

**Our VALUES: Christ centredness, Prayerfulness, Welcoming and caring, Bible focussed, Fellowship**

**Active participation in St. John's**

- Everyone's support and participation is necessary to help in the mission of St John's: "To love God, love people, & grow disciples of Christ."
- To help you chose, rosters/lists have been put up in the narthex, e.g. for Sunday morning live-streaming, bible readers, intercessors and after service fellowship, gardening, flower arrangement.
- For any other areas in church life in which you could assist, please speak to the Wardens or Santa.

**St John's News (May 2024)**

- Submitting articles for the May 2024 issue of St John's news is now closed.

**BIRTHDAYS:**  
**No birthdays listed this week!**

	<b>Today Sunday 5 May.</b>	<b>Next Sunday 12 May</b>
	<b>8:30AM (HC)</b>	<b>Combined Service</b>
Sides Person	<b>Gwen Wilson</b>	
Reader	<b>Jean Phibbs</b>	
Communion	<b>Rosemary Martin</b>	
	<b>10AM (HC) Livestreamed</b>	<b>10AM (HC) Livestreamed</b>
Sides Person	<b>Susan McDermott</b>	<b>Barbara Canty</b>
Reader	<b>Julie Lotherington</b>	<b>Anthony Lyons</b>
Prayer	<b>Glynis Rose</b>	<b>Terry Nisbet</b>
Communion	<b>A.Lyons/L. Beaumont</b>	<b>????</b>
PowerPoint	<b>David Packianathan</b>	<b>David Packianathan</b>
Video Tech	<b>Anthony Lyons</b>	<b>Anthony Lyons</b>
Morning tea	<b>Jill Baker</b>	<b>M. Bullen</b>
Counters	<b>Roger McGrail</b>	<b>Susan McDermott</b>
	<b>Glynis Rose</b>	<b>Jill Baker</b>

**On line services**

At the time of today's live-streamed service, or after, please use the link below:

<https://youtube.com/channel/UCwvuRjxqIX4njbrwZJBqNXQ/live>

**Readings\* for Sunday 12 May, Sunday after Ascension**

**'Love and hatred'**

Acts 1:15-26; Psalm 103:19-22; 1 John 4:13-21; John 17:11-19

**Sentence:** Those who say, "I love God", and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 1 John 4:20

(\*not all readings may be read on Sunday morning)

**Ministers: All Parishioners**

Vicar: The Revd. Santa Packianathan (email: [spackianathan@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:spackianathan@melbourneanglican.org.au))

Phone: 9557 2226 or 0438 509 669

Office: Sun - Sat, except for Thursday

Children & Families Minister: Vacant (TBA) 9557 2226

Hon. Lay Minister - Healing/Prayer Chain Terry Nisbet 9557 2226

Parish Musician: Vacant (TBA) 9557 2226

Administrative Assistant: Anthony Lyons 9557 2226

Email: [bentleighanglican@bigpond.com](mailto:bentleighanglican@bigpond.com);

Office: Tue, Thu & Fri 9.30am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 4pm

Wardens: R Martin (& Secretary), D A Beckett, S McDermott 9557 2226

Treasurer: D Fitzgerald 9557 2226



**Online Giving**

**St John's Anglican Church  
Bentleigh**

**BSB 083 337**

**Acc. No. 515 354 967**



**Welcome to  
St. John's, Bentleigh**

**8:30AM**

**Holy Communion  
(Pioneers' Chapel)**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, (TISI 11, v1, 5);  
Guide me, O thou great Redeemer (TIS569, v1, 3)

**10AM**

**Holy Communion  
(Livestreamed-with  
Children's message)**

**Bible Readings:**

Acts 10:44-48;

Psalm 98;

(not read at 10am);

1 John 5:1-5;

John 15:9-17

**Hymns 10 AM only**

See TV screens

**Flowers arranged by  
Gwen Wilson**

Please take this  
pew sheet with you  
as you leave!

**St John's Anglican Church**

**624 Centre Road,  
Bentleigh 3204**

**Phone: 9557 2226**

**Website:**

[www.stjohnsbentleigh.org.au](http://www.stjohnsbentleigh.org.au)

**5 May 2024, Easter 6 & Sunday before  
Ascension Day**

**'God's Commandments'**

**Sentence:** For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. 1 John 5:3

**'Leading the parish into growth' prayer:**

**God of Mission**, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship & Power to our witness. Help our church of St. John's to grow in spiritual commitment to you, in numbers, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day:**

Loving God, your Son has chosen us and called us to be his friends: give us grace to keep his commandments, to love one another, and to bear fruit which will abide; through him who is the true vine, the source of all our life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Calendar:**

- 6 May, 10AM-12PM, Craft, chat & cuppa.
- 8 May, 10:30AM Holy Communion and Ascension Day commemoration (Pioneers' Chapel), *fellowship in the Narthex with Genesis study.*
- 09 May, 3:45-5PM, Narthex, Maths/English tutoring.
- 11 May, 7PM-10PM, Narthex, Cards Night. 'Crazy Whist' - a parish fund-raiser.
- 12 May, Mother's Day & Sunday after Ascension.

**Future dates:**

- 14 May, Wardens' meeting (TBC).
- 19 May, PENTECOST SUNDAY. Please wear something **RED**.
- 19 May, 4-6PM, Messy Church.
- 20 May, 11AM, Blue Cross visit.
- 21 May, 4PM-6PM, Parish Council meeting (4PM-6PM).

