



St. Mary's
Kilcoy
67 William Street



St. Matthias
Woodford
88 Archer Street

Bellthorpe Community

Priest-in-Charge: *The Rev'd Jilleen Chambers*
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Lent 1
March 9th, 2025

Welcome

St. Mary's, Kilcoy
Sundays, 8.00 am
Wednesdays, 9.30 am

St. Matthias', Woodford
Sundays, 10.00 am
2nd Tuesdays, 9.30 am

Bellthorpe Service
Sunday 30th March 5.30pm

*When you call upon
me
I will answer you:
I will be with you in
trouble, I will rescue
you and bring you to
honour. Psalm 91: 15*

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

Notice: This Sunday, Services in Kilcoy and Woodford are cancelled due the current weather event – stay safe and dry

Sentence: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.

Luke 4.8

Collect: O saving God, who led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land: so guide us that, following our Saviour, we may walk through the wilderness of this world and be brought to the glory of the world which is to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Today's Hymns

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer - Seek ye first the kingdom of God
Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes – Holy Spirit, go before us

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1 – 11 *A reading from Deuteronomy, Chapter 26, beginning at verse 1:* When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house. *Hear the word of the Lord, thanks be to God.*

Psalm 91:1 - 2, 9 - 16 (APBA pp 319 – 320)

Second Reading: Romans 10:4 - 13 *A reading from Romans, Chapter 10, beginning at verse 4:* For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

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

Gospel: Luke 4:1 - 15 *The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke, Chapter 4, commencing at verse 1:* Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."' Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", and "On their hands they

will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time. Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

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

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

For those who are sick/ in need: Patricia, Val, Cindy, Wendy, Della, Lenny, Jewels, Tanisha, Tim, Bob, Mandy, Annette, and Darren.

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.

Pray for: Our wonderful School Chaplains: Mt Kilcoy Peter Robertson; **Kilcoy High:** Vacant; **Woodford:** Vacant; **Delaneys Creek:** Tracy Sbresni. Pray for School Chaplain vacancies to be filled.

Pray for: Domestic & family violence, child abuse victims and perpetrators; People experiencing homelessness; rental & mortgage stress. Refugees; All victims of war and ethnic violence. Peace & justice for Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon and Syria.; Women in Afghanistan; Hunger & disease in the Sudan; Food & medical aid for Gaza and for the ceasefire to hold. The New Parish Council

Praise God for: The Holy Spirit who uphold us and enables us to resist temptations.

WEEKLY & COMING EVENTS

Tuesdays Bible study at St Matthias 10.00am: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Come and join us

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

Tuesday 11th March 9.30am: Service at St Matthias’ followed by the Guild meeting

Wednesday 12th March 10.00am: Hope 25 Lenten Bible study in St Mary’s – and weekly for Lent

Friday 14th March 9.30am: Ecumenical Lenten Bible Study continues - Woodford Catholic Church

Friday 14th March World Day of Prayer postponed: Kilcoy 9.30am and Woodford 2.00pm

Sunday 16th March: Parish Council meeting following the Woodford service

Sunday 30th March 5.30pm: Service at the Bellthorpe Hall followed by a bring-and-share fellowship meal. Everyone is invited to come and join us

CHURCH NOTICES

Reminder: the Parish email is changing: The Parish’s new email address will change to: kilcoy@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Thoughts to Ponder: A Question about Fasting by Br. David Vryhof SSJ *Mathew 9: 14-17*

“Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?” (v.14) Fasting was a commonly accepted spiritual practice among the Jews and had been for centuries. It was recognized as an effective way to express sorrow for sin and a means, hopefully, to avoid God’s judgment. John the Baptist and his followers and the Pharisees regularly practiced it, not only for their own sakes, but vicariously for the nation.

Jesus stands in contrast to them. “The Son of Man came eating and drinking,” the Gospel writer tells us (Mt 11:19). Jesus and his disciples do not fast – which naturally raises the curiosity and suspicion of those who do. Jesus’ nonparticipation in this particular spiritual practice points to its theological weakness. Fasting, as it is often understood and practiced, emphasizes not what God

is doing, but what humans must do in order to humour God into behaving favourably. Jesus claims this is unnecessary because God is present and active now; the Good News of God's reign is here! "The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they?" (v.15a) The "bridegroom" is Jesus himself: through his ministry of healing and reconciliation, as well as through his association with outcasts and sinners, Jesus is proclaiming the arrival of God's rule. God is not distant and threatening, but present and active, here and now, bringing forth new life! And that is cause for celebration!

Something new is here. "In Christ there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (II Cor 5:17) The images of unshrunk cloth being sewn on a cloak or of new wine being put into old wineskins, underscore the incompatibility of the old and the new. There will still be times of pain and sadness – Jesus knows his path is leading him towards greater and greater opposition and that it will likely end with his death. "The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from you," he acknowledges (v.15b). But that does not prevent Jesus' followers from celebrating what God is doing among them now.

The contrast puts before us a question: Where have we been directing our attention? Have we been too preoccupied with the evils of the world and with humanity's failures? Do we live in a constant state of fear, wringing our hands with worry? Have we missed seeing the things God is doing now in our lives and in our world? Rather than bemoaning the tragic consequences of our fallen human state, Jesus invites us to live with joy, constantly alert for signs of God's grace around and within us. God is present and at work! Grace and salvation are here, and are available to us in abundance. There is cause for authentic celebration!

PRAY DAILY: * **The Anglican Church of Canada** * **The Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn:** †Mark Short; Assistant Bishop; Clergy and People * **The Parish of Boonah-Harrisville:** Robert Weekes, Jenni Weekes * **Ministry with the Medical Fraternity** * **St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School, Corinda:** Principal - Toni Riordan; Chaplain - Gillian Moses; School Council members; staff & students

PEW REFLECTIONS. March 9th, 2025, Robert McLean © *Anglican Board of Mission, 2025.* Today we see that at the outset of his ministry Jesus retreated to the desert to pray. But he was tempted by the devil, who offered things that appeared to be substantial but that were in fact hollow. Jesus did not let temptation derail him from taking the right path, and in that way he has become a model for us: though tempted and tested, we too can avoid temptation, even when it comes wrapped up in quotations from Scripture. **Pray** for all those who find themselves in positions where they are being spiritually abused, and for those who are perpetrators of spiritual abuse. **Give thanks** for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Korea.

FUTURE READINGS and HYMNS

16th March – Lent 2 – Violet – Year 'C'

Gen 15:1-12, 17-18 Ps 27 Be Thou my vision - You are my hiding place

Phil 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35 Who would true valour see - This day God gives me strength

23rd March – Lent 3 – Violet – Year 'C'

Is 55:1-9 Ps 63:1-9 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour – Ancient Words

1 Cor 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9 Our Father, God in heaven above – Come, God's people, sing

BLESSING: Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen

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