



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Mildura

Sunday 29th March 2020

CHURCH BULLETIN

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Due to the restrictions on gathering for Worship, there will be a number of changes to our Bulletin. Please read this document carefully...and may the Blessings of Our Lord be with you all.

Prayer of the Day (Collect)



Almighty God, look in mercy on your family.
By your great goodness, guide and protect us forever
in body and soul. We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Today's Bible Readings

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Vision of the valley of dry bones

Psalm: 130

2nd Reading: Romans 8:6-11

The Spirit of God lives in you

Gospel: John 11:1-45

The raising of Lazarus - Jesus' last sign

Baptismal Birthdays:

Claudia Braun (31/03)
Janeene Hartmann (01/04)
Steven Ayling (02/04)
Judith LePoidevin (02/04)



Roster while the Church building is closed:

Lawns: S.Ayling

Readings for this week:

Monday 30th

Tuesday 31st

Wednesday 1st

Thursday 2nd

Friday 3rd

Saturday 4th

Sunday 5th

John 6:52-66

John 11:45-57

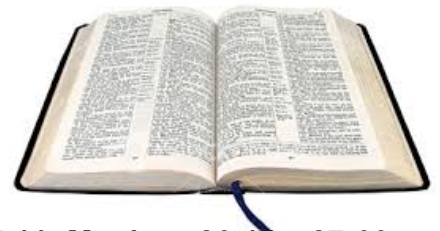
Ephesians 2:1-10

Hebrews 3:1-8

Hebrews 7:23-28

Psalm 118:1,2,19-29

Matthew 21:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14 – 27:66



Announcements:

- **COVID-19 Updates:** will be provided through our email and the Bulletin. Those people who do not have access to the emails will be provided with hardcopy information and/or phone calls. This is an ever-changing situation and we will be making every effort to keep all members updated.
- **You are invited to sign-up for the Holy Trinity Pen Pal Clu.:** Given the limitations of our current situation we are finding creative ways to remain connected. Do you remember the good old days when you stayed in touch via a letter? Or maybe you'd like to take up a new hobby and try writing a letter, or card, or drawing a picture to send to someone? If so, please contact Debra Heinrich by phone: 0439 309 588, or email: debra.heinrich@tlc.vic.edu.au or by post – PO Box 1634 and please specify if you'd like to; A. Write Letters, B. Receive Letters or C. Write and Receive Letters. Open to all ages and abilities.
- **Passing of the Peace:** under current restrictions we are unable to do this in person. An option that we recommend is to do this now by phoning/emailing/writing to another member of our congregation and wish them the Blessings of Our Lord and ask how they are going. It doesn't need to be a long conversation but it may be just the contact that a number of us need – particularly those who are home alone.

- **Daily Devotions:** will be emailed out everyday. This is a new service from the LCA and Ian will endeavour to get these out as early as possible each morning.
- **REG:** during this time there may be a number of services where people are unable to be present. In order to know that your weekly offering is assured please register with Regular Electronic Giving (REG). See attachment for details.
- **Pastoral Care Information:** please be the eyes and ears for Pastor and Deacons as to who may require extra Pastoral Care during this time. If you know someone that is hospitalised for various reasons, struggling with isolation, or any other pastoral need. The relevant numbers are on the back of the Bulletin and in the Church Family Booklet. Pastor and Deacons will be in constant contact with each other online as will Church Council.

Prayer points:

- **Members receiving care in hospital or nursing homes:** Doreen Gray & Nola Schilling (Princes Crt), Meryle Donhardt & Del Turner (Bupa Aged Care), June Greatz, Dorothy Mattschoss & Del Gaulke (Chaffey Aged Care, Merbein), Roy Schilling (Regis), Andrew Buffon (Melbourne), Jess Gaulke and Gwenda Wilksch (Mildura Base)
- **Members receiving care at home, recovering or in need of prayer:** Rohan Reimers, Bryon Reed, Prue Archibald, Laurie Hartmann, Karen Gaulke, Nina Rudiger, Ron Oxley, Marg Chiswell, George Colgan, Dianne Keeble, Ray Tschirpig, Kate Archibald, Helen Zibell, Liz Buffon, Russell Zibell
 - thank God that Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life.
 - thank God that in Jesus Christ, he feels our sadness, grief and pain, when someone we love dies.
 - thank God that he gives life to our mortal bodies through the Holy Spirit.
 - for Russell Zibell, Andrew Buffon, Kate Archibald, Gwenda Wilksch, Jess Gaulke and others recovering from medical conditions.
 - for Jacob Fabich as he undertakes studies to become a pastor.
 - for the following families and members of our congregation: M.Heinrich, T.Heinrich, Hewitt

Notes on Readings:

Ezekiel 37:1-14: Ezekiel was a prophet to the people of Israel in exile in Babylon. They were as devoid of political hope and possibility for national restoration as the field of dead bones of the slain shown him by the Lord. God directed Ezekiel to breathe life into the people in exile with the promises of his word. The comparison is reminiscent of God breathing into the nostrils of the first man to make him a living creature. The change to a picture of future opened graves gives promise that in the future the nation will be returned to its 'own soil', namely in Jerusalem and Israel. They will know thereby that the Lord has spoken.

Romans 8:6-11: Christ has met the complete requirement of God's law which God had rightly demanded of all people. Believers in Christ have in this way been set free from the law of sin and death. Therefore no believing Christian can set his or her mind on the things of the 'flesh', ie sinful pleasures and evil which belong to the old sinful nature. Those things militate destructively against the Spirit's indwelling. Even though a Christian is still afflicted bodily by sin, yet the life of the Spirit imparts life, just as the Spirit raised Jesus from the dead.

John 11:1-45: The high point in this miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead is the revelation of Jesus as Son of God and the Messiah. The proof of this brought to a head the fanatical opposition of the religious leaders which resulted not long afterwards in his arrest, trial and execution in Jerusalem. While his full humanity is prominently evident in his emotional response to the grief of Mary, Martha and their friends, his divinity is manifested above all other considerations. He is seen to have foreknowledge of Lazarus's death and what he would do to glorify God. Jesus teaches clearly that there is everlasting life through believing in him. He proves this by raising a body already into the stage of decomposition.

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