



Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese of Gippsland

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



Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

St. George's,

The Church of the Ascension

McBride Ave., Wonthaggi

4-6 The Crescent, Inverloch

Bunurong Country

ABN: 18 842 576 826

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – 3rd July



¹

Today we remember St Thomas, the disciple more known for his one moment of doubt rather than his missionary foray into the orient.

Thomas's ministry for Christ, after Christ's resurrection, led him to India where he resolutely spread the Gospel of Christ.

He toiled for many years until his martyrdom at Chennai on the 3rd of July in AD 72.

Prepare the way of the Lord is the theme found in our Gospel reading for today and that's exactly what Thomas did in his journey to India.

How are you preparing the way of the Lord in your location? Do they know you are Christian? Are you unashamedly Christian? Are you able to give an answer for the faith you have when you're asked? I pray that you are indeed able to.

Rev. Graeme

¹ By Peter Paul Rubens - Museo del Prado

Sentence

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ask therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.

Luke 10.2

Collect

God of the covenant,
in our baptism
you called us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom:
give us courage,
as you gave it to the apostles,
that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

2 Kings 5.1-14

¹ Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. ² Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, 'If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.'

⁴ Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. ⁵ 'By all means, go,' the king of Aram replied. 'I will send a letter to the king of Israel.' So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. ⁶ The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: 'With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy.' ⁷ As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, 'Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!'

⁸ When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: 'Why have you torn your robes? Make the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel.' ⁹ So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, 'Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.' ¹¹ But Naaman went away angry

and said, ‘I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy.’¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn’t I wash in them and be cleansed?’ So he turned and went off in a rage.¹³ Naaman’s servants went to him and said, ‘My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, “Wash and be cleansed”!’¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 30

¹ I will exalt you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up from the depths: and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.

² O Lord my God, I cried to you: and you have made me whole.

³ You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence: you saved my life from among those that go down to the Pit.

⁴ Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones: and give thanks to his holy name.

⁵ For if in his anger is havoc, in his good favour is life: heaviness may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶ In my prosperity I said ‘I shall never be moved: your goodness, O Lord, has set me on so firm a hill.’

⁷ Then you hid your face from me: and I was greatly dismayed.

⁸ I cried to you, O God: and made my petition humbly to my Lord.

⁹ ‘What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit: can the dust give you thanks, or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ ‘Hear, O Lord, and be merciful: O Lord, be my helper.’

¹¹ You have turned my lamentation into dancing: you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,

¹² That my heart may sing your praise and never be silent: O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

New Testament Reading:

Galatians 6.7-18

⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. ¹¹ See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! ¹² Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule – to the Israel of God. ¹⁷ From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

Gospel

Luke 10.1-12,17-24

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. ³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. ⁴ Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. ⁵ ‘When you enter a house, first say, “Peace to this house.” ⁶ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. ⁸ ‘When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. ⁹ Heal those there who are ill and tell them, “The kingdom of God has come near to you.” ¹⁰ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ “Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God has come near.” ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. ¹⁷ The

seventy-two returned with joy and said, ‘Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.’¹⁸ He replied, ‘I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.¹⁹ I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.²⁰ However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.’²¹ At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, ‘I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.²² ‘All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.’²³ Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, ‘Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.’

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

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Seeking volunteers to help run a playgroup at Inverloch Community Hub
Possible times Wednesday or Friday mornings for approximately 2.5 hours.
Volunteers will require a childrens check card and safe ministry training.

Contact Reverend Susan for more information 0427099391.

NAIDOC SERVICE

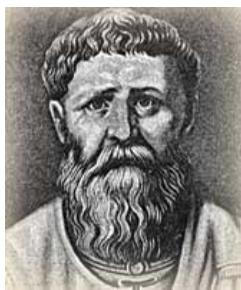
**2.30 pm Sunday 10th July 2022, St John's Church, Lake Tyers
Aboriginal Trust. For more details phone Aunty Phyllis Andy on
0436 444 238.**

Greeting of Peace

In light of the continuing pandemic and a severe outbreak of the flu, I encourage all to greet each other with the tap of an elbow.
Shaking of hands is still permissible but please respect those who do not wish to shake your hand.

