Please be aware that during the season of LENT [as of Ash Wednesday] there are no flowers in the church

***Prayers for those in need:*** - especially, Shirley, Chris, Cathy, Laurie, Doreen, may we also pray for those whose lives have been damaged by the Church and those affected by the recent fires. Pray for those we name in the silence of our hearts . . . .... Pray for all those affected by the terrible events in Christchurch, pray for peace, calm and resolution.

**Readings for the coming weeks**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **31st March** | **7TH April** | **14TH April** |
| **4th SUNDAY IN LENT** | **5th SUNDAY IN LENT** | **6th SUNDAY IN LENT** |
| **Joshua 5.2-12** | **Isaiah 43.16-21** | **Isaiah 50.4-9a** |
| **[Psalm 32]** | **[Psalm 126]** | **[Psalm 31:9-18]** |
| **2 Corinthians 5.16-21** | **Philippians 3.3-14** | **Philippians 2.5-11** |
| **Luke 15.11-32** | **John 12.1-8** | **Luke 22.14-23,56** |

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Give thanks, give hope; give generously. The contribution of the congregation to this need is fantastic and gratefully appreciated. If each of us contributes a packet, tin or product into the basket we can make a significant difference to a person’s life – non-perishable items (tinned or in packet) sanitary

items; toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, razors etc) these items are all acceptable. These groceries are donated to **Anglicare** and then distributed to the needy – may God be with you in this ministry, Judi

COLLECTIONS – PLEASE SAVE USED STAMPS - DOREEN COLLECTS THEM FOR BCA

**DIARY DATES –**

**PALM SUNDAY – 14TH APRIL**

**TMA:** The February issue of TMA (The Melbourne Anglican) is now available in the narthex.

BCA

BCA boxes are due in now please give to Doreen

# Welcome to the

Anglican parish of St Paul’s Romsey & Christ Church, Lancefield

Please stay awhile following our celebration of the Eucharist to share in fellowship. If you are a visitor, long time parishioner or searching for a place to be welcomed - this is it – we’ve found you! Help us get to know each other over a cuppa!

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**3rd SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 24th YC 2019**

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**9.00am Sunday Eucharist – St Paul’s Romsey 10.30am Sunday Eucharist – Christ Church Lancefield**

**ABM Pew reflection**

In a world so obsessed with commodity and goods, the reading from Isaiah really is refreshing, isn’t it? It shows not only the ‘immaterial’ nature of material goods but it shows the echoes of the great gathering force of the love of God – a force that doesn’t care in the slightest about the material status of the individual. This force is really summed up with Jesus’s pronouncement about the children of Jerusalem, that he wishes to gather them under his wings. As we travel through Lent, let us put away our desires for worldly things and allow ourselves to be gathered.

* Pray that our divisions based on material status might be overcome; and pray for those who are so weighed down by debilitating material concerns that they forget God.
* Give thanks for the Church of Ceylon, which covers most of Sri Lanka, remembering their ministry in a multi-religious context.

Text: The Rev Will Johnston, © Anglican Board of Mission, 2019

**Sentence:** Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. *Isaiah 55:6*

**Collect:** O God, the fountain of life, to humanity parched with thirst you offer the living water that springs from the Rock, our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Stir up within your people the gift of your Spirit that we may profess our faith with freshness and announce with joy the wonder of your love.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**A reading from the Book of Isaiah**

## 429An Invitation to Abundant Life

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come; buy wine and milk without money and without price.   
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your labour for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.   
Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.   
See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.   
See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,    for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;   
let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.   
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.   
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.  *Isaiah 55.1-9*

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God***

**The Epistle is from Paul’s Letter to the Corinthians**

## Warnings from Israel’s History

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

 Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.’ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. ***1 Corinthians 10:1-13***

*11*May your word live in us, ***and bear much fruit to your glory***

**THE GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you, ***and also with you***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13.31-35

***Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

## The Lament over Jerusalem

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” ’’

For the Gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ***

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