

*For God so
loved the
world*



ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S!
SUNDAY 11 MARCH 2018
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

It has become almost a cliché that when one loves another, one does everything if only to please the beloved. I remember this poem from high school—"Ballad of a Mother's Heart" by Jose la Villa Tierra—where an enamoured boy promises to give his beloved whatever she wants. She asks for the heart of his mother, and without any hesitation, the boy runs home and rips away his mother's heart from her chest to give it to his beloved. In the midst of heavy rain, he slips and falls to the ground and then hears a voice asking him, "Were you hurt, my child?" The boy realizes that it is his mother's heart caring about him!

Some scholars say that Jn 3:16 is perhaps the most popular verse in the New Testament, if not in the whole Bible. And why not? For it summarizes who we are to God and how God sees and deals with us. God so loved the world—so loved us—he did not spare his own Son so that those who believe in him may not die but have eternal life. God did not spare his Son from the cross and death to show us to what extent God's love goes for us.

But this extraordinary love of God has to be received by embracing his Son in faith. For the path of eternal life is through believing in his Son, Jesus Christ.

Believing in Jesus also means escaping condemnation or judgment. **Cont. pg 4**

THE REV'D TIFFANY SPARKS PRESIDING AND PREACHING

Next Week's Readings

- Jeremiah 31.31-34
- Psalm 119.9-16
- Hebrews 5.5-14
- John 12.20-33

Sentence: The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. John 3.14–15

Collect: Everlasting God in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you: give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness prevent us from doing it; that in your light we may see light, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

•Readings: Numbers 21.4-9; Psalm 107.1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2.1-10; John 3.14-21

Psalm 107.1-3, 17-22

John 3.14-21

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
for his loving mercy is for ever.
- 2 **Let the Lord's redeemed say so:
whom he has redeemed from the
hand of the enemy,**
- 3 And gathered in from every land,
from the east and from the west:
from the north and from the south.
- 17 **Fools were far gone in transgression:
and because of their sins were
afflicted.**
- 18 They sickened at any food:
and had come to the gates of death.
- 19 **Then they cried to the Lord in their
distress:
and he took them out of their
trouble.**
- 20 He sent his word and healed them:
and saved their life from the Pit.
- 21 **Let them thank the Lord for his
goodness:
and for the wonders that he does
for the children of Adam;**
- 22 Let them offer sacrifices of
thanksgiving:
and tell what he has done with
shouts of joy.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for :

- * Our Church family and community
- * All who help in the mission of the Church

We pray for :

- * The Parishes of Coolum and Red Hill
- * St Andrew's Care, Caloundra
- * St Hilda's School

For health and healing for :

- Thomas Moore, Beryl and Tom Wakefield, Anthony Bugden, Saloni Paul, Fred Morrison, Theda Lowe, Jan, Romola Squire, Fr Neville and Eileen Jackson, Sue McCurdy, Gillian, Kerry Muir and Jocelyn O'Neill.

At home or nursing home :

- Jean Ward, Noela Burdett and Joyce Shearing.

WHAT IS GOING ON AT ST. PAUL'S?

LENTEN STUDIES—are being held at 10:30am Sundays in the crypt and 11am Fridays at St Barnabas.

TAIZE IN LENT—is being held every Friday during Lent—do come and join us.

BOARD GAME GROUP—Run by David Adams. Every second Saturday in the Crypt at 7.30pm. All welcome!

MORNING PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY GROUP—Wednesday mornings at 9:05am. If you are interested please come along. All Welcome!

JUBILEE TERRACE PLAY-GROUP—Fridays 9:30-11:30am. For more information contact Sarah Combe on ph: 0403 771 442 (leave a message if there is no answer).

PRACTICALLY SPIRITUAL—This is a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Rev'd Tiffany or Rev'd Kathy on how to become involved.

BOOK CLUB—If you enjoy reading do come and join us. Our next meeting is set for 7:30pm Tuesday 10 April at the home of Sue Barker. For details talk to Ann Caston.

