

## EVACUATION PLAN

A new Evacuation Plan has been developed for 2016!  
It will be on display on the right hand side  
of the Porch wall as you come in.  
Basically, we gather on the tennis court area!

## COMING EVENTS/FESTIVALS

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



**Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> February - Start-up Sunday,**  
**including our first CAFS for 2016,**  
**followed by a Parish Feast**  
**for all parishioners and families!!**

## WINTER WOOLIES & OTHER WONDERS MARKET

Yes, we are planning to have another market this  
year on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Ruth Christian has very kindly offered to coordinate it,  
and it’s up to the rest of us to make a decent go of it.  
Don’t throw away your surplus time, fruit and other  
items, but get cracking with a small like-minded team  
and make a contribution.

More information to follow - David Peek [0400 193 588]

*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.*

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

1<sup>st</sup> January 2016

Liturgical Colour: Green

Holy Eucharist: 8.00am; 9.30am

### Sentence

*Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.*

### Prayer of the Day \*

*Bountiful God,  
whose Son revealed his glory  
at Cana of Galilee:  
help us to believe and obey,  
so that, as our Saviour promised,  
we may be filled with the wine of new life  
and show forth his joy and love;  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end. Amen.*



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

Hymns: 9.30am: 137; 235; 203; 572(2) 5.15pm: No service

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## The Vicar Writes



Saint Paul speaks about the gifts of the Spirit to the people of Corinth, encouraging them to respect the distinct gifts given to each of them by God. The tendency is to only respect certain gifts and attribute no value to gifts that are deemed less significant or less profitable. The fact is all gifts reside in everyone because the bestowal of all gifts and source of all gifts resides in everyone. Some people reflect distinct gifts according to their spiritual development and inclinations.

A person's heart is like a bowl containing water that reflects the light of the moon, although some people have only grown spiritually to be a small reflection of God's glory; in time all souls will evolve and flower into perfect images of God. It is important to be aware that some sages have possessed infinite spiritual gifts, but have never felt called to reveal them. Gradually, every soul will spiritually evolve to possess all gifts and all such gifts will be used for God only and not to impress others. Perfection means to be surrendered fully to God, seeking the gifts of God is not in accordance with the mood of surrender. Spiritual advancement happens when we seek only the giver of all gifts, then everything is added unto us.

The Gospel today tells of the first miracle performed by Christ, the miracle of Cana where Jesus changes the water in six 30 gallon jars into very good quality wine. Mary came to Jesus at a wedding feast and informed him the hosts had run out of wine. Jesus answered her in a humorous way, "woman what has that got to do with you or I?" Somehow the Lord took it upon himself to solve the problem and he asked that six large earthen jars be filled with water. The water instantly changed into first class wine, and a guest commented that the quality of the wine was better than that which had already been drunk.

Jesus is the soul of the universe and his command is the vibration that calls the physical world into being. In other words, from the infinitely powerful single vibration the multitude of phenomena manifests, each individual thing having its own rate of vibration. Jesus was able to change the vibration of the water to that of wine simply by his omnipotent thought. It seems inconceivable to us, but nothing is impossible for God.

Wine and vineyards are often used in scripture to represent the abundance of the Kingdom of God, and Israel at the time of Jesus was part of the Roman Empire, and very much a place of Mediterranean culture and lifestyle. Wine was an integral part of meals and associated with joy and affluence. Wine was also used in Hebrew rituals, as it came to be used in the central liturgy of the church, the Eucharist, instituted by Christ himself.

In the communion the bread represents Christ's body that was given for us, it also represents the universe, which is also the body of the Lord and the life-force that nourishes us through all food, water, sunlight and air. The wine represents the Spirit of Christ and his spirit of service, self-giving and sacrifice.

When we partake of the bread and wine, we share in the sacrificial spirit of Christ and are nourished by him. We are then sent out into the world as the body of Christ, so that we may be Christ in the world. Sharing in the bread and the cup is the way given to the church by Jesus to be reminded of his constant presence in our lives, and to remind us that the world is nourished and maintained by the Lord. The Lord loves the world and has given his very self for it.

The Lord be with you, Fr Russell

*Today's Flowers have been donated by Joy Freijah.*



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**THE WORLD:** Those affected by natural disasters, including our own land.

**THE CHURCH:** Church of Bangladesh; the Anglican Church of Australia; MU Australia, Melbourne; St John's Lilydale; Holy Trinity, Port Melbourne; Bellarine Parish; St John's Flinders w. St Mark's Balmarring.

**THE COMMUNITY:** Our own families and each other here today; and all who give assistance to those in need.

**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.

### The Week Ahead

Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00am	Holy Eucharist
Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8.00am	Holy Eucharist
	9.30am	Holy Eucharist

### NEXT SUNDAY: 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY - THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Readings: Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31;

Gospel: Luke 4.14-21

**REMINDER - BOOK GROUP:** Please note that we will resume meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 2 to 4pm in the School Room, commencing after Easter (first session on 12<sup>th</sup> April). We're taking the longer than usual break due to Lent & Easter being earlier this year, and not wanting to clash with Lenten studies & Easter celebrations. 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. Enquiries to Rev Jenny Dunn.

**THE CHRONICLE:** The first edition for 2016 is due in early March – contributions are welcome now! If you have any details of items and forthcoming events, etc, please send to Phillip Swain by email to: spswain@westnet.com.au.

### REMINDER - APPEAL FOR REFUGEES AT NORTH GEELONG SECONDARY COLLEGE



Goods required are pencil case packs or separate pencil cases & pencils, pens, rubbers, etc. to make up packs; 5-subject exercise books; A3 art sketch books (6 only); white polo shirts; thick black tights and money (used towards the cost of uniforms). There is a clothes basket in the coffee area. Please note that Barbara will take the goods to the school at the end of the holidays!



### LENTEN STUDIES OPTIONS

#### Bible Explorers

Bible explorers will run for each Tuesday in Lent – commencement date **Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February** in the schoolroom.

- Sessions run 1:30pm and 3:30pm.

Sign-up sheet available on the crossing table.

#### Wednesday Mornings

- After the 10am service – with the Vicar.

Sign-up sheet available on the crossing table.

#### Home Fellowship Groups

Groups will run on Monday afternoons, Wednesday evenings and Friday evenings

- Will be working through “*Walking Humbly with God*” by Dr Tim Gaden. Cost \$10
- Available from Judy Munro 52218801 or Jan.
- Sign-up sheet on crossing table with contact details.
- Flyers available



### FILM NIGHTS ARE BACK IN 2016

Our first three (3) films are:

- *Woman in Gold* Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> February
- *The Dressmaker* Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> April
- *The Chef* Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> June

Come and join us at St Mary’s Theatrette for an enjoyable evening out, which includes supper after the film.

Tickets are \$15 for each film or \$40 for all three.

We recommend being seated by 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Please speak to Jan McGowan, Anne Howarth or David Peek if you have any queries.

We look forward to seeing you there!