

Just a few points...

Nothing says "gosh, we've had a lot of rain" more clearly than the spill at Hinze Dam. It's a sight that I like to view close up (hence this recent picture.) While I can enjoy the sight and sound of all this, I am reminded thereby of the terrible weather that seems to have settled on us since Christmas night. Our heartfelt prayers are offered for those who have lost everything and are now attempting to put their lives back together. The oppressive heatwave that insists on accompanying all this rain is something we will all be glad to see the back of as well. Of that I'm certain!

Day and enjoy a little 'Australiana' with decorations and an Aussie biscuit to have with our cup of tea. Hospitality now resumes after our 7:00 am Holy Eucharist. We would like to have hospitality offered regularly after our 9:30 am Holy Eucharist as well, but we don't have enough volunteers at present. Any takers?

Some delightful news: Tim and Steph Newton announced the birth of their son, **Rupert Elwell Newton**, born January 23rd, at 2:17 pm (GMT). A bonny lad at 9 pounds and 9 ounces. Proud grandparents Carol and John Newton travelled to Oxford to be with Tim and Steph and were very pleased to arrive before Rupert was born.





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

Herbert "Bert" William MORRIS

Given by his son.

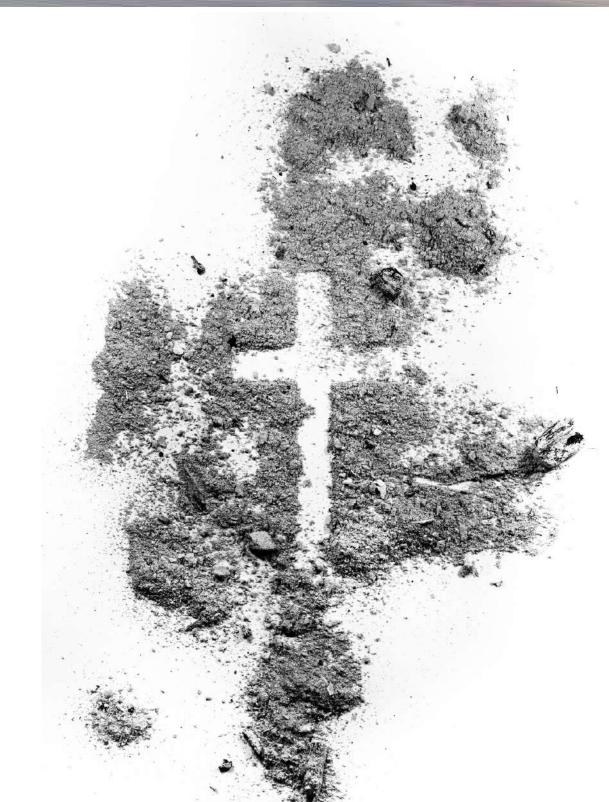
An exciting new Bible Study series, "Surprised by the God of Hope," begins on Wednesday 14 February, at 11:00 am (see below for more information.) This will be face-to-face and online. Do join us, and if you know of any other folk (perhaps even from another Church) they would be welcome to join us. There is no cost for the course itself (but donations to cover photocopyng costs will be asked for.)

Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday 14
February this year. The Imposition of Ashes and
Holy Eucharist services will take place at 7:00
and 10:00 am.

As the season of Lent draws near, and the year gets into its stride once more, may the Lord Bless us in all our endeavours.

Fr Don





"Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return"

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance or Confession)

