

Gisborne Anglican Parish



# *Lent 4 Year A*

*St John's Riddells Creek Saturday 5.30 p.m.*

*St Paul's Gisborne, Sunday 9 a.m.*

*Church of the Resurrection Sunday 10.30 a.m.*

*March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020*

## ***Mothing Sunday***

*The Parish of Gisborne would like to acknowledge that we meet on Kulin Nation country.  
We pay our respects to Kulin Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to any First  
Nations people who are present today.*

*We acknowledge that Aboriginal sovereignty has not been ceded.*

*The Parish of Gisborne is committed to being a Child Safe organisation.*

## *Welcome*

*A warm welcome to our Parish*

*We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship. Whether you are a visitor or a regular parishioner of the Anglican Church, you are invited to join us in Holy Communion. Please make yourself known to us and if you would like more information about our community and ministry, then please take a copy of our welcome brochure, visit our website or ask one of our sides-persons.*

CITATION against Jesus of Nazareth

CHARGES: Failure to give alms to the poor

Working on the Sabbath

in that he made mud to aid healing

he caused the mud to be applied

rendering a blind man unclean

forcing the blind man to walk beyond the Sabbath limit

Caused unnecessary anxiety to blind man's parents

Corrupted the blind man to giving blasphemous testimony

Contradicting teaching that parents' sin responsible for blindness

Falsely accusing teachers with spiritual insight of blindness

Accusing Pharisees of being sinful

Led a former blind man back into community and full belief.

How say you, O jury of Christians?

This Sunday: LENT 4A

I Samuel 16.1-13

Psalms 23

Mothering Sunday

Ephesians 5.8-14

John 9.1-41

Next Sunday: LENT 5A

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Psalms 130

Romans 8.6-11

John 11.1-45

Bible references: NRSV bible.oremus.org

Preacher at this weekend's services is Debra Saffrey-Collins

Parish Fire Policy:

If a CODE RED day is declared [this is the most extreme rating] and this occurs on a Saturday or Sunday – then please note that all services and/or parish activities will be cancelled on that day. This policy will also apply during the week and to all our centres. For other fire danger ratings, it is important that everyone implement their own fire plan.

Your own fire plan must always take precedence even if you are on a rostered duty.

Texts from A Prayer Book for Australia © Broughton Publishing 1995 Reproduced with permission. Other liturgical material from Common Worship © The Church of England, and Celebrating the Christian Year, Alan Griffiths (2004). Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, NCCA (1990), used by permission.

## The Gathering of the People

*The people sit quietly. The ministers enter in silence.*

✠ Bless the Lord who forgives our sins,  
**whose mercy endures for ever**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

“Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”  
John 9.32-33

## Confession and Absolution

We bring to mind our own failings, and seek the forgiveness  
of our merciful and loving God.

Lord Jesus, our teacher and judge,  
you meet us in the barren places of our lives  
and bring to light that which we would rather  
hide in shadows.

Ho - - - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

*Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.*

In your wisdom,  
you show us the folly our ways  
and encourage us to share with others  
your presence in our lives  
as we drink deeply of the living water  
that you give.

***Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.***

3

Help us to live in newness of life  
as we bring life to others  
in the testimony of our words and deeds.

***Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.***

Eternal and merciful judge,  
both in life and when we come to die,  
let us not fall away from you.

***Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
holy and merciful Saviour,  
do not abandon us to the bitterness of eternal death.***

*The Presider pronounces God's forgiveness to which the people reply Amen.*

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness to all  
who turn to him in faith:  
pardon you and set you free  
from all of your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The prayer of the day is said by the Presider.*

God, whose face we long to see,  
you have looked upon us in love,  
and with the anointing of your Spirit  
have opened our eyes to the insight of faith.  
Let us not be afraid to acknowledge before the world  
that Christ is the world's true light,  
and bestir us to seek the fruits of the light  
in everything that is good and right and true.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
who is one with you and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The Ministry of the Word

As we prepare to hear God's Holy Words through the scriptures:  
**open our hearts and minds, Lord. Amen.**

*The people sit for the reading/s from the scriptures.*

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

I Samuel 16.1-13

*After the Lesson, the reader says*

May your word live in us  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Psalm 23



**My Shepherd is the Lord, nothing indeed shall I want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes;  
my head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

To the Father and the Son give glory,  
give glory to the Spirit:  
to God who is, who was, and who will be  
for ever and ever.

TiS 11

*The people remain seated for the second reading.*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Ephesians 5.8-14

*After the Lesson, the reader says*

May your word live in us

**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

*The people stand and the following may be sung for the gospel procession.*



The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.  
Harden not your hearts.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The people remain standing and the appointed minister proclaims the gospel, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

John 9.1-41

For the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Breaking open the Word

Affirmation of Faith

*The people stand and the minister introduces an Affirmation of Faith*

Let us together affirm our faith.

