

the candle

26 June 2022-Pentecost 3

"Find your life in Jesus!"

TODAY'S Bible readings:

2 Kings 2.1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77.1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5.1, 13-25; Luke 9.51-62

Sentence: Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for Jesus' sake will find it. [Matthew 10.39]

Prayer of the day: O God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, the strength of the thoughts that seek you: help us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whose service is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Peter and Paul: Almighty God, whose apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their deaths as in their lives: grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

If you are a communicant member of another Christian church, you are invited to share in the Eucharist in today's 9.30AM service. We pray that God will minister to you through the Word, Sacrament and fellowship today.

Please use the **CONNECT Card** if you have questions about the Christian faith & join us for refreshments (see below) in the church hall after today's worship service.

COVID update: Anyone can now attend church services, activities and premises regardless of vaccine status. Food and drink are also available to anyone and those serving are not required to wear masks. QR code check in no longer applies for any activity in church. Unvaccinated people can now work in and on church premises. However, we continue to echo the health advice to maintain good hygiene and care, use sanitiser, and not to attend if you have any symptoms.

calendar!

- **03 July-Pentecost 4 & Thomas, Apostle & Martyr**-Holy Communion with Children's Church @ 9.30AM
- **10 July-Pentecost 5**-Holy Communion with Children's Church @ 9.30AM

Making Difficult Choices

(Luke 9.51-62)

How do we make difficult choices and stick with them? There are many factors involved in a difficult choice, but let's look at a very important place to start.

Let's look at Jesus' instructions in Luke 9.51-62 and learn a very important consideration in making difficult choices.

51 As the time drew near for him to ascend to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. 52 He sent messengers ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival. 53 But the people of the village did not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to Jerusalem. 54

When James and John saw this, they said to Jesus, "Lord, should we call down fire from heaven to burn them up?" 55 But Jesus turned and rebuked them. 56 So they went on to another village.

57 As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58 But Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head." 59 He said to another person, "Come, follow me." The man agreed, but he said, "Lord, first let me return home and bury my father." 60 But Jesus told him, "Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the

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To watch services via live streaming, click: [St Michael & St Luke Livestream channel](#).
 For previous services/messages/live stream recordings, click: [St Michael & St Luke YouTube channel](#),
 and parish website: www.lumiachurch.org.au

Please pass this CANDLE to your friends. Thank you!

▪ **Thank-you: Revd Clive Watkins**

* From next week our Locum Vicar will be Revd Ray Lenthall.

▪ **Ladies' Cuppa**

* At Waverley Gardens Shopping Centre, Friday, 1st. July at 10.00 am. The "Cuppa" is now first and third Fridays in each month.

▪ **Volunteer Roster**

* Thank-you to Cleoni (and Roger) for preparing the next Roster from 10th. July. Volunteers, please collect your copy.

▪ **Bunnings BBQ**

* Mark your diaries for our next Bunnings Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, August 27th.

church notices:



Reading the Bible together

27 Jun	2 Kgs 13, 14; 2 Chro 25; Heb 12
28 Jun	Amos 1-3; Ps 80; Heb 13
29 Jun	Amos 4-6; Ps 86; Phile
30 Jun	Amos 7-9; Ps 104; Jude
01 July	Isa 1-3; Matt 1
02 July	Isa 4,5; Ps 115, 116; Matt 2
03 July	2 Kings 5.1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6.1-6; Luke 10.1-12

THANKS for your participating in the mission of this parish! Please continue to...



• **PRAY FOR PARISH RENEWAL!**

• **SET ASIDE** time to share and use your talents here - **give, serve, & grow!**

• **SHARE** your financial treasure. To all who are able, please:

♦ transfer donations or offerings directly to:

"St Michael and St Luke Anglican Church: BSB 063249 a/c 10044425."

♦ You may also place your offerings on the offertory tray during worship services and/or marking them for **Parish utilities** or **Parish Maintenance**.

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Kingdom of God." 61 Another said, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family." 62 But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plough and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."