**Thanks** to Allan Clark who is our Locum Musician @ 10AM

As we gather in the presence of God, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the country on which St. John's is situated, the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

## OUR VISION: To be a centre of God's love and hope!

### 'Do we get it?'

**A**s we look back to the first Ascension Day (which we will commemorate this week on Thursday), we realise that the disciples then still didn't quite get it. Throughout Jesus' ministry, many fell into the popular thinking that the Messiah would be a warrior sent to overthrow mighty Rome and thus save his people. While Jesus' crucifixion no doubt put a damper on the messianic hopes, his resurrection surely fanned the flames of their zeal: "He conquered death! Now he will vanquish our enemies!"

Even after forty days of intense instruction about the Kingdom of God, the disciples still misunderstood: "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" Did you catch that? They want to know if they will now be independent again. Jesus had said "Kingdom of God," but all they heard was politics. The disciples want justice and freedom for the people, but their vision is too limited. God's kingdom stretches far beyond the confines of Judea. It reaches into Samaria and to the ends of the earth. In other words, God's kingdom is not only for them; it is also for the Samaritans and Gentiles. God's kingdom is for all.

As the disciples process this information, Jesus is lifted up and carried away from them. They stare after him with mouths gaping and heads spinning. "What do we do now? He was the one. Now, he's gone again, and we're not any closer to the kingdom God promised. We can't do it alone."

Here is the good news: they are not alone, and neither are we! The power of the Holy Spirit urges Christ's disciples on. It keeps our focus on things of God rather than the things of this world. It gives us the courage to seek justice and strength to work for freedom. It leads us out of our comfort zones and into places Christ calls us to go.

As we consider our own response to Ascension Day, do we get it?

*God of power, expand our vision and move our feet to do your will. Amen!*

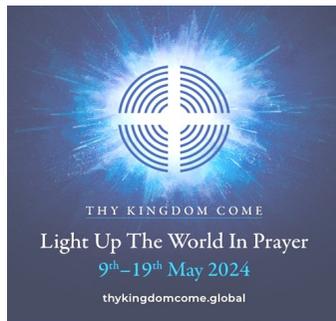
[Image from: [www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/thy-kingdom-come-2024/](http://www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/thy-kingdom-come-2024/), adapted from: *Disciplines*, page 150]

#### Prayers: church & the world

- Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil, The Diocese of Adelaide, Surfcoast Anglican Parish, St George's Monbulk, St John's Toorak, St. Philip's Mount Waverley, Ormond Anglican & for all parishes awaiting new ministers.
- Praise God for the persons being sent by God to this parish as *parish musician and children/families minister*.

#### Prayers: Derek & Rosemary Snibson (CMS missionaries to the NT)

- Please pray for a quick transition into their daily routines.



## Our Mission: To love God, love people, grow disciples of Christ!

#### Miscellaneous prayers:

- Praying for peace, Ukraine/Russia, Yemen, Syria, Libya, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Israeli/Gaza/Palestine, Sudan & other areas in conflict/unrest.
- Praying for everyone affected by natural disasters, e.g., flooding in Kenya (including the after effects of dam failure), volcano eruption in Indonesia.
- Praying for healing on Gladys, +Gerald & Lyn, Lena, Paul, Claire, Ben, Russell, Jo, Ken, Graham, Carol, Jim, Rebecca, Clarice, David, Alison, John, Marlene, Marvis, Audrey, C & J & family, Justin, Verna, Manal & family, Jon & Val, Sally & family, Samia & family, Pauline & family, Christine Cummins family & friend of Stev, Allan & Judy, Seelan, Annette, Sandra & all we remember. Those who mourn the passing of Stev Cummins, Dudley Perera (father of the late Isuru Perera). May Stev and Dudley rest in peace and rise in glory.

#### Statutory Parish Meeting

- 12 May after the combined 10AM Holy Communion service
- Nominations for one parish nominator (female) and two reserve parish nominators (one female & one male) are to be given to the Vicar on or before 3PM on 4 May 2024. Forms are available in the narthex.

#### Parish Fund Raiser - Cards Night

- The first of these monthly events

will be held on 11 May, 7PM-10PM in the narthex. Entry, \$10/person.

- Enquiries to Gwen/Shirley.

#### Pentecost (19 May @ 10AM only)

- We are seeking people with different language skills (other than English) for the Bible readings on Pentecost.
- Please indicate on the signup sheet on the narthex noticeboard ASAP.

#### Community fund raiser (ASRC – Feast for Freedom)

- **Aim:** To support refugees and asylum seekers in their harrowing journey for a safer new life.
- **Date/time:** Sunday 26 May from 11.30AM
- **Cost:** \$20/person
- **Venue:** Pickford Hall.
- If you can donate ingredients or cook a delicious dish, please inform Shirley and Jill (head chefs).
- Come one, come all & bring your friends or family!
- Enquiries and RSVP to Don.

#### Archbishop Philip and Mrs. Joy Freier's visit (16 June @ 10AM)

- Please keep this date/time free and come along.
- #### Donations for Dixon House & Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC):
- Please place your donations in the baskets in the Narthex.
  - Dixon House, enquiries to Gwen Wilson.
  - For Asylum Seekers, for May, powdered milk or tinned soup is being accepted. Enquires to Susan McDermott.