

St Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church

Moore Street, Adelaide



An open, welcoming and inclusive community
in the heart of the City of Adelaide

Keeping Community Spiritual Resources & Reflections

Thursday 5 May 2022

Dear friends,

The relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions means it possible to again open the church for private prayer and public worship.

The regular schedule of worship resumes in Easter time with Regina Coeli at noon and Mass at 12.10 pm (Thursday) and Sung Mass and Regina Coeli (Sunday at 10 am)

These newsletters are intended to support the spiritual life of the community as we continue to cope with and respond to the pandemic.



1. From Fr Steven – The History and Mystery of Anglicanism

The next of our online and in-person study courses is now finalised – many thanks to those who provided comments and suggestions. I have entitled the course

THE HISTORY AND MYSTERY OF ANGLICANISM

The world has changed. Anglicanism, however, has a lot to offer our complex world. So, I will be offering a five-week course for the curious, new, and long-standing Anglicans.

The course will be held on Thursdays (**May 19, 26; June 2, 9, 16**). Each session goes for about an hour and a quarter. There are two options:

- **10am Bici Espresso*** 259 Hutt St (private meeting room)
- **7pm on Zoom** (let me know if you want a Zoom invitation)

1. OUR CELTIC ROOTS AND THE MYSTERY OF LIFE

- a. The earth is sacred
- b. Mystery is not magic
- c. The Synod of Whitby and the problem with Rome
- d. There are many ways of understanding the divine-world relation

2. THE REFORMATION: WHAT IS POWER? WHO IS IN CHARGE?

- a. Gregory VII (1020-1085) and the Investiture Contest
- b. A conciliar model and the council of Constance (1414-1418)
- c. Henry VIII (1491-1547) and the rule of moderation
- d. The problem of the sovereign exception

3. RICHARD HOOKER (1554-1600): GOD IS LIKE THE OCEAN

- a. Are Anglicans closet-Thomists?

- b. Scripture, tradition, and reason
 - c. The Evangelical and Oxford movements
4. THE SACRAMENTS AND THE REDISCOVERY OF MYSTERY
- a. Chantry Masses
 - b. We are symbol makers
 - c. Grandmother's mantelpiece
 - d. Karl Rahner and the power of symbol
5. AN INCARNATIONAL TRADITION
- a. The fear of modernity and the rise of fundamentalism
 - b. Church as an open space of freedom
 - c. The Incarnation of love

*Many of us are familiar with **Bici Espresso**. It is in Hutt Street, about 100 metres south of the Hutt Street library. **Bici** has an excellent, well-ventilated, private meeting room, which can take up to 12 people. The coffee and cakes are excellent. Parking is good. And they are pleased to have us there.

Fr Steven

2. COVID-19 Update from Friday 15 April

Since Friday 15 April, many of the remaining restrictions on public activities associated with the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic have been removed. In particular, this includes the requirement to wear face masks in indoor public spaces. The limitations on hospitality are also removed, provided good infection control is in place.

COVID-Safe Plans will continue to be required for the time being, by way of guidance about infection control and community safety, especially if there is a risk of over-crowding.

It is worth remembering the advice of the Australian Medical Association that a face masks continue to be an effective way of minimising the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases, especially in crowded or indoor settings, and anyone who wishes to continue to wear a face mask is at liberty to do so. We will continue to make face masks available, along with the other hygienic measures that have been in place for much of the past two years.

3. Daily Prayer

Most Christian denominations have forms for prayer in the morning and the evening, and at other times of the day. Morning and Evening Prayer in the Anglican church's *A Prayer Book for Australia*, are available in either a fixed form (pages 3 – 33) or a different form for each day of the week (pages 383 – 424).

Online Resources

There is a complete online version of Daily Prayer from *A Prayer Book for Australia* for each day available at Australian Daily Prayer <https://dailyprayer.ampers.x10.mx/>. There is also a free app for mobile devices from the App Store or Google Play.

The Church of England provides an online version of its orders for Daily Prayer at <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>. This is also available as a free app. The Divine Office of the Catholic Church is available online at www.ibreviary.com and is also available as a free app (App Store or Google Play).

Times of Prayer

Many people find it helpful to make a particular time daily for prayer and reflection. One option might be to join your prayer with those of the wider world at some special times during the day. While the church cannot be open every day, you may like to join the wider community in praying the Angelus at 9 am, 12 noon and 6 pm.

4. Reflections and Meditations

Reflections for our two weekly newsletters will continue for the time being, and our Thursday "Spiritual Resources" newsletter will continue to be uploaded to the web page. Fr Philip Carter's meditations and spiritual reflections are presented on our blog, <https://stmarymagdalenesadelaide.org/>.