Are We Pilgrims? (vs 57-58) We used to speak of Christians as pilgrims, people on a journey in a foreign land travelling to a sacred place. Jesus alluded to this aspect of the Christian life when he said he had no place to lay his head. Paul wrote that our citizenship is not of this world.

Like the children of Israel freed from slavery, we wander like nomads not yet having reached the promised land. We don't always know where we are going, but we do know who is leading us. We are wandering nomads but also pilgrims on a journey to a holy eternity, like the ancient Israelites travelled to their pilgrim festivals three times a year to worship God.

What are Difficult Choices? (vs 59-61) Is everything either black or white, good or bad? Jesus reminds us that some choices are between two good things. Easier choices are between good and bad. Yet, sometimes we must choose between two evils, like a mother's death or her unborn baby's. Another example is Rahab who had to choose between the death of two Israelites and telling a lie, the lesser of two evils. Jesus set before us the choice between several good things, burying a parent versus following him, or saying goodbye to family versus following him. All are good, but one is a greater good. The kingdom of heaven has priority over all other good things that we could be doing. What is our choice?

Can We Choose between Good Things? Some Christians talk about "family values" as a euphemism for "Christian values." Jesus seems to challenge that idea. A man wanted to go and bury a parent and another wants to say goodbye to family. They are perfectly good choices. Jesus did not ask them to sever family ties, but used the situation to teach a valuable lesson. Many family values are also Christian values, but they are not

always the same thing. A family name can be an idol. A family business can be worshipped as a god. Family relationships can come between us and God. While family is very important, it is God who made family and God is more important. Kingdom values are higher than family values.

Can We Plough a Straight Line? (vs 62) Not many modern western farmers plough with oxen any more, although some have experiences which indicate a far greater return on investment than expensive farm machinery. One farmer said he was much happier. Older farmers reminisce about farming with horses and tell stories of how to keep a straight line. Just like the story Jesus told, a ploughman can't remove his hand from the plough or take his eye off a marker. To plough a straight line the farmer would choose a tree branch or other marker at the end of the field and stay fixated on that until the row was done. As farmers in God's field, we must keep our eyes on Jesus and our hands on the plough.

(Grant Spong, June, 2016, "Sermon Central")

2022: “working together with one mind and purpose, with the attitude of Christ”

At the time of choosing an incumbent

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. (from: APBA)



IN ALL THINGS PRAY

MY FAMILY - MY COMMUNITY - MY CHURCH - MY COUNTRY - MY WORLD

<http://bciova.org/january-prayer-focus-in-all-things-pray/>

Birthdays: 😊

28 Jun—Tom Putai

29 Jun—Roshan Perera

01 July—Chaw Mayol

Praying together ...

for the Diocese & the worldwide Anglican Communion:

- ◆ Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan; The Diocese of Bunbury (Bp Ian CouWVs, Clergy & People); Upper Yarra Parish (Luke Whiteside); St Paul's East Kew – Pastoral Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell);

for our link missionaries Chris, Grace, Micah & Emily Adams:

- ◆ Pray for our Young Adults Group—'Joventude' - based at Dili church and now growing to over 20 regularly meeting. Thank God for their witness during Easter to a small church community in Kaisabe. Pray for Joventude's plans to visit other small church communities. Please pray for Chris as he continues to lead, train and teach God's Word in Joventude. Pray also for the continuing blessings resulting from the 'Love Timor' Conference early in May.

for our church, community & the world:

