

Notices

A Saturday afternoon of **song and entertainment** will be provided by “**The Skylarkers**”- a group of retired professional and amateur singers and actors at 2 pm on Saturday 9th September. Afternoon provided. Tickets cost \$10. Ring Beth on 9874 8112 for more information.

Don't forget: the Fall Prevention Exercises Classes continue each Monday afternoon at 3.30pm with gentle exercise routines. All welcome to join at any time with a highly qualified and experienced trainer. Fee is \$40 per month. Please speak to Alan Gibbs for any further details.

The Bible studies will continue on Tuesday evening and also Thursday mornings following the Thursday morning communion service.

Prayer requests –Beth Gibbs.

Prayers of the people

- Estelle has now returned home but will continue with out-patient physiotherapy.
- For Trish Phyland following the loss of Peter and his recent funeral.
- For Liz Helmond recovering from influenza.
- For Des Andrews whose ulcer on his leg requires strong antibiotics to heal.
- Please continue to hold in prayer Liz Helmond's brother Peter, for healing in his stomach and low energy levels.
- For Jenny Lynch's father who remains very ill following surgery.
- For Pauline Robertson who is now at home and slowly recovering.
- For the Alison Jessup, the niece of Katrina Foulds who has been diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing treatment.
- For Peta Foote's daughter Lorna who has developed lung cancer.

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.

Welcome to St Edward's

'Religion' in all its various expressions, can be a force for great good – and evil. Men and women can use it to promote their selfishness and use it to control others by inducing guilt. They can appeal to their religious convictions to justify their actions (the oppression of women and slavery), and to place themselves above scrutiny. The Jewish legal experts and those who followed their teaching, were doing exactly this. They used the Law of Moses to justify why they bore no responsibility to care for their aging parents. In a deft 'sleight of hand', they dedicated their wealth to God, an outwardly noble act called 'korban' (Matt 15:5), but then would take on the role of managing it on behalf of God which absolved them of the Law's commands to 'honour their mother and father' (Matt 15:16).

Jesus, gets to the heart of issue. They had elevated the traditions taught by the elders above the commandment of God (expressed in the Law of Moses). They were superficially religious, but their hearts were far from God (Matt 15:8-9). The issue sparking the confrontation was that Jesus' disciples were not washing their hands before eating – thus being ceremonially unclean. Jesus returns to this issue after castigating the legalists who confronted him by turning and teaching the crowd that it is not what we do or eat that pollutes us, but what flows out of our heart that is then expressed in our behaviour and in our speech (15:19). This unfortunately is where those who claim allegiance to Christianity too often fall short. They focus on 'keeping up appearances', but ignore the condition of their heart that is leading them to break the commandments of God by their actions.

St Edward's Anglican Church

**11th Sun after Pentecost
20th August 2017**

Address

59 Edinburgh Road
Blackburn Sth
Victoria 3130
Office: 9877 3665

Minister

Rev Rob Culhane
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Mobile: 0412 832 328

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

“Thus says the Lord, ‘Maintain justice, and do what is right for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance will be revealed.’”

(Isaiah 56:1)

Prayer of the day

**God of freedom, you have broken the tyranny of sin,
and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that all people may know the glorious liberty
of the children of God;
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	Romans 11:11-24	(p. 1138)
Psalm	133	(APBA, 365)
Gospel	Matthew 15:1-28	(p. 982)

Hymns

254 (122) “O changeless Christ”
OHP “Jesus the very thought of thee”
OHP “My hope is built on nothing less”

10 AM Prayer, Praise and Proclamation (APBA, p. 35)

Praise and Thanksgiving to God

Welcome, Verse of the Day and verses of scripture (Sitting)

Thanksgiving prayer (OHP) (APBA, 36)

Song: 342 “When I survey” (Tune: MP 1126 Celtic version)

Ministry of the Word

Gospel Matthew 15:1-28 (p. 982)

Affirmation of faith (APBA, p. 37)

The Sermon

Song: MP 1129 “With a prayer” (New) OHP

Confession of sin

Confession and Absolution (OHP) (APBA p. 38)

Declaration of God’s forgiveness (APBA p. 39)

Assurance of God’s forgiveness (APBA, p. 39)

Song: MP 386 “Jesus the very thought of thee” (OHP)

Ministry of prayer + Lord’s Prayer (APBA p. 40)

Notices

Sending out of God’s people (OHP) (APBA p. 40)

Song: MP 473 “My hope is built on nothing less” (OHP)

Benediction (APBA, p. 40)