

3 MAY 2020 - TODAY'S SERVICES

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9.00AM—ZOOM SERVICE ONLINE

SUNDAY	10	9.00am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
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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

Coronavirus pandemic – a suggested prayer:

Gracious God,

We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.

We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.

We pray for those in need of healing.

We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving.

We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response.

We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders.

We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable.

This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

**Locum: The Reverend Jamee-Lee Callard
(Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)**

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To arrange direct debit for your regular givings, please use the account details:

BSB 704 901 Account number 00014573. Account name Bulimba Anglican Parish

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SENTENCE FOR THE DAY:

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

John 10.11

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep: Send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1ST READING: ACTS 2.42-57

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

PSALM: 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

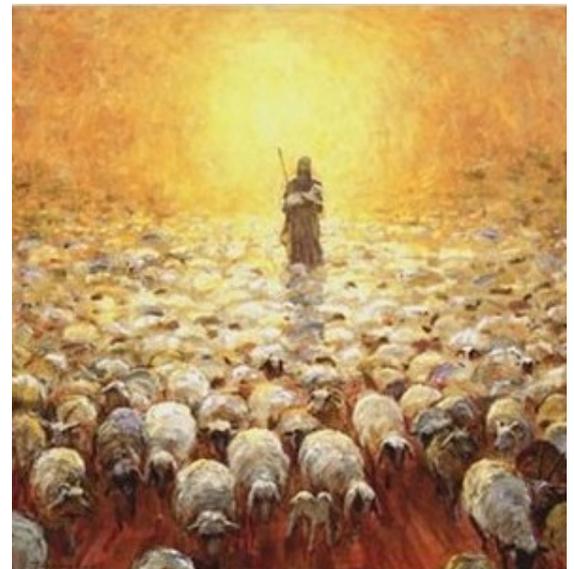
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

3 He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.



The Shepherd— Unknown Artist

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 2: 1-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: ‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner’, and ‘A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10: 1-10

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Gospel Reflection: This weeks diocesan devotion is written by The Rev'd Michael Stalley from The Parish of Chelmer-Graceville.

Have you ever seen the ABC programme *Gruen*, which explores the advertising industry? In one episode, in a segment called ‘The Pitch’, the programme challenged an agency to create an advertisement that convinced atheists to believe in God. The result was a very witty advertisement that thought the best approach was to persuade people to purchase an ‘Eternal Insurance Policy’ with the tag, ‘God, you’d be mad not to!’

Continued over the page...

When did Christianity become all about the future? When is this abundant life meant to begin? Today is Good Shepherd Sunday when we hear Jesus's promise of abundant life. We might wonder why the world around us considers this promise to be empty. The message of abundant life brings great comfort to so many of us. I think what we sometimes miss is that through Easter this promised life has already begun. Even in such times as we are experiencing now, we are called to live the abundant life revealed by the Good Shepherd.

To be Christian is to seek to live the example of abundant life; a life found in a relationship with the Good Shepherd and each other. The experience of physical isolation we know now feels as though something has been stolen from us. On the other hand, relationships, which show God's love, return to us abundant life.

Abundant life now! You'd be mad not to.

THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

IN THE WORLD: -

- ⇒ **The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan):** †Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu - Primate of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai & Bishop of Hokkaido
- ⇒ **The Diocese of Armidale:** †Rick Lewers; Clergy and People

IN THE DIOCESE:-

- ⇒ **The Parish of All Saints, Brisbane:** Vacant; Andrew Gilbert, Bill Pearson, Robert Long
- ⇒ **Finance and Diocesan Services Commission:** Sandra Long and staff
- ⇒ **Cannon Hill Anglican College, Cannon Hill:** Principal – Gary O'Brien; Chaplain – Vacant; Chair of College Council – Gavin Nicholson; members of College Council; staff & students

LOCALLY: FOR THOSE WHO OFFER CLEANING SERVICES DOMESTICALLY, PUBLICLY AND COMMERCIALY, ESPECIALLY FOR ALL WORKERS SANITISING SPACES FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES.

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

In Memory, May 4—May 10

**ALEXANDER TODKILL, 2001; LAURA MARTINEZ, 2019; HENRY FLETCHER, 1943;
ELVA GILLAS, 2008; LANCELOT WALSH, 2006**