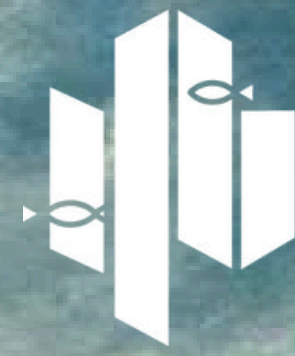


Cigoli, *Francis of Assisi*, 1598



St Peter's
CHURCH SOUTHPORT



Key Notes: 6 & 13 October 2024

Just a few points...

Last Tuesday (1st October) Jill and Craig both became Australian citizens at a ceremony held at HOTA. We followed this up with a great lunch with friends, whereby Jill and Craig were presented with a little Koala toy each (Aussie made, of course!)

We have been fortunate indeed with our efforts to continue with our development of music at St Peter's. Nicolette Ditchburn has joined us as '2nd Cantor' and Jayden MacKenzie has agreed to understudy Luke as an organist. [Of course, we have talented musicians who volunteer in these roles at present and we will always encourage those folk as well.] Having two 'understudies' in Nicolette and Jayden bodes very well for the strength of St Peter's music tradition going forward. Parishioners will be aware of a generous donation to our 'Musicians' Fund' in September and I think you will agree with me when I say that this could not have come at a more opportune time.

Our "Inquirers' Hour" on Sundays at 4:00 pm is proving to be popular. It is open to anyone and everyone who wants to investigate the deep questions of our faith. It also doubles as our 'Confirmation Class,' and this is a place for all those looking for Confirmation later in November (see the Poster below.) If you know of anyone (young or old) ready for Confirmation – or who might be considering it – please contact the office. At present we have 8 persons looking for Confirmation, so we are very excited about this important sacramental rite in the lives of the St Peter's faithful.

On Sunday 22 September, we had a whole family of Baptisms, two infants and two children from two families (cousins) and the father of the two infants. 5 baptisms on one Sunday can be a lot of fun! See the picture below of the Watson family baptism.

Bon Voyage Sandra, Ken, Lorraine, and Shirl who are sailing the high seas on a cruise this forthcoming week. Do enjoy yourselves and come back to us safely!

Fr Don



After 26 weeks – and then some – our Wednesday Bible Study using N.T. Wright's "Surprised by the God of Hope" finally ended this week. What an excellent course that has been. The Wednesday Bible Study group now takes a short break before recommencing study in November. At present the material that looks most likely to be the 'next thing' is the work of Bishop Robert Barron and his "Word on Fire" channel that can be easily accessed on You Tube. Bishop Barron is a Roman Catholic Bishop (N.T. Wright was an Anglican Bishop) and has been known to quote the work of N.T. Wright from time to time. So, we will find some crossover of material in this new series to come. Like Tom Wright, Bishop Barron is both engaging and learned. Stay tuned for more details.

On Wednesday 9 October I will travel to Brisbane for the dedication of a memorial to Defence Chaplains in Toowong ANZAC Park. This takes me back to my 'previous life' as a Chaplain in the Military, a ministry that I truly cherished for 18 years. Who knows, I might run into some of my old friends.

Behold a sign! We are often asked by folk new to our parish environment, "where is the office?" It can be quite hard to explain when you are standing at the door of the Church, pointing in an eastward direction. So, we produced a sign. And behold, all mysteries shall now be revealed!



A visitor greets us on Sunday afternoon



The Watson family baptism



1 October, 2024, the day that Jill and Craig became Aussies too!



In Memoriam



~Sunday 6th October~

The flowers in the Church are to the Glory of
God and are given in loving memory of

Valma Jean Foyster

Mary Ann Staatz

~Sunday 13th October~

Kathleen Rose Curtis

&

the candles in the church burn to the Glory of
God,

in loving memory of
Kenneth Edward Smith



Job 38: 1, 12-21; 40: 3-5

381 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: 12 'Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, 13 so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? 14 It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment. 15 Light is withheld from the wicked, and their uplifted arm is broken. 16 'Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? 17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? 18 Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this. 19 'Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, 20 that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? 21 Surely you know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great!

40 3 Then Job answered the Lord: 4 'See, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. 5 I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but will proceed no further.'

Psalm 139:1-11

R Lord, you have searched me out and known me.

1. Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2. You trace my journeys and my resting -places and are acquainted with all my ways.

3. Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether. **R**

4. You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.

5. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

6. Where can I go then from your Spirit? where can I flee from your presence? **R**

7. If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

8. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

9. Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast. **R**

10. If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night',

11. Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. **R**

Galatians 6: 14-18

14 May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. 15 For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! 16 As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. 17 From now on, let no one make trouble for me, for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. 18 May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen

William Blake: *Job Confessing His Presumption to God Who Answers from the Whirlwind*, 1803 c.



Luke 10: 13 - 16

13 'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

14 But at the judgement it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.

15 And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades.

16 'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'

THE COLLECT

*Gracious and merciful God,
you kindled in the heart of Francis
such a flame of love
that he became wholly yours;
increase in us a wholehearted trust in you
and a humble love of all your creatures,
that we may know the joy the gospel brings;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.*

Collect & Readings for Sunday 13 October : Pentecost XXI

Amos 5: 6-7, 10-15

6 Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. 7 Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! 10 They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. 11 Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. 12 For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. 13 Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. 14 Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. 15 Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Psalm 90:13-17

R Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom

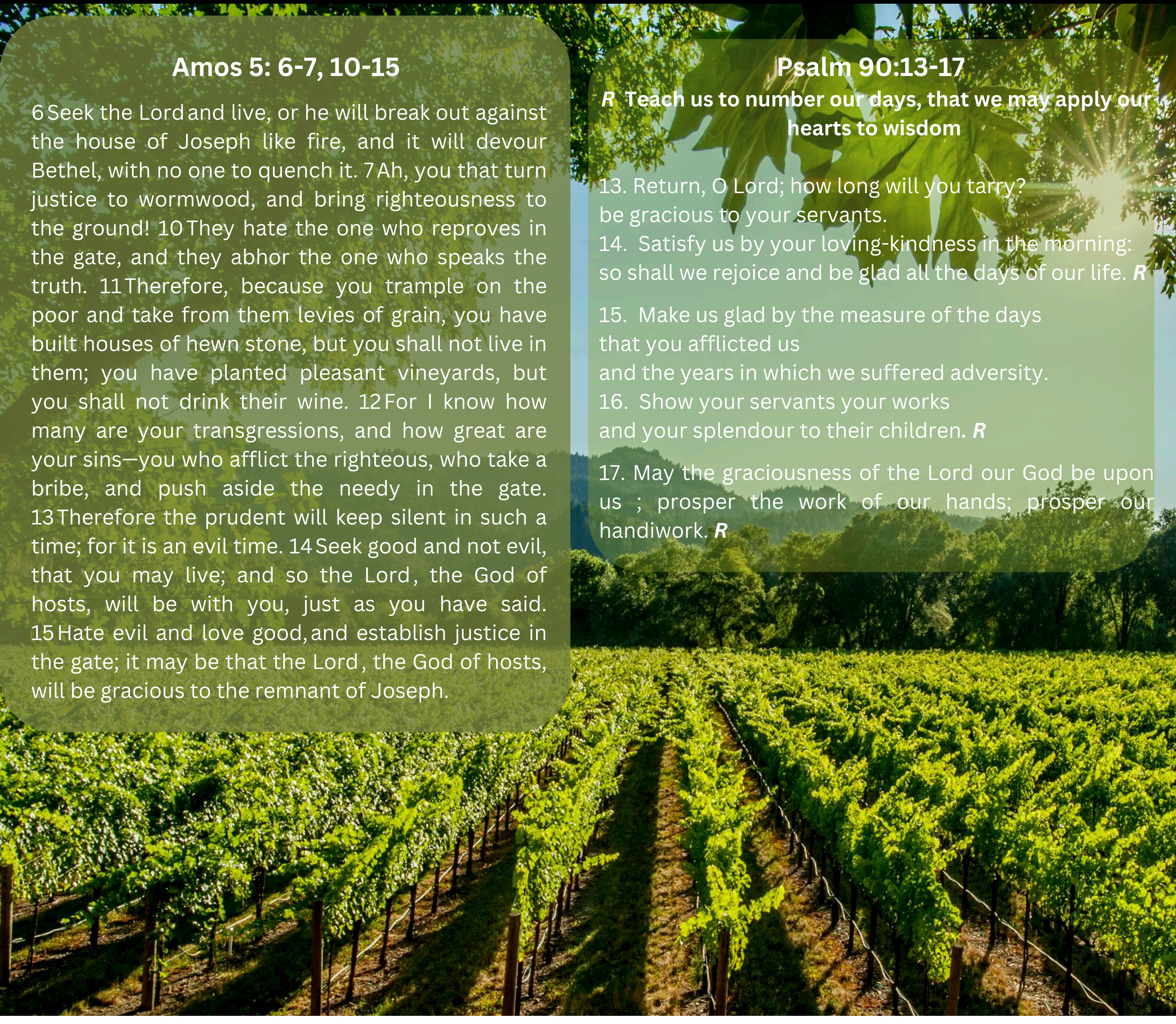
13. Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? be gracious to your servants.

14. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning: so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life. **R**

15. Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16. Show your servants your works and your splendour to their children. **R**

17. May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us ; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork. **R**



Hebrews 4: 12-16

12Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.13And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

14Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.15For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.16Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

THE COLLECT

*Merciful God,
in your Son you call not the righteous
but sinners to repentance:
draw us away from the easy road that leads to
destruction,
and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant,
that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will,
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our
Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Mark 10: 17 - 31

17As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?'18Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.19You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." '20He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.'21Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.'22When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.23Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!'24And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!25It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.'26They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?'27Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

28Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.'29Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,30who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.31But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'



For All the Saints

Francis of Assisi

October 4

Friar

Francis was born in 1181, the son of a successful cloth merchant of Assisi. Although christened John, he is always known as Francis (the Frenchman) because his mother was from Provence. As a young man, Francis took an active part in the social life of the city. He also saw service in a petty war with nearby Perugia. This led to a spell as a prisoner of war. On his release he turned his back on warfare. He continued to be involved in the social life of Assisi; but now a strain of seriousness became more and more apparent.

As he was feeling his way towards his new vocation, he knelt before a Byzantine-style crucifix in the half-ruined Church of San Damiano and prayed. The crucifix seemed to speak to him, "Francis, go and rebuild my church, which you see is in ruins." With typical compulsiveness he sold some goods belonging to his father to pay for repairs, and went to live with the priest of San Damiano. A long and bitter altercation with his father culminated in the famous scene before the bishop of Assisi. Francis renounced his earthly father and all his wealth, even to the clothes he was then wearing. Dressed in a grey-brown peasant's smock that the bishop gave him and with a piece of rope for a belt, Francis began a life of poverty, preaching the love of Christ.

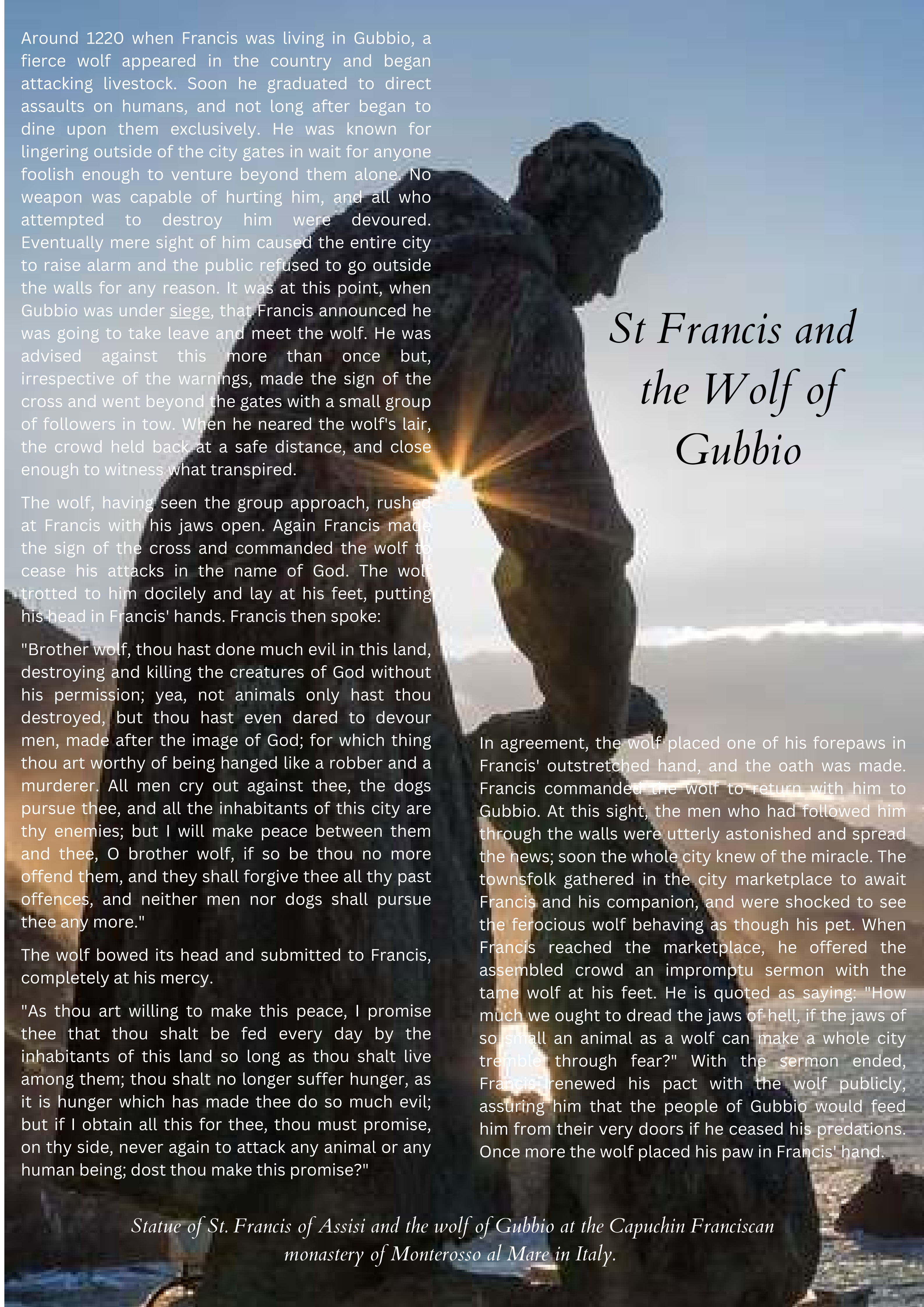
The life of Francis after his conversion is inextricably entangled with the development of the Order of Friars Minor, which he almost unwillingly founded. He was living by himself at first, but then was joined by a small group of disciples. They lived at Portiuncula, three kilometres from Assisi, near a leper colony. A simple rule was approved in 1210. The order grew beyond all expectation and soon outgrew the carefree, unbelievably poverty-laden beginnings. The resultant tensions between simple poverty and the demands of a large organisation were part of the cross Francis had to bear.

