

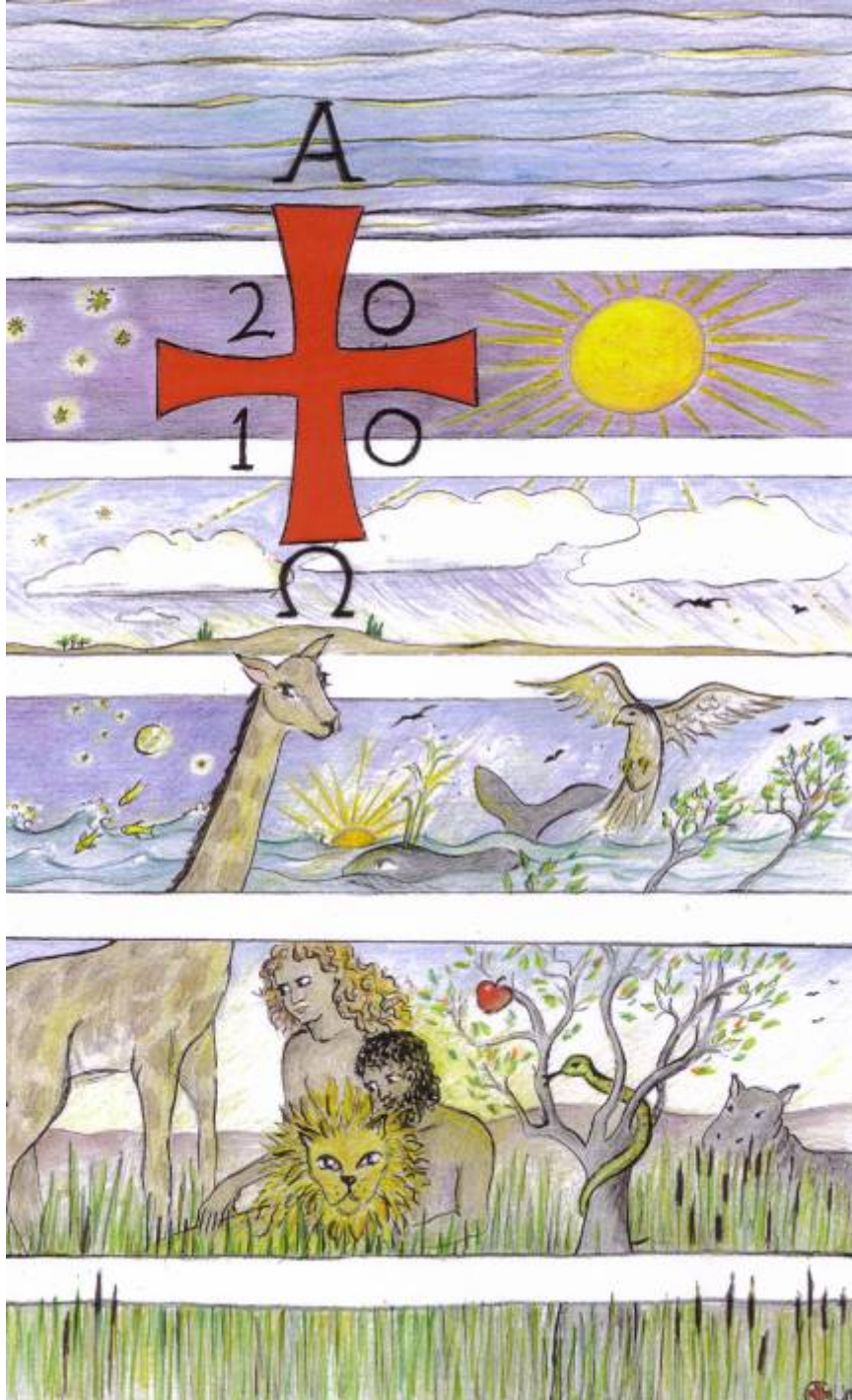
Anglican Church of Australia

Christ Church



South Yarra

Worship, Ministry, Mission



Countdown

Parish Journal

Vol 19 No 1 Eastertide 2010

www.ccsy.org.au

Front cover: 2010 Paschal Candle – artwork by Jenny Nelson

“In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.” (Gen 1:1-2) So begins the first biblical creation story.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . . All things came into being through him . . .” (John 1:1, 3a) So echoes the prologue to John’s gospel.

