

***The Vicar's Reflection:***

Jesus told the disciples as they sat around him on that hill, "You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the world."

As the inheritors of God's mission on the earth, this message is also to us. You are the salt of the earth. Hmm, it's an interesting characteristic, isn't it? How do we live into being "Salt of the Earth"? We need to learn to lose any sense of pretence that we might have, so that when we meet the poor or rich, the lost or lonely, we can greet them as ourselves. We, as people who have accepted and share God's love, can welcome them without any qualification.

You are the "Light of the World". In this season of Epiphany, when we watch for ordinary things becoming extraordinary in God's light, this description seems timely.

So are we to reflect God's light to those around us? I think so. Do you remember that Sunday School song "Jesus bids us shine with a pure clear light"? Obviously, we aren't walking around glowing slightly, unless you hail from the more radioactive parts of the world, such as Aberdeen, but we have all seen the way love and kindness radiate from some people. The way that we somehow sense that God's love is shining through that person. Jesus tells us that we need to be one of those people, full of God's light. And similarly, our places of worship need to reflect that light. St Barnabas is a little more tucked away, so it has to shine brighter than St Paul's and St Mark's which are in such visible spots. We could do a lot more in this particular aspect, average signage and less than average maintenance does NOT reflect God's light, I am afraid.

A new team was formed late last year: the Big Banner Band, which has a mission of creating large banners to share God's love and light with passers-by. If you want to join the fun and creativity, please let me know. We are about to start a couple of Easter banners in conjunction with St Albans Uniting Church.

Live into God's promise to us. Be Salty and Shine!  
God bless you and all those you pray for.

*Elizabeth*

**Please note:** Material for inclusion in Pew Sheets should be given to Alf by Wednesday evening.



*Welcome  
to  
Worship in Our Parish*

**February 5th 2017**

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
Ordinary Sunday 5**

**Service Times**

**Sundays**

8:00 am St Mark's Leopold & St Paul's Whittington  
10:00 am St Mark's Leopold & St Barnabas' Newcomb

**Monday - Saturday 9:15 am**  
Morning Prayer @ St Barnabas'

**Wednesday - 10:00 am**  
1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ St Barnabas'  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ St Mark's  
5th Wednesday @ St Paul's

**Our Mission Statement**

*Our mission is to enable individuals to recognize and carry out their ministries as Christians. Through this, we strive to become a model company of faithful people who both honour their varied traditions and actively share in building the family of Christ..*

## MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar: Rev'd Elizabeth Breakey 5250 1401/0404 165 096  
Email: vicar@bgap.church

Father Jim Minchin 0427 056 654, frjminchin@gmail.com

Mr Wayne Stewart 0414 503 300, wayne@bgap.church

Mrs Wilma Farrell 5244 5537 Pastoral Ministry

Mrs Jan Long 0414 823 132 Residential Care Ministry

Parish web-site: www.bgap.church

### Today's Readings

Isaiah 58:1-9a  
Psalm 112  
1 Corinthians 2:1-13  
Matthew 5:13-20

### Next Week's Readings

Deuteronomy 10:12-22  
Psalm 119:1-8  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

### A Continuing Prayer For The Parish

*'Lord you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Guide us in our worship and life together: transform us into whatever you would have us do. Help us to be deeply connected with the world around us and strengthen us to proclaim the good news in word and deed in this community, for the glory and for the growth of your kingdom.. In Jesus name we pray. Amen*

**Known Happy Birthdays:** Marlene Lacey 8th

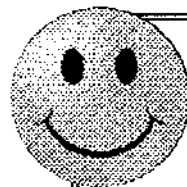
**Known Happy Anniversaries:** Bonnie & Gordon Dendle 5th,  
Val & Lloyd Jenkins 8th, Bev & Russell Cameron 9th

**Bible Reflection:** In the Epistle reading, we see the power of humility. In humility, we reach all people and we can warm their hearts with the good news. Saint Paul shows that in his weakness, fear and trembling (verse 3), God connected his spirit with the spirits of the Corinthians. There is power in enriching our emotional connection for in that our hearts will be weaved together for the sake of the gospel.

