

The 4th Sunday in Lent

10 March 2024

St Mary Magdalene's
Anglican Church



Founded 1886

Acknowledgement of Country. As a community, we recognise that the church is built and our worship is offered on the traditional lands of the Kurna people, and close to Tarntanyangga (Victoria Square), which is still an important meeting place for the Kurna people today. We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land; our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing; and our hope that we may walk together in harmony, in the spirit of Reconciliation.

When the bell rings, all stand and sing the hymn

HEATHLANDS



God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face;
shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
fill your church with light divine;
and your saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.

2 Let the people praise you, Lord!
be by all that live adored;
let the nations shout and sing
glory to their Saviour king;
at your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.

3 Let the people praise you, Lord!
earth shall then its fruits afford;
God to us his blessing give,
we to God devoted live:
all below, and all above,
one in joy and light and love.

Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847 alt

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

Isaiah 66.10-11

The choir sings the Entrance Antiphon.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her – that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast.

Invocation and Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace and peace of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Penitential Act

The choir sings

Charles Wood (1866-1926) in the Phrygian Mode

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie Eleison.

The priest, deacon, or another minister, says

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Silence

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All say

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The priest says:

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

Collect

Let us pray.

Everlasting God
in whom we live and move and have our being,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you:
give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,
that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will,
no weakness prevent us from doing it;
that in your light we may see light,
and in your service find perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21.4-9

A reading from the book of Numbers.

The Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 107

Chant: Henry Smart 1813-79

Let the redeemed of the LORD say this,
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,
and gathered from far-off lands,
from east and west, north and south.
They wandered in a barren desert,
finding no way to a city they could dwell in.
Hungry they were and thirsty;
their soul was fainting within them.
Then they cried to the LORD in their need,
and he rescued them from their distress,
and he guided them along a straight path,
to reach a city they could dwell in.
Let them thank the LORD for his mercy,
his wonders for the whole human race;
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 2.1-10

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters: You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 3.16

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel Reading

John 3.14-21

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

✠ **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.' Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

For the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Fr Steven Ogden

Profession of Faith

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation,

**he came down from heaven;
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life for the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The priest may say

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

The prayers may conclude

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

God's Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Antiphon

Psalm 135.3, 6

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is gracious: sing praises to his name, for it is good.
He does whatever he wills, in heaven and upon the earth.

During the preparation of the gifts, the chant is sung, and a Collection is taken up.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Jacques Berthier 1923-94

When all is prepared, the priest says,
Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
Accept all we offer you this day,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

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 him thanks and praise.

Holy Father,
compassionate and good,
it is right to give you thanks and praise,
for you never cease to call us
to a new and more abundant life.

