

St John the Baptist Bulimba.

7.30am and 9.00am.



RUN THE RACE!!

READINGS AND PRAYERS FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

11 February 2024

SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones!

Give thanks to God's holy name!

Psalm 30:4

THE COLLECT FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY:

Everliving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, healed the lepers and brought good news to the despised and outcast: grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control, that in serving others in their need we may strive for the imperishable wreath that you bestow on all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 KINGS 5:1-14

LINDA MITCHELL MICHAEL SMIT

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵ And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.' He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶ He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' ⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.' ⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had

commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Notes on 2 Kings 5:1-14.

On one level this is a tale of international diplomacy and intrigue. The tensions between the two nations was evident and the threats were very real. At another level this is a very personal narrative of a powerful man learning humility and learning to value advice and assistance from unexpected sources and in unexpected ways. Pride is such a terrible blinder to acts of grace and mercy. Yet in the end the light shone through.

At 7.30am Psalm 30 will be sung with a response:

I will praise you Lord, for you have rescued me.



At 9.00am Psalm 30 will be said in alternate verses (as usual)

¹ I will exalt you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up from the depths:
and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.

**² O Lord my God, I cried to you:
and you have made me whole.**

³ You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence:
you saved my life from among those that go down to the Pit.

**⁴ Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones:
and give thanks to his holy name.**

⁵ For if in his anger is havoc, in his good favour is life:
heaviness may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

**⁶ In my prosperity I said 'I shall never be moved:
your goodness, O Lord, has set me on so firm a hill.'**

⁷ Then you hid your face from me: and I was greatly dismayed.

⁸ I cried to you, O God:

and made my petition humbly to my Lord.

⁹ 'What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit:
can the dust give you thanks, or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ 'Hear, O Lord, and be merciful:

O Lord, be my helper.'

¹¹ You have turned my lamentation into dancing:
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,

¹² That my heart may sing your praise

and never be silent:

O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Notes on Psalm 30

The high and mighty, the wealthy and influential, are accustomed to being treated with deference to the point that some consider themselves to be superior beings. My favourite story which shows this arrogance is 'The Emperors new clothes'! In this psalm a person of influence has 'got it' and found humility though which to recognise and embrace the gift of God. We don't have to be rich or influential to need to learn that lesson though! Open hearts and minds are needed for us all!

The Second Reading, from 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. ANN WINFIELD LINDA PHILLIPS

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. ²⁵ Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; ²⁷ but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Notes on 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

I wonder if the time of the writing of this passage coincided with one of the well known 'games' held in that area of Greece, on which our modern 'Olympic Games' were based? Paul uses very specific imagery and we may miss the meaning if we take it too literally. This is an encouragement to determination and focus, to prize the good news and living our life in God as highly as athletes

do their training and preparation and exercise of their skills.

GOSPEL: MARK 1:40-45

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴⁰ A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' ⁴¹ Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' ⁴² Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. ⁴³ After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, ⁴⁴ saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' ⁴⁵ But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Notes on Mark 1:40-45

Serious skin diseases in the ancient world were many and deeply feared. They all tended to be lumped together as 'leprosy' and so it is difficult to determine what actually ailed the man. But what we do see is the extraordinary power Jesus had to respond to people on many levels, depending on their need. People with such diseases were shunned and excluded from society (as we see in other stories of such healing) and so beyond the physical healing this was a man who had been given back his life! In the Old Testament there were procedures for people to be welcomed back into society after having been shunned for some problem (physical or otherwise). Jesus is inviting the man to discover new life and a fresh start.

Parish Prayers

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

In The World: -

- The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- The Diocese of Gippsland: †Richard Treloar; Clergy and People

In The Diocese:

- The Parish of Camp Hill – Norman Park: Peter Moore - Locum
- Roslyn Lodge Pastoral Visitation Program, Mt Tamborine
- St Hilda's School, Southport: Principal – Virginia Warner;

Chaplain - Patrick Duckworth; Chair of School Council - Catherine O'Sullivan; members of School Council; staff & students

Pray for those in need:

Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Kerrie, Douglas, Helena, Roy, Williamson Family, Helen, Rev Paul Bland, Joan, Pam, Dorothy, Gary, Rev Karen, Samantha, Ian, Brian, Karen S. Robin.