To access these meditations, simply go to the blog and select the "Spirit matters" tab on the top. If you would like to receive an email update when there is a new posting on the blog, whether for a Sunday or weekday service, or for meditations and other supports for prayer, please subscribe to the blog using the box on the right-hand side of the page.

Service booklets as PDF files are still available for Sunday and weekday services on the web site and on the Parish's Facebook page.

5. Nomination Process

Bishop Denise Ferguson, the Assistant Bishop, chaired the first meeting of the Nomination Committee last night, Wednesday 4 May. It was a very positive and productive meeting, and we are pleased to advise that the Committee will meet again within the next two weeks for further discussion.

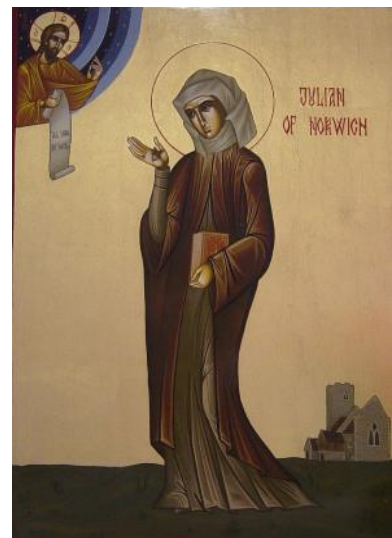
Please keep the members of the Nomination Committee (Annemarie van Putten, John Dow and Ashley Durham) and the Wardens (Alison McAllister and Peter Burdon) in your prayers as they engage in this vital work.

6. This Week in the Calendar

This week in the Church's calendar we celebrate the 15th century holy woman and mystic Julian of Norwich.

Julian was an anchorite, which meant that she lived enclosed permanently in a room (called an anchor-hold or anchorage) attached to a church with one window facing the altar and another window facing the world outside.

During an extreme illness, she experienced a kind of near-death experience in the form of sixteen visions, which she called "Showings." She wrote about these visions and understood them as revelations from God. While receiving these divine revelations, Julian was not simply a passive recipient but rather an engaged participant, praying boldly, seeking God's face, asking questions, not holding anything back. And Christ seemed to appreciate this and continued to draw her deeper into his love, encouraging her to pray with all that was within her. In one vision, Christ spoke to her and said, "Pray *interly*."



To pray *interly* means to pray inwardly or interiorly, with all of the emotions and questions of the inner life. And praying *interly* also means praying entirely, with the whole self, with the body, with the physical life. When Christ said to Julian "Pray *interly*" he was saying, "Pray entirely, wholeheartedly, earnestly, even if you feel nothing. Bring that nothingness to me in prayer. If you're feeling dry, barren, empty, weak or sick, bring all those parts of yourself to me. I want it all."

Julian invites us all to pray *interly*, pray entirely, wholeheartedly, with our whole selves, our physical bodies, our doubts, our questions, and our emotions. Whether we're feeling sick or bored or frustrated or disappointed, we are invited to give it all to God in prayer. If we have big, burning questions about the problem of suffering or about heartless governments or about the future of the church or about difficulties in our own personal lives and families, Julian's example encourages us to bring all of that to God. Although we might not get the rational, watertight answers that we might be seeking or expecting, we *will* get *revelations of love*. As the 20th century Anglican philosopher Austin Farrer put it: "God does not give us explanations; God gives up a Son."

7. Intentions for Your Daily Prayers

We pray throughout the week for the world and the church. These intentions may be helpful in your private or family prayers.

For the world. The leaders of the world as they seek to respond to the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. For refugees and asylum seekers, that they may find places of safety and welcome.

For the church. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Diocese of Leeds (England). In our national church, pray for the Diocese of Bathurst; and within the Diocese of Adelaide, for clergy widows and widowers.

For our local community. For the Collective and its ministry in the local community. For the Magdalene Centre, as it deals with the need to change the way it delivers services in order to safeguard the health of customers, staff and volunteers.

For those in need. For all those who are sick in body, mind or spirit, especially Paull, Sim, Dulcie, Jasmin, Henry, John Edwards (priest), Peter Garland (priest), Robert Whalley (priest), Mark, Neil, Olivia and Elaine.

For those who have died. Those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; those who have died as a result of COVID-19 and in other tragic circumstances; those who have died recently, especially Clarice Conacher, Pam Lindsay and Mike Carroll, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. ✠ *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

For the saints. For the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Joseph, St Mary Magdalene, St Julian, and holy women and men of every time and place.

This newsletter will normally be distributed weekly on Thursday. Any appropriate items should be emailed to the Parish Office, StMMAdeelaide.Parish@outlook.com, by Tuesday evening at 5 pm.