DATES TO DIARY FOR MARCH:



24 March am—Working bee at the Church

24 March 6:45pm for 7pm start—Wine & Cheese Evening with The Rev'd Dr Jo Inkpin. Topic: Many Religions—One God? How do we live and love with people of different faith? For more details please see flyer.

EASTER SERVICES—

25 March—Palm Sunday

29 March—Maundy Thursday

6pm—Meal
7pm—Foot Washing
7:30pm—Eucharist followed by vigil and compline

30 March—Good Friday

9am—Veneration of the Cross
11am—Stations of the Cross—Ecumenical Service at St Finbarr's

31 March—Holy Saturday

7pm—Service of the Light

1 April—Easter Sunday

8:30am—Family Service and egg hunt

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE ST. PAUL'S COMMUNITY

How Funds are Used?

Your giving to our parish community helps our community grow! Your donations go towards having a full time minister, electricity, insurance, rates, copyright, cleaning, music ministry, supporting Children's Church, grounds maintenance, Mission giving to Anglican Board of Mission, Bush Ministry Fund and the Anglicare women's' shelter. These are agencies that provide clean water to 3rd world communities, educational opportunities and safe shelters to the vulnerable. Without your contributions our parish would not be able to support a full time minister, pay the costs of running the parish and to support these wonderful missions. Every dollar goes towards making a difference to Ashgrove and to the world.

HEARING IMPAIRED?

St Paul's has provision for people with hearing impairment. A headset is available from the back of church, or a receiver for those with a hearing aid (turn on and switch ear piece to the T switch).

We are on the web!

stpaulsashgrove.org.au

**ANGLICAN CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA**

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Queensland 4060
Phone: 3366 2320

OUR MISSION

**WE PARTICIPATE IN
GOD'S MISSION OF
TRANSFORMING
INDIVIDUALS AND
COMMUNITIES,
OFFERING MEANING
FOR TODAY AND HOPE
FOR TOMORROW
THROUGH JESUS
CHRIST.**

HELP US GROW!!!

Bank online!!

For easier ways to give and build up St. Paul's and our mission. Give online.

Account Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish.
BSB 704901 Acc No 00004420



BITCOINS ACCEPTED HERE!!!

St. Paul's is the first Church in Australia to accept virtual currency! Scan code for our wallet details!



WHO ARE WE? MINISTRY AT ST. PAUL'S

Rector:

The Reverend Tiffany Sparks
0405224616

tiffany.sparks@stpaulsashgrove.org.au

Hon Associate Priest: The Reverend Pam Hynd: pam.hynd@stpaulsashgrove.org.au

Honorary Priests: The Reverend Kathy Hammer and the Reverend Jack Hammer: jkhammer@bigpond.net.au

Wardens: Peoples Wardens: Sarah Combe and Rae Haggarty; **Priest's Warden:** George McCallan

Welcoming-Care Group: Elizabeth Sillano and Gill Outen

Choir: Robyn Carl

Rosters: Tiffany Sparks

Thrift Shop: Margaret Marshall & Deborah Walker

Mother's Union: Joy Lloyd

Playgroup: Sarah Combe

Book Club: Ann Caston

For all inquiries please email the office: info@stpaulsashgrove.org.au

From pg 1:

God has not sent his Son into the world to condemn it, but that it might be saved through him.

Unfortunately, many prefer to reject him, the light, and choose darkness, fearing that their evil deeds might be exposed. Indeed, evildoers hate the light, for to be in the light means to live in the truth, and evildoers prefer lies and falsehood.

God has created the human being imbued with freedom. One can choose to believe or not believe in God, in Jesus. One can decide to live in truth or in falsehood, to be good or to do evil. But why would one choose something that one knows would lead to destruction? The fact is, however, may people do take this path.

Let us pray, then, that we may realize the great love God has for us that he gave us his only Son so that we may not perish but may have eternal life.
365 Days with the Lord 2018