- ◆ Praise God for all who are joining us today (either face-to-face or online).
- ◆ Strengthen & encourage us all, as we **“work together with one mind and purpose, with the attitude of Christ”** and for the completion of safe ministry training by all parish volunteers.
- ◆ For the financial & other pressures faced by this parish & other Christian communities.
- ◆ For God's wisdom, patience and compassion on leaders at all levels of government & in society, for all medical staff as they care for the sick & dying due to COVID19 & other illnesses.
- ◆ For all who need God's special touch of healing, comfort and peace, remembering Audrey, Barbara, Brendon, Carmen, Claudette, David, Doris, Frances, Grenville, Gunara, Hemathi, Harrison, Jeeva, Leela, Mary, Mohona, Oscar, Rayhaan, Roger, Seelan, Wilma, Yvonne, for those facing mental challenges & all who we remember privately in our hearts.
- ◆ Praise & thank God for all who are recovering from illness and/or all who have recovered and for God's comfort, love and peace on all who mourn.
- ◆ For God's mercy, grace and peace upon all communities in Australia and in the world affected by the COVID19 pandemic, influenza, wars in the Ukraine (due to Russian invasion of Ukraine), Yemen, Syria, of civil unrest (Sri Lanka), for people affected by natural disasters (especially the impact of the floods in Bangladesh and India and Afghanistan earthquake), all who have been displaced, injured or tragically killed (and their loved ones) due to these & other circumstances.

Thank-you , from Santa!

Santa and family would like to convey their thanks to all those who offered their good wishes and/or were able to attend St. John's, Bentleigh on Tuesday evening to support Santa's induction there as Vicar. For those who missed out, Garry has the link to the streamed recording of the service.



Praying for the mission of Anglican Parish of St Michael & St Luke:

Living God, you have called us to be the Body of Christ. As we “renew, revive, reach out,” may we be a sign of hope in our respective communities. May all we do, and all we are becoming, bring praise to your name and draw others to your love. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who came to serve and bring us the fullness of life. **Amen**

connect

Name:

Prayer need/request/feedback:

Address:

Telephone No:

Email:

If you would like prayer for any reason, please come to the front immediately after Communion.

Regular Services:

Sunday @ 9.30AM - Holy Communion & Children's Church

3rd Sunday @ 9.30AM - “What is God doing?” service with Holy Communion & Children's Church

who we are!

The Anglican Parish of St Michael & St Luke is a part of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. Our Vision is to encourage one another to **RENEW** our relationship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, to partner with the LORD to **REVIVE** God's church and to **REACH OUT** to others as the Holy Spirit reveals.

Our Mission is: **“to bring the gospel of Christ to the community and the world”**

Our Values are: **Scripture, Worship, Prayer, Fellowship & Mission**

how to contact us

1472 Heatherton Road, Dandenong, VIC 3175, AUSTRALIA

Church office: + 61 3 9792 4925

Church e-mail: stmandstl@bigpond.com

Website: www.lumiac.org.au

acknowledgment of traditional owners of the land:

We gather on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri and Boonerwung (or Bunurong) tribes of the Kulin Nation, and we acknowledge them as the Traditional Owners. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

✦ Every Sunday except 3rd Sunday

▪ **SUNDAY CLUB**

▪ **YOUTH GROUP — on hold**

✦ **CARE GROUPS — see page 1.**

✦ **PLAYGROUP is closed indefinitely.**

If you wish to help/participate in any of these activities or have questions, please contact the church office. We would love to hear from you!

1800RESPECT
NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC
FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE

Child Protection: 1300 360 391
Kooyoora Ltd: 1800 135 246

parish contacts ...

Ministers: All Parishioners!

Locum Vicar: Revd. Clive Watkins [0416 023 844]

Vicar: Santa Packianathan [on leave]

Sacristan: Brian Bird [0403 260 645]

R U OK Team Coordinator: **VACANT - Please call the Wardens**

Children's Ministry: Ellie Martin [0430 416 256]

Youth Ministry and Parish Crim-Check Administrator:
Vaughan Smith [0402 751 275]

Honorary Licensed Lay Ministers:

Brian Bird, Garry Martin, Theo Rutgers

Church Wardens: Larry Loos [0423 642 941];

Theo Rutgers [0401 886 674]; Cleoni Loos [0413 763 315]

Parish COVID-Safe Officer: Prasantha Illesinghe [0425 702 587]

Council Secretary & Parish Child Safe Officer: Cleoni Loos [0413 763 315]

Treasurer: Larry Loos [0423 642 941]

Stewardship: Garry Martin [0433 933 679]

Church Office: **VACANT - Please call the Wardens**

Hall Hire: Anand Raj [0404 043 536]