He accepted, reluctantly, a more formal rule in 1223, which made the order a part of the wider church. Francis resigned as minister-general of the order in 1220. He saw clearly that he lacked the administrative skills to run a large order. His place was taken by Brother Elias.

Alongside the active preaching in Italy and beyond (the first friars reached England in 1224), there was a strong strand of contemplative and eremitical devotion in Franciscan spirituality. In Francis' own life this reached a climax in the seraphic vision of his crucified Lord and the marking of his body with the very wounds of Christ (stigmata which he bore till his death two years later). Francis' preaching tours included one to the crusaders' camp at Damietta in Egypt, which left him totally disillusioned about the crusades. He was never a robust man, and the preaching tours, his austerities, and the horrific medical practices of the period all weakened his health. In 1226 he was carried home to die at the chapel of the Portiuncula below Assisi. He was buried in the Church of San Giorgio, Assisi, but his relics were transferred in 1230 to the new basilica built by Brother Elias. There they remain. He was canonised only two years after his death.

Much loved, but misunderstood, Francis is today chiefly thought of as an animal and nature lover, but this, though a strand of his spirituality, is much less than the whole. His rejection of material possessions and security, his deep love of the by-no-means perfect church of his day, his missionary zeal, his deep devotion to the passion of his master, whom he strove so closely to follow ("naked following the naked Christ"); all these are as much St Francis as the sermon to the birds and the wolf of Gubbio.





Around 1220 when Francis was living in Gubbio, a fierce wolf appeared in the country and began attacking livestock. Soon he graduated to direct assaults on humans, and not long after began to dine upon them exclusively. He was known for lingering outside of the city gates in wait for anyone foolish enough to venture beyond them alone. No weapon was capable of hurting him, and all who attempted to destroy him were devoured. Eventually mere sight of him caused the entire city to raise alarm and the public refused to go outside the walls for any reason. It was at this point, when Gubbio was under siege, that Francis announced he was going to take leave and meet the wolf. He was advised against this more than once but, irrespective of the warnings, made the sign of the cross and went beyond the gates with a small group of followers in tow. When he neared the wolf's lair, the crowd held back at a safe distance, and close enough to witness what transpired.

