

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF KILCOY/ WOODFORD



St. Mary's
Kilcoy



St. Matthias
Woodford



Mt. Mee
Community Church

Priest-in-Charge: *The Rev'd Jilleen Chambers*
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James, Apostle and Martyr *July 25th 2021*

Welcome

St. Mary's, Kilcoy

Sundays, 8.00 am – 36 in the church
Wednesdays, 9.30 am

St. Matthias', Woodford

Sundays, 10.00 am – 28 in the church
2nd Tuesdays, 9.30 am

Mt. Mee Community Church

Services suspended
until further notice

Bellthorpe Community Hall

5.30 pm – 29th August, 2021

Truly the Lord
has done great
things for us:
and therefore
we rejoiced
Psalm 126: 4

Holy Communion is available to all baptised & communicant members of Christian churches. All are invited to come forward to receive either a blessing or Holy Communion. Please join us at the end of the service for refreshments.

TODAY'S LITURGY

We welcome two of our wonderful School Chaplains: Kilcoy, Kate Gold; Woodford, Amy Head

Sentence:

While we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. 2 Corinthians 4.11

Collect:

O gracious God, whose apostle James left his father and all that he had, and without delay obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ: pour out upon the leaders of your Church the same spirit of self-denying service by which alone they may have true authority among your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 45 *A reading from Jeremiah Chapter 45, beginning at the 1st verse.*

The word that the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Baruch son of Neriah, when he wrote these words in a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah: Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch: You said, 'Woe is me! The Lord has added sorrow to my pain; I am weary with my groaning, and I find no rest.' Thus you shall say to him, 'Thus says the Lord: I am going to break down what I have built, and pluck up what I have planted—that is, the whole land. And you, do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them; for I am going to bring disaster upon all flesh, says the Lord; but I will give you your life as a prize of war in every place to which you may go.' *Hear the word of the Lord, thanks be to God.*

Psalm: Psalm 126 (APBA p 362)

Second Reading: Acts 11:27 – 12:3 *A reading from Acts, Chapter 11 beginning at the 27th verse.*

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul. About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.)

Hear the word of the Lord, thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 20:20-28 *The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew Chapter 20, beginning at the 20th verse.*

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.' When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

For the Gospel of the Lord, praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

For those who are sick/ in need: Len and Jules, Simon, Patricia, Helen, Olive, Wayne, Ann, Sue, Wendy, Dale, Ellen and Karen

For our parish: Loving God, bless and enable each person in this parish; inspire us in our vision and guide us in our planning and working together. May our lives so reflect the light of your kingdom that others may see and be drawn to your presence. May they come to know the grace and peace of your everlasting love for all your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Continue to pray for: Our wonderful School Chaplains:

Kilcoy: Kate Gold; **Mt Kilcoy** Rob Turner; **Woodford:** Amy Head; **Delaneys Crk:** Monique Robertson

For Everyone affected by COVID 19: For the virus outbreaks in Australia and the many other countries where the Delta strain is rampant; for the fearful and the grieving; for vaccines to be available & everyone to be vaccinated; for equal access to the COVID vaccines for all countries.

Please pray for: The unemployed and underemployed; for the homeless and people in rental stress; the victims of domestic and family violence; and for the victims of child abuse.

Praise God for: all the wondrous blessings we receive as God's beloved children.

WEEKLY AND COMING EVENTS

Mondays: Bible Study at St Mary's 9.30am: Come and join us.

Wednesdays 9.30am: Weekly Service at St Mary's. Everyone welcome.

Thursdays 10am: KYB at St Matthias, Woodford

Wednesday 28th July 6.30pm: Parish Council meeting at Woodford – hopefully without masks

Thursday 29th July 9am: Qtrly Ecumenical meeting at St Mary's Catholic Church hall.

Monday 2nd August 11am: Hymnfest at Aloaka – come and join the residents

Wednesday 4th August 9.30am: Service at St Mary's followed by the Guild meeting

Thursday 5th August 10.45am: Hymnfest at Embracia – come and sing with the residents.

Tuesday 10th August 9.30am: Service at St Matthias followed by the Guild meeting

CHURCH NOTICES

Mission to Seafarers: Calling all knitters – The Mission to Seafarers welcome donations of beanies

Stamps for ABM: Please save your stamps for ABM – trimmed with a small border is really great

Woodford/Delaney's Creek Chaplaincy Fundraising Dinner at Ocean View Winery Estate –

Wednesday 18th August 6pm. Cost \$50 per person. Please see Rev Jilleen for more details.

