



Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese of Gippsland

(Committed in Christ, Connecting in Service & Creative in Spirit.)

Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

**St. George's,
McBride Ave., Wonthaggi**

**The Church of the Ascension
4-6 The Crescent, Inverloch**

Bunurong Country

ABN: 18 842 576 826



Second Sunday after Epiphany – 15th January **Holy Communion**



Epiphany - is described in the dictionary firstly as - the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), and **secondly** - a moment of sudden and great revelation or realization.

Two weeks ago we celebrated the arrival of the Magi - the epiphany of the gentiles - us.

Today we celebrate Andrew & John's realization that Jesus is the Messiah and the subsequent calling they received along with Peter, Andrew's brother, to follow Him.

Such words leave us asking ourselves an important question; "Have I come to a realization that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, the Saviour of the Human race?"

I can truthfully answer Yes! Can You?

Rev. Graeme

Sentence

God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1.9

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped,
and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49.1-7

¹ Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: before I was born the Lord called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. ² He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. ³ He said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendour.' ⁴ But I said, 'I have laboured in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due to me is in the Lord's hand, and my reward is with my God.' ⁵ And now the Lord says – he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honoured in the eyes of the Lord and my God has been my strength – ⁶ he says: 'It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.' ⁷ This is what the Lord says – the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel – to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: 'Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40.1-14

¹ I waited patiently for the Lord: **and he inclined to me and heard my cry.**

² He brought me up from the pit of roaring waters, out of the mire and clay: **and set my feet upon a rock, and made firm my foothold.**

³ And he has put a new song in my mouth: **even a song of thanksgiving to our God.**

⁴ Many shall see it and fear: **and shall put their trust in the Lord.**

⁵ Blessed are those who have made the Lord their hope: **who have not turned to the proud, or to those who wander in deceit.**

⁶ O Lord my God, great are the wonderful things which you have done, and your thoughts which are towards us: **there is none to be compared with you;**

⁷ Were I to declare them and speak of them: **they are more than I am able to express.**

⁸ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire: **but my ears you have marked for obedience;**

⁹ Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required: **then said I, Lo, I come.**

¹⁰ In the scroll of the book it is written of me, that I should do your will: **O my God, I long to do it, your law delights my heart.**

¹¹ I have declared your righteousness in the great congregation: **I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, and that you know.**

¹² I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart: **I have spoken of your faithfulness and of your salvation.**

¹³ I have not kept back your loving-kindness and your truth: **from the great congregation.**

¹⁴ O Lord, do not withhold your mercy from me: **let your loving-kindness and your truth ever preserve me.**

New Testament Reading:

1 Corinthians 1.1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours: ³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way – with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge – ⁶ God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will

also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.*

Gospel

John 1.29-42

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is the one I meant when I said, "A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me." ³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptising with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.' ³² Then John gave this testimony: 'I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³ And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴ I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One.' ³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!' ³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Turning round, Jesus saw them following and asked, 'What do you want?' They said, 'Rabbi' (which means 'Teacher'), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹ 'Come,' he replied, 'and you will see.' So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, 'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas' (which, when translated, is Peter).

*For the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

WIN MEETING

The next WIN Meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 January 2023 at 1.30 pm at the Corner Store on the corner of Cuttriss Street and the Esplanade, Inverloch.

INFORMATION

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|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Readings Jan 22nd 3rd Epiphany | Isaiah 9.1-4 1 Corinthians 1.10-18 | Psalm 27.1-10 Matthew 4.12-25 |
| Tuesday 17th Jan | 10:00 am – Ascension – H.C – Rev Graeme 11:30am – Prayer Meeting – Inverloch | |
| Wednesday 18th Jan | 10:00 am – St George’s- H.C. Rev. John 11:00 -11:30am – Food Rescue @ St Georges | |
| Friday 20th Jan | 11:00 -11:30am – Food Rescue @ St Georges | |

Rosters 22nd January, Epiphany 3, Prayer, Praise & Proclamation

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>St George’s</u> | <u>Church of the Ascension</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Bible Reader | Robert Mesley | Bob Delahoy |
| Sides Person | Robert Mesley | Ted/Ray |
| Prayers | Jennifer Boer | Mal Fletcher |
| Service Leader | Rev. Susan | Sue Lester |
| Eucharistic Asst | X | X |
| Musician | Renee | Tonya Hackett/Elise |
| Children’s Ministry | X | X |

If you are unable to fulfil your roster position would you please organise for someone else to take your place.

Bible Discovery Groups: Most Groups will resume in the first week of February.

Special Prayer Request!

MAF



I haven't received an update on the plight of Ryan, however would you please keep him and his family Annabel, Elias, Hezekiah, Koher and the MAF US team in your prayers.

Ryan, an MAF Pilot in Mozambique, has been wrongfully detained since the 4th of November, while preparing to fly supplies to orphanages.

Please continue to pray for his immediate release.

On This Day: Fasting and Repentance for Salem Witch Trials



On this date, **January 15, 1697**. Salem and the Massachusetts Bay Colony proclaimed a day of fasting and repentance before God for the tragic error and folly of the Salem witch trials. Among the reasons for the day of fasting given by the resolution were, *"so all of God's people may offer up fervent supplications unto him, that all iniquity may be put away, which hath stirred God's holy*

jealousy against this land; that he would show us what we know not, and help us, wherein we have done amiss, to do so no more."