This year the artwork on the Paschal Candle has drawn on these texts, describing God’s creation of the earth, of humankind, and his new creation in Christ.

The Genesis account provides the iconography for the six painted bands depicting the six days of God’s work in creation. The first band depicts the formless void, while the second band depicts God’s creation of light. Bands three and four depict the creation of the sun and moon, the sky and the land, the birds and all sea creatures, while bands five and six depict God’s creation of humankind in his image. Band five also includes the story of the “fall”.

The cross, alpha and omega, and year, remind us of God’s abiding love for creation. As the prologue to John’s gospel puts it, “The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.”

A reminiscence from a former Vicar

There is a tradition at Christ Church that the number of times the incoming Vicar rings the bell during the Induction service will be the number of years he will stay in the Parish. (Apparently this has proved correct over and over again, even to David Shand, who rang it three times.) The bell is very big, and takes a knack to ring it at all. During the afternoon I had tried my hand at it, and at first could not get any sound at all. With some practice I managed to get several rings from it, but in case it went silent again during the actual service that night I had asked John Sawkins (the Verger), who would be with me and the three Wardens, to take over at the critical moment if necessary, and ring it for me. But my fears were groundless. I took a good swing at it, and it started to ring. The Wardens counted the strokes, and John whispered: “Ring it twenty times, Father”. I think I rang it twelve times, and everyone seemed satisfied.

*From a letter written by Evan Wetherell in February 1970 to his three children,
David, Rodney and Elizabeth*

**FROM THE REGISTERS
(SINCE LAST "CONTACT")**

Baptisms

- 3 January Sophie Li Ann Wan
Isabel Gwenneth Reith
Sienna Ivy Hunt
Saskia Florence Hunt
- 24 January Max Albert Nelson
- 31 January Scarlett Ivy Oliver
Rumer Anderson Lim
- 7 February Poppy Georgia Parker
Lillian Amanda Lynch Smith
Alexander Francis Lynch Smith
- 11 April Fedele Kitson de Campo
Seve Gene de Campo

Weddings

- 28 November Garvin Louie & Claire Ding
Caine Sinclair & Divina Peters
Matthew Hollard & Yvette Williams
- 2 January Trevor Cotterell & Elisha Klucso
- 23 January Henry Caudle & Elizabeth Ross
- 30 January Keith Lloyd & Giselle Pethard
- 6 March Christopher Darby & De-Arne Campbell
Nicholas Myers & Laura Banks
- 13 March Philip Dwyer & Josephine Gibbs
Luke Borrack & Sarah Gardiner
- 20 March Damien Deckert & Simona Sbardella
- April 9 Richard Pethebridge & Jeannie Ooi
- April 10 Michael Carter & Maria Nagarajah
Walter McNally & Jennifer Took
- April 17 Eugene Tan & Tami Yap

Funerals & Memorial Services

- 11 November Colin Foster Long
- 25 November Jill Jefferies
- 26 November David Charles Leslie Gibbs
- 10 December Samuel Dart Roxburgh
Louise Mary St John
- 12 January Katherine Jane Lovelock
- 20 January Alma Jean Sumpter
- 18 February Hugh Lauder Wallace
- 29 March Michael Andrew Harper

FROM THE REGISTERS, CONTINUED...

Interment of Ashes

22 November Olive May Manning
Albert Davidson Manning
2 December Jill Jefferies

Muddle

Heaven muddles good and bad,
Hardly knowing fine distinctions.
A day of death is held as 'good',
A day in which we mourn and fast,
Walk in procession to a flower-strewn bed
Through abject rites and lamentation.

