



St. Michael's Bulletin

Rooted in God

Integrating Community

Growing Disciples

19th Sunday after Trinity

18th October 2020

We welcome Rosie and Andy to our 10.00am Worship to tell us about their work with the girls in Olinda.

We also welcome Revd Rachel Beck to celebrate a Eucharist with us at 3.30pm



Collect

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 45.1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him – and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10

From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in

Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22.15-22

When the chief priests and Pharisees had heard the parables, they realized that Jesus was speaking about them. Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.



The following Readings have been chosen by Rosie and Andy
for our 10.00am Service of Morning Worship:

PSALM

Psalm 68:1-9

**R Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
[sing praises to the Lord].**

- 1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish
at the presence of God. **R**
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;
Yahweh is his name, rejoice before him! **R**
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in dry places. **R**
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel. **R**
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?'

He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

They came to the other side of the lake, to the country of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; and he shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.' For he had said to him, 'Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!'

Then Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?' He replied, 'My name is Legion; for we are many.' He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; and the unclean spirits begged him, 'Send us into the swine; let us enter them.' So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the lake, and were drowned in the lake.

The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country.

Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighbourhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused, and said to him, 'Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.' And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.



Post Communion

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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## This week's Prayer Diary:

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Pears Close, Capp's Lane & Hawthorn Avenue  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Miller's Road, Squires Road & High Street  
Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Station Road, Granary Close & Lower High Street  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Melbourne Way, Greenwood Close & St Michael Close  
Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> Cairns Way, Wellington Square & Mayall Court  
Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Hobart Close, Brisbane Close & Black's Close  
Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Darwin Close, Coupland Close & Bar Lane

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Today's Hymns

21 All people that on earth do dwell
625 Take my life
752 Will you come and follow me
716 We have a Gospel to proclaim

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## Contacting the Rector

Since Revd Annabel has retired, the parish is now in an interregnum. If you need to make arrangements for services etc, please contact the Churchwarden, Jim Barling on 07979 430 593 or email [templars1356@gmail.com](mailto:templars1356@gmail.com)

## Some prayers for these troubled times

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

God of compassion,  
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.  
In their loneliness, be their consolation;  
in their anxiety, be their hope;  
in their darkness, be their light;  
through him who suffered alone on the cross,  
but reigns with you in glory,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **From one who is ill or isolated:**

O God,  
help me to trust you,  
help me to know that you are with me,  
help me to believe that nothing can separate me  
from your love  
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For hospital staff and medical researchers:**

Gracious God,  
give skill, sympathy and resilience  
to all who are caring for the sick,  
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.  
Strengthen them with your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be restored to health;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



### **A prayer for when a friend is ill:**

Dear God, ..... is ill.

They are not allowed to go out or come over to visit.

I'm sad because I miss them.

They must be feeling miserable and lonely as well.

Please be close to them.

Please be with the people who are looking after them.

Please help them to get better and to know that you love them.

Amen.

### **A prayer remembering God is with us**

Lord God, you are always with me.

You are with me in the day and in the night.

You are with me when I'm happy and when I'm sad.

You are with me when I'm healthy and when I am ill.

You are with me when I am peaceful and when I am worried.

Today I am feeling ..... because .....

Help me to remember that you love me

and are with me in everything today.

Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,

'I am with you always'.

Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.

Hear my prayers for others and for myself,

and keep me in your care.

Lord Jesus Christ,

Son of the living God,

have mercy on me, a sinner.

*The Jesus Prayer*