

Wednesday 30th Aug
Monday 3rd Sept

3pm Walking with Isaiah
7pm LA/LPM Meeting

GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

After taking over from Bob Matthews, one of the first duties I had as Treasurer was to prepare a budget for the current year - and I based this on any known factors, plus a percentage annual increase in both income and expenses. It occurred to me that I haven't had to ask the suppliers to increase their bills – this has happened automatically. Can I encourage you, the wonderful, generous people of St. Paul's, to have a look at your budget and consider if it is time to increase your own giving.

Thank you, Maureen

For those who wish to set up a regular direct debit, our account details are: BSB 706-001 Account No 30003006 Anglican Parish Beaconsfield



LEGO and DUPLO for NEPAL

We run an after-school program for children in Nepal, with educational activities, a chance to do homework and a nutritious meal. If anyone has Lego or Duplo they are willing to donate to IGWR this would be a great resource and we have someone willing to take it up for us. If you can help, please see Maureen or leave your donation at the church office.

Readings NEXT Sunday

3rd September Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 3:1-15 Ps105:1-6, 23-26, 45b Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28	Robin Coopes-Williams Chris Williams
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Morning & Evening prayer 6.30am & 6.30pm – Midday Prayer 12noon

Rev. Peter Humphris & Rev. Michael Jessup

Office is attended Mon & Thurs mornings by Ronny 9335 2242

parish.stpauls@gmail.com and more information available at our website

stpaulsbeaconsfield.com

St Paul's Beaconsfield

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to all who come to worship this Sunday. Welcome to all who join us for the first time; you are invited to share with us in Communion and after the service for hospitality in the hall. All are invited to join in the Elm Dance, a dance for peace, on your way to the Hall.

We welcome Rev Ros Fairless as our priest and celebrant today

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“Who do you say that I am?”

Jesus poses a simple and seemingly innocent question to the disciples, and so a question we each might consider for ourselves.

And as we read the narrative we discover what an important question this is, for when the answer is found within himself, Peter receives the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Today's gospel gives us a question that we each (and all) are encouraged to grapple with; and we might also appreciate that some of the orthodox 'answers' to this question are clearly unsatisfactory, for they do not come with the gift of the 'keys'.

“Who do you say that I am?” is a question that will lead us to question our 'knowing' Christ and our very sense of who we are; at the same time it is a question that empowers us to seek the keys of the kingdom of heaven. The empowerment of the individual is very much illustrated in the first reading, where a Levite woman overcomes the might of Egypt's new king.

From Quantum Collects, Peter Humphris



1. Be thou my vision

VU 642

Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart,
Naught be all else to me save that thou art,
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
Thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, after victory won,
May I reach heaven's joy, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.



*I live my life in growing circles
which ring out over the things around me.
Perhaps I'll never finish the last,
but that's what I'm going to try.*

*I'm circling around God, around the ancient
tower,
and I've been circling for thousands of years;
and I still don't know: am I a falcon, a storm
or a great song.*

✠Rainer Maria Rilke

2. Song of Peace

VU 652 (Tune Finlandia)

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine;
This is my home, the country where my heart is,
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on eucalypt and sand,
But other lands have sunlight too, and beaches
And skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

Walking with Isaiah

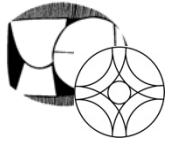


“He looked for justice, but behold,
oppression; For righteousness, but behold, a
cry *for help*”

Michael Cockram is offering to guide a
group through the Old Testament Book of
Isaiah, discussing its relevance to us today.
Every Wednesday (8 weeks) starting
Wednesday 30th August 3pm to 4.30pm in
the studio. Reply to Michael at 0437 377 737
or mrcokram77@gmail.com

Unit for Rent

The unit, once the home of our friend Alan Albany, is available for rent.
Please see Christabel if you or someone you know would like to live ‘on
the block’.



We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
We who are many are one body in Christ
For we all share in the one bread

*All are invited to share in communion, as the parish community of
 St Paul's offers the hospitality of the altar to all.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Priest:

Living God,
 In this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
 May the power of your love,
 which we have known in word and sacrament,
 Continue your saving work among us,
 give us courage for our pilgrimage,
 And bring us to the joys you promise.
 Most Loving God
You send us into the world You love
Give us grace to go thankfully
And sight to find our reflection
In the cross of love and drawn out from the tomb of darkness
May we live in the power of your Spirit Amen.

All stand for the blessing and dismissal

Priest:

The peace of God which passes all understanding
 keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God
 and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
 And the blessings of God Almighty
 the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sustainer,
 Be upon you and remain with you always.
 Amen

Deacon or PA: Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ, Amen

Priest:

We meditate on the glory of the Creator;
 Who has created the Universe;
 Who is worthy of Worship;
 Who is the embodiment of Knowledge and Light;
 Who is the remover of all Sin and Ignorance;
May the Divine enlighten our Intellect.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Deacon or PA or priest assist the children to light the candle

Deacon or PA:

Sentence

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the
 members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one
 body in Christ.*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.



*Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison*

Priest:

Glory to God, wisdom of creation and light of all life

Glory to God, gift of life and Spirit of Love.

Glory to God, our birth, our death and our Divine life in Christ.

Congregation stands and sings the Gloria response

**Gloria, gloria,
in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria,
alleluia, alleluia!**

Priest:

Collect

Creator of Life, Ever-present blessing
in the unfolding of creation.
We seek that which is Good, Acceptable and Whole
As we live in accord with your Divine presence.
In Christ is revealed our wholeness,
For we are one body;
With each other we bring to reality the blessings
and gifts of divine grace, and
in our sharing we seek to bring wholeness to all.
Amen

*During the Great Thanksgiving Prayer we echo the words of the priest and
may join in the responses*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest!**



**Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ is come again.**

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever Amen.**



Priest:

*Let us pray in the words
our Saviour Christ has taught us:*



**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours.
Now and for ever.
Amen.**

Offertory

*We bring forward our gifts to the front of the church
while music is played*



We bring our gifts forward, as the movement more clearly symbolises the movement of "Giving", and coming forward toward the altar symbolises our giving to God.

Prayer over the gifts

Priest:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.



Holy Communion

Priest:

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise

First Reading

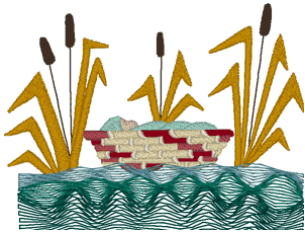
Exodus 1:8-2:10



Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. 9 He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. 10 Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." 11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. 12 But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. 13 The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, 14 and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. 15 The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 16 "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." 17 But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. 18 So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" 19 The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." 20 So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. 21 And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. 22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." 1 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. 2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. 3 When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. 4 His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. 5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked

Continued

beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. 6 When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" 8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. 9



Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. 10 When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

For the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 124

We share in creation's unfolding, in the presence of the Divine

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side--let Israel now say—

2 if it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,

3 then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

4 then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;

5 then over us would have gone the raging waters.

We share in creation's unfolding, in the presence of the Divine

6 Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

We share in creation's unfolding, in the presence of the Divine

8 Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Priest:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life

Deacon or PA:

Prayer of Approach

Loving God,

**We open our eyes to the beauty of your holiness;
We open our ears to the message of your word;
We open our minds to the challenge of your truth;
We open our hearts to the power of your love;
We open our lives to the coming of your Spirit,
That we may truly worship you,
now and forever.**

As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love let us look within, search our hearts, and seek God's healing grace.

God of the loving heart,

**we confess before You
those places in our hearts
where we have refused you entrance:
people we have refused to love;
habits we have never got round to changing;
good things we have left undone;
and ways in which we hurt You, ourselves and others.**

Come to us in the light of Your Christ.

Shine on those places we have hidden from You.

Show us new ways to live.

**Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts,
that Christ may find a home in us.**

Be among us now and forever. Amen.

The Priest pronounces the absolution

We are the body of Christ

God's Spirit is with us

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

We share with each other the Greeting of the Peace

Priest:

We now reaffirm as our own, the faith of the Church

Do you believe in God the Gift of love and the source of Life?

We believe

**that in the Child of Bethlehem,
the one born from the Tomb,
all love and grace
is gathered for the world.**

**Here God entered our life
in a way which honours forever
our struggle to survive
our possibilities for newness
and our ordinary human journey**

**Here we see our God
in a surprising way
a God who travels with us
a God who loves us to the death
and a God who comes among us as
a light breaking into every darkness
This God we Praise
This God we welcome into our life
This God we celebrate today.**



Priest:

God has called us out of darkness into God's marvellous light
We will shine as a light in the world to the glory of God

Pray that we may see ourselves as members of one body in Christ and seek to find that same oneness with all. Give thanks for the Divine revealed to us through the gifts of others, and drawn from us as we share of ourselves.

Second Reading

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.



For the word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God**



I AM making all things new

A new financial year, Tax returns, a new Church Council and we have so much to do, so much still to realise.

Is this a good time to review and renew your 'Giving'?

If we each contributed an extra \$10 each week we would, together, achieve much more.

See also **GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S**, a note from our treasurer, Maureen, on the back page.

We listen for the Gospel, and open ourselves to hearing the Word – the voice that speaks of divine birth and life lived in the place of resurrection.



Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia
Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia



Thank You for all that we share in this community, for those who bring light into our lives and for every act that gives light to all.

Gospel Reading

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 16, beginning at the 13th verse

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ



Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. 18

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

The Sermon

