

28 JUNE 2020 - TODAY'S SERVICES



THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

9.00AM—ZOOM SERVICE ONLINE

ST JOHN  
THE BAPTIST

EST. 1888

ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Prayer for our New Parish Priest**

Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments;  
an encourager who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling.

Give to those who will choose, wisdom, discernment and patience, and to us give warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

*A Prayer in the Midst of a Crisis*

*God of searching and knowing, your people Israel faced famine and wilderness, and your church has known persecution and hardship. Be close to all your children in this time of bewilderment and fear. Make this time of cessation and isolation one in which your Spirit reveals new ways to be together, fresh discoveries in worship, different gestures of care, and innovative forms of compassion. Encourage the vulnerable, comfort the impoverished, inspire the anxious and give wisdom to those who govern. Lift up our hearts that we may see the abundance of what is still beautiful and true, not be captivated by what is lost and absent, and find new gifts in ourselves and one another. In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, who knew what it meant to be alone. Amen*

**Locum: The Reverend Jamee-Lee Callard**

**(Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)**

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# THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

## SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

You will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

*Luke 1.76-77*

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way for your Son our Saviour by preaching a baptism of repentance: Make us so to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent, and, following his example, may constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

## 1ST READING: ISAIAH: 49.1-6

DON HANN

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.' And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

## PSALM 139: 1-11

1. O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- 2. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**
3. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.**
5. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- 6. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.**
7. Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8. If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**
9. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- 10. even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.**
11. If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night',

So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: 'You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, "I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes." Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet." 'My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.

**GOSPEL: LUKE 1.57-66, 80**

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

## ***Reflection:***

*John the Forerunner, as our Orthodox sisters and brothers call him, came to prepare the way for God to come into the world. In this panicked and anxious world, how can we become channels for God's reign of love to come into the world?*

*Pray that we might be used to bring God's love, hope and justice to our towns and cities, and to the Overseas Partners with whom ABM works; for Christ has no hands, no eyes, no ears, no body now – but ours.*

*Give thanks for the work and witness of St John the Baptist's Cathedral, Murray Bridge.*

*Give thanks for those who work to bring love, hope and justice to a world that longs for them.*

Text: Robert McLean Partnerships Coordinator, ABM © Anglican Board of Mission, 2020

## **THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:**

### **IN THE WORLD: -**

- ⇒ **Pray for the united Church of North India:** †Prem Chand Singh - Moderator of CNI & Bishop of Jabalpur

### **IN THE DIOCESE:-**

- ⇒ **The Parish of Hervey Bay:** Greg Loumeau, Vic Burgess, Lorraine Dawson
- ⇒ **Anglicare SQ Community Aged & Disability, West**

**LOCALLY: PRAY FOR THE ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE, AS THEY CONTINUE TO SELF-ISOLATE AT HOME. PRAY FOR THEIR HEALTH AND FOR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM NEIGHBOURS AND FRIENDS.**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Bronwyn, Duncan Family, Kerrie, Roselee, Steph and Chris, Kerry, Gloria, Joseph, Linda, Elizabeth, Bernie, Don, Andrea, Graham, Pat, Mac, Rosemary.

## **In Memory, June 28—July 4**

**LEONARD (LEN) LOXTON—1972; ELLEN (NEL) LOXTON 1985: STELLA CRASWELL, 1968;  
CYNTHIA POTTS, 1986;**