**We believe in one God, creator of all life,**

**maker of past, present and future.**

**Lord of all people and of all memories and hopes.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,**

**God's Word of grace, and love made flesh,**

**who came to declare good news to those in despair,**

**to liberate both the oppressed and the oppressor,**

**to proclaim God's mercy as our hope.**

**We believe in God's Holy Spirit,**

**who takes our shattered dreams and makes us whole again,**

**who lifts our dying spirits and gives us courage,**

**who resurrects us to new life.**

**We believe that the Church is of God**

**and will endure to the end of time,**

**and calls us into a life of love and service.**

**Blessed is our God:**

**✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*The people may stand or sit for the prayers.*

*The Presider says*

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*The prayers end with this as the folder is placed on the Altar:*

As we, with one voice, offer our prayers, we place the names of those for whom our prayers have been asked on the altar, offering them to you with our gifts as we pray:

**Gracious God,**

**you give us what we do not deserve**

**and you bless us with gifts beyond our imagining.**

**As you have so richly graced us,**

**so make us work untiringly for your kingdom.**

**We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### The Greeting of Peace and Offertory

*All stand for the Greeting of Peace with these words.*

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All may exchange a greeting of peace.*

*The offertory hymn is sung during which the gifts of the people are collected and brought forward.*

Sing Praise 43 (tune TiS 361)

Our Father God in heaven  
on whom our world depends,  
to you let praise be given  
for families and friends;  
for parents, sisters, brothers,  
a home where love belongs,  
but on this day for mothers  
we bring our thankful songs.

What wealth of God's bestowing  
for all the world to share!  
what strength of heart outgoing

to children everywhere!  
Our deepest joys and sorrows  
a mother's path must trace,  
and earth's unknown tomorrows  
are held in her embrace.

How well we know the story  
that tells of Jesus' birth,  
the Lord of heaven's glory  
become a child of earth;  
a helpless infant sleeping,  
yet King of realms above,  
to find in Mary's keeping  
the warmth of human love.

Our Father God in heaven,  
to you we lift our prayer,  
that every child be given  
such tenderness and care,  
where life is all for others,  
where love your love displays:  
for God's good gift of mothers  
let earth unite in praise!

*The gifts of the people are presented and the Presider says*

With this bread that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body,  
wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**With joy, O God,  
we prepare the table of Christ.  
Let this feast of thanks and praise  
render you fitting service  
and make us able to express in our lives  
the reconciliation brought us in Christ,  
who lives for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing and the Presider says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Divine Praise*

It is truly right and just, our joy and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Father all-holy, eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All you who thirst, come to the water:*

In the mystery of the Incarnation,  
Christ has led humankind out of darkness  
to walk in the clear light of faith,  
and through the new birth given in baptism  
has adopted us as your children.

*The Angelic Song*

And so, with the powers of creation,  
we glorify your holy name in this, their ageless hymn of praise:

Response to the Choir's bidding:

Ho - san - na in the high est.

- Choir: Hosanna in the highest.  
Response: **Hosanna in the highest.**  
Choir: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Response: **Hosanna in the highest.**  
Choir: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Response: **Hosanna in the highest.**  
Choir: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Response: **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Setting aside of our gifts*

Merciful God, we thank you

for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

*With this bread...*

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

*With this cup...*

After supper he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it  
in remembrance of me.

*The minister says*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

*(The Choir or Cantor sings, followed by all repeating)*



Christ \_ has died. Christ is ri \_ sen, \_ Christ \_ will \_ come a - gain.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Keeping the Lord's commandments:*

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

*Sanctify our worship and lives*

Renew us by your Holy Spirit  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
to whom be blessing, honour, glory and power,  
now and for ever:



As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread and the Communion

*The Presider says*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

*The people sing the Agnus Dei.*

Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin  
of the world, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sin  
of the world, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Redeemer of the world:  
grant us your peace.

Lamb of God you take away the sin  
of the world: grant us peace.

*or the following is sung:*

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The first staff is in treble clef and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. Below the staff, the lyrics 'Have mer - cy on us.' are written with horizontal lines under the words to indicate where the notes fall. The second staff is also in treble clef and contains the melody for the second line of the hymn. Below the staff, the lyrics 'Grant us peace.' are written with horizontal lines under the words. The word 'Final time:' is written above the second staff.

*The Presider invites the people to come and receive Communion with these words.*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.  
All are welcome at his supper. Come.

Anthem at Church of the Resurrection  
By the waters of Babylon

The Sending Out of God's People

Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' (John 9.39)

*The Presider says a post-communion prayer.*

God of light,  
whose radiance illuminates all,  
fill us with the splendour of your grace  
that we may set our minds on things  
that are fitting and pleasing to your glory.

