

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.

Parish Council Meeting – please note the change of date. It will now be on 8th March at 7:30 pm to allow the Lenten studies to commence on the Thursday night. Please bring the 'Faithfulness in Service' booklet with you.

Beth Gibbs would like to thank everyone at St Ed's for their prayers, loving care and help after her recent surgery. 'God's love made visible.'

Prayer requests –Beth Gibbs.

Prayers of the people

- Please pray for healing for Lillian following an operation on neck gland on Friday.
- 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.

- Peta Foote who has been approved to have a knee replacement but is waiting for the surgery to be performed.
- 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 as he continues to adjust to the use of one eye and 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:

Yes, their lifestyle was radical, a protest against the church as institution. But it also expressed a desire, which I hope we all share, that sin, its power over us and our awareness to attend to our inner life with God, is our focus during Lent.

Welcome to St Edward's

Early Christian groups during the 2nd – 4th Century viewed the desert through eyes that saw it as a place where men and women could go to encounter God. The desert was a place where they could open their hearts to the voice of God. There went to wrestle with the sin within and the demons outside and so being transformed and purified, they would then emerge qualified and ready to lead others to Christ. To us who view the desert through tourist eyes, their dedication seems a little extreme. But there were two reasons for their commitment. The Church, they believed, had become lax and compromised with its legalisation by the Roman government in 313 AD. Roman society was debauched, sensual, a culture which took pleasure in the death of others, and the Church was increasingly worldly. The solution to save their soul was to go to the desert for prayer and silence – and thousands did so in Egypt, Palestine, Syria and Turkey. The second reason for this radical expression of discipleship was the example of Jesus himself which is seen in our reading this morning: Matthew 4:1-11. The Gospels were read as a manual for discipleship. They didn't just agree with his teaching, they emulated it by imitating his lifestyle. John the Baptist had come 'out of the desert' to preach; Paul, went to Arabia for 3 years (Gal 1:17), and they also, abandoned society to save themselves.

St Edward's Anglican Church

1st Sunday of Lent

5th March 2017

Address

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Blackburn Sth
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Minister

Rev Rob Culhane
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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

“Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

(Matthew 4:4)

Prayer of the day

Almighty God,
whose Son fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet did not sin:
give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your will,
that, as you know our weakness,
so we may know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
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

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Old Testament | Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 | (p. 4) |
| Psalm | 32 | (APBA, p. 252) |
| Gospel | Matthew 4:1-11 | (p. 967) |

Hymns

591 “Forty days and forty nights”
546 “Lord Jesus think on me”
349 “In the cross of Christ”

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

Gathering in God’s name

Verse of the Day

Hymn: 284 “O bless the God of Israel”

Prayer of Preparation

(APBA, p, 119)

Prayer of the Day

Ministry of the Word

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|------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Old Testament | Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 | (p. 4) |
| Psalm | 32 | (APBA, p. 252) |
| Gospel | Matthew 4:1-11 | (p. 967) |
| Sermon | | |
| The Nicene Creed | | (APBA, p. 123) |

Hymn: 595 “O Jesus I have promised”

Prayers of the people & the Lord’s Prayer

(p. 124)

Confession and Absolution

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

Hymn: 347 (Tune 120) “We sing the praise of him who died”

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

Prayer after communion: p. 151.

Notices

Hymn: 591 “Forty days and forty nights”

Sending out of God’s people.