

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 Thursday 19 November 2020

Spiritual Resources & Reflections

Dear friends,

We are saddened to advise that the reintroduction of strict Covid-safety measures in South Australia means that public worship must again be paused.

There will be no public worship until further notice. It is hoped that this pause may be for as little as a fortnight, but the duration remains to be seen.

The new restrictions are significantly harsher than previously. **Everyone must remain at home unless they are engaged in specific activities**, so it will not be possible for anyone to visit the church for any reason, including the ringing of the bell for the Angelus at 9 am and noon.

While we cannot worship in person, we will continue to publish the Order of Mass for reflection, or preparation for a Spiritual Communion. In these Thursday newsletters, we offer ideas and opportunities for nourishing our personal and communal spiritual lives.

1. From Fr Graeme – Christ the King

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King – albeit, sadly, in our hearts. Most, if not all the liturgical year our celebrations are seasons are all centred on Christ in some way. So it is fitting that the last Sunday of the liturgical year is “Christ the King” as we reflect on the past year and concentrate on the King himself.

In terms of our prayer about Christ the King it is helpful to think of us living our lives with Christ’s life within us. Jesus said that he and his Father are one and he assured us that his own life would be in us. Life can be so much easier, and solutions to immense problems can seem more probable to us when we actually believe that Christ is a tremendous power with us and not an isolated person outside us. St Paul writes that we only come to be mature Christians if we grow into Christ’s likeness and learn to know the fullness of his life within us. In our prayer we can gradually become more fully like God. – a “measure of the stature of Christ.” Our times of prayer can help us to allow the relationship between us and God to thrive in our minds and thoughts.

It is a challenge for us to be able to recognise that God is within every person, including those people who seem to be utterly without God or very much beneath us.

We cannot see God but we can see God’s creative life around us and in others. Every person has this creative life within them and has the potential of being something or someone beyond our imaginings.

When the apostles and disciples began to preach about Jesus they did not speak of him as someone in the past. They did not just speak of his parables and healing ministry. Their message was that Jesus is The Christ and that Jesus has brought the Kingdom of God among us on earth. They preached that they had seen the Power of God at work within Jesus, and that after Jesus had been raised from the dead they had the assurance of his life and his power within them, too.

When we pray we can be certain that we have Christ's life within us and that this life charges our prayers tremendously.

Fr Graeme Kaines
Locum Priest

2. 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). The Bible readings for each day can be found in *The Australian Lectionary*, and for reference the readings for the coming week are:

	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Thursday 19 November <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	Ps 45 Zechariah 11.4-17 Matthew 25.31-46	Ps 46, 47 Wisdom 6.17 – 7.6 Revelation 9.1-12
Friday 20 November	Ps 48 Zechariah 12 Mark 1.1-13	Ps 49 Wisdom 7.7-20 Revelation 9.13-21
Saturday 21 November	Ps 50 Zechariah 13 Mark 1.14-28	Ps 119.41-64 Wisdom 7.21 – 8.4 Revelation 10
Sunday 22 November <i>Christ the King</i>	Ps 68.1-18 1 Corinthians 2.1-10	Ps 93 1 Samuel 16.2-13 Matthew 21.1-11
Monday 23 November <i>St Clement of Rome</i>	Ps 54, 55.1-12 Zechariah 14.1-11 Mark 1.29-39	Ps 55.13-28 Wisdom 8.5-18 Revelation 11.1-14
Tuesday 24 November	Ps 56, 57 Zechariah 14.12-21 Mark 1.40-45	Ps 60, 61 Wisdom 8.21 – 9.18 Revelation 11.15-19
Wednesday 25 November <i>James Noble, Aboriginal deacon</i>	Ps 62, 63 Malachi 1 Mark 2.1-17	Ps 64, 67 Wisdom 10.15 – 11.10 Revelation 12.1-6
Thursday 26 November	Ps 65, 70 Malachi 2.1-16 Mark 3.18 – 3.6	Ps 66 Wisdom 11.15 – 12.2 Revelation 12.7-18

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 (App Store or Google

Play). The Divine Office of the Catholic Church is available online at www.ibrevariary.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 we cannot attend at the church at the present time, you may like to join the wider community in praying the Angelus at 9 am, 12 noon and 6 pm.

Ÿ. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

℞. **And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women,

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God,

pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death.

Ÿ. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

℞. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ... **Holy Mary** ...

Ÿ. And the Word was made Flesh.

℞. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ... **Holy Mary** ...

