



Anglican Parish of Bass-Phillip Island
St Augustine's, San Remo St Paul's, Bass
St Philip's, Cowes

www.anglicanparishbassphillipisland.org

Rector – The Rev'd Jo White Mobile - 0490 831 299

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SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

5th March 2023

Choose Hope, Love, Justice

MON 6 th	Rev'd Jo's day off 10.00am - 1.30pm Mary Talbot Room open
TUES 7 th	
WED 8 th	10.00am - 1.30pm Mary Talbot Room open 1.00pm Lenten Studies, Emmaus Room, Cowes 2.00pm Lenten Studies at San Remo
THURS 9 th	10.00am – Holy Communion, St Philip's, Cowes
FRI 10 th	10.00am - 1.30pm Mary Talbot Room 10.00am Lenten Studies at Palm Lakes 11.00-2.30pm Cowes Chat and Chew Drop in Centre, Emmaus Room in Cowes 4.00pm Lenten Studies at Bass
SAT 11 th	9.00-2.00 Island Craft Market & Sausage Sizzle, St Philip's, Cowes 10.00am - 1.30pm Mary Talbot Room
SUN 12 th	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 9.00am Holy Communion St Philip's, Cowes 11.00am Holy Communion and Congregational Meeting, St Augustine's, San Remo 12.30pm Holy Communion St Paul's, Bass Congregational Meeting

Bookings are no longer required

CURRENT COVID-19 Information:

Please use the hand sanitiser provided

We respect your decision to wear a mask indoors.

If you are unwell please look after yourself at home.

Please be assured that our facilities are thoroughly cleaned weekly.

We meet for worship on the lands of the Bunurong people; Gunaikurnai people; Woi-Wurrung people; the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



This week's roster Second Sunday in Lent

St Philip's – Welcomer: A. Prideaux; Reader: A. Taylor; Intercessions: R. Prideaux; Vestry: J. Bell; Power Point: R. Leditschke; Music: K. White; Morning tea: P. Leditschke

– Please contact Wendy Gladman regarding St Philip's roster gladmanwendy@gmail.com

St Augustine's – Leader: G. Ippel; Input: G. Ippel; Children: ...

St Paul's

Next week's roster Third Sunday in Lent

St Philip's – Welcomer: F. Leighton; Reader: E. Kruptop-Norfolk; Intercessions: Rev. Jo; Vestry: C. Hill; Power Point: F. Zulian; Music: K. Kent; Morning tea: L. Wenham

St Augustine's

St Paul's

This week's readings - Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5 (6-12) 13-17; John 3:1-17 or Matt 17:1-9

Next Week's Readings 12th March

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN Glenys has subscribed to a weekly children's activity sheet. The activities follow the lectionary. If you have grandchildren coming to a service or know of children attending she would be happy to forward this on to you so you can print out as needed. You can email her on glenys.stacs@gmail.com



Find us on Facebook! Like, Share, Comment and Join our Events:
<https://www.facebook.com/stphilipscowes/>

The Sentence of the Day

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive: grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

Genesis 12:1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

[Silence]

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills:

But where shall I find help?

My help comes from the Lord:

Who has made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer your foot to stumble:

And he who watches over you will not sleep.

Be sure he who has charge of Israel:

Will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is your keeper:

The Lord is your defence upon your right hand;

The sun shall not strike you by day:

Now shall the moon by night.

The Lord will defend you from all evil:

It is he who will guard your life.

The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:

From this time forward for evermore.

(Response)

Glory to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

As in the beginning so now, and forever. Amen

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

[Silence]

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel according to John chapter 3 beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

[Silence]

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

LENT TWO

[This week there has been a surprising and rather exciting disconnect between our Lenten Studies and the readings for church. We found ourselves back with the Transfiguration that was celebrated two weeks ago, just prior to the commencement of Lent.]

Just two weeks ago we heard the voice of God from the bright cloud of Transfiguration saying: This is my Son, the beloved, listen to him. (Matthew 3:17)

Listen, listen to Jesus.

When we listen to Jesus we should expect to be enlightened by his words. So, in my address today I am going to focus on Jesus' words from John's gospel as he engages with the Jewish leader Nicodemus.

Nicodemus is not like other Jewish leaders. His purpose is not to find fault or to trick Jesus he comes to Jesus with a sincere desire to know the truth. In this, his first encounter with Jesus Nicodemus has difficulty understanding Jesus' figurative teaching concerning new birth through the spirit. As we listen to their conversation, we tune into the words of Jesus in order to learn the deeper truth of his words.

Jesus said,

No one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.