\* Pray that God will give us grace to humble ourselves as we bring the good news to the people.

\* Pray that God will give us a new heart and put a new spirit in us; that he may remove from us the heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 36.26).

Reflection written by *The Rt Rev Paul Korir Bishop of Kapsabet, Anglican Church of Kenya* © ABM 2016



**Welcome** to our services today - the fifth Sunday after Epiphany. We hope you find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay after the service for a cup of tea/coffee, biscuit and fellowship.



### For your diary:

Wednesday February 8th

10 am service @ St Mark's

Wednesday February 8th

Parish Council @ St Mark's, 7.30 pm

**Parish Council** meets this week. If you have any matters you wish to be discussed, please speak to a member of Council.

**Congratulations** to Father Jim who celebrates 50 years in the ministry this week-end.

**TMA:** The February issue of The Melbourne Anglican (TMA) is available today. This issue includes:

- \* Responses to the Bourke Street tragedy from Archbishop Freier (who is on leave), Vicar General Bishop Philip Huggins and Dean of St Paul's Cathedral Dr Andreas Loewe;
- \* The controversy surrounding President Trump's first Anglican church services;
- \* Extensive coverage of the CMS Summer Under the Son conference, including an interview with Bishop Paul Barker;
- \* A special supplement on pilgrimage and retreats, including an interview with The Rev'd Dr Rhys Bezzant about his forthcoming tour of European sites associated with the Reformation, whose 500th Anniversary is celebrated this year; \* A viewpoint by a Melbourne Anglican priest expressing concern about "the growing problem" of the bullying of parish priests; and a viewpoint by psychologist and priest Dr Barry Rogers on the traumatising effects for churchgoers of the constant news reports of sexual abuse by clergy;
- \* Anglicans who have received Australia Day Honours

### The Joy of Giving

It's grand to have a windfall; that's sure to set you singing.  
It's grand to get promotion, or see your own team winning.  
It's grand when someone praises . . . sure, then you feel like living.

But, oh, there's nothing thrills you so, as does the joy of giving.  
This getting, getting, getting . . . it's nothing but a snare;  
It's only he who gives who is, in truth, a millionaire.

(Author Unknown From Gary Ord's Friendship Book)

Late news: TMA didn't arrive. Hopefully it will be available next week.

### **Report of Parish Council Planning Meeting**

Parish Council met on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>, initially at St Mark's then adjourning to St Paul's for lunch and the afternoon session. Bishop Huggins was present for part of the afternoon session. A range of issues were discussed with the following outcomes:

*St Mark's bell* – agreed to take action to get it working again

*Parish directory* – vicar and wardens to meet to determine the best way forward to get it completed

*Signage* – vicar and a councillor (Owen Jennings) to meet and develop appropriate signage

*Worship roster* – agreed the current ministry team can meet the parish's roster of four services over three centres

*Pastoral Care Groups* – agreed to form pastoral care groups with a designated parishioner responsible to the group. This person would be responsible for making regular contact with the parishioners in their group, ensuring that Pew Sheets are delivered (if they have not been taken) and to report any pastoral needs to the vicar or Wilma Farrell.

*Parish calendar* – a calendar for the location of services for Easter, Christmas and Combined Services was developed. The number of Combined Services has been reduced. There will be no Combined Services for patronal festivals. There will be an 11.30 pm service on Christmas Eve at St Mark's and St Paul's and a 9.30 am service at St Barnabas' and St Mark's on Christmas Day. The calendar will be published in the near future.

*Leopold Local* – Leopold Lions have decided to make a charge, to help recover the cost of production, for printing an article in the Leopold Local. It was decided to place an article in the Local for a six month trial period.

*Outreach within the parish* – councillors agreed to meet again to discuss this issue. With help from Bishop Huggins, it is intended to contact parishes who have had successful outreach programs and invite a speaker(s) to discuss their program with us.