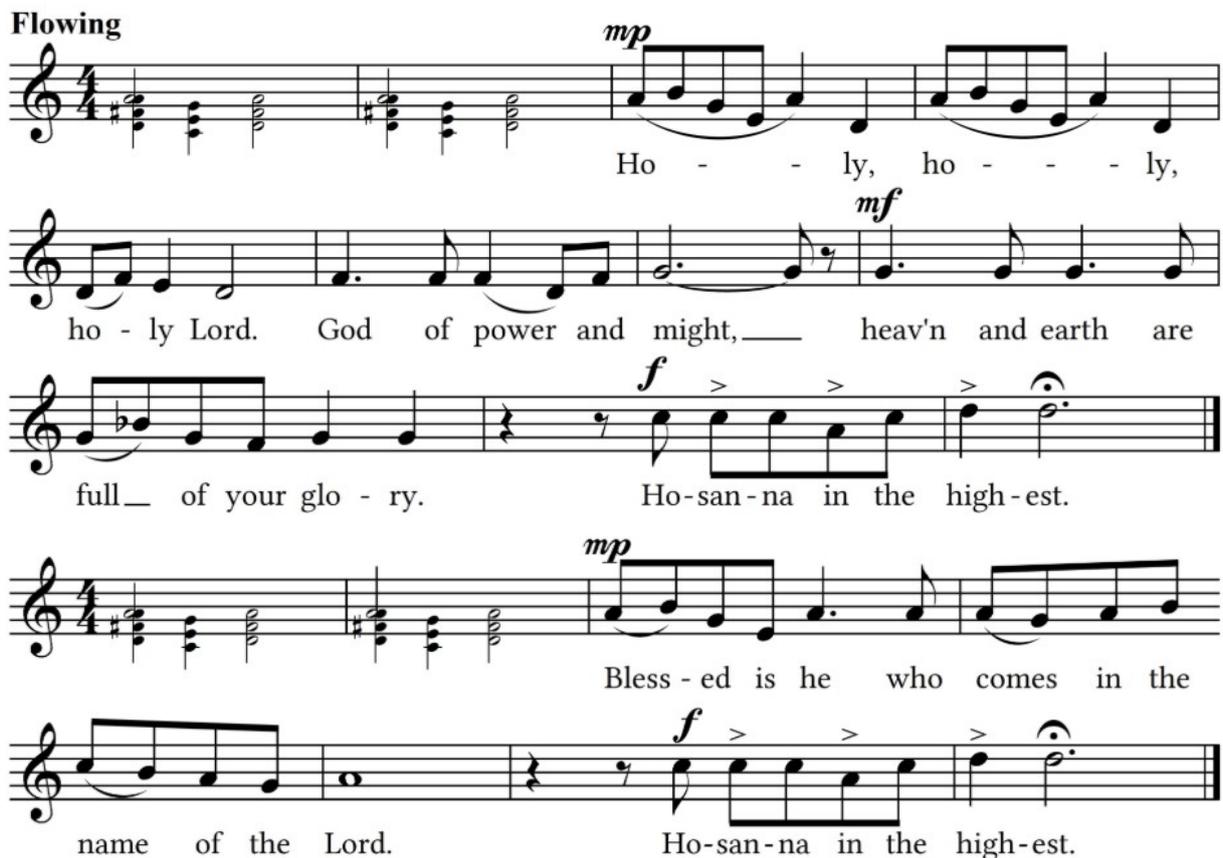
Though we are sinners,
you constantly offer us pardon
and ask us to trust in your mercy alone.

Time after time, when we broke your covenants,
you did not cast us aside;
but through the incarnation of Jesus, your Son,
you bound the human family to yourself
with a new and unbreakable bond.

In Christ you give your people
a season of reconciliation and grace:
a time to draw new breath
for our journey back to you,
a time to open our hearts to your Spirit
and respond to the needs of all.

In wonder and gratitude
we join our voices with the choirs of heaven,
as we proclaim with joy the power of your love
and sing the endless hymn of your glory:

Flowing



Ho - - ly, ho - - - ly,
ho - ly Lord. God of power and might, - - - heav'n and earth are
full - of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

From the beginning, O God,
all you have done for the human family
you have done for our good,
that we may be holy, as you yourself are holy.

Merciful Father,
look with love on those you draw to yourself
through their sharing in the sacrifice of Christ.
By the power of your Spirit,
may they become the body of your risen Son,
in whom all divisions are healed.

Help us to work for the coming of your kingdom,
until at last we stand in your presence
and take our place among the saints,
with the Virgin Mary and the apostles,
and with our departed brothers and sisters,
whom we commend to your mercy.