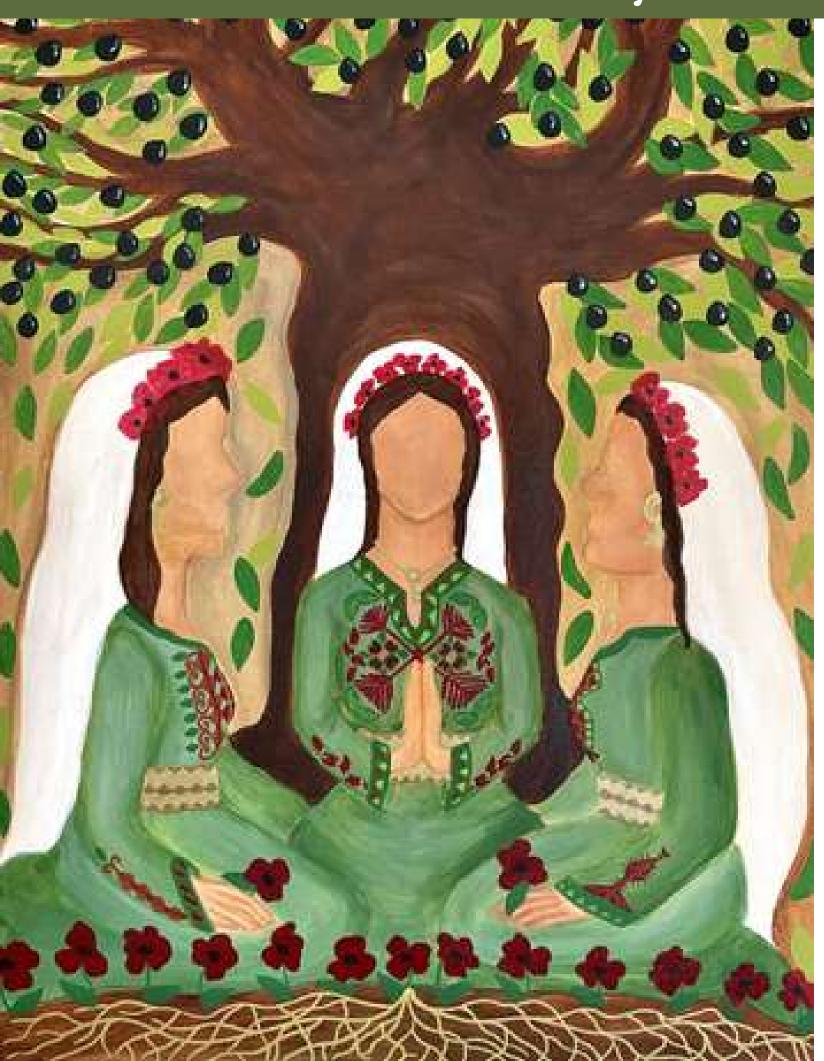
Though often overlooked, *A Prayerbook for Australia* (APBA) provides for the sacrament of confession in its *Reconciliation of a Penitent* (page 773). I have always maintained that confession (or *reconciliation* as it is now known) is vital to our eternal wellbeing. The whole power of this sacrament consists in restoring us to God's grace and joining us with him in an intimate friendship. Furthermore, this sacrament reconciles us with the Church, since sin damages or even breaks the communion we have with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

A sacramental act of reconciliation should be a regular part of our Christian life, but especially so in Lent or Advent, seasons of preparation and penitence.

This Lent, if you wish to receive the sacrament of reconciliation, please make a time with Fr Don by booking through the office.



World Day of Prayer - Palestine



"I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"

(Ephesians 4:1-3).



10:00 am Friday 1st March

St James ~ Biggera Waters

Collects & Readings

Sunday 4 February ~ Epiphany V

Isaiah 40: 21-31

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;

23 who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

25 To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

27 Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God'?

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the faint, and strengthens

29 He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

30 Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

31 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c R Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving

- 1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! how pleasant it is to honour him with praise!
- 2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds. *R*
- 4 He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom. *R*
- 6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp. *R*
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth.
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind.10 He provides food for flocks and herds

and for the young ravens when they cry. **R**

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse, he has no pleasure in the strength of a man; 12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favour. Hallelujah! *R*

THE COLLECT

Saving God,
whose Son, Jesus Christ, healed the sick
and brought them wholeness of body and mind:
inspire us, his disciples,
so that we may constantly proclaim his gospel
by our words
and by the dedication and integrity of our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

16 If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe betide me if I do not proclaim the gospel! 17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. 18 What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. 19 For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.

