

Fund Raising & Special Events



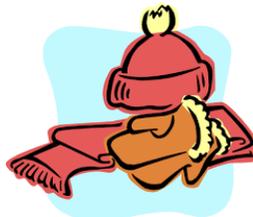
CHRIST CHURCH SOCIAL CLUB
'Trekking in Nepal'
Saturday, 7th May in the School Room
Speaker: Rosemary Maries - Chaplain,
Geelong Hospital

WOMEN'S LUNCH
'Volunteering in Malawi -
Project for Wheelchairs for the Disabled'
Saturday, 14th May at 12 Noon in the School Room
Speaker: Debbie Humphries - Cost \$10
[If you have any dietary requirements,
please contact Margaret Tembo - Phone: 5221 5130]

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



FILM NIGHT
The Chef - starring Kate Winslet
Monday, 20th June at 7.15pm (7.30pm start)
 Come and join us at St Mary's Theatre for another enjoyable evening out - includes supper after the film.
 Tickets - \$15 each - see Jan!

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

1st April 2016

Liturgical Colour: White

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

Sentence

The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Prayer of the Day

*Gracious God,
 you sent Jesus, the good shepherd,
 to gather us together:
 may we not wander from his flock,
 but follow wherever he leads us,
 listening for his voice and staying near him,
 until we are safely in your fold,
 to live with you for ever;
 through 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: 108; 145; 390; 233 5.15pm: As selected
 Psalm: 9.30am: Psalm 100 (TIS 60) - Choir only

The Vicar Writes



In today's Gospel, Jesus says that no one can snatch a single follower from his hands because God the Father who is greater than all has given them to him. The Lord then seems to contradict the statement by saying that I and the Father are one. Can the Father be the greatest and yet someone else be one with him? The answer is yes.

There is one Spirit, one life that flows through everything and everyone and yet we say there is one Lord of all. That is because God is like the sun and everything that exists is like the light of the sun. The light of the sun is also the sun but there remains the fact that the sun light is dependent on the sun for its existence. Similarly God's life flows through us and makes us. We are rays of God's Spirit and yet we are dependent on God for our existence, we have no independent existence of our own.

Not only does God's life flow through us giving us all that we are and all that we experience but we are also the recipients of God's love. God is love and so as expressions of God's Spirit we are also love itself and we find the greatest fulfilment when we offer our entire propensity to love, all of our natural affection to God. After investing our love in God we then need the wisdom to know that God is within us, within others and indeed within everything. So we need to love God first, then God in everything. For that wisdom to accomplish this wonderful state of universal love we are also dependent on God. In this way God is greater than all because we are dependent on God, God is dependent on no one. That's what makes God the Supreme.

Jesus knew he was the Christ, the Spirit manifest within the universe and that he had no separate existence from God his Father. Jesus embodied the mood of humility and always lovingly depended on the Father for everything. The oneness of Jesus with God was complete, eternal and perfect, so much so that the will of the Father, the power of the Father and the love of the Father flowed unrestricted through everything Jesus said and did.

Jesus became the link in the chain to God for his followers and so as they surrendered to him they too made a perfect link with the Father. In Acts today Peter displayed the power of his surrender by raising the girl Dorcas from the dead. When Jesus performed a miracle such as this he prayed to his Father, when Peter performed miracles he prayed to Jesus. The result was the same. Jesus prayed to God at the last supper that the disciples might become one with him just as Jesus was one with the Father. That opportunity remains available for us to this day. Saint Francis and his disciple Saint Anthony also raised the dead and so faith makes all things possible.

Jesus lives in the Father and the Father lives in him. Similarly we too can live in Christ and through him live in the Father. The Lord is at the very core of our being. We need to search him out there. Spend serious time in prayer, reading, contemplation, service and worship. By joining our lives to the Lord we may share in his joy and in his eternal life. It is our birthright to do this and as the Lord says no one can take it away from us. Our soul is a drop in the ocean of Spirit and if we dive deep into a loving relationship with the Lord we can taste the vastness of the ocean and the ever fresh, ever new joy of God's endless love.

The Lord be with you,
Fr Russell

Congratulations to Natalie Brennan who celebrated her 21st Birthday yesterday (Saturday, 16th April).



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

THE WORLD: Peace and justice in the world.

THE CHURCH: Anglican Communion in Japan; Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia; Deacons' Ministry; St Agnes' Black Rock; Christ Church Kensington; St Paul's Canterbury.

THE PARISH/COMMUNITY: All victims of violence and for safety in our neighbourhood.

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.

BREAKFAST in the School Room is on today, after the 8.00am service, Juice, Cereal, toast & tea or coffee – all welcome!!



THE WEEK AHEAD		
Tuesday, 19th	8.30am	Morning Prayer in the Chapel
	7.00pm	Meditation in the Chapel
Wednesday, 20th	8.00am	Meditation in the Chapel
	10.00am	Holy Eucharist
Thursday, 21st	8.30am	Morning Prayer in the Chapel
	9.00am	Working Bee
	7.30pm	Choir Practice

NEXT SUNDAY, 24TH APRIL – MARK, EVANGELIST & MARTYR

Readings: Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 89:1-9; Ephesians 4:7-16; Mark 6:1-15

UPDATE - ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2016 are here to purchase, including pre-order forms for both the books and digital memberships. Cost this year is **\$60 (\$12** of which comes back to Christ Church. Until Gai returns, please see Jan or Ruth. Orders can be either in cash or by credit card.

FOOTY PARKING – thanks to everyone who helped with Footy Parking last week when the mighty Cats trounced the Brisbane Lions. All up 54 cars were parked contributing **\$383** to Parish funds for the afternoon's work. The next CATS home game is an evening match against Gold Coast on **Saturday, 30th** with parking available at Christ Church from about 5.30pm – all helpers welcome!

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).

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.

TOMATO PLANTS: Please note Laurie is taking orders for tomato plants – please see notice in coffee area!

