

Lead, Kindly Light

Lead, kindly light, amid the encircling gloom,
lead thou me on;

The night is dark, and I am far from home;
lead thou me on;

Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see
the distant scene: one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor prayed that thou
shouldst lead me on;

I loved to choose, and see my path; but now
lead thou me on.

I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,
pride ruled my will: remember not past years.

So long thy power hath blest me, sure it still
will lead me on,

O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
the night is gone,

and with the morn those angel faces smile,
which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

[John Henry Newman (1801-90) – TIS 582]

NOVEMBER SERVICES

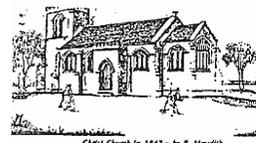
Sunday, 1st - All Saints/All Souls Day

8th - Remembrance Sunday

15th - Pentecost 24

22nd - Christ the King

29th - First Sunday in Event/AGM



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.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

25th October 2020

Liturgical Colour: Green

Sentence

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Prayer of the Day *

O God,
whose Son has taught us that love
is the fulfilment of your law:
stir up within us
the fire of your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts
your greatest gift of love,
so that we may love you
with our whole being,
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end. Amen.



The Vicar Writes



Jesus was asked which commandment is the greatest and he answered with the one we repeat each week: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love your neighbour as yourself.' The commandment is a great challenge for fundamentalists of any stream because it calls us into action to be loving and to accept that God is a loving God.

When we love someone, we see that there is our self and the person we love. When love is aimed at God, our love grows infinitely and expands our very capacity to love. When that love for God becomes very deep, so that we truly love God with all of our heart, mind, soul and strength, we lose our self in that love and see only the object of our love, God everywhere. We then come to say, as Saint Paul said: 'It is no longer I that live, but Christ who lives in me'.

This level of love for God is not a doing of our own. We cannot do love; we can only be in love. When we reach the level where God is all and is in all and through all for us, then we are living in God's love. Divine Love becomes our nature that we never lose but rejoice in for ever. That divine level of love is the birthright of everyone, and the universe is set up by God in a way that every soul will eventually get there. That is why Jesus said that He would be lifted and draw all humanity to Him. He didn't say he would only draw some people to him and burn the rest, he said he would draw all people to him.

This raises the question that what if someone hasn't come to God in this short life? Is that it? Are they condemned for ever? It would be a great contradiction to Saint John's statement that God is love if this were so. God is love and those that live in love live in God, John said. So, what happens to souls after this life, and how they are brought into grace is a mystery, but I don't doubt that all people will eventually get there because Jesus said he would draw everyone to him. How that happens I can't say, but I trust the Lord that he has the best interest of everyone at heart and wants to condemn no one.

The Lord be with you,
Fr Russell

FINAL REMINDER- OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD!!

If you would like to take part in the Christmas Box Program this year, there are several ways of doing so:

- You may prepare a box yourself and bring it to the church before the end of October; or
- Donate individual items for us to pack into boxes at the church (deliver as soon as possible please); or
- Make a donation to assist with the delivery cost.

Please contact Jan McGowan on 0409 176 409 for further information!



PSALM 90:1-6 & 13-17

Lord, you have been our refuge: from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were born or the earth
and the world were brought to be:
eternity to eternity you are God.

You turn us back into dust: saying 'Return to dust, O children of Adam.'

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday passing:
or like one watch of the night.

You cut them short like a dream:
like the fresh grass of the morning.

In the morning it is green and flourishes:
at evening it is withered and dried up.

Relent, O Lord; how long will you be angry?
Take pity on your servants.

O satisfy us early with your mercy;
that all our days we may rejoice and sing.

Give us joy for all the days you have afflicted us:
for the years we have suffered adversity.

Show your servants your work:
and let your children see your glory.

May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us:
prosper the work of our hands, O prosper the work of our hands!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

THE WORLD: Calm, tolerance and wisdom amongst all nations during this testing time.

THE CHURCH: The Church in Wales; Diocese of Brisbane; Ministries to Youth; Parish of St Peter's Murrumbidgee w. Holy Nativity, Hughesdale; All Souls' Sandringham (Confirmation); St Margaret's Eltham; the work and witness of the Philippine Independent Church (ABM).

THE PARISH/COMMUNITY: Give us grace to live more Christ-like lives and tell others of His glory (ABM).

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

THE DEPARTED: Our own departed and those whose yearly remembrance falls at this time (Norma Rachinger; Doug Robbins; Rev Canon Frederick Bedbrook; Phil Grayling). We remember with thanks: Simon and Jude, Apostles and Martyrs (Wednesday).

NEXT SUNDAY – 1ST NOVEMBER 2020

ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS

Readings: Revelations 7.9-17; Psalm 34.1-12;

1 John 3.1-3

Gospel: Matthew 5.1-12

