

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

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
14th February 2021**



9.00am – Holy Eucharist

Presiding and Preaching – Fr Mark Watson

Organist – Chris Sillince

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

At one of my former parishes, attendances at the Ash Wednesday liturgies steadily increased year by year over the six years and four months I served as Parish Priest there. It was not unusual, after the Services ended, for people to remark how they were deeply touched during the liturgy. I observed visible signs of worshippers being moved as we prayed through the Service. They were encouraging signs. Despite the growth overall, numbers were still nowhere near as great as those on Sundays. One's reaction to that could be disappointment.

On the other hand, we could be surprised that there are people in our society who are still willing to make the effort to come to an occasion where they are smeared on the forehead with ash and told to remember that they are dust and will one day become dust again! Then we all get down on our knees and list the wrong things we have done, said and thought. We tell God we're sorry and we ask forgiveness. We are given suggestions on how to observe Lent, the 40-day period before Easter. Much of this observance involves giving up certain things that we enjoy eating, drinking, smoking, seeing, touching. What's the attraction in that? Why do they come?

I suspect Lent provides an opportunity to be real and honest about our condition and to do something positive about it. We are not perfect and we know it. In a world where there is much unreality, falsehood, denial and pretence, it's refreshing to be able to say, "I've blown it, I've failed, and I admit it. But God loves me, accepts me, helps me to confess my sins and mistakes and gives me the opportunity to start again, to make a new beginning. All because of what Jesus Christ has done on the cross."

It also provides an opportunity to be more focused in prayer and study of the scriptures. It gives us a chance to clear away some of the clutter in our lives, to remove obstacles to our progress in becoming more truly human. Many things we're told are essential, we can do without. Over consumption has a de-

humanising effect. We can identify more closely with the poor, with victims of disaster and do something practical to help. Come and find new life and experience a new beginning this Lent.

Fr Mark

LENT 2021

Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday which this year is the 17th February. With Christians around the world, we go into the wilderness, a place of clarification, of stripping down to the essentials, of refocusing our lives on God. Jesus was in the tradition of holy people who spent time in the loneliness and harshness of the desert - Moses, Elijah, John the Baptist - where they were able to focus on God without material comforts and other distractions, in order to pray and spend time with God.

Various practices assist us in doing this: studying and meditating on the scriptures, prayer, fasting and abstinence, giving to the poor and needy, being more dedicated in receiving the sacraments, especially penance and the Eucharist, as we seek to live out and renew our baptismal calling to daily die to sin and be raised to new life in Christ.

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGIES

The Eucharist, including the Imposition of Ashes and a penitential litany, will be celebrated on **Ash Wednesday 17th February** at **8.30am**, **12 midday** and **5.00pm** in the Church.

LENTEN STUDIES

There will be two groups meeting: one on **Thursdays** at **7.30pm** (commencing **18th Feb.**) and one on **Fridays** at **11.30am** (commencing **19th Feb.**), following the 10.30am Eucharist. The study booklets have been ordered. The *lectio divina* (spiritual reading) group will meet after the 5pm Eucharist on **Wednesdays** (commencing **17th Feb**). The Lenten study books will cost \$9.95. For those attending a study, please pay cash on the first day at the study. For those purchasing the study book only, please place your money into an envelope with your name and "Lenten study book" on the envelope and place it in the offertory plate as you arrive to register for attendance.

Fr. Roy writes: Most of us will have been stressed during this Coronavirus pandemic. At first, it was persons in the older age group who were most vulnerable to contracting the virus, then it was younger people who were contracting the virus and eventually it reached down to the very young. Woe is me, is no one safe! There is no wonder that we are stressed. People of all ages are still contracting the virus with its many different new strains.

Now there is a new stress to which people are being subjected. It relates to the best vaccine for which age group. Will it act for me and my particular age group? Will I require one or more doses and how long will it last? These are the questions that leads to the stress.

Where does this fit into my spirituality/religious life? Our church calendar goes from the Sundays after the Epiphany, that is, the revelation of Jesus to the Gentiles, that is, the Non-Jews, in other words US, to Ash Wednesday and the days of Lent leading up to the Passion, Crucifixion and Death of Jesus. This can be an important time in my life when I am relieved of the stresses in my life through repentance and a true turning to God, the God of love, compassion, forgiveness and peace. Self-examination is good for the soul and my spiritual life. Where have I fallen short in thought, word and deed in my living the life of a disciple of Christ Jesus? I confess this to God and receive God's forgiveness and love. I try to live life prayerfully and renew it day by day.

I saw a Peanuts comic recently that showed Charlie Brown carrying Snoopy. There was a piece of writing about it and this is it: "In life it's not where you go, it's who you travel with carefully with love, compassion and humour. The road is long you need to enjoy it together." My immediate thought was that this was like my relationship with God. It is God who is carrying me on my journey through life. Most of the time I do not know exactly where I am going but God is carrying me with love, compassion, forgiveness, humour and peace.

