

**Welcome to worship at  
Holy Trinity, Terrigal**

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
4th October 2020**



**9.00am – Holy Eucharist**

**Presiding and Preaching - Fr Mark Watson  
Organist – Sharon Sandstrom**

## **IDOLATRY**

The first two of the Ten Commandments warn against false gods: "You shall have no other gods before me" and "You shall not make for yourself a graven image" (Ex. 20:3,4). They provide the foundation for the rest. If we break other commandments, we have already broken the first two for, as spiritual writer Kathleen Norris puts it: "We have already elevated ourselves and our perceived desires above all else."

To practise idolatry doesn't require us to bow before a golden calf or a pagan statue. Idolatry is a failure to fulfill the great commandments of Jesus to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and our neighbour as ourself. Loving ourselves too much is a form of idolatry. So is loving others in a possessive way. Even love for God, when it is misguided and turns into zeal that hurts or violates others, is idolatrous.

One of the dangers in our fast-food culture is shallow love. What does that mean? It means that love requires time to grow into a mature, non-possessive love relationship. Young people are being conditioned by media images of possessive love. Perhaps one of the gifts older people can give the young is to model loving relationships. Possessive, clinging love doesn't really see the person, only an image or ideal of that person. It doesn't give space for the other to be the 'other' but a projection of the desires of the one with the feelings. It is an ideal rather than reality. The words "idea", "ideal" and "idol" are related.

One reason for this form of idolatry is control. It is safer, less risky and gives us a greater sense of control if we love the idol or ideal rather than the real person who is not under our control, who may surprise us, and who is free to love us or leave us. It makes sense in this context when someone who has murdered their spouse or boyfriend/girlfriend swears how much they love them, and so they do – in a possessive, destructive way that would rather destroy the object of love than lose him or her. As Kathleen Norris says, "Idolatry makes love impossible."

Fr Mark

## **Sentence**

Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, let us press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3.13b-14

## **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God,  
your Son Jesus was the stone rejected by the builders,  
and, by your doing, he has been made the chief cornerstone:  
grant that, by the power of his Spirit working in us,  
we may become living stones

built up into your dwelling place,  
a temple holy and acceptable to you;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Rogation Days:** *Prayers of thanksgiving for the whole created order and intercessions for the right use of the resources of the earth, its conservation and for the abundance of its fruits, are appropriate for this day and those near it.*

*It is also appropriate that thanksgiving and intercession be offered at this time for all human wisdom, imagination, skill and labour.*

*This prayer can be used each day this week with the Prayer of the Week.*

Bountiful God,  
you crown the year with your goodness  
and give us the fruits of the earth in due season:  
give us grateful hearts  
that we may sincerely thank you  
for all your loving kindness,  
and truly care for your creation;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A reading from Isaiah Chapter 5, verses 1-7**

Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.  
He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.  
What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.  
I will make it a waste;

it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 80.7-15**

7 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:  
show us the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

**8 You brought a vine out of Egypt:  
you drove out the nations, and planted it in.**

9 You cleared the ground before it:  
and it struck root and filled the land.

**10 The hills were covered with its shadow:  
and its boughs were like the boughs of the great cedars.**

11 It stretched out its branches to the sea:  
and its tender shoots to the Great River.

**12 Why then have you broken down its walls:  
so that every passer-by can pluck its fruit?**

13 The wild boar out of the woods roots it up:  
and the locusts from the wild places devour it.

**14 Turn to us again, O Lord of hosts:  
look down from heaven, and see.**

15 Bestow your care upon this vine:  
the stock which your own right hand has planted.

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians  
Chapter 3, verses 4b-14**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Hear the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I call you friends, says the Lord,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.

**Alleluia!**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
Chapter 21, verses 33-46

### **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:  
"The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes"?'

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Prayer for those suffering severe illness** (adapted from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, p. 692)

Healing Spirit,

we pray for those suffering from serious diseases  
and for those who are terminally ill,  
and those living with the COVID-19 virus.

We pray for skill and patience for the doctors and nurses who care for them. We pray that their relatives and friends may be strengthened and comforted.

May their faith not falter as they support each other through testing times.

We pray for those engaged in research  
that by your inspiration and their skill  
the scourges of this generation may be overcome.

Help us to live in your way

and to seek health in body, mind and spirit. **Amen.**

**Please pray for**

Barb Matthews, Graeme Patterson, Ken Hope, Norm Williams,  
Emma Horton, Isobel Hargraves, Gail Lyndon, Jean Jackson,  
Marian French, Aaron Lane, Pat Lindsay, Toby Lindsay,  
Gloria Townsend, Margaret Willard, Carolyn Gibbs, Cathy Oaks and  
Pat Stokes.

Direct Debit details of account:

ASDF Account

Parish of Terrigal

BSB: 705-077

Account number: 00040934

### ***'Whispers of Love' Meditation***

Meditation will resume on Monday 12 October at 10.00am at The Church of the Holy Trinity.