To add names to this list please contact Sarah in the Parish Office. Names will be kept for two months unless requested to continue. Please let us know of changes in situation for those who we hold in prayer.

Please take and use this list in your prayers throughout the week.

In Memory

12th February—18th February

Mam'selle Michelle Landers (1945)

Phyllis Mary Jones (2018)

To arrange direct debit for your regular giving,

please use the account details:

BSB 704 901 Account number 00014573.

Account name Bulimba Anglican Parish

Notices

Ash Wednesday. In preparation for Ash Wednesday palms from last year will be burned after the 9.00am service today.

Lenten Study. This year we will be using a resource produced by ABM called 'God's Own Country.' If you would like to be part of a study group please let us know through the Parish Office. We will hold an evening group and a daytime group on Wednesdays, at 10.00am and 7.00pm. These will begin on 21 February, the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday. If you would like to have a copy of the study to use alone or with a partner/others please also let us know.

Annual Meeting. 10.30am on 25 February in the Maheno Room. Nominations for the positions to be elected at the Annual Meeting (Wardens, Parish Councillors, Synod Representatives and alternates and Nominators) close on Sunday 18 February. Please

consider prayerfully who should fill these positions and serve our church community for the next year.

THIS COMING WEEK IN THE PARISH			
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY THURSDAY AND FRIDAY		8.30AM	MORNING PRAYER
TUESDAY	13th	10.00am	Hoy with Morning Tea
WEDNESDAY	14th	10.00am & 6.00pm	Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes
FRIDAY	16th	10.00am	Eucharist
SUNDAY	18th	7.30am	Eucharist
		9.00am	Eucharist including Children's Church
<i>Advance notice</i>			
Wednesday	21st	10.00am & 7.00pm	Lenten Studies begin
FRIDAY	1 st March	10.00am	*** no service at St John's. World Day of Prayer at Sts Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church, Riding Road, Balmoral

ROSTERED DUTIES 18/02	7.30AM	9.00AM
L.A.'s	Allan T/Tony	Sarah/Donovan
MUSIC	Wendy Bastow	Wendy Bastow
READERS	Vanessa/Roslyn	Roland/Donovan
INTERCESSOR	Tony	Sarah
MORNING TEA		
WELCOMERS	Ann	Steven/Laurie
AUDIO VISUAL	Volunteer	Lisa
FLOWERS	no flowers in Lent	CHURCH CLEANING Wendy/Sara

Rector

Reverend Canon Paul Mitchell Mobile 0400411055

Email: priest@stjohnsbulimba.org

Associate Clergy

Reverend Quinn Humphreys Mobile 0403 531 538

Reverend Sharon Mitchell

Church Contact

Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

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Website: www.stjohnsbulimba.org Follow us on Facebook

GOODIES FOR GOODNA

Our support of the Parish of Goodna continues this year and we collect at both services each Sunday. We are all set up for monthly deliveries and our donations are greatly appreciated by those in the Goodna area who struggle, week by week, to feed, house and provide for their families.

Goodna Anglican Welfare Ministry (GAWM) has requested that we continue to donate toiletry items (which are not able to be purchased with their funding) and here is their current list:

Shampoo; Conditioner; Deodorants (men's and women's); Sanitary pads and tampons; Tissues; Kids Snacks; Toothpaste; Toothbrushes; Shaving Cream.

They have adequate supplies of toilet paper and nappies but will let me know if needs change. They are also putting together packs of **school supplies (pencils, pens, school stationery; exercise books; pencil cases and backpacks)** and this will be an ongoing need for children starting or changing schools. They are also happy to receive second-hand school supplies like exercise books and pencil cases so if your child had an upgrade this year then please donate any unwanted items.