Ÿ. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

℞. **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts : that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an Angel ; so by his Cross ✠ and Passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

3. Reflections and Meditations

Fr Graeme and others within our community will continue to prepare Reflections for Sundays and Holy Days for posting on the web page. Fr Philip Carter's meditations and spiritual reflections will in the future be presented on our blog, <https://stmarymagdalenesadelaide.org/>. To access the tab, 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.

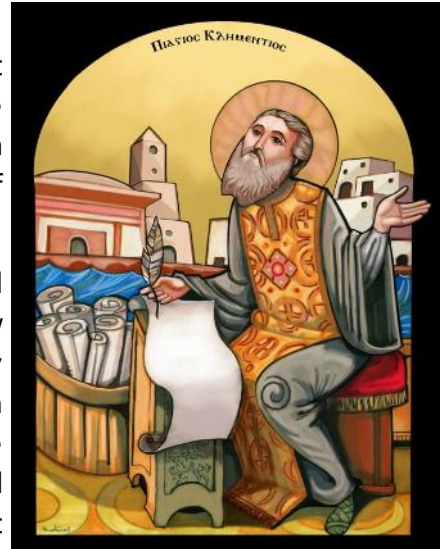
Service booklets as PDF files are still available for Sunday and weekday services, both on the web site and on the Parish's Facebook page.

4. In the Church's Calendar

This week in the church's calendar we celebrate the feasts of St Clement of Rome, and the first Aboriginal deacon in the Anglican Church of Australia, James Noble. And on Sunday, of course, we celebrate the last Sunday in the liturgical year, the feast of Christ the King.

St Clement of Rome (d. 101) Clement of Rome was the third successor of Saint Peter, reigning as pope during the last decade of the first century. He is known as one of the Church's five "Apostolic Fathers," those who provided a direct link between the Apostles and later generations of Church Fathers.

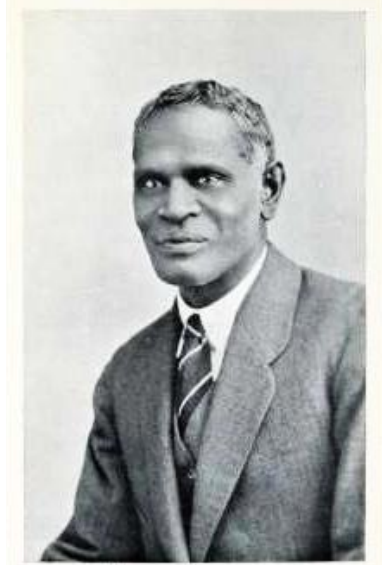
Clement's "First Epistle to the Corinthians" was preserved and widely read in the early Church. Indeed, until the New Testament canon was definitively settled in 382, it was widely regarded as scriptural. This letter from to the Church in Corinth concerns a split that alienated a large number of the laity from the clergy. Deploring the unauthorised and unjustifiable division in the Corinthian community, Clement urged charity to heal the rift.



Today many in the Church experience polarisation regarding worship, how we speak of God, and other issues. We'd do well to take to heart the exhortation from Clement's Epistle: "Charity unites us to God. It knows no schism, does not rebel, does all things in concord. In charity all the elect of God have been made perfect."

Rome's Basilica of St. Clement, one of the city's earliest parish churches, is probably built on the site of Clement's home. History tells us that Pope Clement was martyred either in the year 99 or in 101.

James Noble (c.1876-1941) was born in North Queensland, of parents from Normanton, in about 1876. While working as a stockman in the 1890s, he asked to receive some education, and was given private lessons in the evenings. His studies of the Bible led to his conversion, and he was baptized in 1895.



From the early 1900s, Noble became increasingly involved with the church. He was licensed as a lay reader at Forrest River in Western Australia in February 1925, and on 13 September in the same year he was made deacon at St George's Cathedral, Perth, becoming the first Aboriginal Anglican cleric in Australia. He returned to a ministry with which he was already involved at Forrest River, where he continued to build a fledgling community,

By 1928 there were twenty-four buildings at Forrest River, many constructed of sun-dried bricks made by Noble. In 1933 there was a permanent population of 170 Aborigines with some 800 regular visitors. In addition to nursing, Noble's wife Angelina taught the mission children, baked the mission bread and cooked for the staff. Noble returned to Queensland in 1933, being appointed first to the Palm Island mission and then to Yarrabah in 1934. His later years were blighted by ill health, and he remained in Yarrabah until his death in 1941.