#### **Reflection:**

When Jesus says: 'Sky and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away' (Luke 21:33), he shows us a direct way to eternal life. The words of Jesus have power to transform our hearts and minds and lead us into the Kingdom of God. "The word I have spoken to you, Jesus says, are spirit and they are life' (John 6:63).

Through meditation we can let the words of Jesus descend from our minds into our hearts and create there a dwelling place for the Spirit.

Whatever we do and wherever we go, let us stay close to the words of Jesus. They are words of eternal life.

Prayerfully Reverend Ann

### **Samaritans**

We will have our basket for food donations available for those wishing to bring items. Some suggestions are breakfast cereal, long life milk, pasta, plus sauce, soap, toothpaste, soup, sardines, baked beans, spaghetti in a tin, creamed corn and chips.

## **Women's Fellowship**

We hope you'll join us for a relaxing time with lovely women at our next meeting at **1pm** on the **12<sup>th</sup> October**.

New Thank You boxes are available so do pick-up one from the basket in the foyer. Donations will continue to be accepted for the Hunter Medical Research Institute until August 2021.

Filled boxes may be returned at any time.

## **Thank You**

A big thank you goes to Betty Hancock who has raised \$500 over three Saturdays from the plant sales.

## **Dinner at Terrigal Bowling Club**

Please join us for dinner at Terrigal Bowling Club at 'Bec's Kitchen' tonight, **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October from 6pm**.

If you are interested, please let us know by asking to have your name added to the sign-up sheet upon entry to the service today.

## **Prayer of the Week**

Generous God,  
whose hand is open  
to fill all things living with plenteousness:  
make us ever thankful for your goodness,  
and grant that we, remembering the account  
that we must one day give,  
may be faithful stewards of your bounty;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION**  
*Working for Love, Hope & Justice*

## **Ordinary Sunday 27 [Pentecost 18]**

### **– Sunday 4 October 2020**

- Exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19;  
Philippians 3 *or* Philippians 3.4b-14; Matthew 21.33-46

In the section before today's reading, Jesus highlights the hypocrisy and cowardice of the religious leaders. This parable is also directed to the Chief Priests and Elders. It succinctly locates Jesus' own future suffering and death in line with the mistreatment of the Jewish prophets through the centuries.

The Chief Priests and Elders clearly get it. The parable contrast Jesus' authentic servant leadership with their own, and so they seek to have Jesus arrested.

- We pray for integrity in leadership in our community of faith, and in the secular community in this time of Covid 19. Seek the fruit of the Spirit for ourselves and each other; seek the fruits of the Kingdom for our parish, diocese and the national church. How we behave as the body actually matters.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Melanesia.

*Text:* The Very Rev Phillip Saunders,  
Dean of Canberra and Goulburn  
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## **Parish Directory**

**The Church of the Holy Trinity – 92 Serpentine Rd, Terrigal, 2260**

**Parish Postal Address – P.O. Box 167, Terrigal, 2260**

**Office Telephone - 4365 1115.**

**Parish Email – [admin@terrigalanglican.org.au](mailto:admin@terrigalanglican.org.au)**

**Website - [www.terrigalanglican.org.au](http://www.terrigalanglican.org.au)**

**Rector – The Reverend Canon Mark Watson – 4365 1374 or 0434 431 400**

**Email - [cyprian7@bigpond.com](mailto:cyprian7@bigpond.com)**

### **Associate Priests**

**The Reverend Ann Watson – 4365 1065 or 0427 135 771**

**The Reverend Roy Hazlewood – 0418 290 192**

**The Reverend Dr Richard Harvey – 0422 109 262**

**The Reverend Bruce McAteer - 0417 229 296**

### **Parish Executive**

**Neil Ewer (0412 640 477) – Rector’s Warden**

**Terry Rowe (4365 0430) - People’s Warden**

**Kyara Newport (0400 994 779) - People’s Warden**

**Parish Secretary - Kyara Newport (0400 994 779)**

**Parish Treasurer - Terry Rowe (4365 0430)**

### **Parish Ministries**

**Parish Organist - Chris Sillince - 0422 225 849**

**Sacristan and Mission Secretary - Coralie Taylor**

**Messy Church Convenor - Rhonda Kiss – 4363 5001**

**Pastoral Care - contact - 4365 1115**

**Trinity Band & Cursillo – Libby Harvey – 0431 315 085**

**Safety Officer - Mike Keaney**

**Copyright Compliance Officer – Terry Rowe**

**Parish Bookshop – Kyara Newport**

**Women’s Fellowship – Pam Flegg – 4384 5326**

**Market Day Co-ordinator – Ian Wolstenholme**

### **Parish Opportunity Shop**

**Carolyn Shields / Christine De Gans - 4365 1280**

**The Op Shop is open Tuesday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.00pm  
and each Saturday from 10.00am to 1.00pm**