

Fund Raising & Special Events

'FOOTY PARKING'
 Sunday, 10th April

The CATS play against the Brisbane Lions at home today!
 If you would like to help in the afternoon,
 please contact Peter Dohnt (5221 4704) - GO CATS!!

REMINDER - FILM NIGHT

The Dressmaker - starring Kate Winslet
 Monday, 11th April at 7.15pm (7.30pm start)
 Come and join us at St Mary's Theatre for an enjoyable evening out - includes supper after the film.
 Tickets - \$15 each - see Jan!

CHRIST CHURCH SOCIAL CLUB
 'Trekking in Nepal'

Saturday, 7th May in the School Room
 Speaker: Rosemary Maries - Chaplain, Geelong Hospital

WOMEN'S LUNCH
 'Volunteering in Malawi'

Saturday, 14th May at 12 Noon in the School Room
 Speaker: Debbie Humphries - Cost \$10

WINTER WOOLIES & OTHER WONDERS MARKET

Saturday, 28th May - 10am to 2pm

If you have items to offer, please check with:
 Gai or Ruth - Craft; Sue - Cakes; Jan - Food;
 Barbara - Preserves; Syama or Laurie - Plants *

Major raffle prize is a Quilt
 New feature - pruning demonstrations!
 If you have ideas please let us know.
 Many jobs on offer as time gets closer!

Contact: Ruth - 0425 785 694

We acknowledge the Wathaurong people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the lands on which Christ Church and its buildings now stand.



The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Geelong



'A community of faith in service to others'

www.christchurchgeelong.com.au

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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.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

10th April 2016

Liturgical Colour: White

Holy Eucharist: 8.00am; 9.30am (Sung) & 5.15pm

Sentence

To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
 be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
 through your Son you overcame death
 and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
 grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection,
 may, through the renewing power of your Spirit,
 rise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;
 through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, world without end. Amen



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

Service Setting: Christ Church Service

Hymns: 9.30am: 204; 589; 545; 525 5.15pm: As selected

Psalm Response:



O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for - ev - er.

The Vicar Writes



Today's Gospel tells the story of the Lord manifesting himself for a third time on the beach before the disciples. The disciples were fishing and were asked by a person on the beach if they had caught anything. At this point no one recognised that it was Jesus, it was only after they obeyed the Lord and cast their net over the side of the boat and caught a huge load of fish that they realised the person was in fact the Lord. The disciples came ashore to be with the man but still could not actually recognise him, they were even afraid to ask if it was him. Jesus was recognised by what he did, the same miracle with the fish that he performed the first time he met the disciples.

A deep truth is revealed in this pastime and that is that God cannot be realised with the material senses but only with senses purified by devotional surrender and the intuitive wisdom that comes from it. If we serve the Lord, hear about the Lord and spend quality time each day with the Lord in prayer we will come to a sense of familiarity with the Lord. Realisation of God begins with understanding the glories of the name/word of God; that will lead to an understanding of the qualities of the Lord that will shed forth light about the activities of the Lord that he has performed here on earth, through the activities of saints and prophets and in the creation itself.

We associate with the Lord through his name, fame qualities and pastimes and as we increase our life with the Lord in these ways we learn to abide in the Lord at all times, never feeling alone or independent of the Lord in any way. This results in a gradual transformation of our heart so that we come to live as souls guided by the Spirit of God rather than egos guided by selfishness.

Saint Paul is an example of a person who seemed to have a sudden conversion on the road to Damascus but only God knows the journey Paul had been on up to that point that made him able to receive that grace of hearing the word of God and being blinded by God's light. The Lord himself spoke to Ananias and assured him that Paul was a chosen instrument of the Lord to carry his name to the Gentiles, to kings and to the sons of Israel. In other words Paul's connection to the Lord was already established and was only to be awakened at the right time. That is the nature of eternity; it is not only forever in the future but forever in the past as well. Indeed, eternal time is the eternal present and all the Lord's activities take place in eternal time. That's why I say God knows the journey of Saul into Paul, for us it seems he had a sudden conversion but God knows what it took to make Paul a saint.

I speak in this way because some people insist on a sudden conversion and spectacular signs in a person's life as proof of them having received the Holy Spirit. But this is a man-made condition that arrogantly assumes to narrow the workings of the Holy Spirit. The Lord works in even the most obscured, humble and unassuming people who may never seem to have spectacular anything but whose continuous and loving service is deeply valued by God and the saints.

After Paul regained his sight he was Baptised and began to work among the other members in the Church. Even if one has spectacular spiritual experiences one still requires to be Baptised and may still benefit immensely by rendering service Christ through the People of God in the Church.

I pray our Parish may continue to grow in the mood of service and humility and that the Holy Spirit bless us with the wisdom necessary to truly abide in the Lord.

The Lord be with you, Fr Russell

Physics Tutor Wanted for Young Refugee:

A young Afghan man who is studying VCE has requested some immediate help with tutoring in physics. He is a great student and would really benefit from some support.

If you can help please talk to Sue Wong (0410 159 690).

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

THE WORLD: Peace and stability in the world; those suffering the aftermath of natural disasters, including Northern Pakistan.

THE CHURCH: Church of Ireland; Diocese of Tasmania; CMS; St Martin's Belgrave Heights; St George's Flemington; All Saints Newtown; Holy Trinity, Surrey Hills.

THE PARISH/COMMUNITY: Christ's presence in our homes and among us all.

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

THE DEPARTED: The recently departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time. We remember with thanks: George Augustus Selwyn, first missionary bishop of New Zealand, d.1878 (Monday).

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, 11th	7.15pm	Film Night in St Mary's Theatrette
Tuesday, 12th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in the Chapel
	2.00pm	Book Group in School Room
	7.00pm	Meditation in the Chapel
Wednesday, 13th	8.00am	Meditation in the Chapel
	10.00am	Holy Eucharist
	7.30pm	Healing Service
Thursday, 14th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in the Chapel
	7.30pm	Choir Practice

NEXT SUNDAY, 17TH APRIL – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelations 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

SCARVES & GLOVES FOR REFUGEES AT NGSC: With the cooler weather not far away, there is a need for scarves, gloves, mittens, thick tights & beanies for refugees at North Geelong Secondary College. All garments must be black; new or used. There is a clothes basket in the coffee area for donations – thank you, Barbara Peek

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2016 will be launched this month. Cost this year is **\$60 (\$12** of which comes back to Christ Church). Gai Scully already has pre-order forms for both the books and digital memberships, which entitles you to a number of extra offers. Contact Gai for your orders on 0407 549220 or see her in church. Orders can be either in cash or by credit card.

BOOK GROUP: The first meeting is on **Tuesday, 12th April at 2pm** in the School Room. New members are welcome, but if anyone just wants a copy of the book (Paul F Knitter's *Without Buddha I Could Not be a Christian*) the cost is \$17.50. Please contact the Rev. Jenny Dunn if you have any queries.

WINDFIRE FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC: The Festival will take place over two days – Saturday, 30th April & Sunday 1st May – Concert 1 "Evergreen Ensemble" is on 30th April from 2.15pm to 3.30pm at Christ Church. Cost \$20; Afternoon Tea from 3.45pm at St Paul's. Tickets available at the door; or phone Jeannette on 5223 3554 (for details of the Festival, please see signage outside Christ Church).