Your life is like this because we are human beings who are subject to breaking away from our relationship with God. We are given, however, the opportunity in seasons like Lent to have a good think about where we are going in life and with whom we are travelling.

May your Lenten discipline as a disciple of Jesus Christ be one of great blessing to you as God carries you on this part of your spiritual/religious journey and you are prayerfully and consciously aware of who is with you wherever your journey may take you.

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Come, Son of God Incarnate, Jesus of Nazareth, come and touch the lives of your people.

Keep well, keep safe and the blessing of God be upon you and on all who you love and may your days and nights be holy, good and peaceful. AMEN.

Sentence

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones! Give thanks to God's holy name!

Psalm 30.4

Prayer of the Day

Everliving God,
your Son, Jesus Christ, healed the lepers
and brought good news to the despised and outcast:
grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control,
that in serving others in their need
we may strive for the imperishable wreath
that you bestow on all who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from 2 Kings Chapter 5 verses 1-14

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' So Naaman went in and told his lord just

what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.'

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.'

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 30

1 I will exalt you, O Lord,
for you have drawn me up from the depths:
and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.

**2 O Lord my God, I cried to you:
and you have made me whole.**

3 You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence:
you saved my life
from among those that go down to the Pit.

**4 Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones:
and give thanks to his holy name.**

5 For if in his anger is havoc,
in his good favour is life:
heaviness may endure for a night,
but joy comes in the morning.

**6 In my prosperity I said 'I shall never be moved:
your goodness, O Lord, has set me on so firm a hill.'**

7 Then you hid your face from me:
and I was greatly dismayed.

**8 I cried to you, O God:
and made my petition humbly to my Lord.**

9 'What profit is there in my blood,
if I go down to the Pit:
can the dust give you thanks,
or declare your faithfulness?

**10 'Hear, O Lord, and be merciful:
O Lord, be my helper.'**

11 You have turned my lamentation into dancing:
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,

**12 That my heart may sing your praise and never be
silent:**

O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

**A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians
Chapter 9 verses 24-27**

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, **alleluia!**

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Chapter 1 verses 40-45

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

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

Graeme Patterson, Ken Hope, Norm Williams, Emma Horton, Isobel Hargraves, Jean Jackson, Marian French, Aaron Lane, Pat Lindsay, Toby Lindsay, Gloria Townsend, Margaret Willard, Pat Stokes, Kathy Oakes, Tania Howlett, Ian Kidson, Maureen Hazlewood, Patricia Bailey, Shirley Taylor and Adrian Baldwin.

'Whispers of Love' Meditation

Whispers of Love' Meditation is usually on each Monday at 10am but please note **the Meditation meeting will be in recess on Monday 15th February**. We will begin again on Monday 22nd February at 10am beginning with a Lenten reflection and meditation.

Reflection:

Lenten Prayer

Loving God, as we begin our Lenten journey, we pray that the mists that can cloud our vision may lift.

So that we may see the road that lies before us and so come with open hearts to you, the source of living water. Melt what is frozen within us, warm our hearts and lift our spirits that we do not lose heart in our capacity to grow, or in your desire to lead us safely home. Amen.

Prayerfully Reverend Ann

Direct Debit details of account:

ASDF Account

Parish of Terrigal

BSB: 705-077

Account number: 00040934

Plant Stall

The next plant stall will be on:

Saturday 20th February from 9am to 12 noon.

Samaritans

We have our basket for food donations available for those wishing to bring items. Some suggestions are baked beans, spaghetti, soup, salmon, tuna, tinned fruit and tinned vegetables. Also, long life milk, pasta, soap and toilet paper. Please NO nappies at this stage. Thank you.

Margaret MacLachlan.

Prayer of the week

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION

Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Ordinary Sunday 6[Epiphany 6]

– Sunday 14 February 2021

- 2 Kings 5.1-14; Psalm 30;
1 Corinthians 9.24-27; Mark 1.40-45

Both Elisha and Jesus cure lepers. When Jesus heals it is through the faith of the leper who knows Jesus can cure him with a mere movement of will. But Naaman does not accept his cure from Elisha at first because it's too easy. Naaman's cure is simply to immerse himself in the Jordan. Naaman is outraged that Elisha did not come out in person or wave his arms around. God does not need to appear in person or give us great and spectacular signs for us to experience God's love and healing.

- Gracious God hear our prayer. We seek your presence in all things, help us to listen to the simplicity of faith that we may be cured of our pride and our vanity.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of the Province of Myanmar

Text: The Rev Kate Ross,
St John's Cathedral, Brisbane
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Parish Directory

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

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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 Thursday from 9.00am to 4.00pm

Fridays open from 9.00am to 10.15am and from 11:15am to 4.00pm

(Please note Friday between 10.15am-11.15am the Op Shop is CLOSED)

Saturdays open from 10.00am to 1.00pm