No one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. (John 3:3)

To be born again by water and the spirit has always been linked with baptism. It is in baptism that we are made members of Christ's body the church. It is in baptism that we receive the promises of God. The water we use signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit. As members of Christ's body, we share in all the privileges accorded a child of our Heavenly Father. We are welcomed into God's kingdom; into heaven, into the realm of eternal life.

Nicodemus asks Jesus a rather deep question. It would seem that he is caught between literalism (the things of flesh) and a desire to receive a more spiritual understanding of life; more particularly, of eternal life (the things of the spirit). Eternal life is the promise of God to all those who believe in The Son of Man, the one who will be lifted up. It is the Son of Man, Jesus, who will be lifted up on the cross.

Just as the bronze serpent meant life for the Israelites so it is our faith in Jesus lifted up that will be our salvation. (Number 21:9)

Listen to what Jesus says in response to Nicodemus' question:

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)

Jesus and Nicodemus are engaged in an argument (not the sort we might have with someone about a perceived wrong) but an intellectual argument to establish the evidence and reasons for a belief in the promise of salvation. And here Jesus turns to the story of Moses; a story that Nicodemus would have respected highly.

Moses was instructed by God to place a bronze serpent on a pole so that anyone who looked on it might be saved from death.

The Israelites had been complaining about their conditions as they journeyed from slavery under Pharaoh to freedom under God; they were grumbling;

'There's no food, there's no water, how much longer are we to go on like this?'

Now God had already provided manna and quail, God had even given them water and what do they say to this?

'We detest this miserable food.'

No wonder God sent poisonous snakes to bite them.

Importantly, God responded with a method of redemption. He found a way to save them. God did this because the people came to Moses confessing their sins. They were repentant. They turned from their complaining towards the one who could intercede for them and restore their relationship with the living God; an image that in the New Testament is made flesh in God's Son, standing before Nicodemus (standing before us).

Belief in God's promise of eternal life draws repentance from us. It inspires us to faith, to belief in Jesus.

If we don't believe that Jesus has the power to forgive, to intercede for us, to die on the cross for our sins then we might as well be dead. That might sound a bit harsh but only if we hear this message literally.

If we want to understand spiritual things we need to listen with our spirit. Our spirit is given eternal life and our flesh is given life in all its fullness through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Without a connection with the Spirit of life we are as dead.

Jesus famously says;

For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. (John 3:16)

When we listen to these words of Jesus, we learn the truth; that we are promised everlasting life, we are promised eternal life because we believe in him who has been sent by God to redeem the world. God's son is sent into the world to buy back what has been lost, to intercede for us so that we can be saved.

Salvation is about our past, our present and our future.

When we know the love of God for us our past is transformed. All those hard places, hurts, disappointments and wrong turns are made smooth. They don't disappear but their power is dispelled.

God's saving love enlivens, directs and energises our present. God's promise is not like the ones we make and often break, God's promise is reliable. God's promise is that we will be part

of his kingdom which is coming and that we will always be with God because of our belief in God's Son.

Listen to what Jesus says,

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Our salvation is a complex and rather mysterious matter. It is our faith in Jesus that effects our salvation. God has promised us life. God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. But we can so easily be like those grumbling Israelites, complaining that God has forgotten us. God never forgets us it is we who are more likely to forget God.

As we continue our journey through Lent our focus is upon the cross of Christ as we listen to Jesus, listening to him with our spiritual longings, with faith, standing firmly in the promises of God.

Let us pray for the world and for the church:

God whose promises are sure we pray for the troubles of this world seeking your rescue from all the horrors that people are suffering, especially we pray for peace in Ukraine and help for those whose lives are in disarray because of the earthquakes in Syria and Turkey.

Faithful Lord, we pray for good and wise use of the world's resources. Help us to care for the good earth and take climate crisis seriously. Give us and those in positions of influence courage to speak up against injustice and to do our best to bring hope and new life to all who suffer.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God whose promises are sure we pray for your church that it might give glory to you as we continue our Lenten journey together. We pray that our church be a place of welcome, inclusion and safety for all who are seeking your life-giving presence and holiness. God we give thanks for those who quietly serve the church; those who tend to the little things: washing linens, cleaning, tending the gardens, serving morning tea and offering the gentleness of welcome.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God whose promise is sure we pray for the sick and those who care for them. Lord, there are many who are feeling the strain of caring for loved ones, watch over them and comfort them. Lord, we pray for those who are recovering from surgery and those who have been exhausted by a recent illness, renew their strength. Lord, comfort those who mourn and strengthen those whose sense of loss is keen. Lord, we pray for doctors, nurses, pharmacists and all who work in hospitals and medical centres. We give thanks for their skill and their dedication seeking your courage for them as they face long hours and difficult cases.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, we thank you for the promise of the resurrection and for Jesus' ministry of perfect love and sacrifice for our sake. With this in our mind and on our heart we remember the dear departed.