20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I might by any means save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Mark 1: 29 - 39

29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. 32 That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34 And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. 35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37 When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' 38 He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' 39 And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.



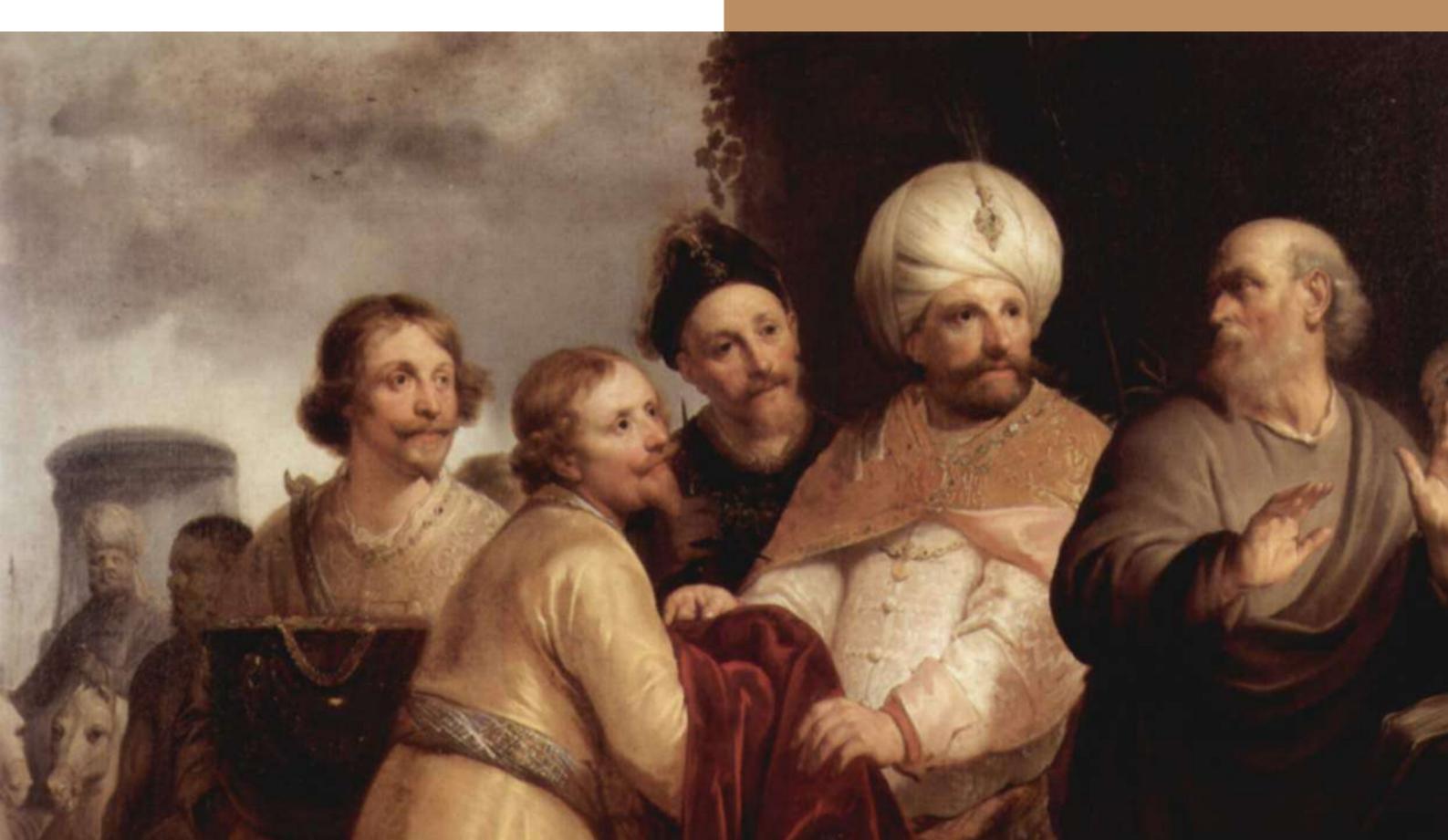
Sunday 11 February ~ Epiphany VI

2 Kings 5: 1-14

1 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. 2 Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' 4 So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. 5 And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.' He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. 6 He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' 7 When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.' 8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' 9 So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' 11 But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. 13 But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' 14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Elisha refusing the gifts of Naaman, by Pieter de Grebber, 1637.

