

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Including the BAPTISM of Alfie John Volep

Parents:

Stephanie and Marton Volep

Godparents:

Daniell Lauren Crossan and Mia Elizabeth De
Villiers



Song: Gather Us In (TiS 474)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

There is one Body and one Spirit;
there is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,
one God and Father of all.

Introduction of Alfie and his supporters

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When he had risen from the dead, he told his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

We have come together today to follow his instructions, to remember him, and to celebrate his open invitation to everyone, and especially to Alfie.

Baptism with water is a symbol of the cleansing from sin that Jesus' life, death and resurrection make possible, the restoration of trust between God and creation, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

In baptism, the promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us. We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal.

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their children for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their children in the faith and practice of the Church. In due time these children should make their own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

So we welcome you, Alfie, with your Godparents and family.

We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know God's love and faithfulness for ever.

Acknowledgement of Country

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. *Matthew 10: 29-31*

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.
[Let us pray]

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image. Forgive us when we turn away from you.

A pause for reflection

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you defeated evil and conquered death. Rescue us from falling back into behaviours that harm ourselves and others.

A pause for reflection

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to peaceful, trusting fellowship with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

A pause for reflection

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jonah 3: 1-10

¹ The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ² 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' ³ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD . Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ⁶ When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷ Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: 'By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. ⁸ Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹ Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.' ¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 62: 5-12

⁵ Nevertheless, my soul, wait in silence for God:

for my hope comes from the Lord.

⁶ God only is my rock and my salvation:

my strong tower, so that I shall not be moved.

⁷ In God is my deliverance and my glory:

God is my strong rock and my shelter.

⁸ Trust in the Lord at all times, O my people:

pour out your hearts before the Lord, for God is our refuge.

⁹ The children of Adam are but breath,
the children of earth are a lie:

**place them in the scales and they fly upward,
they are as light as air.**

¹⁰ Put no trust in extortion,

do not grow worthless by robbery:

if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.

¹¹ God has spoken once, twice have I heard the Lord say:

that power belongs to God,

¹² That to the Lord belongs a constant goodness:

for you reward each one of us according to our works.

1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

²⁹ Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰ and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹ and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Song: All Things Bright and Beautiful (TiS 135)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark chapter 1 beginning at verse 14.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 1: 14-20

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' ¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon - www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/

Silence

We welcome Alfie to be baptised. I invite his Godparents to present him now.

We present Alfie John Volep to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Alfie for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Alfie?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Alfie in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:
Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

You have heard these our sisters and brothers respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

We will.

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that Alfie may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in him. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in him.

Amen.

Give to his Godparents [and their families] the desire to share with him what you have revealed in your holy gospel.

Amen.

May he know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May he proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ.

Amen.

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Bring us to a day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

Amen.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom. **Thanks be to God.**

And now we give you thanks that you have called **Alfie** to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith:

We believe in one God:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Alfie John Volep, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Alfie, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.
Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

God has brought you out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Song: Jesus Loves Me. This I Know (TiS 229)

The collection bowl will be passed around during this song to support the ministry of St Paul's. Most members give electronically through their bank, instead. St Paul's bank details are Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish BSB: 704901 Acc No: 00004420

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept all we have, all we give, and all we are,
As we dedicate it all to your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...and sing together the eternal song:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

...Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'
**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

...in songs of never-ending praise:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,
**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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Please come forward to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available (please ask). If you prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing (keep your hands behind your back). You are welcome to kneel at the communion rail. If you prefer to stand, please stand in the middle section. For the safety of all in the community we ask you to:

- *Use hand sanitiser before receiving the bread and wine*
- *NOT intinct (dip the bread in the wine)*
- *Take wine only if you are free from symptoms and from anxiety about drinking from the common cup. Be assured that Christ is present in you and for you as you receive the bread alone.*

God of mercy,
May we who have shared in this holy meal
Know your forgiveness in our lives,
Bring your reconciliation to others,
And be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit**

Announcements

Song: Love Divine (TiS 217)

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: **In the name of Christ. Amen**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the service!

Early in 2024, we hope to re-introduce a **Bible Study group** that meets outside of business hours. Please let Rev Margaret know your availability so we can decide on a day and time.

Throughout January there will be one service each Sunday, at 8:30am

Upcoming events

TODAY	Parish Council Meeting , after morning tea
Fri 2 Feb	Taize (6pm in the church) followed by Fish & Chips - please contact Rev Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining.
Sat 3 Feb	Practically Spiritual , 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Talk to Revd Kathy
Mon 12 Feb	Book Club , 7.30pm in the Crypt - If you would like to join you are very welcome. The chosen book is <i>The House of Fortune</i> by <i>Jessie Burton</i>
Sun 18 Feb	St Paul's Parish AGM . Please consider who you will nominate for Parish Council roles.

Jubilee Terrace Playgroup - weekly on a Friday from 9.30-11.30am during school terms. \$4 per week to cover cost. Registered Playgroup with Play Matters.

Bible Study and Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning during school terms. **Prayer** from 9:05am and **Bible Study** from 9.45. Everyone welcome!

For your prayers

Sylvia, Baskaran, David (Squire), Bernie, Liam and Mark and their parent, Desley and Bob, Ofa, Rebekah, Clinton, Melissa, Sue J and daughter, Anne, Angela. Those recovering from surgery – Sherilee, Elizabeth T, Caroline M.

We give thanks for the continuing restored health of Revd Jack and Sam. We also give thanks for Rev Jack and Rev Kathy in their ministry to several parishes, especially the Everton Park Congregation, Revd Sue and the Goonaneman Parish and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh.

We hold in our prayers Wayne, Noel, Joy and Romola who are at home or in a nursing home.

PILGRIMAGE - Sat 4th - Mon 6th May 2024 The Cursillo team is planning a pilgrimage, starting at the Anglican Parish of Grovely in Arana Hills, going via Esk and Warwick, and ending in the Boonah/Harrisville area on the Sunday night. This is open to everyone, not just those who have been to a Cursillo weekend. For further information, contact the parish office and your question will be forwarded to the organiser.

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