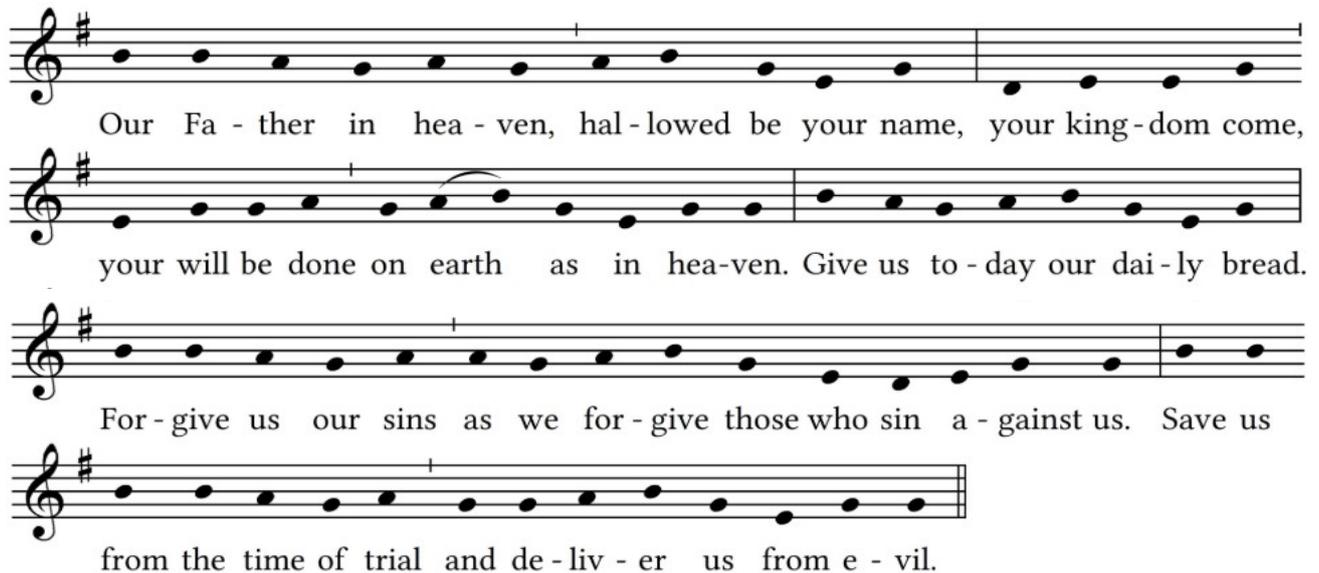
Then, in the glory of your new creation,
freed from the sting of death,
we shall sing to you the hymn of thanksgiving
which rises from Christ the living Lord,
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through whom, with whom, in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

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



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come,
your will be done on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us
from the time of trial and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

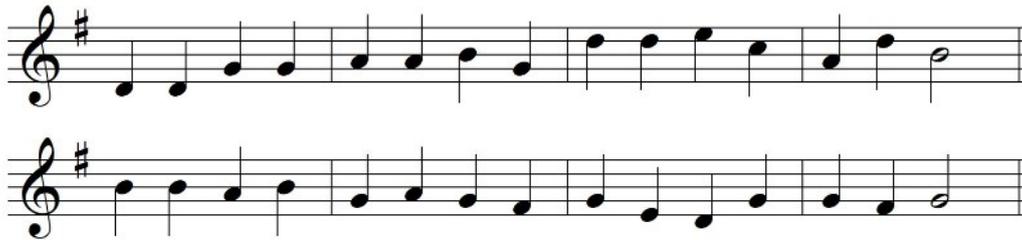
Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Giver of life,
you enlighten all who come into the world.
Fill our hearts with the splendour of your grace,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily praise your holy name,
through Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Postcommunion Hymn

STUTTGART



**In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**

**2 Through the cross, Christ's love empowers us
worldliness and self deny;
by his Spirit it inspires us
him, through love, to glorify.**

**3 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake us,
from it shines our peace and joy.**

**4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.**

**5 In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**

John Bowring 1792-1872
Charles Louis Fouvy b.1928 (v.2)

Blessing of Simnel Cake

Almighty God, giver of all joy:
receive at our hands this cake,
that it may be to us a symbol
of our communion with you and with one another;
as its flour was once scattered
over our land as wheat and now is one,
so let us be one in anticipation
of your gift of the new Jerusalem
which, as your redeemed people,
is our joy, our hope, our destiny, and our home.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Prayer over the People and Blessing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God, who enlightens everyone who comes into this world,
illuminate our hearts, we pray,
with the splendour of your grace,
that we may always ponder
what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty
and love you in all sincerity.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The priest, deacon or another minister says,

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

"Learning to let go:
Meister Eckhart's life, thought, and faith"
Our parish Lenten Study. All welcome.



A philosopher and mystic from the Middle Ages who offers an enlivening and contemporary approach to life, and faith. Admittedly, Meister Eckhart is not an easy read, but together we will discover some gems for modern living. So, we will use his material selectively, and along the way I will provide some clues for interpreting this genius of the Middle Ages. Here is a sample:

"Now noble soul, consider yourself and the nobility that is in you, for you have been honoured in that you have received the image of God beyond all other creatures. Do not pursue mean things then since you have been created for greatness. This is how we should understand the soul to be the Kingdom of God."

