

TMA (the Melbourne Anglican) is our church newspaper. Now produced on-line, [you can access it here](#)

Flower and Garden show: Fri 22 Mar - [any interest to visit together?](#)

Lent Passover Seder - 7pm, Thurs 28 Mar
Good Friday - **9am**, Fri 29 Mar - **note early service time**
Stations of Cross - 10am, Fri 29 Mar - Stiggant Reserve

Stations of the Cross Readings Three volunteers sought.

Stations of the Cross Choir One rehearsal will take place: 12noon
24th Mar (Palm Sunday) at WCC.

Safe Ministry Anglican Diocese of Melbourne requires all volunteers in church pastoral and service roles to obtain Clearance for Service accreditation: Level 1 for roles which involve personal encounter (e.g. musicians, rostered readers and intercessors, etc). Level 2 for leaders of ministries to children (e.g. Sunday School leader). Level 3 for Governance Roles (e.g. members of Parish Council). A Clearance for Service has a validity of 3 years, after which training must be refreshed. As this program began in 2022 (and our parish made a big effort to organise compliance at that time - thank you to everyone who participated), a refresher program will be offered in early 2025, as clearances near expiry.

Working Bee Sat 27th April - rear block and planting

Winter Festival Sun 30th June - bonfire and music

Resources for ministry

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

Church Contact Details

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*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 17th March 2024

Our Lent Bible Study Group has been following material, prepared by Anglican Overseas Aid, called 'Remember the Poor' across topics like: 'Poverty – does God Care – should we care?' and 'Transformation the Jesus Way'. AoA make a point that what they do does not arise out of humanitarian ideals (though these may lead to good results) but out of lives of faith transformed to be like Jesus. AoA's work is a response to Jesus' mercy toward them. This is a helpful Christian lesson because it is life and dignity affirming, which humanitarian ethics might miss in difficult questions of life ethics.

On Thursday, in a Bible Study entitled: 'Seeing Jesus in the Eyes of the Poor', we were challenged by the parable of Sheep and Goats from Matt25:31-46. We were puzzled by the distinction between sheep and goats until we remembered that, in the Middle East, the ancient breeds of both types are very hard to tell apart. As the Good Shepherd sorts his flock, their only distinguishing marks are inward and internal - in the way their hearts respond to the call of mercy. The Lord's good sheep have hearts responsive to compassion and justice, and the difficult parable warns about judgement.

From last year's study of the Purpose Driven Life, recalling the onion metaphor (i.e. the Christian Way has layers of maturity), we pray that Holy Spirit calls us to growth in maturity and 'Holiness in Life. May our devotion to Jesus bear fruit in softened and more compassionate hearts, responsive to the call of justice.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 'The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,' declares the Lord.

33 'This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time,' declares the Lord. 'I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God and they will be my people. 34 No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, "Know the Lord," because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,' declares the Lord. 'For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.'

Hebrews 5:5-10

1 Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. 3 This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. 4 And no one takes this honour on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.

5 In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father.' (*Psalm 2:7*)

6 And he says in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, in the order of Melchizedek.' (*Psalm 110:4*)

7 During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from

death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered 9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him 10 and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek. (*See Genesis 14*)

John 12:20-33

20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. 'Sir,' they said, 'we would like to see Jesus.' 22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

23 Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.'

27 'Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!'

Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.' 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

30 Jesus said, 'This voice was for your benefit, not mine. 31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' 33 He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.