A powerful evangelist and witness against injustice, James Noble is a vital figure in the history of the Anglican Church of Australia.

5. Advent Study – Preparing for Christmas

Leonie Zadow has proposed an Advent Study to be based on Richard Rohr's Preparing for Christmas. Rohr writes,

"Advent is not about a sentimental waiting for the Baby Jesus," Richard Rohr asserts. Advent is a time to focus our expectations and anticipation on "the adult Christ, the Cosmic Christ," who challenges us to empty ourselves, to lose ourselves, to surrender.

It is proposed that with the week's pre-reading completed, there be a gathering by Zoom on Wednesday evening from, say, 7.30 to 8 pm where participants will read the reflection together then have an opportunity for those meeting together to say something that has been significant for them around that reflection.

There is an opportunity for anyone who wishes to speak out of their own lived and felt experience - a timely and also safe way of doing a group gathering for such a study.

If you are interested in participating, please let Leonie (leonie@redirt.com.au) know in the coming week or ten days so that preparations may be made ahead of the beginning of Advent on 29 November.

6. St Clement of Rome – Wonderful are God's Gifts

From a letter to the Corinthians by Saint Clement I, Pope
(Ps. 32, sermo 1, 7-8: CCL 38, 253-254)

Beloved, how blessed and wonderful are God's gifts! There is life everlasting, joy in righteousness, truth in freedom, faith, confidence, and self-control in holiness. And these are the gifts that we can comprehend; what of all the others that are being prepared for those who look to him. Only the Creator, the Father of the ages, the All-Holy, knows their grandeur and their loveliness. And so we should strive to be found among those who wait for him so that we may share in these promised gifts. And so we should strive to be found among those who wait for him so that we may share in these promised gifts. And how is this to be, beloved brothers? It will come about if by our faith our minds remain fixed on God; if we aim at what is pleasing and acceptable to him, if we accomplish what is in harmony with his faultless will and follow the path of truth, rejecting all injustice, viciousness, covetousness, quarrels, malice and deceit.

This is the path, beloved, by which we find our salvation, Jesus Christ, the high priest of our sacrifices, the defender and ally in our helplessness. It is through him that we gaze on the highest heaven, through him we can see the reflection of God's pure and sublime countenance, through him the eyes of our hearts have been opened, through him our foolish and darkened understanding opens toward the light, and through him the Lord has willed that we should taste everlasting knowledge. *He reflects God's majesty and is as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs.*

Let us then serve in his army, brothers, following his blameless commands with all our might. The great cannot exist without the small nor the small without the great; they blend together to their mutual advantage. Take the body, for example. The head is nothing without the feet, just as the feet are nothing without the head. The smallest parts of our body are necessary and valuable to the whole. All work together and are mutually subject for the preservation of the whole body.

Our entire body, then will be preserved in Christ Jesus, and each of us should be subject to his neighbor in accordance with the grace given to each. The stronger should care for the weak,

and the weak should respect the stronger. The wealthy should give to the poor, and the poor man should thank God that he has sent him someone to supply his needs. The wise should manifest their wisdom not in words but in good deeds, and the humble should not talk about their own humility, but allow others to bear witness to it. Since, therefore, we have all this from him, we ought to thank him for it all. Glory to him for ever. Amen

7. Intentions for Your Daily Prayers

We continue to 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 medical researchers, that they may be granted knowledge and wisdom as they search for a vaccine and cure. For refugees and asylum seekers, that they may find places of safety and welcome.

For the church. For all those who are challenged to be church in a different and unfamiliar way. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Dioceses of Sambalpur (North India); Dunkwa-on-Offin (West Africa); and Durgapur (North India). In our national church, pray for the Diocese of Gippsland; and within the Diocese of Perth, for the Parish of Modbury.

For our local community. For the Collective as it resumes its ministry to the community in the Drop-In Centre is suspended, and for its guests as they seek places to eat and rest. 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. For all those affected by the COVID-19 coronavirus and all who care for them. For those who are commended to our prayers, especially Paull, Valerie, Bishop David McCall, Sim, Chris, Clarice, Philip, Phyllis, Dulcie and Jasmin.

For those who have died. For those who have worked and worshipped in this place before us; all those who have died recently; those who have died as a result of COVID-19; and those whose anniversaries of death occur at about 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 Margaret, St Hilda, St Hugh, St Elizabeth, 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, omarymag@anglicaresa.com.au, by Tuesday evening at 5 pm.

