

SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2020

EXODUS 12.1-14 PSALM 149 ROMANS 13.1-10, MATTHEW 18.10-20

PENTECOST 15

EXODUS 14.19 –31 PSALM 114 ROMANS 14.1-14, MATTHEW 18.21-35

SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY



Sentence: 'Where two or three are gathered in my name, ' says the Lord, 'I am there among them.' Matthew 18.20



Prayer of the Day: Go before us, O Lord, and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PARISH PRAYER POINTS

Leading Our Church Into Growth: God of Mission who alone brings growth to your church, come Holy Spirit and give vision to our planning; wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray Daily for the Church, Local and International:

- Pray for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa: Lay & Ordained
- Archbishop of Capetown and Primate of Southern Africa
- The Diocese of Bendigo: Lay & Ordained
- The Parish of Warwick: Lay & Ordained
- Anglicare SQ Services, Residential Aged Care and Retirement Villages
- Fraser Coast Anglican College, Hervey Bay: Principal -Chaplain , Students and Staff



WYNNUM Pray for the Sick Garry, Vi, Kirsty, Steven, Eli, Courtney, Theo, Diana, Rosslyn, Ben, Neil, Thomas, Donna J, Robyn

Long Term Prayer List:

Norma, Dulcie, Ruth, C, Sophie, Andrew, Margaret B, Ron and Bronwyn, Nancy, Sharon C, Maurice, Neil and June, Janette, George, Tony F, Oriel, Nan, Nev, Carmel, Joanne P, Sally, Alice, Edna, John, Joyce, Lyne, Joan, Barry and Jane.

Please give thanks for the lives of the departed: John Smith

Marion Graham Merv Kemp and Beryl Stanley whose anniversaries occur at this time.

(+) May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.



MANLY Pray for the Sick and those who need our prayers: Chris & Barb, Ellen, Helen, David, Nancy, Michael C, Gloria, Margaret, Anise, Graham, David & Rhonda, Andrew, Michael N, Ron, Gerald, Annie, Marie, Jack O, Barry, Eddie, Joan, Shirley G, Glen, Shirley & Gordon G, Ellen K, Shirley A.

THE VICAR'S PRATTLE

Daniel's Message...

Throughout the Season of Ordinary Time, our Lectionary has guided us through St Paul's Letter to the Romans. This profound and transformative piece of literary genius has captured hearts and minds for centuries. "Each and every Christian," wrote Martin Luther, "should make this letter the habitual and constant object of his [sic] study. God grant us his [sic] grace to do so. Amen." He's not alone, among the good company are the likes of St Augustine and John Wesley.

The unifying theme of Romans is Paul's interpretation of the Gospel. In the first chapter, Paul defines the Gospel as "the righteousness (*dikaiosynē*) of God as revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith," (Rom. 1:17).

God's righteousness is the heart of the Gospel according to Paul. The term *dikaiosynē* in the Greek is in fact the root word for *both* righteousness and justice (and related terms) in English. *dikaiosynē* is defined as "fair and equitable dealing, justice (Acts 17:31; Heb. 11:33; Rom. 9:28); integrity, virtue, (Lk. 1:75; Eph. 5:9); in NT, generosity, alms, (2 Cor. 9:10, v.r.; Mt. 6:1); piety, godliness (Rom. 6:13); investiture with the attribute of righteousness, acceptance as righteous, justification, (Rom. 4:11; 10:4, et al)". So here Paul proclaims the Good News as God's fair and equitable dealing with all, God's power to redeem and reconcile, God's vision of unity and oneness won for us on the cross.

Paul seeks this wholeness of God for the Christians of Rome. Aware from reports that divisions have emerged among the city's believers, Paul writes to encourage peace, reconciliation and unity. This motif is a regular feature of Paul's writing; think his epistles to Christians in Corinth (e.g. 2 Cor. 5:11-21).

Paul proves himself a master politician and rhetorician throughout the Epistle.

Some Roman Christians, particularly Gentiles (non-Jews), assert "justification by faith" in Christ (v.8-10). Others, particularly Jews, are firmly of the school of Torah law drawing from the writings of Moses "concerning the righteousness that comes from the law" (v.5).

