

COMING EVENTS/FESTIVALS

Next Saturday, 6th February – ‘Saturday Club’
7.30pm in the School Room
Planning for the year’s activities
followed by Supper!



Next Sunday, 7th February/Start-up Sunday
including our first CAFS for 2016,
followed by a Barbecue/Al Fresco Lunch at
12 Noon for all parishioners and families!!
Note – one service only at 9.30am!

Wednesday, 10th February – Ash Wednesday
Services: Meditation in the Chapel at 8.00am;
Holy Eucharist at 10.00am;
Holy Eucharist 6.30pm; Healing Service at 7.30pm

Monday, 15th February – Film Night
Woman in Gold – starring Helen Mirren
Tickets available from Jan today!!

WINTER WOOLIES & OTHER WONDERS MARKET

Saturday, 28th May

If you have items to offer you can check with
Gai or Ruth – Craft; Barbara – Preserves; Sue – Cakes;
Syama or Laurie – Plants; Jan – Food.

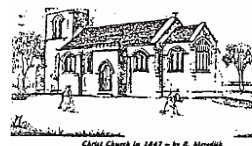
Thank you to Anne Howarth for the Quilt
as the major raffle prize.

New feature this year – pruning demonstrations!

If you have ideas please let us know.

Many jobs on offer as time gets closer!

Contact: Ruth – 0425 785 694



The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Geelong



“A community of faith in service to others”

www.christchurchgeelong.com.au

Vicar:	The Reverend Russell Trickey	M: 0433 933738
	Email: trickeyrussell13@gmail.com	
Associate Priest:	The Reverend John St Q Howells	5244 0649
Organist:	Mr Winton Barry	
Office:	Email: chchurch@coable.net.au	5221 8055
Office Administrator:	Mrs Patricia Cowling	

Mission Statement

*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.*

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE/‘CANDLEMAS’

3rd January 2016

Liturgical Colour: White

Holy Eucharist: 8.00am; 9.30am

Sentence

*My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation
to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.*

Prayer of the Day *

*Christ our cornerstone,
you were recognised at your
presentation in the temple
as a sign of hope for the world,
but also as a stumbling block for many:
help us so to present ourselves for your service,
that, in sharing your scandal,
we may become a people acceptable to you.
In your name we pray. Amen*



* You are invited to join in this Prayer immediately before today's readings

Hymns: 9.30am: 93; 246; 533; 143 (insert)

5.15pm: No service

The Vicar Writes



Today we remember the presentation of Christ in the Temple wherein Mary and Joseph, following traditional custom of the Hebrews, brought the child Jesus to the temple to be blessed. While in the temple two people Simeon and Anna were both able to recognise that this child was in fact the long awaited Saviour, the Christ. How extraordinary? When Saint Peter proclaimed Jesus to be the Christ, the Lord said his revelation was from the Father in heaven. In the same

way, these two fortunate souls received the revelation from God that the gentle babe was indeed Emanuel, God with us.

The Bible reads that Simeon was a devout man looking for the consolation of Israel. Like us Simeon wanted the best for those he loved, he wanted to see the community he belonged to flourish. Simeon was sure that God had a plan for the world and that God's plan was beautiful. He was led by the Spirit which means he was focused inwardly and led by intuition, the guidance of the Super-soul.

Simeon trusted without doubt that he would see the Lord's anointed before he would taste death. When he did see the Christ child he uttered those beautiful words we call the song of Simeon..."Lord now let your servant depart in peace for mine eyes have seen the salvation which thou has prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for the revelation of the Gentiles, and for the glory of thy people Israel".

The heart of Simeon yearned for the Lord's salvation to lift the people of the world out of the mire of illusion and into the light of God. His hearts cry was for all people and not merely for the members of one little sect in a remote part of the world. This is the sign of someone who is enlightened with wisdom and not just programmed by sectarian man made nonsense that so often makes up the bulk of religion.

Then there was Anna, a saintly widow who fasted, worshipped and prayed in the temple night and day. Her spiritual practise was extensive; she was serious about developing her God consciousness and deepening her awareness of the presence of God. Anna is a good example of someone who tastes the fruit of devotional practise which opens the heart to the presence of the Lord. When a devotee perceives the Lord within their own heart they in turn see the Lord everywhere and by the grace of the Lord recognise him when he comes before them. Here Anna recognises the Lord even when he has appeared before her as a baby. This is no small thing, when Jesus was older many religious people, learned in scripture failed to recognise him and planned to kill him.

The divine pastime of the presentation of the Lord in the temple teaches us many things about the value of spiritual practise. I pray it may inspire us to also be serious about our spiritual practise, that we may always seek the Lord in all things and seek to do his will always.

The Lord be with you, Fr Russell

WANTED: *Volunteers for Morning Tea following the 9.30am service each week. If you can assist on the roster, please contact Sue Wong (0410 159690).*

* Please note the first Choir practice for the year is on Thursday, 4th February at 7.30pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

THE WORLD: The Nations of the world; and all people in places of conflict.

THE CHURCH: Anglican Church of Burundi; Diocese of Melbourne; Stewardship Agencies; Parish of St Matthias, Mernda; St John Chrysostom, Brunswick West; St Luke's Vermont (Confirmation).

THE COMMUNITY: Schools, pupils, teachers and all places of learning.

THOSE IN SPECIAL NEED: Those on our prayer list and in our hearts.

THE DEPARTED: Our own dear departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time. We remember with thanks: First Anglican Service at Sydney Cove

The Week Ahead

Wednesday, 3rd Feb	10.00am	Holy Eucharist
Thursday, 4th Feb	7.30pm	Choir Practice *
Saturday, 6th Feb	7.30pm	'Saturday Club' in the School Room

Next Sunday, 7th Feb – Holy Eucharist at 9.30am

[Note: Start-up Sunday – one service only on this day]

NEXT SUNDAY: 7TH FEBRUARY -FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Readings: Isaiah 6.1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11

APPEAL FOR REFUGEES AT NORTH GEELONG SECONDARY COLLEGE: Thank you to everyone who gave goods (3 large boxes) and money (\$750) for refugees at NGSC. Everything has been delivered and the school says a big thank you. Some of the refugees are coming to give a presentation at the Saturday Club (watch the Parish Press for details). The need is ongoing, so I will leave the laundry basket in the coffee area – Barbara Peek.

LENTEN STUDY OPTIONS

BIBLE EXPLORERS will run each Tuesday in Lent – commencing **Tuesday, 9th February** in the School Room. Two (2) sessions at 1.30pm & 3.0pm; contact: Fr Barry Smith (0409 409473); sign-up sheet on the crossing table.

LENTEN GROUPS run on Wednesdays with the Vicar, following the 10.00am service, commencing on **10th February**; other groups on Monday mornings and Wednesday & Friday nights commencing on **8th, 10th & 12th February** respectively. The booklet called *'Walking Humbly with God'* by Tim Gaden is available from Jan or Judy Munro (5221 8801) – cost \$10; sign-up sheets on the crossing table.

REMINDER - THE CHRONICLE: Due early March – contributions are welcome NOW! If you have any details of items and forthcoming events/etc. please send to Phillip Swain by email: spswain@westnet.com.au.
