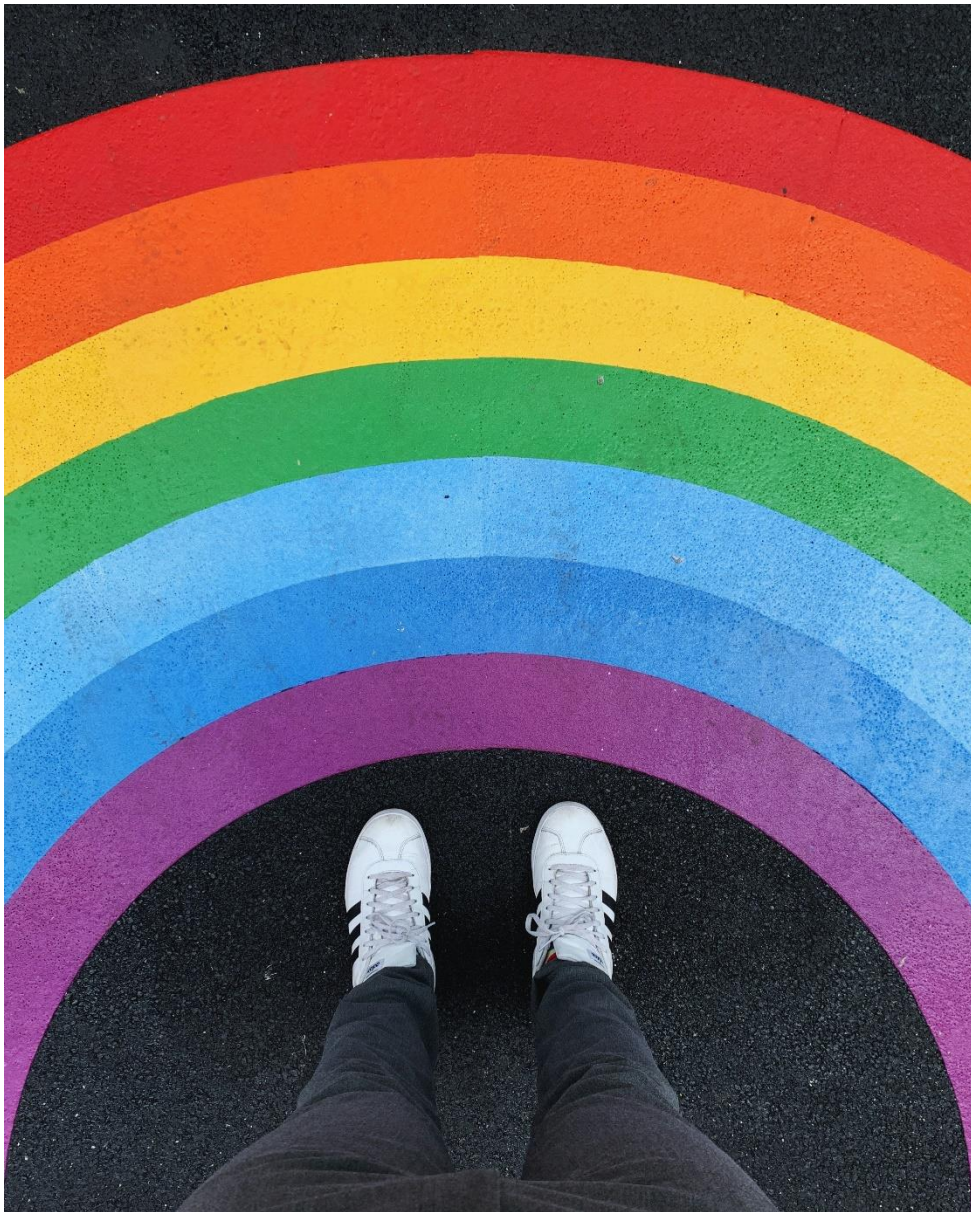


# St John the Baptist Bulimba.

7.30am and 9.00am.



(Image from [Carlos de Toro @carlosdetoro](#) on [Unsplash](#))

# READINGS AND PRAYERS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

18 February 2024

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### SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near:  
Repent, and believe in the good news. Mark 1.15

### THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT:

God of the new and eternal covenant, as the forty days of the great flood swept away the world's corruption and watered new beginnings of the righteousness and life: Grant to us, who are washed clean and born again in the saving flood of baptism, the wellspring of your grace, that your gift of new life may flourish once again; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### THE COLLECT FOR ASH WEDNESDAY, READ ON EACH SUNDAY IN LENT:

O Lord, who for our sake fasted forty days and forty nights: give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the spirit, we may ever obey your godly will in righteousness and true holiness; to your honour and glory, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: GENESIS 9.8-17      VANESSA HANLON ROLAND  
SOWERBY

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

*Notes on Genesis 9:8-17.*

*Rainbows are a natural phenomenon caused by the refraction of light through water in the atmosphere. That is science. Rainbows are also beautiful. That is aesthetics. Rainbows are also signs of many things to many people in many cultures across the ancient world and our modern world. They are seen as signs of blessing, inclusiveness, hope and joy. All those understandings are 'correct'. As in the days of Noah we observe and notice signs and they become for us reminders of connections in our lives.*

*Questions to take into your week:*

- 1. When you see a rainbow what are the first connections which you make?*
- 2. What hope is released in you by the promise of blessing in the rainbow connection?*
- 3. How does the inclusivity of many colours in one stream of light invite you to embrace diversity and inclusivity in your life?*

