

**Newsletter**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**5 July 2020**

**A lighthouse atop Green Knoll**  
**A lighthouse shining in the dark**  
**A lighthouse beaming the light**  
**of life**  
**of love**  
**of hope**  
**of Christ**



**A vision for**  
**Christ Church St Kilda**

## **Christ Church Parish Vision**

A worshipping Christian community

- humbly loving God and one another;
- proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed; and
- creating an environment in which all people feel welcomed and accepted.

## **Christ Church Parish Mission**

We take as our Christian Mission the practice of Pastoral Care for our community and the wider community; Worship that welcomes all; Nurturing all peoples; Social Justice; and Caring for God's Creation

## **Child Safety Policy**

### **Our commitment to child safety**

Christ Church St Kilda has adopted the policy on Child Safety as set down by the Archbishop in Council of the Diocese, the governing body of the Diocese. This Parish is committed to complying with the requirements of Diocesan and Victorian legislation. The Policy states:

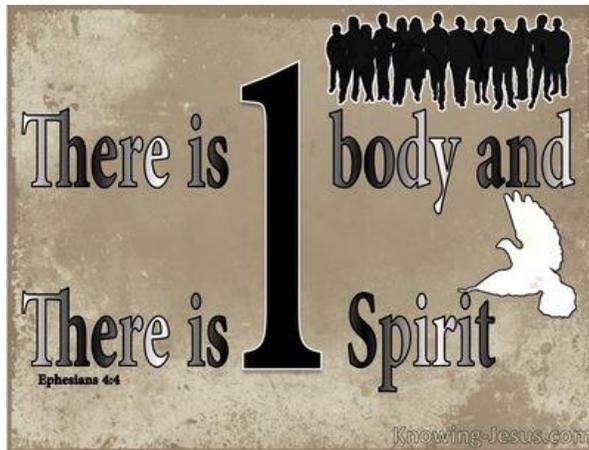
*The Anglican Church of Australia within the Diocese of Melbourne, including its Cathedral Church of St Paul and each parish or congregation or faith community within the diocese (the Church) is committed to child safe practice. The care, the safety and the welfare of children are embedded in policies and practices which are intended to reflect a commitment to zero tolerance of child abuse.*

More information on child safety is available at the rear of the Church. You are welcome to talk to the Vicar on this important topic.

## FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

In his book, *God has a dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time* (2005), Archbishop Desmond Tutu wrote:

*Dear Child of God, before we can become God's partners, we must know what God wants for us. "I have a dream," God says, "Please help Me to realise it. It is a dream of a world whose ugliness and squalor and poverty, its war and hospitality, its greed and harsh competitiveness, its alienation and disharmony are changed into their glorious counterparts, when there will be more laughter, joy, and peace, where there will be justice and goodness and compassion and love and caring and sharing. I have a dream that swords will be beaten into plough shares and spears into pruning hooks, that My children will know that they are members of one family, the human family, God's family. My family.*



There are verses in Scripture that describe the church as the 'children of God' and the 'family of God' (John 20: 17; Romans 8: 14-17; Galatians 4: 6; 1 John 3: 1-2), the 'body of Christ' (1 Corinthians 12: 12-17; Ephesians 4: 4-5; Ephesians 5: 29); and the 'bride of Christ' (Ephesians 5: 22-33). Another description of the church is that it is a 'community of faith'.

One of my favourite Scriptural texts is Acts 2:42-47 which describes the life of the early church in Jerusalem.

*42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

As the Gospel spread through the known world communities similar to that in Jerusalem formed and grew. In Philippi, Lydia of Thyatira hosted Paul, Silas and Timothy (Acts 16: 11-15) and thereafter many of the believers gathered at her home which became a centre where people *devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

This COVID-19 pandemic and the crisis situations across the world affords God's children an opportunity to reflect on life and what God would like for this world that he created and which, through his Son Jesus, he redeemed. Archbishop Tutu's book describes what he believes is God's dream of hope for our time. It may have been written in 2005 but it is still pertinent for us in 2020. I agree with Archbishop Tutu but what do you think is God's vision for this world today and in the future?

### When will our church re-open for Sunday worship services?

As noted in last week's Parish News, on 15 June the Parish Council decided to re-open the church on **12 July 2020 for a service at 9am and 11:15am**. This decision was made in the hope that the maximum number who could attend services in the church would increase to 50. However, the restrictions announced on 27 June saw the limit of 20 attending a service would remain. An announcement

is to be made on **Monday 13 July** on whether or not the number would continue at 20. Effectively this means that we will not be re-opening the church for services on **12 July 2020**.

### Calendar of Services

#### 12 July 2020: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (OS 15)

*Theme: God's purpose*

9am Eucharist: Fr Turi Hollis (on Zoom)

#### 19 July 2020: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (OS 16)

*Theme: God's work*

9am Eucharist: Fr Ken Letts (TBC if on Zoom)

#### 26 July 2020: 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (OS 17)

*Theme: The Church, the body of Christ*

9am Eucharist: Fr Turi Hollis (TBC if on Zoom)

11:15am Informal Eucharist: Fr Turi Hollis (TBC if on Zoom)

#### Morning and Evening Daily Services

Monday to Friday - Morning Service 8.00 am

Monday to Thursday - Evening Service 5.30 pm

#### The reserved sacrament

Fr Turi will be in the St Michael Chapel at **10am on Wednesday 8 July 2020** to provide the reserved sacrament from today's service to anyone who would like to receive it. Because we can only have a maximum of 10 people in St Michael's Chapel, **those who would like to attend need to let Fr Turi know on 0413 395 621. The deadline to do this is 5pm Tuesday 7 July.**

### COVID Safe Officer

As announced in the Parish Newsletter of 7 June 2020, Robyn Foy is the Parish's COVID Safe Officer with responsibility for ensuring that the Parish complies with Diocesan and State regulations relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### NAIDOC Week 5-12 July

NAIDOC Week is an annual celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures. During 5-12 July Common Grace, an online Christian movement, will be sharing blogs about some ways to reflect on what it means to acknowledge country and how to live out the reality of *Always Was Always Will Be* - the NAIDOC theme for 2020 - as a follower of Jesus. There will also be an interactive zoom yarnning space for you to connect with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian Leaders and learn the basics of weaving by **zoom on Saturday 11th July at 2pm AEST. [Sign Up here to be part of the NAIDOC Weaving and Yarning Circle on Zoom](#) (Control-click)**

### Parish offertory

May 2020			Year to date		
Budget	Actual	Var <sub>n</sub>	Budget	Actual	Var <sub>n</sub>
5,578	5,284	-294	39,039	37,188	-1,851

The Wardens and Fr Turi thank everyone for continuing to give generously toward the life of the Parish during this difficult time.