The wolf, having seen the group approach, rushed at Francis with his jaws open. Again Francis made the sign of the cross and commanded the wolf to cease his attacks in the name of God. The wolf trotted to him docilely and lay at his feet, putting his head in Francis' hands. Francis then spoke:

"Brother wolf, thou hast done much evil in this land, destroying and killing the creatures of God without his permission; yea, not animals only hast thou destroyed, but thou hast even dared to devour men, made after the image of God; for which thing thou art worthy of being hanged like a robber and a murderer. All men cry out against thee, the dogs pursue thee, and all the inhabitants of this city are thy enemies; but I will make peace between them and thee, O brother wolf, if so be thou no more offend them, and they shall forgive thee all thy past offences, and neither men nor dogs shall pursue thee any more."

The wolf bowed its head and submitted to Francis, completely at his mercy.

"As thou art willing to make this peace, I promise thee that thou shalt be fed every day by the inhabitants of this land so long as thou shalt live among them; thou shalt no longer suffer hunger, as it is hunger which has made thee do so much evil; but if I obtain all this for thee, thou must promise, on thy side, never again to attack any animal or any human being; dost thou make this promise?"

St Francis and the Wolf of Gubbio

In agreement, the wolf placed one of his forepaws in Francis' outstretched hand, and the oath was made. Francis commanded the wolf to return with him to Gubbio. At this sight, the men who had followed him through the walls were utterly astonished and spread the news; soon the whole city knew of the miracle. The townsfolk gathered in the city marketplace to await Francis and his companion, and were shocked to see the ferocious wolf behaving as though his pet. When Francis reached the marketplace, he offered the assembled crowd an impromptu sermon with the tame wolf at his feet. He is quoted as saying: "How much we ought to dread the jaws of hell, if the jaws of so small an animal as a wolf can make a whole city tremble through fear?" With the sermon ended, Francis renewed his pact with the wolf publicly, assuring him that the people of Gubbio would feed him from their very doors if he ceased his predations. Once more the wolf placed his paw in Francis' hand.

Statue of St. Francis of Assisi and the wolf of Gubbio at the Capuchin Franciscan monastery of Monterosso al Mare in Italy.

Teresa of Avila

October 15

Teacher of the Faith

The sixteenth century saw significant reforms in the life of the church in Europe. This included important reforms in the religious orders as part of the Catholic Reformation. To this, Teresa of Avila made an outstanding contribution. Teresa became the founder of a reformed order of the Carmelites.

Teresa was born in 1515 of an aristocratic Castilian family in Avila, and was sent to Augustinian nuns to be educated. Although religiously inclined from a young age, she developed a teenage interest in fashion and romance. Then, after reading Jerome's letters during a convalescence, she decided to become a nun and joined the Carmelite Convent of the Incarnation.

Like many other monasteries of the time, the convent was rather liberal and luxurious, but Teresa committed herself to deepening her prayer life. She impressed the other nuns and the many visitors with her charm. Her prayer life deepened, until in 1555 she experienced visions and a conversion in which she identified herself with Augustine and Mary Magdalene. Her concern for strict observance of the primitive Carmelite rule brought her much opposition and ridicule from ecclesiastical authorities, but in 1562 she set up a new house of St Joseph at Avila, the first of sixteen founded during her lifetime. Although almost universally known as Teresa of Avila, from the location of the house, her religious name was Teresa of Jesus.

The austere way of life in the convent was characterised by personal poverty (symbolised by a coarse brown wool habit and leather sandals), manual work and enclosure. Teresa insisted that her nuns must be intelligent and have good judgment ("God preserve us from stupid nuns!"). Teresa also shared in the menial tasks of the house. She proved to be a leader of strong character, common sense, and considerable shrewdness.

By the late 1560s, Teresa was active with St John of the Cross in the reform of the Carmelite Friars, trying particularly to change the prevalent laxity of the order. They faced the same opposition that Teresa had met in establishing an order of reformed Carmelite convents. Teresa returned as prioress to the Convent of the Incarnation in 1571, and for five years John was confessor to the convent. It is generally accepted that he owed much of his understanding of the spiritual life to Teresa.

She wrote extensively on the spiritual life. Her spiritual autobiography, written at the request of her confessors, was an early work. This was followed by a book of instruction for her nuns, *The Way of Perfection*, and a lively account of the various houses she established, *Foundations*. Her most mature work is *The Interior Castle*, in which she became the first writer on the spiritual life to offer a meticulous description of the stages of spiritual development, from meditation to the so-called mystical marriage.

