fortunate to visit the hotel itself. I found a country focused on the future. The capital Kigali has pleasant tree-lined streets. The president is working vigorously to heal the wounds. He recognises the need for all to have dignity and respect. To this end he has a policy of employment for all and also decent housing. His aim is to remove all slums by 2050 and this is a work in progress. Whole areas are being razed one by one and slums replaced by apartment blocks for the former inhabitants – a far cry from the slums of Nairobi.

Right - the stained glass window at the Genocide Memorial museum in Kigali



I visited the Genocide Memorial Museum, a most sombre experience. Not only does it detail the horrors of the Rwandan genocide, but it also has rooms dedicated to all the genocides of the twentieth century. The stained glass windows evoke powerful feelings: stairways leading nowhere, representing the fate of the Tutsi people during that time.

On a more pleasant note, the mountain gorilla trek that I did in the Ruhengeri area was both the most challenging and rewarding experience I have ever done. After an exhausting trek straight up the mountain to a height of 2900m (higher than Mt Kosciusko), we came face to face with the Ugendo family of 14 gorillas: the dominant silverback, a younger silverback (not yet strong enough to



Above - hippo enjoying a roll at Ngorongoro Crater NP

challenge for the lead role), some teenagers, females and a mother and baby. We were able to follow the group for an hour, watching them feed on bamboo and play. They were so close, only feet from us. It was an amazing experience and a fitting end to a wonderful holiday.

(Gai Scully)





Margaret Tembo and the City Nativity team, Market Square, Dec 2014



The Service to mark the Opening of the Legal Year, 12 January 2015

(more pix and audio are available on the Parish web page - and see the article on p.7



R -
thanks
from
NGHS

Parking at Christ Church

Please remember that most parking spots in the Church grounds are leased out during the week....

So although there will **usually** be a **small** number of spaces available for parishioners coming to Parish activities, they will be limited, and if parking in the Church grounds please display either -

a 2015 Parking Permit, or a copy of a recent 2015 Parish Press.

Situations Vacant

here's some volunteer opportunities....

- **Church sitting** - weekdays 12-2pm
- **Sides persons and welcomers** for all services
- **Readers/Intercessors** (Lessons & Intercessions)
- **Assisting with flower arranging** in Church
- **help with maintenance** (.)
- **collating the weekly Parish Press**
- **Helping with the Community Meals Program** (breakfast/evening meals)
- **Joining the Parish Council** (or a sub-committees.
- **..talk to the Parish Clergy or a Council member if any of the above interest you...**

I THANK You so much @

Hi I am Kainat, from Afghanistan I thank that You guys gift that Soccer ball now these days I don't have to just Sit at home and watch Tv. I just get MY Soccer ball and play either by myself or friends Once again thank You so much.

From: ... Kainat

A BIG AND HUGE THANK YOU

Thanks for a ball. You are very friendly. I am very happy. (Thanks) Ali

I would like to thank you for your kind donation of Soccer balls to our very needy Refugee students. This is much appreciated and your generousity has been greatly loved with hearts. Many of the students will have a lot of fun to play it.

With kind regards
16-2



.... A STRANGER IN THE TOWN....

A few years after I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around from then on.

As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche.

My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me good from evil, and Dad taught me to obey. But the stranger... he was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies.

If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league ball game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind. Sometimes, Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to the kitchen for peace and quiet.

(I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.)

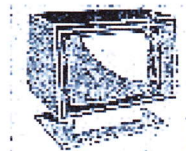
Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home - not from us, our friends or any visitors. Our long time visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush.

My Dad didn't permit the liberal use of alcohol but the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing. I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked ...and NEVER asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still if you could walk into my parents' den today, you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name?

We just call him 'TV'.



(Note: this should be required reading for every household!)

He has a wife now ... we call her 'Computer'.

Their first child is 'Cell phone'.

Second child 'I Pod'

And just born this year was a grandchild: 'I Pad'.



(from Father John and Frances)