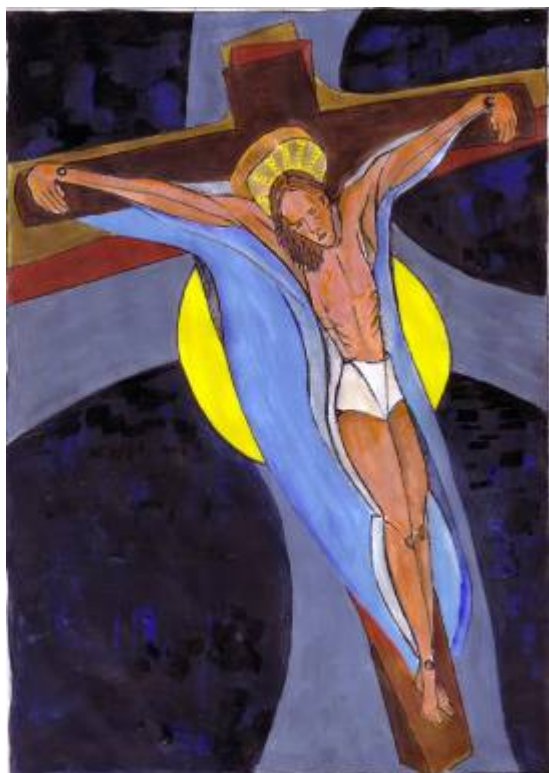
True that the myrrh-laid gossip quickly follows on:
Looks back on life and death and life again,
Each day a celebration.

But bad for me, oh yes,
For each one wills to mirror me,
Turns me to look on what I like the least,
Myself, made mortal, sad and full of fear.

Some are above who disagree, I know,
Holding celestial time and place,
A higher, topsy-turvy world than I can grasp:
'Death be not proud,' they laughing say,
'The bad is good, the good is bad.'
And flutter to another looking-glass.