**Change our hearts, Lord,  
as we strive to keep this time of Lent  
that our lives may draw others to you,  
and our weakness not deter them.**

*A hymn of Thanksgiving is sung:*

TiS 129 Amazing Grace

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

As grace first taught my heart to fear  
so grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come:  
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

*Notices may follow.*

*The Presider gives the Blessing:*

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves,  
take up your cross,  
and follow him;  
and the blessing of the Most Holy and Blessed Trinity –  
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
be upon you now and for ever more. Amen.

*The minister says*

We go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Diary for the Coming Week**

Later today:	3.00	EfM, Church of the Resurrection
Monday March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10 am	Play Group, Parish Hall
	1.30 pm	Card Group, Parish Centre
Tuesday March 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Parish Office Open
	10.00 am	Play Group, Parish Hall

Wednesday March 25 <sup>th</sup>	8.35 am	LLEN Parish Centre
	10.00 am	Eucharist, St Paul's, Gisborne
	1.30 pm	Lenten Study, Parish Centre
	7.30 pm	Choir Rehearsal, CoR
Thursday March 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	<b>Quiet Day, Riddells Creek: Saying Yes to God</b>
	9.30 am	Parish Office open
	10.00 am	Play Group: Kinde, Parish Hall
	7.00 pm	AA, Parish Centre
	7.30 pm	Wedding, Rehearsal, Church of Resurrection Lenten Study, Church of the Resurrection
Friday March 27 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 pm	Lenten Study, St John's, Riddells Creek
	3.30 pm	Wedding at Church of the Resurrection <i>Amy Penpraze and Jarred Doherty</i>
Saturday March 28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Wedding at Brisbane Grammar <i>Kathryn Smith and Ross Tutin</i>
	5.30 pm	Eucharist, St John's Riddells Creek
Sunday March 29 <sup>th</sup> Lent V	9.00 am	Eucharist, St Paul's Gisborne
	10.30 am	Eucharist, Church of the Resurrection
	3.00 pm	EfM, Church of the Resurrection

The EfM (Exploring Faith Matters) Group of our parish would like to invite parishioners to join us as we consider the book "Fighting with the Bible – Why Scripture Divides Us and How It Can Bring Us Together" by Donn Morgan.

In times of conflict, the Bible is often used as a club to beat those whose opinions differ from one's own. We recoil from such usage, yet the Bible actually represents many diverse and conflicting points of view. It is like a library, full of books that speak to all sides of every question. Like Christians today, the communities and individuals who wrote the biblical texts often strongly disagree with each other. Ruth and Ezra, Isaiah and Ezekiel, Micah and Joel, Deuteronomy and Daniel, Mark and John... what would they say to each other? Do they have anything in common? Each of these voices is firmly committed to his or her specific view of "the truth," whether it reflects a particular place or community, a prophet, a style of worship, or an "understanding" of who is in and who is out. The author guides us in considering how we can do justice to this welter of disparate voices. What can the Bible teach us about living together? How can we use it as a powerful resource for understanding and for moving beyond conflict?



The EfM group will be discussing this book over 2 sessions – Sunday May 31st and Sunday June 14th from 3.00pm 'til 5.30pm at the Church of the Resurrection.

If you would like to join us, or read at home, the book can be purchased online through “Amazon”, “Booktopia” or “Book Depository”, priced from approximately \$7.00 - \$35.00. Delivery can take 3-4 weeks.

It can also be purchased as an eBook for \$11.00 - \$14.00.

Study notes have been provided to support the discussion and will be copied for those who would like them.

Please let Debra or Alison know if you are planning on joining the group for this study.

Looking forward to sharing this discussion with you.

Debra and Alison

**LENT AND CREATION:** During Lent, our Parish Animal Welfare Group invites us to include in our prayerful reflections our relationship with God’s good creation. Could our life-style choices be modified to mirror more caring stewardship of God’s creation? For example, whenever possible ( given our rapidly emptying supermarkets), buying only ethically farmed foods or considering trying a vegetarian or vegan diet, like Adam and Eve before the ‘Fall’. (Maybe a realistic option in the current climate?!) In keeping with the Lenten almsgiving tradition, given the effect of the economic downturn on some pet owners, individual donations of pet food to Gisborne Foodbank could also be considered.

Janine Mc Dougall

Co-convenor,

Parish Animal Welfare Group.

The Bishops have advised that for the moment that if our Church gatherings are under 100 people, we may continue. The Parish is exploring online options and revising all Easter services to enable us to continue to be a light in the community.

For encouragement, please visit the Parish YouTube site *Gisborne Anglican* or the Parish website [www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au](http://www.anglicanparishgisborne.org.au)

(<https://tinyurl.com/t96zpu9>)

Op Shops may continue subject to the previous advice regarding cleanliness.

Until further notice, it is business as usual.

DW

**Beware of Covid-19 scams.**

The only communication from the Premier and Cabinet is via the Vic Emergency App. If you receiving a text reporting to be support, delete it immediately. If in doubt, contact Government Hotline: 1800 675 398

HELLO ALAN