[Having been healed by washing in the Jordan, Naman seeks to give gifts of thanks to Elijah. These are rejected. 2 Kings 5:16]



Psalm 30: 1-13 R You have restored my life, O Lord.

- 1 I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.
- 3 You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave. *R*
- 4 Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.
- 5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favour for a lifetime.
- 6 Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning. **R**
- 7 While I felt secure, I said, 'I shall never be disturbed. You, Lord, with your favour, made me as strong as the mountains.'
- 8Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear. R
- 9 I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with the Lord, saying,
- 10 'What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness? *R*
- 11 Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper.'
- 12 You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy; 13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;

O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever. R

1 Corinthians 9: 24-27

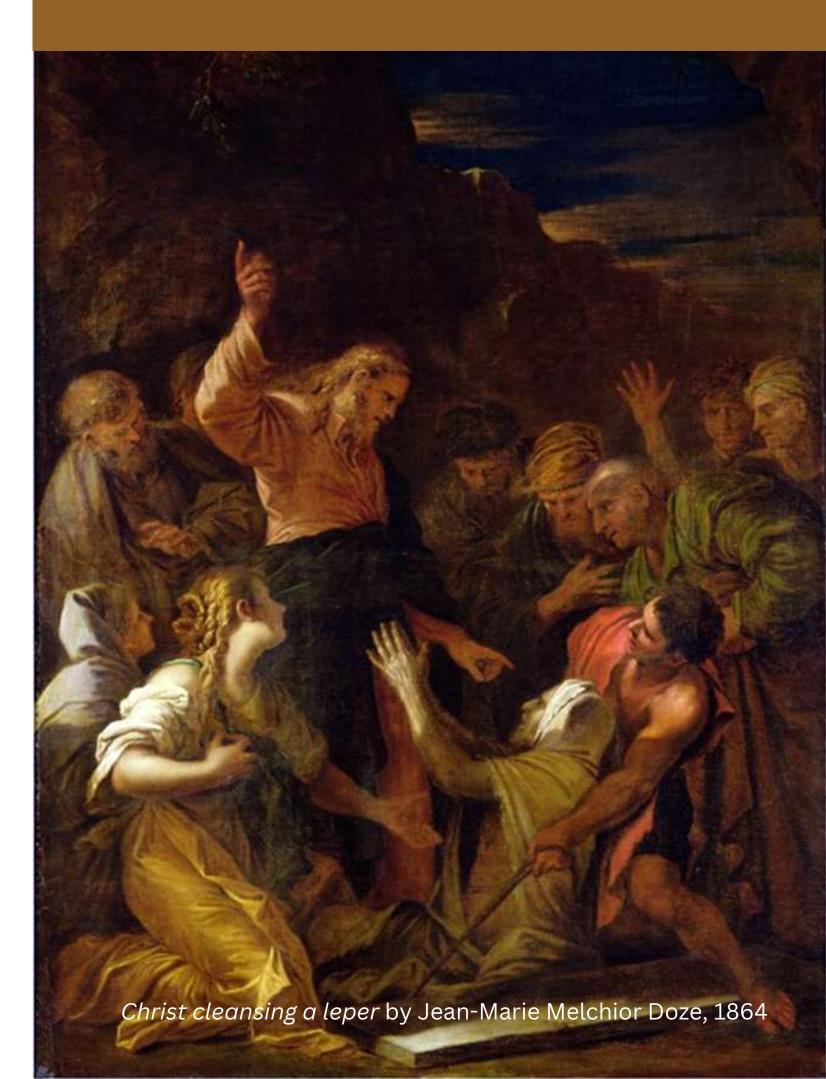
24 Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. 25 Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. 26 So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; 27 but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

Mark 1: 40 - 45

40 A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' 41 Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' 42 Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. 43 After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, 44 saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' 45 But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

THE COLLECT

Everliving God, your Son, Jesus Christ,healed the lepers and brought good news to the despised and outcast: grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control, that in serving others in their need we may strive for the imperishable wreath that you bestow on all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.