*Dorothy Lee
March 2010*

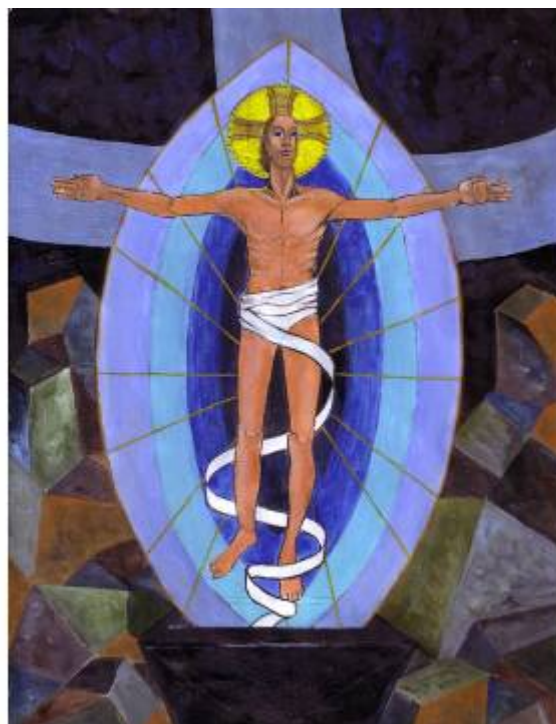
From Fr Richard



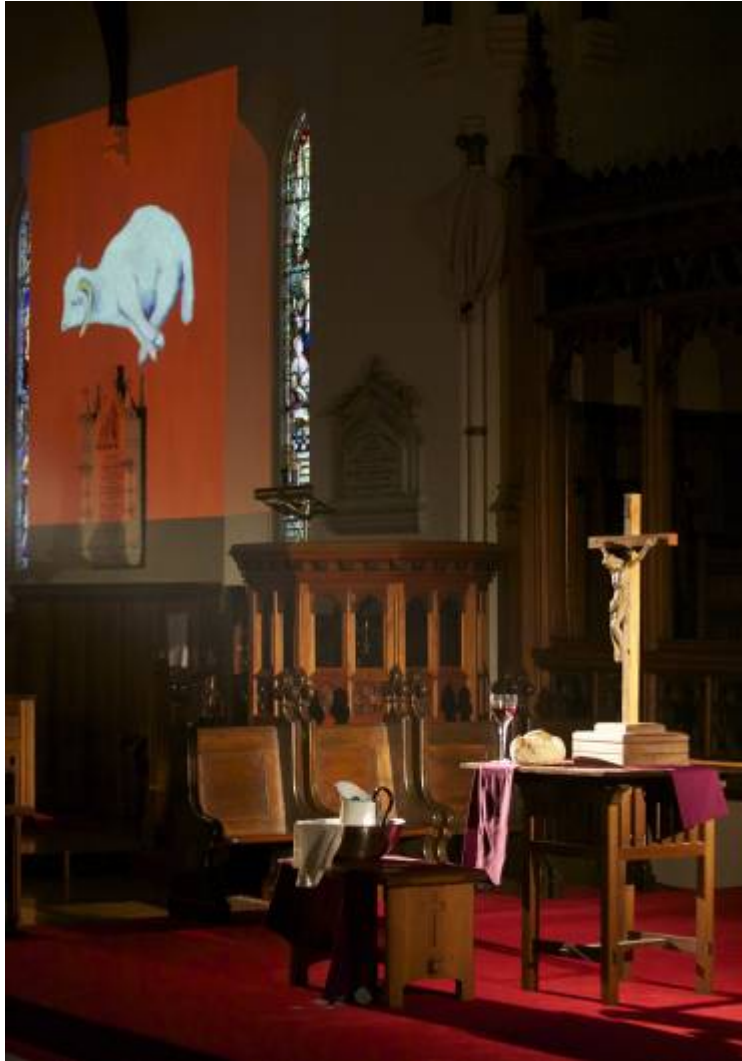
Christ has died...

Holy Week was observed with both great solemnity and a touch of the 'carnavalesque' at Christ Church. This year our worship was again enriched by some wonderful music, and also some visual and dramatic arts. The work of the Parish's *ArtSearch* group hung from pillars on the north and south side of the nave during Holy Week, and continues to adorn that space in Eastertide.

The panels featured here are by Jenny Nelson, and capture something of the essential 'dialectic' – the ceaseless exchange, and creative tension – between cross and empty tomb. Note the continuity of colours between the two images, and the cruciform shape of the Risen Christ, with the corresponding blue shading turned slightly upward in this image compared with that of the crucifixion image. Our thanks go to Jenny and to Alan Day.



Our thanks also to Philip Nicholls, Director of Music, whose oversight of the 'Mystery Play Project' enabled us to continue on from Good Friday last year in offering a more meditative, reflective experience at the end of the day.



The medieval Mystery (or Miracle) Play tradition is all about guild-based street theatre – the ‘Moomba’ of its time, perhaps – rough and ready, darkly humorous, and connecting the story of Christ’s Passion with the folk culture of the day.

Music, simple props, projected images, and dramatic reading of a portion of the Chester Cycle by members of the Parish and beyond combined to bring this very ‘organic’ Lenten study to life

and fruition for those involved, and offered a moving experience for all who attended its liturgical performance. Is this the start of a Christ Church tradition? (Go to www.ccsy.org.au for more images.)

Christ is risen...

It’s easy, given the rhythms of Parish life, to focus so much on Lent that we forget to celebrate Easter – all 50 days of it! How will we give expression to the Good News of new life that this great season brings? A number of activities in the Parish over the coming weeks and months will help us to do this. Christian meditation was one of the themes running through Lent, and looks set to continue on a Wednesday morning from 9.15 to 10.00am (between Morning Prayer and the Eucharist) for those who put a toe in those waters, and any others who may be interested in doing so; see Jamie Miller’s article. Education for Ministry (EfM) is a program of solid, not-for-credit theological study launched during Lent, which will begin in earnest during Eastertide; see the piece also by Jamie later in *Contact*.