We take a moment to remember our loved ones and picture them in our mind's eye. Loving, Lord Jesus thank you for showing us the way to salvation and for opening the gate of glory to all who believe in you as we pray - rest eternal grant unto them O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them. **Amen.**

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray:

**Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory
For ever and for ever. Amen.**

Suggested Hymns:

In the Cross of Christ I Glory (TIS 349) https://youtu.be/MW_F1MMH2r4

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers, feeding us with your word, and encouraging us in our meeting together. Take us and use us to love and serve you all people, in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A blessing is offered.

May the God of peace equip you with everything good for doing his will, working in you what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

If you have any items for the pew sheet, please send to angbpi.office@gmail.com by Thursday each week.



DATES for your Diary

Sunday 2nd April Palm/Passion Sunday
Thursday 6th April 2.00pm Parish Council

Offertory

Thank you for your weekly offering it is much needed. During this COVID-19 period and post COVID-19 your offering can be made by either:

- Placing in the offering bowl at any church service. Use plain envelope if preferred
- Please make cheques payable to Anglican Parish Bass-Phillip Island
- Regular or one-off contributions can be made by internet banking to the Parish bank account, using Pay ID 0407410011 (or BSB & Acct No. below)
- Visit any Bendigo Bank branch and deposit cash or cheque to Anglican Parish Bass/Phillip Island BSB: 633 000 / Account Number: 169 629 797. Please put on deposit slip: "Offertory" or "Donation" indicating your usual congregation
- If in Cowes, drop your offering in the donation box at St Philip's, Cowes (located outside the front door of the Church)

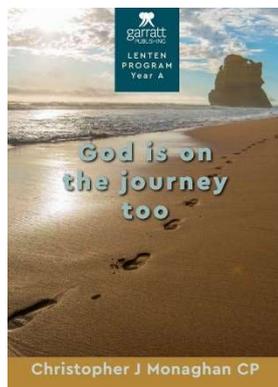


ST PHILIP'S – We recommend parking in the church grounds. Parking in Thompson Avenue is restricted to 1 hour only. 2 hours for those with a Disabled Parking Permit

[Helpful websites](#)

Parish website www.anglicanparishbassphillipisland.org
Dioceses of Gippsland website www.gippsanglican.org.au
Facebook www.facebook.com/stphilipscowes

CHAT 'N' CHEW is a shared ministry of the Combined Churches of Phillip Island. Would you like to help? Would you like to join the committee and represent the Anglican Church in this important ministry to people in our community? Training is available. Speak to Rev'd Jo or Richard Prideaux.



PARISH HOME GROUPS –

LENTEN STUDIES – God is on the Journey, Too \$10.00

Meeting weekly during Lent.

Cowes, Emmaus Room Group – Wednesday 1.00pm Leader: Richard and Ann Prideaux

Cowes, Palm Lakes Group – Friday 10.00am Contact Helen Millward

San Remo Group – Wednesday 2.00pm in the Mary Talbot Room Leader: John Dawson

Bass Home Group – Friday 4.00pm St Paul's Meeting Room Leader: Sandy & Les Ridge

Cancellation of MTR Cookery Book

Sadly, after some discussion, the MTR committee has decided not to proceed with the reissue of St Augustine's Cookery Book.

Learn a new skill - We are training new vestry helpers and Eucharistic assistants. Speak to Rev'd Jo if you would like to help.

Can you help? Volunteers needed on 2nd Saturday of the month to assist with serving Devonshire Teas and at the Sausage Sizzle.



Please pray for:
Sue Chambers, Mike Heflingers, Len Chatfield,
Rev'd Gerald Wall, Rob Aitkin
If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please tell Rev'd Jo

PRAYER PRAISE PROCLAMATION 4th Sunday of the month at St Philip's, Cowes. Next service will be 26th March *you are welcome, we would love to see you.*

THE MARY TALBOT ROOM – Our Parish Op Shop would be grateful for your help with cooking [jams, pickles, biscuits etc. reimbursement for ingredients is available]; knitted garments; volunteering your time to serve and help out. The shop is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.



St Philip's

THE FLOWER FUND NEEDS FEEDING

Box for donations is located in porch on Sundays

You can help Refugees by putting items in the basket at St Philip's. Most needed items include: honey, tuna in oil, tinned tomatoes, tinned veggies, tinned legumes, sweet & savoury biscuits, black tea bags, dishwashing liquid, shampoo & conditioner, soap bars.