"Shrove Tuesday" ~ 13 February

Ash Wednesday ~ 14th February 2024



Annual General Meeting

"Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Parish of St Peter's, Southport will be held in St Peter's Church on:

Sunday the 18th Day of February 2024 at 11.00am."

Nominations for Parish Council close on Sunday 11th February



18th February 2024

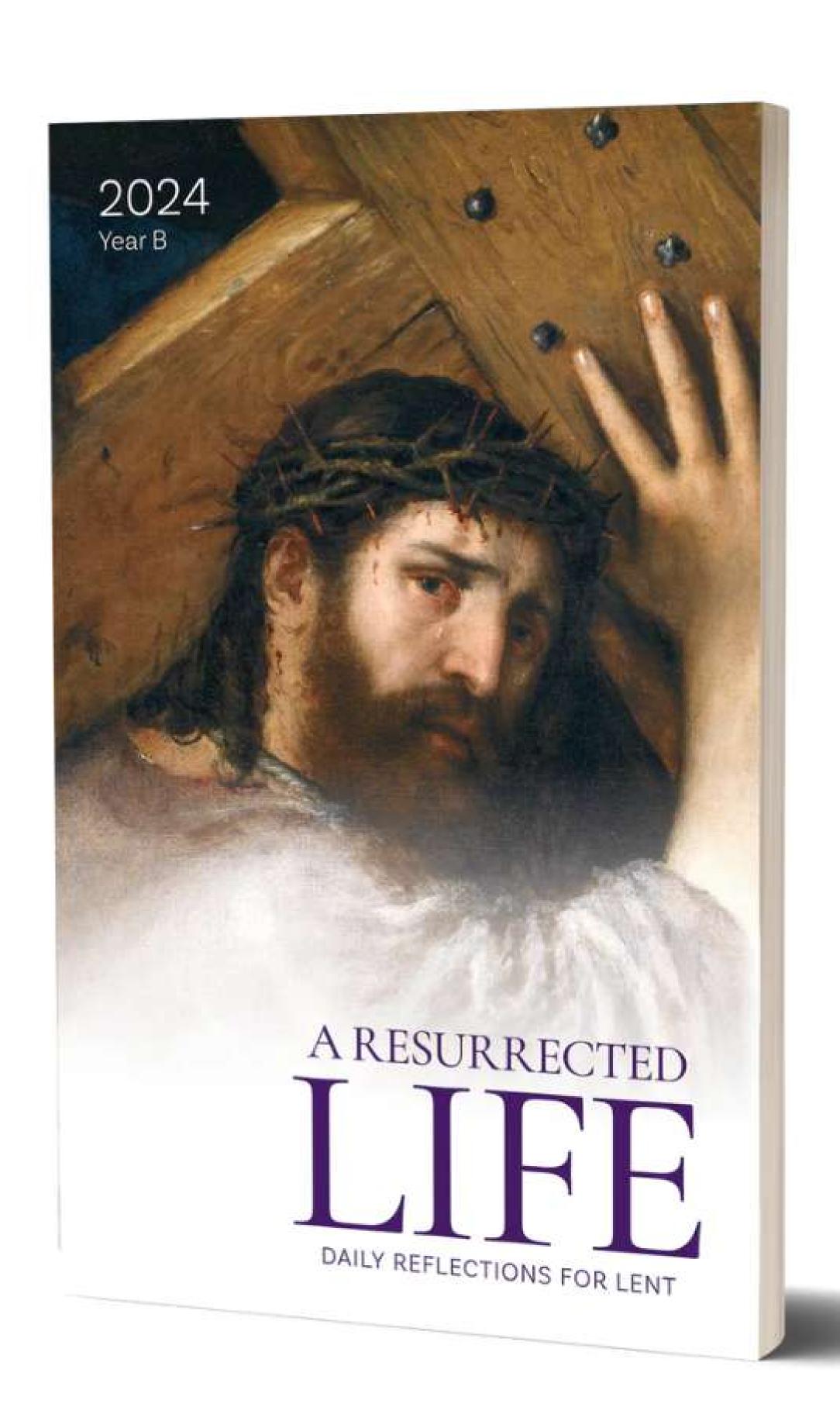
After opening prayers:

- 1. The Rector's Report
- 2. The Church Wardens' Report
- 3. The Presentation and Adoption of the Parish Annual Accounts
- 4. Consideration and Adoption of the Budget
- 5. Reports from other Parish Organisations
- 6. Appointment and Election of Churchwardens
- 7. Synod Representatives election required
- 8. Parish Nominators
- 9. Parish Councillors number established.
- 10. Rector's appointments to Parish Council
- 11. Appointment of Parish Auditors
- 12. Other business (requiring seven days' notice in writing prior to the AGM).
- 13. Reading and Confirmation of AGM minutes delegated to Parish Council

Closing prayers.

(please note: all material will be sent to Parishioners via email no later than Thursday 15 February)

Lenten Retreat Series now available from the office





Surprised by the God of Hope

Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church

This 26 week study series commence on Wednesday 14th February, 11:00 am

Please register with the Office. This course is free, although donations to cover printing will be invited. It will be offered online and face-to-face









Gold Coast Chamber Orchestra proudly presents

Luminous Strings - Recital

Thursday 28th March
7pm – 9pm
Princeton Room | Bond University | Building 6

International artists, Natalia and Yuri,
accompanied by pianist, Ayesha Gough,
will perform well-known trios by Mozart and Tchaikovsky.
GCCO will accompany Natalia and Yuri, performing
beloved concertos by Bach and Vivaldi for 2 violins.

General Admission \$50 Concession \$45 Students \$25

Students under 18 free when accompanied by a paying adult.

TICKETS: Please follow the QR code below to book your tickets.



PARISH DIARY ~ FEBRUARY 2024

Friday 2 February

9:30 am Commissioning Service St Hilda's new principal

Sunday 4 February – Epiphany V

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9:30 am Holy Baptism & Eucharist (APBA) - SPARK Sunday School starts today!

10:45 am Interment Ashes – Suzanne Geekie

5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 5 February

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

Tuesday 6 February

6:00 pm Choir Practice (New members' welcome!)

Wednesday 7 February

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)
11:00 am Bible Study in recess
6:00 pm Parish Council

Thursday 8 February

Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Sunday 11 February – Epiphany VI

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

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

5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (BCP)

Monday 12 February

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

Tuesday 13 February - Shrove Tuesday

6:00 pm Choir Practice—New members' welcome

6:00 pm Pancake Evening (\$10.00)

Wednesday 14 February – Ash Wednesday

7:00 am 'Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 'Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist

11:00 am Study Series—'Surprised by the God of Hope' commences

Thursday 15 February

Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)



"St Peter's Church Southport, is a welcoming and hospitable community, committed to the worship of God in beauty and holiness in the classical Anglican tradition."

You can find out more about us at

www.stpetersgc.org.au

The Anglican Parish of Southport

83 Nerang St Southport QLD 4215

Phone: 07 5558 3887

Email: parish@stpetersgc.com.au

SERVICES

Sunday

7:00am: Holy Eucharist (BCP) 9:30am: Holy Eucharist (APBA) 5:45pm: Holy Eucharist (APBA) 5:45pm: Choral Evensong (2nd Sunday of the month)

Weekday Eucharist

10:00am – Wednesday 12:00pm – Thursday

Rector

Fr. Don Parker rector@stpetersgc.org.au

Parish Administrator

Mrs. Christine Corroy parish@stpetersgc.org.au

Director of Music

Mr. Luke Sharpe luke@stpetersgc.org.au