Shortly after Easter we held a function to welcome ‘newcomers’ to the community, and on Friday, 7 May, from 7.00pm, a Mission Dinner will be held in the Parish Centre at which we will hear from Jim Short about the intractable tensions in Cyprus, with all proceeds going to support the wider mission of the Church (via ABM). These forms of hospitality, oriented locally and globally, are expressions of the mission Christ entrusted to the Apostles: that which makes the Church of God ‘apostolic’ – as we say in the Creed – or ‘sent’.



In bricks and mortar, too, we see signs of new life as a deep pit on the corner of Park Place and Punt Rd (left) begins to give rise to a wonderful new facility for our Parish School (see an artist’s impression, below).

This project is the first phase of an upgrade of the infrastructure of CCGS that will benefit children and teachers, parents and parishioners, and the



wider community, as Vestry and School Council continue to work together on a vision for how the site might best be shared and utilised to meet the changing needs of those who worship, learn, work, and visit here. Watch this space ... literally!

Christ will come again

The Crucified and Risen One meets us in so many ways: in the daily needs and fellowship of our brothers and sisters; in the weekly sacrament of the Eucharist; and in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit by the One he called Father – the Spirit that at once disturbs and comforts us, leading us into that truth which sets us free, and empowering the Church for its apostolic mission in the world.

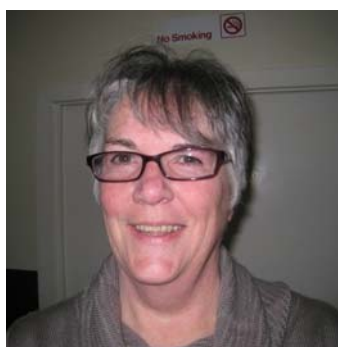
This Pentecost, 23 May, at 10.00am, Bishop Kay Goldsworthy – the first woman to be consecrated a bishop in Australia – will be at Christ Church to preside over several rites of passage: adult baptism, confirmation, and reception into the Anglican Church. If you, or anyone you know, would like to explore what is involved in these rites of Christian initiation and/or reception, as a sign of the new life that is ours in Christ, please contact the Parish Office – your inquiry will be most welcome. Please also mark that day in your diary, and make a point of celebrating the Church's 'birthday' with other members of Christ's Church.

While you're at it, you might also like to make a note of 29 August, when our Archbishop will preside at a combined School and Parish service, and 21 November, when our Feast of Title will give us a timely opportunity to thank and farewell Mrs Beryl Gregory, who retires at the end of this year from a distinguished career in education, including 15 years of outstanding service as Headmistress of CCGS. Don't miss these significant Parish occasions, and please see 'For Your Diary' (below) for other forthcoming special services, and activities such as a Film night, a Trivia night, and more.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make our observance of Lent and Easter this year the powerful journey it was for so many regulars and visitors alike, and for the many and various ways in which each of you who reads 'Contact' supports the worship, ministry, and mission of CCSY.

*Would you like to receive "Contact"
and other CCSY communications electronically?
If so, please send an email to: ccoffice@ccsy.org.au
with 'Parish Email Register' in the subject line.*

Introducing Jill Renison, our Theological Student for 2010



Jill Renison was born in Melbourne and is the eldest of three girls. She trained as a teacher and taught in both government and Roman Catholic schools for many years, in both country and city areas. After deciding that God wasn't calling her to the Religious Life, she married and had two sons.

While she was home with a young family she began studying theology by correspondence. As a Synod member at the time, she remembers the heady nights of debates over the ordination of women and it was then that she first began to think seriously about what a call to ordained ministry might mean.

Family pressures intervened and Jill returned to work as a teacher, eventually completing a Graduate Diploma in Theology at evenings and weekends. It was during this period that the nudges towards ordination became clearer and stronger and it seemed that the call was specifically to the permanent diaconate. The response had to be delayed, however, because deacons needed to be self-supporting and by this time she was a single parent. The decision was made to postpone action until early retirement.