*Psalm 25:1-10.*

*Women:* <sup>1</sup> *In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:  
in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.*

**Men: <sup>2</sup> Let none who wait for you be put to shame:  
but let those that break faith  
be confounded and gain nothing.**

*Women:* <sup>3</sup> *Show me your ways, O Lord:  
and teach me your paths.*

**Men: <sup>4</sup> Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:  
for you are the God of my salvation.**

*Women:* <sup>5</sup> *In you have I hoped all the day long:  
because of your goodness, O Lord.*

**Men: <sup>6</sup> Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness: for they  
are from of old.**

*Women:* <sup>7</sup> *Remember not the sins of my youth,  
nor my transgressions: but according to your mercy think on me.*

**Men: <sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the Lord:  
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.**

*Women:* <sup>9</sup> *The meek he will guide in the path of justice:  
and teach the humble his ways.*

**Men: <sup>10</sup> All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:  
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.**

*Notes on Psalm 25:1-10*

*This psalm is an expression of faith. We are held in love by God who knows that we are not perfect, and loves us. We are guided in love by God who knows that we wander away all too easily, and loves us. We are cherished in love by God who remembers everything, and loves us.*

*Questions to take into your week:*

- 1. Who are the enemies who may disrupt your hope? Are they outside and around you, or are they within – temptations, memories, regrets ...?*
- 2. How do you remind yourself in every moment of your day of God's mercy and compassion (see verses 5 and 6)?*
- 3. Verse 10 suggests that 'all paths of the Lord' are valuable. Faithfulness to God can appear in many ways and expressions. How do you respond to those whose paths are different to yours?*

The Second Reading, from 1 Peter 3:18-22.

ROSLYN THOMSON

DONOVAN SPARKS

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Hear the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

*Notes on 1 Peter 3:18-22*

*The inclusiveness of the covenant, of which the rainbow is a reminder, continues to startle us. Those who we may have been prepared to consign to 'hell' (to eternity disconnected from God) are not discarded by God as easily as we would discard them. God's heart of love is bigger than our imagination.*

*Questions to take into your week:*

- 1. When you are going through painful and difficult times what difference does it make to you that Jesus lived a physical life in which he endured terrible suffering?*
- 2. The story of Noah's Ark was considered even in ancient times, as shown here, as a metaphor – a story which conveyed meaning and invited deep reflection. How does that understanding transform how you read that story?*

3. *As we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter what appeal to God will you be making as you seek renewal?*

### **GOSPEL: MARK 1:9-15 Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

### **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### *Notes on Mark 1:9-15*

*So much drama is concisely contained in these few verses! It is no wonder that Luke and Mark took this brief account and filled it out with glorious detail. Every sentence here begs questions and sparks the imagination about interaction, context, what might have been seen and the responses of those who witnessed such events. It is good to have the fuller accounts but also good to sit with this passage and let your prayerful imagination be immersed in the drama!*

#### *Questions to take into your week:*

- 1. How do you imagine this scene? What do you think you would have seen if you had been there beside the Jordan river that day?*
- 2. When in your life have you been in a place where all the normal supports were absent and your reliance on God was what held your life together?*
- 3. The 'kingdom of God' is not a place or a structure or an organisation. It is relationship, expressed in and through a person, Jesus. How does that transform your understanding of being a 'citizen' of the kingdom of God?*

## **Parish Prayers**

### **The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

#### **In The World: -**

- The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- The Diocese of North Queensland: †Keith Joseph; Clergy and People

## In The Diocese:

- The Parish of Clayfield St Mark's: Nicole Colledge, Peter Daugaard
- Converge International Industrial Chaplain
- The Springfield Anglican College, Springfield: Principal - Steven Morris; Chaplain - Jonathan Kemp; Chair of College Council - Michael Willis; members of College 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, Karen S., Robyn, Lionel.

*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

19th February—25th February

Edith Agnes Dorman (1980) Georgia Grace Sivyer (2014)

James Scott Hay (1993)

### 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

**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. At our Annual Meeting we will begin to consider our Parish Vision.

<b>THIS COMING WEEK IN THE PARISH</b>			
<b>MONDAY, WEDNESDAY THURSDAY AND FRIDAY</b>		8.30AM	MORNING PRAYER
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	21st	10.00am & 7.00pm	Lenten Study
<b>FRIDAY</b>	23rd	10.00am	Eucharist
<b>SUNDAY</b>	25th	7.30am 9.00am 10.30am	Eucharist Eucharist including Children's Church Parish AGM
<i>Advance notice</i>			
<b>FRIDAY</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> March	10.00am	*** no service at St John's. World Day of Prayer at Sts Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church, Riding Road, Balmoral

<b>ROSTERED DUTIES 25/02</b>	<b>7.30AM</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>
<b>L.A.'s</b>	Roslyn/Felicity	Roland/Charmaine
<b>MUSIC</b>	Robert Bland	Howard Greaver
<b>READERS</b>	Ann/June	Swanson Family/Sarah
<b>INTERCESSOR</b>	Allan T	Swanson Family
<b>MORNING TEA</b>		
<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Allan T/Sue G	Volunteer
<b>AUDIO VISUAL</b>	Allan	Alan S
<b>FLOWERS</b>	no flowers in Lent	<b>CHURCH CLEANING</b> Barbara





### **Rector**

Reverend Canon Paul Mitchell Mobile 0400411055

Email: [priest@stjohnsbulimba.org](mailto:priest@stjohnsbulimba.org)

### **Associate Clergy**

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](http://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.