The witch trials, a senseless, isolated and unbiblical miscarriage of justice, left an unfair stain on the reputation of all New England's Puritans. Over 150 suspected witches were imprisoned and nineteen were hanged during a few frenzied months of 1692. Most of the accused were women and social misfits. Sad to say, only a few of Salem's townspeople opposed preacher Samuel Parris, who encouraged the proceedings.

The hysteria began when two children had fits and claimed they were bewitched, naming people of the town whose spirits they said they had seen. The evidence presented was usually groundless accusation, scapegoating, or the product of mass suggestion. At the trials no evidence of Satan worship or the practice of witchcraft was presented. Breaking with precedent, the court did not require two witnesses, or even a showing that the accused had committed any acts. It was enough if a witness had seen a ghostly form like one of the accused.

Some Puritan clergy recognized that the real evil was in the accusers rather than those accused of witchcraft. Increase Mather spoke out strongly against the trials, calling for implementation of the Biblical principle of two or three witnesses. Such was the prestige of Increase, that the trials quickly ended. Today we look back on the whole episode as a tragic example of misdirected zeal.

Five years after the Salem witchcraft trials, the Massachusetts legislature passed a resolution that a day of general fasting be held **on January 15, 1697**. Judge Samuel Sewell and those who had served as jurors in the trials all confessed their error and prayed for God's forgiveness and guidance in the future. Indeed, Judge Samuel Sewall, who had presided over many of the capital judgments, published a written confession acknowledging his own "blame and shame."

Salem village drove out Reverend Samuel Parris for his role in the trials. In 1710, the Massachusetts legislature reversed some of the convictions, and in the following years authorities gave compensation to the families of the accused witches.

Dan Graves

Intercessory Prayers:

Please pray with us for:

Our Bishop: Richard & Leanne

Our Rector: Graeme & Susan

Parish of Mirboo North: Belinda Seabrook
Damian King – Lay minister

Missions Anglican Overseas Aid

Diocese of Newcastle Bishop: Peter Stuart
Bishops: Sonia Roulston, & Charlie Murry

Special Focus Mothers' Union, Anglican Women Australia,
Anglican Communion Women's Network,
Women's groups in parishes.

Please comfort and heal all those suffering in Spirit, Soul or body, especially those affected by the COVID 19 and other viruses. Please give people the courage to face their illness head on and to be assured of their salvation in Jesus Christ.

Please bring healing and strength to those we have been asked to pray for: Matt Fletcher, Amy Davis, Chris Peters, Denise, James, Murray, Doug, Ron Lawson, Jeffer, Beth & family, Simone, Mark, Marie Wilson, Cecily, Robin, Barb Bickley, Trish, Ross Smith, Tania, Russell, Hayley, Barbara Manns, Meredith, Richard B, Mary B, Lee, Bev, Stuart, Vladimir, Erika, Rita, Elijah, Rodney & Geoffrey W, Luke M, Terry, Emily, Ian M^cBurnie, Graeme Peters, Elisabeth H, Portia, Suzie, Vivienne, Benjamine, Robert P, Jessica, Kirk & Susannah (*Give thanks for the safe delivery of their son*), Pam D, June R, John G & Albert, Rob Atkin.

We give thanks for the faithful departed.

Lord please comfort families & friends who are grieving the loss of loved ones at this special time of the year.

CMS Vic & the Vinicombe family

By now many of you will be aware that Matt, Kate and their children; Bethany, Chloe and Amos, were involved in a serious car accident with a Kangaroo near Keith on Christmas Night. Matt Has now been released from hospital and steps are being made to transfer Kate, who has a spinal injury, to Melbourne for further care. Please continue to pray for Matt, Kate and their 3 children.

Ministry Team

Bishop: Rt. Rev. Dr. Richard Treloar, Sale 5144 2044

Rector: Rev. Capt. Graeme Liersch 0417 513 390 (*Monday-Day Off*)

graemel@basscoastanglican.org.au

Youth & Young Families Minister: Rev. Susan Liersch 0427 099 391

susanl@basscoastanglican.org.au

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Rev. Anne Perryman 0438 345 349

Parish Council +

Retired Clergy: Rev's Anne Perryman 0438 345 349, John Davies 5672 4710,

Greg Jones 0402437329, Liam Matthews 0411 339 344,

Amy Turner 0412 727 711

Lay Reader: Sue Lester 0418 529 662

Rector's Wardens: Alan Price 0407 343 876, Chris Walkerden 0429 336 154

People's Wardens: David Beischer 0408 629 494, Robert Mesley 0416 246 349

Liz Watkins 0404 379 005, Wendy McBurnie 0407 574 484

Parish Office Worker: Leah Mesley (2 mornings per week – Wed & Thur)

Parish Postal Address: PO Box 201, Wonthaggi 3995. 5672 4590

Parish Op Shop: 114 Cashin St, Inverloch 0438 248 397

Welfare Support: Rev. Graeme

Food Rescue: Ron Osborne

Prayer requests for prayer chain: Jenny Rivers 0417287355

Parish E-mail: admin@basscoastanglican.org.au

Parish Website: <http://www.basscoastanglican.org.au>

Direct Debit: Would you please, if you haven't already, consider giving to the ministry through setting up a direct debit from your account. Thank you!

Our Bank Details: Anglican Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

BSB: 083-975 Acc No: 51 612 6552

Thank you to all who have already set up this means to support the Parish!



SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOP - CREATING SAFE SPACES



The Next Upcoming In-person Workshop is at

Wonthaggi Baptist Church on Saturday 25th February 2023 from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm. To register for yourself or for a group on

this date visit this link:

<https://events.humanitix.com/css-sat-feb-25-2-2023>.