Thank you Graeme

On This Day: **Synod of Orange Struggled with Choice**



Do babies go to Hell if they die before they are baptized? Did God choose some people to be damned long before they were born? Can a person take the first step toward his or her own salvation? Does God choose some people to do evil? How can a person have any responsibility if God completely decides his fate? When a Briton named Pelagius taught that a person has a good deal of say in his or her own salvation, St. Augustine of Hippo replied with powerful arguments that showed that only by God's grace from first to last could anyone be saved.

Augustine won the day and the church condemned the teachings of Pelagius. Augustine went on to write many pages about grace and how men are saved. His final teaching was that all of mankind shares Adam's sin. Every single person is damned. No one can get himself out of this mess: only God by his grace can do that. And God doesn't do it on the basis of anyone's merit: He chooses some people to be saved and grants them various graces to make sure they are saved. This is called election or predestination. The number of elect was set beforehand and cannot be changed.

Whoa! said some thinkers, shortly after Augustine's death. Augustine has gone too far. If what Augustine said was true, it seemed to say that God had chosen some people from all eternity to be damned. What is more, it made no sense for anyone to try to obey God, because no matter what a person did, God would save or damn that person as he chose. In fact, it even seemed that God had chosen some people to do evil. To others it looked as if Augustine was saying that babies who died, before they even knew right from wrong, could go to Hell.

In Southern Gaul (France) a hot debate raged over these topics into the sixth century. Some theologians felt that both Augustine and Pelagius were too extreme; they tried to find a middle ground between them. In later centuries, these theologians were called Semi-Pelagians, although they could just as well have been called Semi-Augustinians.

On this day, **July 3, 529** a new church was dedicated at Orange (Arausio) in Gaul. Thirteen bishops were present. The dedication became more than usually significant when Caesarius of Arles asked the bishops to sign a statement. Caesarius, who had been in touch with Pope Felix IV, held Augustine's position. His statement, however, did not teach that divine grace was irresistible and specifically denied that God predestined anyone to do evil. The thirteen bishops and some other people who were in attendance signed the document, and sent it to Rome. Eighteen months later, Pope Boniface II approved it, making it

official church doctrine. That ended the Semi-Pelagian controversy for the time being.

However, the relationship between what God does and what we do remained so unclear that the question has come up in one form or another ever since.

During the Reformation, the Roman Church declared that Luther's theology violated the doctrine settled at Orange. Another reformer, John Calvin, took the position that divine grace is irresistible. The Calvinist theologian Jacob Arminius insisted that man has a certain amount of free will to resist divine grace. Because of this, he is sometimes accused of being a Semi-Pelagian, but he taught that a man cannot save himself or do any real good apart from grace. John Wesley followed the views of Jacob Arminius.

As to whether innocent children are damned if they die without baptism, the Bible suggests not. David clearly expected to go where his dead baby went (2 Samuel 12:23); God took the life of King Jeroboam's child because only in him was any good found (1 Kings 14:12, 13), and Jesus declared that we must become as little children to enter the kingdom of heaven (Mark 10:15).

Dan Graves

www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/301-600/synod-of-orange

CMS SUTS - Summer Under The Son
19 - 21 January 2023
Put it in your diary today!

Diocesan Retreat

**21 -22 October 2022 'Praying it Forward: Emerging Hope and our Role as Ancestors of the Future' To be held at The Abbey,
1 - 25 First Parade, Raymond Island. Cost per person
Residential: \$135 win Share. Non residential: \$85.00 per
person. For all bookings phone 03 5166 6580**

Seeking Mentors for 'Kid's Hope'

**We're looking for volunteers to help with mentoring children in the
Wonthaggi Bilson St School.
Please talk with Rev. Susan if you are interested.**

Intercessory Prayers:

Please pray with us for:

Our Bishop Richard & Leanne

Our Rector: Graeme & Susan

Locum Tenens – Trafalgar – Greg Jones assisting

Please bless & guide Greg as he conducts services in the parish of Trafalgar, please keep him safe in his travelling.