Sometime later, an old friend approached Jill to become a foundation member of a dispersed religious community based in his parish. A community that was later to become *The Little Company of the Good Shepherd* (LCGS) was formed. LCGS is open to both men and women, married or single. Members make annual solemn promises of simplicity, integrity and accountability. They do not live in residential community, but make an annual retreat together.

Working part-time by now, Jill was able to be more active in her home parish, and belonging to this small group that met weekly for contemplative prayer and the Eucharist sustained her lay ministry.

Blessed with a gifted spiritual director who enabled her to see the possibilities of such a warm and welcoming ministry, Jill recently began a course in spiritual direction at Wellspring in Ashburton. She hopes to become a part-time, non-stipendiary, parish deacon with a specific ministry in pastoral care and spiritual direction, which should still allow her to visit her three grandchildren in Sydney.

News from the Pews

Thoughts from Mumbai ...

from Sandra Treadwell-Monk & Chris Hartley

Dear friends at CCSY, yes, we are still alive and well. Settling in to India is both exciting and frustrating – sometimes going from one to the other in a matter of minutes. “What to do?” is a local expression that doesn’t have an answer, and has become a favourite way of expressing the sense of absolute helplessness one sometimes feels. Particularly in the face of the local bureaucracy!

Expression of faith has a peculiarly Indian flavour. If we are awake in the (too) early hours of the morning, there is the Islamic call to prayer; doze a little longer and we’re woken by the bells of one of the local churches blasting out the Angelus – happens again in the evening. And tomorrow is Holi – a day when the Hindu gods show that they have a sense of humour. Not so sure about the way this is expressed: lots of throwing of water and paint and drinking bhang – a concoction of local cannabis, spices and milk. Recipes available on the internet for those who may be interested!

Our Sundays are fairly similar to Sundays in Melbourne. Up and into a rickshaw – it is uphill after all. Service starts at 8.30, and yes, we were late this morning. A lusty rendition of the opening hymn and then the familiar and loved liturgy. The pastor always has a message for the children sitting at the front of the congregation before they leave for Sunday School – I think he really enjoys this part, so it can go on for a while. The adults end up with two sermons per Sunday! The church, St Stephens in Bandra, is small, crowded and lively, and has some beautiful stained glass windows. It doesn’t have its own website, but is referred to in other sites. The service is usually over by 10.30 and then after a chat and some chai, it’s off to find a decent coffee.

A few other random thoughts: the pastor and a sizeable proportion of the congregation are barefoot (one better than your sandals, Paul!). We no longer attack the local mosquitoes with hands clapped together – a close colleague is Hindu and she gently brushes them away, and it doesn’t feel quite right anymore to do otherwise. And also, when two or three boys are gathered together on a Sunday, there will be cricket – if it’s six or seven kids, there will be two games going on!

News from the Pews, continued...

... and also abroad:

James Blythman is in Shanghai working at the Australia Pavilion at the World Fair starting at the end of April and running until November. Anyone planning to visit Shanghai might like to make contact with James via Alison Blythman (through the Parish Office).

Congratulations!

Bek Barker just passed the written exam for the Royal College of Physicians training program for Paediatrics – the culmination of over a year's intensive study around her full time work.

Barbara Hamer was recently made a Dame of the Order of St Lazarus. Ros Lawrence (also a Dame of the order) has received the Australian Meritorious Medal from the Order of St Lazarus, which has been awarded only four times in Australia.

Parish Deacon, Marilyn Hope, graduates this month from the Melbourne College of Divinity with an MA (Theol), having submitted a thesis under the title, 'A Pilot Study to explore how Christian faith helps or hinders patients in their experience of illness'.

If you would like to share some news in the next edition of 'Contact', please ring or email Lucy in the Parish office.

EfM comes to CCSY in May

An Education for Ministry (EfM) group is all set to begin at CCSY on Thursday 6 May. This year we will be engaging seriously with the Hebrew Scriptures. We will read and study the books of Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus; we will study the major prophets, the Book of Psalms, the Book of Job and just a couple of the minor prophets.

Alongside our studies we will learn to reflect theologically in an intentional and disciplined way. This important aspect of our time together will link our Christian faith with our everyday life such that one informs the other.

