Parish Day Out at Beach hosted by Hodgson Family: From 9am, Sat 13th Jan 2024

75 Marine Drive, Safety Beach

Working Bee

9am-12noon, Sat 20th Jan 2024

Lent Activities

Easter falls early this year and so Lent begins

early also. Here are some activities to look forward to:

- Ash Wednesdav
 - 7am, prayer service: 'Imposition of Ash' Lent Bible Study
 - 7pm, every Thursday: 15 Feb to 21 Mar at church, 'Remembering the Poor' a study series prepared by Anglican Overseas Aid

Resources for ministry

Giving can be made directly to our Bendigo Bank Warrandyte account BSB: 633-000 Acct Number: 140334277.

Church Contact Details

Rev'd. Mark Hanson (Vicar) 0430 141 006 ph (general admin): 0491 185 983 ststephenswarrandvte@gmail.com email: www.ststephenswarrandyte.org.au website:





A welcoming Christ-centred community seeking and working together through the power of the Holy Spirit to worship God, share His good news and grow as disciples of Jesus

Sunday 14th January 2024

1Samuel 3:1-20

The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions.

One night Eli, whose eves were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered. 'Here I am.' And he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.' But Eli said, 'I did not call; go back and lie down.' So the boy went and lay down.

Again the Lord called, 'Samuel!' And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.' 'My son,' Eli said, 'I did not call; go back and lie down.'

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. A third time the Lord called, 'Samuel!' And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.' Then Eli realised that the Lord was calling the boy.

So, Eli told Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." So, Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Then Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

And the Lord said to Samuel: 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle. At that time I will carry out against Eli everything I spoke against his family – from beginning to end. For I told him that I would judge his family for ever because of the sin he knew about; his sons uttered blasphemies against God and he failed to restrain them. Therefore I swore to the house of Eli, "The guilt of Eli's house will never be atoned for by sacrifice or offering."

Samuel lay down until morning and then opened the doors of the house of the Lord. He was afraid to tell Eli the vision but Eli called him and said, 'Samuel, my son.' Samuel answered, 'Here I am.' 'What was it he said to you?' Eli asked. 'Do not hide it from me. May God deal with you, be it ever so severely, if you hide from me anything he told you.' So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, 'He is the Lord; let him do what is good in his eyes.'

The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognised that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the Lord. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his Word.

Psalm 139 For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me; You know when I sit and when I rise, you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down, you are familiar with all my ways;

Before a word is on my tongue, you, Lord, know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me; Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there, if I make my bed in the depths, you are there;

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,';

even the darkness will not be dark to you, the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb; I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth;

Your eyes saw my unformed body: all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are your thoughts, God, how vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand – when I awake, I am still with you.

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me; and lead me in the way everlasting.

John 1:43-51

Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, 'Follow me.' Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. Philip found Nathanael and told him, 'We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.' 'Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?' Nathanael asked. 'Come and see,' said Philip.

When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, 'Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.' 'How do you know me?' Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, 'I saw you while you were still under the fig-tree before Philip called you.' Then Nathanael declared, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.'

Jesus said, 'You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig-tree. You will see greater things than that.' Jesus then added, 'Very truly I tell you all, you will see "heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on" the Son of Man.' *(see Genesis 28:10-22)*