Thursday 10am-11:15 (March 7, 14, 21, 28)

The course text is the Penguin Classic Edition of Meister Eckhart's Selected Writings which is available at Dymocks and other book stores for \$20-\$25, or on [Amazon.com.au](https://www.amazon.com.au) for \$17.70.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING AFTER MASS TODAY

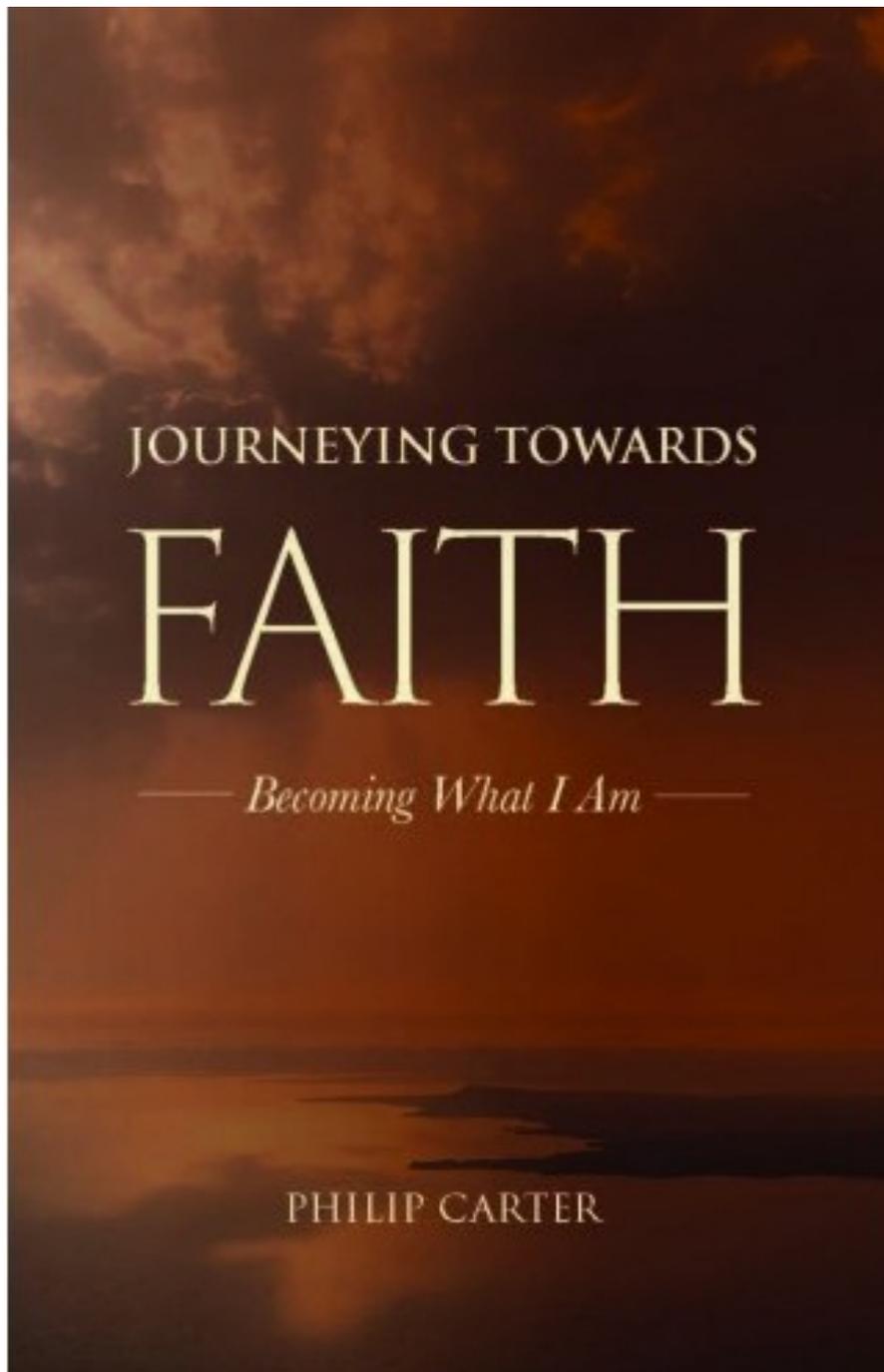
The Annual Vestry Meeting will be held after Mass today. In addition to reports from the Parish Priest and Office Bearers, there will be financial reports and elections. There will be a brief time of hospitality prior to the meeting.