Paul responds eloquently to both. "For Christ is the end (*telos*) of the law so that there may be *righteousness for everyone* who believes" (v.4). "For there is *no distinction* between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him" (v.12).

The Greek word for 'end' is *telos*. *telos* does not mean termination. *telos* means "*consummation, fulfilment, realisation*". Paul is again pointing to Christ as the consummation of the Torah as he seeks to embrace the Jewish Christians of Rome.

Then he shifts his focus to the Gentiles. The "righteousness that comes from the law" (v.5)(Jews) and "the righteousness that comes from faith" (v.6)(Gentiles) are not opposed as there is only "God's righteousness" (v.3). God's righteousness transcends both sides of the debate and in so doing spiritually unites all who "confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved" (v.9).

With a truly missionary heart, the real question for all Christians, Paul argues, is, "how are they [non-Christians] to call on one in whom they have not believed or of whom they have not heard?" (v.14).

Paul leaves his audience with a powerful, and disconcerting, call to action; one that was literally a matter of life and death in his time. "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (v.15).

COVID has amplified previously unseen cracks in Australian culture and community. It has also sparked new divisions and fears and anxieties. If Christ is the *telos*, the "consummation, fulfillment, realisation" of God's vision for God's creation, what Good News it is for those who walk in light of the revelation of Easter. Amid the tension, anxiety, difference and fear of 2020, do we have the courage to be "the feet of those who bring good news" to another wise broken world? Can we put our own egos and feelings of adequacy to one side long enough to live in and proclaim the reconciling "righteousness of God"? God places no small task at our feet. But God also equips and sends out God's people for the work of God in the world. I pray that while evening TV news bulletins, newspapers and social media make much of the conflict in our world, you may draw comfort and courage from Paul's letter to the Romans and his vision of the wholeness of God, for this world and the next.

Pace e bene,
Daniel+

Sails at Bayside

a ministry of the Anglican parishes of Wynnum, Manly, Waterloo Bay, and East Redland
WEEKLY PARISH UPDATE –Sunday 6th September 2020

BUNNINGS BBQs:

SAILS have been asked to send 2 people to a Bunnings BBQ Induction (new Covid safety rules) session. Waterloo Bay Parish also have 2 people attending. Hopefully it means some BBQ fundraising in the not too distant future.

On Fri 21 Aug we took a small group of people from QPASTT (adult male refugees) kayaking. It was good to see a familiar face from previous kayaking days in the group this time. It's a humbling and moving experience to meet and spend time with these groups, and to hear some snippets of their stories of heartbreak and gratefulness.

MEETING NOTICE: Tue 1 Sept – 7pm – on Zoom hosted by Manly – *a link will be emailed to volunteers and executive. (Others can email sailsatbayside@gmail.com for the link).*

EVENTS & DATE CLAIMERS:

Sat 5 Sep – BCC Active Parks Sailing & Kayaking – Wynnum (bookings open)

Sat 3 Oct – BCC Active Parks Sailing & Kayaking – Wynnum (bookings opening 3 Sept)

Contact us by emailing sailsatbayside@gmail.com or phoning **3137 0000**.

PRAYER:

Pray for good weather and Covid safety for next Saturday's sailing & kayaking.

Pray for resolution of personal challenges & heartbreaks for the crew from QPASTT.

Email: sailsatbayside@gmail.com, phone: **3137 0000**, website: sailsatbayside.com.au

WORKING BEES AND WAYS YOU COULD HELP

Every Monday from 9am

There is an opportunity to help with the Breakfast Club, sorting donations for Pandora's and Pete's Pantry.

This Monday is a Hair aid week with free hair cuts from 8.30am to 11.00am.

Saturday 12th September

Coffee machine training morning tea

Free for anyone—Registration a must

Saturday 19th September

Office rejig working bee from 10.00am morning tea provided, please come and help us reimagine our office space.

Fence painting from early, morning tea provided, and we need 5-10 people to paint the 50 meters of Rectory fence.

September 14-18

Please note that the reverend Donna Petersen will be unavailable on these dates as she is on retreat

September 20

AU training—wording from last week please



But the fruit of the Spirit is

love,
joy,
peace,
patience,
kindness,
goodness,
faithfulness,
gentleness,
self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23

HBJ