

Reflection for First Sunday in Lent:



This week, we enter into the season of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, the service is often begun with a small introduction to Lent. You might find it useful to ponder those words anew. After all, it is a year since we last committed ourselves to making the most of this season.

Why is Lent so important for the Church?

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days, Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection. We prepare for this by a season of penitence and fasting or observance.

Why is Lent so important for us?

By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

How can YOU best use this season?

You are invited, therefore, in the name of Jesus Christ, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

There will be a series of Lenten Journeys each Sunday afternoon in Lent at St Barnabas 2-4pm, combining a chance to explore and deepen your faith with some afternoon tea.

This first week, we shall be picking a Lenten stone to carry with us for the next 6 weeks, to reflect and ponder upon the word written on it. There's some great opportunities to get in tune with what our Lord desires of us.

The Lenten Blessing:

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, to take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

God bless you and all for whom you pray.

Elizabeth

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



Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula

*Welcome
to
Worship in Our Parish*

February 18th 2018

First Sunday in Lent

Service Times

Sundays

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

Wednesday - 10:00 am

1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ St Barnabas'
2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ St Mark's
5th Wednesday @ St Paul's

Morning Prayer @ St Barnabas'

Re-commences Monday February 26th

Parish Identity

BGAP : A community who loves God and everyone else.

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 On leave

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

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

Next Week's Readings

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:24-32
Romans 4.13-25
Mk 8:31-38

Parish Prayer

'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: Christine Campbell 21st
(Please contact me if I miss any important dates so that I can up-date my records. Alf)

Prayers for Healing: Please pray for the healing of body, mind and spirit of the following people who are on our hearts: Jo, Audrey Miles, Barb, Barbara S, Pam, Heather R, Arthur, Enid Hughes, Cassie & family,

Dead panthas: Thank you to the executioner(s) who dead-headed the agapanthus at St Mark's. A fantastic effort!! Thank you also to Gordon who provided the trailer and took them down to his farm where they await cremation at a future date.

Geelong Bible Museum & Resource Centre: Are you interested in having a Christian bookshop, resource centre and bible museum in Geelong? A meeting to discuss this concept will be held on Monday 26th @ 7 pm in the Belmont-Highton Baptist Church. See poster on notice board for more details. Any enquiries contact Graham Higgerson, graham.higgerson@gmail.com, 0458 482 047



Welcome to our services today—the First Sunday in Lent. We hope you find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay after the services for a cup of tea/coffee, biscuit and fellowship.



For your diary:

Today Lenten studies begin at St Barnabas' @ 2 pm (see below)
Parish Council meeting postponed - meeting date tba
Friday March 2nd World Day of Prayer @ Lumen Christi (details below)

Vale:

It is with much sadness that we announce the recent death of three people.
Colin Robinson: Colin was the husband of Maureen who worships at St Barnabas. Colin's memorial service will be held at St Barnabas' on Monday 19th @ 2 pm.

Des Toulmin: Des was the devoted husband of June (deceased, parishioner and chief biscuit maker at St Mark's) and dedicated father and carer for Donna. Des regularly attended church with June. He died on February 13th. Des' memorial service will be held at Geelong Memorial Park, Armstrong Creek on Tuesday 20th @ 1 pm.

John Lee: John was a loyal parishioner at St Mark's since the late 1960s. He served on Vestry, was an active participant in parish activities and made a valuable contribution to community organisations. He made a large contribution to help get Pearly Gates up and running. John died on February 14th. His memorial service will be held at St Mark's on Wednesday 21st @ 2 pm.

World Day of Prayer: This year's service will be held at Lumen Christi on Friday March 2nd, commencing at 10 am. The service has been prepared by the people of Suriname. The Republic of Suriname lies on the northeastern coast of South America. It is named after the Surinen tribe, one of the indigenous peoples of the land. The theme is '*All God's Creation is Very Good*'.

All welcome – including men. Morning tea will follow.

Lenten afternoon tea series: These begin today, 2 to 4pm at St Barnabas'. This will be a shared experience with St Albans and St Andrews Uniting Church.

(Refer to insert in February 4th Pew Sheet for more details.)

Music at the Basilica: Free lunchtime reflections for the season of Lent; Easter Concert presented by Windfire Chamber Choir and Strings (Tickets \$35/30) See notice board for full details.