Please support this new group with your prayers. From time to time we will report on our progress. Anyone seeking more information about Education for Ministry is welcome to contact me at any time (0428 320 668, jjmiller@bigpond.com).

Jamie Miller, EfM Mentor

CCSY Gardeners: the next phase

We are now into our sixth month of rehabilitation of the church gardens. Your encouragement and the support of Vestry and CCGS have spurred on our small but enthusiastic group to extend the work to the eastern part of the site. Our aim is to produce a drought-resistant and low maintenance garden, and we have been able to cope with the summer season by using water from the rainwater storage tanks with minimal loss of new planting.

We have been overwhelmed with gifts of gardening tools, including hoses, a whipper-snipper, and a hedge trimmer. All we need now are a few more hands to use the hand tools, so if you can spare one or two hours on a Thursday morning between 10am and 12noon, you will be welcomed with open arms, and some morning tea!

The next phase will include a working bee on a Saturday in autumn to remove large troublesome weeds by the south-east corner of the church building, planting native shrubs around the flowering gum tree (near the north-east corner), and planting two jacaranda trees in the Toorak Road garden bed to match the existing jacaranda. The aim is to do some new planting in autumn to give plants a good start before next summer. If you would like to donate toward the cost of plants please speak with Mother Jenny or myself.

Melbourne City Council has plans to enhance the eastern boundary of Fawkner Park, and we want to contribute to this project by tidying up the church's adjoining western boundary. As always, weeding continues, so come and join with us in this ongoing beautification of our site.

Roy Hardcastle

A Parish 'Wish List'

The articles above and below highlight the generosity of members of our community, who donate items to the Parish that are needed from time to time. If donating or contributing to the cost of specific items appeals to you as a form of stewardship, please be aware that Vestry is compiling a 'wish list' for the Parish. The items listed vary in price and in urgency. Here are a few examples:

- ◆ a sturdy wheelbarrow
- ◆ a 'section' of new pew cushion (@\$100 per section)
- ◆ a (second) outdoor gas heater

- ◆ a sturdy, demountable clothes rack (preferably on wheels)
- ◆ a fire-proof archives cupboard
- ◆ a robust paper shredder for the Parish Office
- ◆ a new set of green vestments

If you can assist with any of these, or would like to see a more extensive list, please speak with a member of Vestry.

Some 'new' church plate



Adding to the 'living tradition' of the liturgy at Christ Church, and to the fine collection of plate given to the Parish over the years, contemporary pieces by local artisan, Don Sheil, of Sheil Abbey, have recently been donated to the Parish.

A beaten, polished metal alloy bowl was donated by Philip Nicholls in memory of his mother, Joan.

A pair of chalices and patens in the same style have been donated by Honorary Sacristan, Adam

Waddell, whose gift was partially funded by parishioners through the sale of jam, vicarage-cumquat marmalade and other nice things, and by Jennifer and Penny Took, in memory of David Took, a long-time parishioner of Christ Church, and devoted husband and father.

The Ministry Team has been keen for some time to acquire crystal chalices for use at the altar. After much searching, four Waterford Crystal goblets (right) were chosen and donated (anonymously) as a thank-offering in time for Ash Wednesday, and were used throughout Lent.

Our thanks to each and all of these benefactors, known and unknown!



Meditation as a way of praying

During Lent a small group of parishioners explored the possibilities of Christian Meditation. As a long-time meditator and teacher of Christian meditation I was privileged to lead this small group in an exploration of what meditation is, how we meditate and why it can form a valuable part of our daily spiritual practice.

As a young man working for the British Foreign Service in South East Asia, John Main was introduced to the daily spiritual discipline of meditation.

Later, as a Benedictine monk at Cockfoster's Monastery in the UK, John Main became aware of the writings of the fourth-century desert father of the early Church, John Cassian. Studying Cassian's works, Dom John Main realised that forms of meditation (also described as contemplation) played a significant role in the spiritual life of the early Church.

