

Notices

Lenten studies begin **this Thursday** morning after the 10 am communion service at 11 am **and also** in the **evenings** of March 9, 16, 23, 30 a& 6 April at 7:30 pm.

This year will be looking at why our faith and experience of God changes due to the barren times, the periods of struggle , disillusionment and suffering in life.

Prayer requests –Beth Gibbs.

Prayers of the people

- Please pray for Peta Foote who is having surgery on Wednesday 15th to have a knee replacement.
- Please pray for healing for Lillian following an operation on neck gland.
- Beth Gibbs who is now recovering at home from having a knee replacement
- For Des Nelson has had a mild heart attack but has returned home after spending overnight in hospital. He continues to have pain in his back due to two damaged vertebrae pressing on a nerve.
- For Des Andrews who has a leg ulcer which is persistently refusing to respond to treatment.
- For Peter Phyland and Trish as Peter receives on going care for his cancer.
- Pray for Des Melder for renewed strength and as he continues to undertake further medical tests.

Please pray for the work of Michael, Melanie & Aaron Viljoen – Wycliffe Bible Translators. And also for the ministry of Rev. Anne & Noel Nixon – BCA, Qld.

Sermon notes continued:

Welcome to St Edward's

It must have come as a shock to Nicodemus when he met Jesus for the first time (John 3:1-12). Here was a member of the ruling council and a typical representative of a section of the Jewish religion called the Pharisees. He had waited for the right time to approach Jesus and came under the cover of night. Perhaps he was afraid of what his peers would say if it became known he had gone to meet Jesus. Perhaps it was simply a convenient time as Jesus wouldn't have the crowds around him and they could talk uninterrupted. But the suggestion by John is that he was leaving the 'darkness' and coming to 'the light' – of Christ. It came as a shock nevertheless when Jesus told him he had to be born spiritually again. He would have stressed the careful observance of the Law and the traditions of the elders as a Pharisee. That's what they were known for. But Jesus flatly told him, that all such views were wide of the mark. He had to be born again to enter the kingdom of God (Jn 3:3, 5). It always comes as a shock when good religious people discover they have got it all wrong. Doing 'stuff' for God doesn't change us. Keeping the Law will not get us into the kingdom of God. Only a complete change – a spiritual rebirth by the Spirit will do. How does this occur? By acknowledging that we are captive to sin and turn to God for the solution. It is found only in Christ. His Spirit gives us this spiritual rebirth that transforms us. It also means giving up our trust in other semi-religious beliefs that these might provide a way to be saved, or a way to God. Only God can save; only Christ died for us and only the Spirit can regenerate us so we are 'reborn' and able to enter the kingdom of God.

St Edward's Anglican Church

2nd Sunday of Lent

12th March 2017

Address

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Minister

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Service times

Sunday 8 & 10 am
Thursday 10 am

Wardens

Barbara Watt	9802 2846 0416 298 133
Stephen Smith	9898 4945
Alan Gibbs	9874 8112 0412 717 534

Website: stedwards.org.au

Verse of the day

“Jesus cried out, “Whoever believes in me does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. The one who looks at me is seeing the one who sent me. I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.”

(John 12:44-46)

Prayer of the day

**God of mercy,
you are full of tenderness and compassion,
slow to anger, rich in mercy,
and always ready to forgive:
grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ,
that in every way we may prove to be your loving children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

8 AM. Holy Communion, 1st Order, APBA, p.101)

Readings

New Testament	Rom 4:1-17	(p. 1131)
Psalm	121	(APBA, p. 360)
Gospel	John 3:1-17	(p. 1065)

Hymns

155 “How great thou art”
211 (ii) “Jesus lover of my soul”
77 “Lifting my eyes up to the hills” (new)

10 AM (Holy Communion, 2nd Order, APBA, p.119)

Gathering in God’s name

Verse of the Day

Hymn: MP 990 “I will offer up my life” (OHP)

Prayer of Preparation

(APBA, p, 119)

Prayer of the Day

Ministry of the Word

New Testament	Rom 4:1-17	(p. 1131)
Psalm	121	(APBA, p. 360)
Gospel	John 3:1-17	(p. 1065)
Sermon		
The Nicene Creed		(APBA, p. 123)

Hymn: 342 “When I survey the wondrous cross” (Tune from Mission Praise, 1126)

Prayers of the people & the Lord’s Prayer

(p. 124)

Confession and Absolution

Prayer of Approach	(p. 125)
Confession	(p. 126)
Absolution and Greeting of peace	(p. 127)

Hymn: 538 “Feed us now” (new)

Holy Communion – Preface: Ash Wed & Lent (pp. 151, 128-129; 141.)

Prayer after communion: p. 151.

Notices

Hymn: 517 “Hallelujah! sing to Jesus”

Sending out of God’s people.