TODAY IS ALSO REFRESHMENT SUNDAY

The 4th Sunday in Lent is known by many names. It is called *Laetare*, for the first word of the (Latin) Entrance Antiphon. It is also called Mid-Lent Sunday or Refreshment Sunday, with a focus on the easing of the rigorous discipline of the season at its mid-point. This is thought to be associated with the "lightening" of the liturgical colour violet to rose.

In England, since at least the Middle Ages, it has been known as "Mothering Sunday", honouring "mother churches", that is, the church where one was baptised and became "a child of the church". On Mothering Sunday, people would traditionally visit the church in which they received the sacrament of baptism. This observance waned over time, but was revived in 1913 by Constance Adelaide Smith, and gained popularity in response to the American secular celebration of "Mother's Day." It is still observed in this way in the UK.

Among the other traditions associated with the day, Simnel Cake may be blessed and eaten. Our thanks to Chris Bright, Catherine Freriks and others who support this delicious ministry!



Congratulations to Fr Philip Carter whose book *Journeying Towards Faith: Become What I Am* has recently been published by Coventry Press. The seven chapters in this book take seriously these celebrated words of Irenaeus. Confessing the Incarnation of Jesus of Nazareth, their underlying assumption is that Jesus did not come to offer us a particular way of being religious, but a universal way of being human.

The book is an invitation to become more fully alive and more fully human. It is out of the reality of our everyday lives – and in the context of our wounded and wounding world – where we can hear, through the questions Jesus asks, the call and challenge to have our thinking about ourselves, prayer, and our relationship with God, utterly transformed.

The book was launched last week at St Peter's Cathedral, and is available from the Cathedral shop (10.30 – 1 pm Monday, 10.30 – 3.30 pm Tuesday to Friday) for \$19.95. (Autographs are free!)

SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

Wednesday 8 am Lent Prayers
Thursday 12 noon Angelus; **12.10 pm** Mass (traditional rite)
Friday 6.15 pm Stations of the Cross
Sunday 10 am Sung Mass with children's ministry and choir

Mass is offered at St Peter's Cathedral Monday to Friday at 7.30 am, and on Wednesday at 10 am.

Inquiries about Baptisms and Weddings to Fr Steven Ogden.

Confessions or confidential personal time with a priest are always available on request.

Regular Giving and Donations

Financial support for our mission and ministry through electronic funds transfer (EFT) is an efficient way of making regular contributions to your congregation. Regular giving helps us plan for the future and ensures you continue offering support when you can't make it to Church.

Our Details: Bank: Anglican Funds SA

BSB 705-077 • account no 00000052 • Reference: Your name (Regular Giving)

The Magdalene Centre

82 Gilbert Street, Adelaide Tel (08) 8305 9389

Non-perishable food for those in need can be left in the baskets at the back of the church or delivered to the Magdalene Centre from 12 noon to 3 pm, Monday to Friday.

Donations of cash are welcome via <https://anglicaresa.com.au/cause/magdalene-centre/>.

The Collective of St Mary Magdalene (Mary Mags Dinner)

Pray for all those who receive the Collective's weekly support,
and who are seeking meals and companionship at other times during the week.

Directory

Parish Priest: The Revd Dr Steven Ogden

Fr Steven's appointment is part-time. His days on duty are Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday.

Office Email: StMMAdeelaide.Parish@outlook.com • Web: stmarymagdalenes.weebly.com •

Blog: stmarymagdalenesadelaide.org • Facebook: St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church

Next Sunday, 17 March, at 10 am – The 5th Sunday in Lent

Readings: Jeremiah 31.31-34 • Psalm 119.9-16 • Hebrews 5.5-14 • John 12.20-33

For Your Prayers

Pray for responsible leadership among the nations; pray for an end to violence and oppression; pray for peace and justice, especially for refugees, asylum seekers, and those seeking places of safety and security.

Pray for all those who are troubled in body, mind or spirit, especially Sim, Jasmin, John Edwards (priest), Peter Garland (priest), John Parkes (bishop), Stephan Clark (priest), Nance, Graeme, Neil, Elaine, Hugh and Bart O'Donovan (priest).

Pray for those who have died: those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time, especially Christopher Edwards. † *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*