John Main's role in the rediscovery of this ancient Christian tradition and his life's work of writing and teaching has led to a world-wide resurgence of interest in Christian meditation as a way of praying that is entirely relevant to the modern world.

During Lent our small group discovered that meditation is really about *practicing the presence of God* by coming to stillness and silence. We explored the scriptural basis for this way of praying and were encouraged by the example of Jesus who many times in the Gospel narratives separated himself from the crowds, sometimes with his disciples and sometimes alone, to pray in the stillness and silence of the desert and wilderness.

Some of us will continue to meet after Morning Prayer and before the 10.00am Eucharist on Wednesday mornings, to meditate in company. Others, beginners or experienced meditators, are invited and welcome to join us in the Chapel of the Resurrection.

Anyone who would like to explore Christian Meditation as a way of praying, a way of *practicing the presence of God*, is welcome to call me on 0428 320 668 (or email, jjmiller@bigpond.com). Copies of the notes from our Lenten teaching program are still available from the Parish Office.



Jamie Miller, Obl OSB

For Your Diary

- Sunday, April 18, 6pm** Choral Evensong, featuring a performance piece for Narrator, Choir, and Organ, *Saul* by Egil Hovland
- Friday, 7 May, 7pm** Mission Dinner
Speaker: Mr Jim Short
- Thursday 13 May, 7pm** Choral Eucharist and Festal Supper for the Feast of the Ascension
Preacher: Dr Catherine Playoust
- Sunday 16 May, 10am** Combined Parish and School service including First Communion
6pm Choral Evensong
- Sunday, 23 May, 10am** Choral Eucharist & Festal Morning Tea for the Feast of Pentecost, including Baptism, Confirmation, and Reception
Preacher: The Rt Revd Kay Goldsworthy
- Friday, 28 May, 7pm** Parish Film Night
- Sunday, 30 May, 10am** Choral Eucharist for Trinity Sunday
- Sunday, 6 June, 10am** Choral Eucharist for *Corpus Christi*
- Friday, 13 August, 7pm** Parish Trivia Night

... and to look forward to later in the year:

- Sunday, 29 August, 10am** Visit of The Most Revd Dr Philip Freier, Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne
- Sunday, 21 November, 10am** Choral Eucharist and Festal Morning Tea for the Feast of Christ the King, and Parish Farewell for Mrs Beryl Gregory
Address: Mrs Beryl Gregory, Headmistress, Christ Church Grammar School

Don't forget "Kids' Church" on the second Sunday of each month at 12noon, and our Sunday School Program on the fourth Sunday of the month at 10.00am

PARISH DIRECTORY

CLERGY

The Revd Dr Richard Treloar (*Vicar*)
The Revd Jenny Nelson
The Revd Paul Bower
The Revd Marilyn Hope
The Revd Dr Stephen Miles
The Revd Dr Dorothy Lee

MUSIC

Mr Philip Nicholls (*Director of Music*)
Mr Siegfried Franke (*Parish Organist*)

PARISH LAY READERS

Dr Peter Sherlock
Mr Jamie Miller

THEOLOGICAL STUDENT

Sr Jill Renison

PASTORAL WORKER

Mrs Deirdre Scott

VERGER

Mr Gordon Crow

SACRISTAN

Mr Adam Waddell

PARISH OFFICE

Mrs Lucy Loiacono
phone 9866 4434 fax 9820 9426
ccoffice@ccsy.org.au www.ccsy.org.au

SERVICE TIMES

Sundays

8am Eucharist (*BCP*)
10am Choral Eucharist
12noon Kids' Church
(2nd Sunday of the month)
10am Sunday School
(4th Sunday of the month)
6pm Evening Prayer
(Eucharist 1st Sunday of the month)
(Choral Evensong 3rd Sunday of the month)

Wednesdays

10am Eucharist

Fridays

12noon Eucharist

Saints' Days & Holy Days
as advertised

Morning & Evening Prayer
9am & 5pm weekdays

Christ Church Grammar School Chapel
8.45am Tuesdays & Fridays (in term)

CONTACT

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