Wine and Cheese Evening: Mt Mary's Kilcoy hall – Friday 27th August. **Save the date!!** We are in need of items to raffle and for a silent auction. Bring your friends and book a group table.

Thoughts to Ponder: St. James & St. John, Apostles - *By Br. David Allen SSJE.* Acts 12:1-2 and Matt. 20:20-28 - The Feast Day of James the Apostle and Martyr helps us to remember both the fact of martyrdom and the meaning of martyrdom. In the reading from Acts we heard, "About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword." We do not know for sure what happened to John, his brother, the other son of Zebedee. We can only assume that he experienced some form of martyrdom. The word Martyr derives from the Greek word for witness.

For many centuries it was assumed that John, the brother of James, was also the author of the Gospel of John, John the Evangelist. It was also thought that he wrote the 3 New Testament letters that bear the name of John, and the Book of the Revelation as well. Scholars now think that these New Testament books were written by different men with the name John.

In early Celtic spirituality there were three kinds of martyrdom; the white martyrdom of exile, the green martyrdom of the hermit, and the red martyrdom of blood sacrifice. (ref: Sea-Road of the Saints, John Marsden, p.14.) From lack of scriptural or other evidence we have to assume that the martyrdom of John was either red martyrdom, or perhaps the white martyrdom of exile.

The reading from the Gospel of Matthew tells us of an incident that occurred when Jesus and his disciples were starting on their way up the long and winding road from Jericho up to Jerusalem. The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus, and kneeling before him, asked a favour of him: that her two sons would sit one at Jesus' right hand and one at his left in his kingdom. Mark tells us that it was James and John themselves who asked this favour of Jesus. (Mark 10:35-45) Jesus addressed his reply to James and John. "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" Their reply was, "We are able." Jesus answered them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to

grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” (Matt. 20:22-23)
 The Gospel reading teaches us the importance of willingness to accept martyrdom in whatever form it may come. “We are able.” There are numerous references to “cup” throughout the Bible, referring to what life has in store for a person, either as good fortune, or as suffering and woe. Most of those references are in the Psalms and the Prophets, with a few in the New Testament. Jesus used that figure of speech in his reply to James and John to test their willingness to follow steadfastly no matter what might be the circumstances. Like most eager young men impressed by the charisma of a leader, they answered, “We are able”.

It could well have been like that for James and John, and the others of those first Apostles of Jesus. At the time of Jesus’ arrest, trial, and crucifixion the disciples seem to have scattered. But after Jesus appeared to them and reassured them of his resurrection, they found that they were able to follow his call, even when it meant facing death by a sword, or other cruel forms of martyrdom. At the end of the Gospel reading, perhaps sensing the anger of the other 10 disciples, Jesus turned and spoke to all 12 of his disciples together about the servant ministry to which he was calling them. In the very last sentence Jesus gave himself as an example of what he meant. “Whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” (Mt.20:27-28) On one level this was calling the disciples to humility and service to others. On a deeper level, I think, it was a call of preparation for whatever was to come, even martyrdom. This is the call given to all of us in our Baptism. I hope that we can truly answer; “With God’s help, we are able!”

PRAY DAILY: * **The Scottish Episcopal Church** * **The Diocese of The Murray:** †Keith Dalby; Clergy and People * **The Parish of Freshwater:** Claye Middleton, Clergy and People.* **Edwin Marsden Tooth Residential Aged Care – Manly** * **All Anglican Schools Business Managers/Bursars and Senior Leaders.** * **All School Chaplains.**

PEW REFLECTIONS. July 25th 2021 - *Text: Robert McLean ABM’s Partnerships Coordinator ABM, 2021.*

In one of St Paul’s famous passages, we read that though suffering for the sake of the Gospel he may appear to be knocked down but he hasn’t been knocked out yet: ‘We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed’. So it is with the Church in parts of the world today – in various countries throughout the Middle East, Africa, Asia, South and Central America. **Pray** for the Persecuted Church throughout the world, that all may worship without fear or repression. **Give thanks** for the work and witness of the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

FUTURE READINGS

1st August – Pentecost 10 (G)	
2 Samuel 11: 26 - 12:13a	Psalm 51: 1-12
Ephesians 4: 1-16	John 6: 24-35
8th August – Pentecost 11 (G)	
2 Samuel 18: 5 - 9,14, 31 - 33	Psalm 130
Ephesians 4: 25 – 5:2	John 6: 35, 41 - 51

BLESSING: May the Spirit lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

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