In 1582, on her way back to Avila from establishing a new house at Burgos, she died at Alba de Tormes and was buried there. It was above all her writings on the spiritual life that led to the eventual recognition of her importance, and in 1970 she was the first woman to be named a doctor of the church.





~ Sunday 6 October ~

Blessing of the Pets

at our 9:30 am Holy Eucharist

TRIVIA

Night

Join our event and test your knowledge !

Friday 11 October

07:00pm - 8:30pm

St Peter's Centre

\$5 per person ~ wine and cheese included

Raffles too!



INQUIRERS' HOUR



*Thinking about the
BIG questions of your Faith?*

*Join us on Sundays at 4:00pm
for an hour of discussion on the
deep matters of our Christian
faith.*

Venue: St Peter's Parish Centre

CONFIRMATION

*Bishop John Roundhill
will be Confirming new members
of the Church on
Saturday 23 November, 5:30 pm*



*If you are seeking Confirmation please
contact the Office to discuss further*

COOLAMON SINGERS PRESENTS

THAMOS, KING of EGYPT W.A. Mozart & MUSICAL THEATRE FAN FAVOURITES

Community Ensemble
2024

 Bandigo Bank

2024

CONCERT SERIES 2

Thamos, King of Egypt
W.A. Mozart

Fan favourites from
West Side Story
South Pacific
Phantom of the Opera

Sat 2:30 OCT 26

Robina Anglican Church

Sun 2:30 NOV 10

Burleigh Village Church

Tickets: \$28 / \$24

Group bookings available
Visit: [Stickytickets.com.au](https://stickytickets.com.au)
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MARCO BELLASI MUSIC DIRECTOR
AYESHA GOUGH PIANIST

Transformative classical music

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GIVEATHON

Concert

10TH OCTOBER 2024

5:30PM – 6:30PM

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN SCHOOL CHAPEL
HIGHFIELD DRIVE, MERRIMAC



**PRESENTED BY
ALL SAINTS CAMERATA**

Featuring music by Bach, Vivaldi, Handel,
Haydn, Elgar, Vaughan Williams.

Soloists: Alyssa Fitzgibbon, Nicholas Taylor,
Hanjun Kim, Saho Hiroe, James Shin.



**Entry by donation for the
School's "Giveathon"
fundraising for charities**

PARISH DIARY for OCTOBER

Sunday 06 October – Pentecost XX – Francis of Assisi

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
9:30 am Pet Blessing & Holy Eucharist (APBA) [Sunday School in recess]
4:00 pm Inquirers' Hour
5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 07 October

10:00 am 'Coffee on Monday' – Parish Centre

Tuesday 08 October

6:00 pm Choir Practice - New members welcome

Wednesday 09 October

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)
[11:00 am Bible Study - in recess]

Thursday 10 October

Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)
1:00 pm Phoenix Fellowship

Friday 11 October

7:00 pm Trivia Night

Saturday 12 October

9:00 am Fund Raising Committee

Sunday 13 October – Pentecost XXI

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
9:30 am Baptism/Holy Eucharist (APBA) – SPARK Sunday School
4:00 pm Inquirers' Hour
5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 14 October

9:00 am Holy Communion at 'Abri'
9:30 am Holy Eucharist at St Vincent's, Villa la Salle
10:00 am 'Coffee on Monday' – Parish Centre
7:00 pm Requiem Mass

Tuesday 15 October

6:00 pm Choir Practice—New members welcome

Wednesday 16 October

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)
[11:00 am Bible Study - in recess]

Thursday 17 October

Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)
7:00 pm Parish Council

Friday 18 October: The Feast of St Luke ~ Evangelist & Martyr

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday 20 October – Pentecost XXII

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9:30 am Holy Eucharist (APBA) – SPARK Sunday School

4:00 pm Wine & Cheese – Parish Centre

5:45 pm Evensong/Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 21 October

10:00 am 'Coffee on Monday' – Parish Centre

Tuesday 22 October

6:00 pm Choir Practice—New members' welcome

Wednesday 23 October

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)

[11:00 am Bible Study in recess]

Thursday 24 October

Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Sunday 27 October – The feast of St Simon and Jude

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9:30 am Holy Eucharist (APBA) – SPARK Sunday School

4:00 pm No *Inquirers' Hour* today - resumes next Sunday

5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 28 October

10:00 am 'Coffee on Monday' – Parish Centre

Tuesday 29 October

6:00 pm Choir Practice—New members' welcome

Wednesday 30 October

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)

[11:00 am Bible Study in recess]

Thursday 31 October

Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)