Parish of Bairnsdale: Paul Woodcock, Emma

Our Sister Diocese Diocese of Gahini, Rwanda. Bishop: Manasseh Gahima

Diocese of Adelaide Archbishop: Geoffrey Smith

Bishops: Tim Harris, Chris McLeod, Denise Ferguson

Special Focus

Thanks for the pioneering ministries of Deaconesses in our diocese.

Pray for God to raise up a new generation of pioneers for Ministry in Gippsland

Pray for our work as we seek to engage with our communities

Religious Communities

Community of the Holy Name Sr Carol

Sisters of the Church Sr Linda-Mary

Please comfort and heal all those suffering in Spirit, Soul or body, especially those affected by the COVID 19 virus. Please give people the courage to face this pandemic 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:

Amy Davis, Chris Peters, Denise, James, Murray, Doug, Ron Lawson, Jefter, Beth & family, Simone, Mark, Marie Wilson, Cecily, Robin, Barb Bickley, Trish, Ross Smith, Tania, Russell, Hayley, Barbara Manns, Mary A, Meredith, Richard B, Mary B, Lee, Paul Butterfield, Bev, Stuart, Vladimir, Erika, Rita, Elijah, Rodney & Geoffrey W, Luke M, Terry, Emily, Ian M^cBurnie, Graeme Peters, Samantha F, Elizabeth H, Portia, Vivienne, & Robert P.

We give thanks for the faithful departed.

Lord please comfort families who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Especially the Pascoe family as they mourn the passing of Neil.

LAMBETH Conference July – August 2022

Please pray for Bishop Richard and all Bishops as they prepare to travel to Lambeth, UK, for this important Bishop's conference.

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

Parish Council +

Retired Clergy:

Rev's Anne Perryman 0438 345 349, John Davies 5672 4710, Greg Jones 0402437329 (Locum – Trafalgar), Liam Matthews 0411 339 344 (Locum - Sale), Amy Turner 0412 727 711

Lay Reader: Sue Lester 0418 529 662

Rector's Wardens: Alan Price 0407 343 876, Ray Smith 5674 1373

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 – Tue, Wed or 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!

Jazz Festival

9:30am - 10:30am, Sunday 7th August at Inverloch Community Hub, featuring the Salvo Big Band.

Watch this spot for more details

INFORMATION

<u>Readings 10 July</u>	Amos 7.7-17	Psalm 82
Pentecost 5	Colossians 1.1-14	Luke 10.25-37
Wednesday 6th July	10:00 am – St George’s Wonthaggi – HC – Rev John 11:00-11:30am Food Rescue @ St George’s	
Friday 8th July	11:00-11:30 am Food Rescue @ St George’s	

Rosters 10th July, Pentecost 5: Praise, Prayer & Proclamation

<u>Activity</u>	<u>St George's</u>	<u>Church of the Ascension</u>
Bible Reader	Geoff Boer	Bob Delahoy
Sides Person	Alan Price	Ted/Ray
Prayers	Jill/Alan Price	Ray Smith
Service Leader	Rev. Susan	Rev Susan
Eucharistic assistant	X	Liz Watkins
Musician	Tonya Hackett	Sue Lester/Elise Watkins
Children's Ministry	Jill Price	Liz Watkins

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

Bible Discovery Groups: (Check with group leaders for details)

Beischer's – Tuesdays, 7:30pm at the Beischer's.

196 Chisholm Rd, Wonthaggi. Ph 0437 070 579 for details.

Davies' - Thursdays, 1:30pm @ St George's Hall – *In recess until 7th Jul.*

Liersch's – Tuesdays 4pm @ Alan & Jills, Pound Creek, Inverloch.

Ph: 0407 343 876 for details.

Boer's – Tuesdays 6:30pm. (*In recess for the next 6 weeks*)

Contact Geoff or Jennifer on 0431 440 073 for further details.

Alycia/Tonya's – Wednesdays 12:30pm Ph: 0408 100 068 for details.

In recess over school holidays.