

**Welcome to worship at
Holy Trinity, Terrigal
MARY, Mother of the Lord
15th August, 2021**



**There will be no services at Church until the
NSW Government Stay at Home Order is lifted.**

Fr. Roy Writes: I am writing this collection of thoughts during the seventh week of the current lockdown for 2021. Maureen and I hope and pray that you are coping with the isolation in your body, mind, and spirit, in other words, in your whole self that includes your devotional life with God. If you are having trouble with life in the isolation created by the lockdown, Peter in his first letter in the Scriptures may have something to say to you. "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." *1 Peter 5.7*

I have been reading and thinking of the Parable of the Talents in Matthew's Gospel, chapter 25, verses 14-30. You probably remember the outcome of the parable and if you do not, read it in your Bible or look it up on the search engine on your computer. Remember that 6000 denarii made 1 talent and 1 denarii was the usual payment for a day's labour.

The Parable of the Talents is often related to your talents, your skills in relation to your work within the Church and in the secular world where you use your gifts to the glory of God. This time, however, I want to relate the parable to your devotional life within the lockdown in the pandemic.

God has given to you and others different talents to be used in the growth of your devotional life within the Body of Christ, his Church. People live in different circumstances and, consequently, each person's devotional life ought to be different to the extent of their position in life. This position in life has changed dramatically with the lockdown in which you are involved. For some this means working from home that is different to commuting to work and home again each day at set times. This requires a different discipline in the use of time for work, for exercise and your devotional life with its regular prayer, Bible reading, quiet time with God allowing God to speak and be in your life so that you walk in His Way that leads to eternal life. It means, also, to speak in the power of the Holy Spirit and to love one another as God loves you.

On the other hand, some of you are used to being on your own, and where you can leave the house at your will. Now you are told, to stay at home, not to have visitors and only go out under certain circumstances. This requires you to plan different things to do, spend time in the garden or taking exercise in the bush and appreciating God's creation and spending time with your devotional life in ways already written in the earlier paragraph.

Another situation is where parents and children are working or being schooled from home and everyone is "being driven up the wall". This requires a special touch to accommodate work, exercise, and a devotional life.

All of this is vastly different to the devotional life of the clergy who are bound by their ordination vows to pray the Daily Office of at least Morning and Evening Prayer, studying the Scriptures and theology generally in addition to the care of the people in which is shown the love of God for all irrespective of their circumstances in life.

Clearly, there are many ways of devotion that you can follow to lead to the perfection for which you aim, and you choose the way according to your circumstances that will devoutly bring you into eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Keep well, keep safe, keep social distancing, and wear a mask and the blessing of God be upon you and on all who you love and pray for and may your days and nights be holy, good, and peaceful. AMEN.

Sentence

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, so that we might receive the adoption of God's children.

Galatians 4.4-5

Prayer of the Day

Heavenly Father,
who chose the virgin Mary, by your grace,
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour:
fill us with your grace,
that in all things we may accept your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from Isaiah Chapter 61 verse 10 – Chapter 62 verse 3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 113

1 Praise the Lord, O sing praises, you that are his servants:
O praise the name of the Lord.

**2 Let the name of the Lord be blessed:
from this time forward and for ever.**

3 From the rising of the sun to its going down:
let the name of the Lord be praised.

**4 The Lord is exalted over all the nations:
and his glory is above the heavens.**

5 Who can be likened to the Lord our God:
in heaven or upon the earth,

**6 Who has his dwelling so high:
yet condescends to look on things beneath?**

7 He raises the lowly from the dust:
and lifts the poor from out of the dungheap;

**8 He gives them a place among the princes:
even among the princes of his people.**

9 He causes the barren woman to keep house:
and makes her a joyful mother of children.
Praise the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians Chapter 4 verses 4 - 7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you;
blessed are you among women, and blessed is the
fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Luke Chapter 2 verses 1-7

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Please pray for:

John Hart, Tania Howlett, David Lamb and Gloria Townsend and
Margaret Hassall.



MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD 15th August 2021

Readings: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 113; Galatians 4:4-7;
Luke 2:1-7

Today, August 15, we celebrate the principal feast day of Mary, Mother of our Lord. In the Australian Anglican Church, it's a fairly recent feast. It doesn't even appear in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer (BCP). In *An Australian Prayer Book* of 1978, it's in the calendar but has no proper collect or readings. It was what's called a 'black letter day' which means a minor feast of the church. When *A Prayer Book for Australia* came out in 1995 it was given its own collect and readings and so became a fully-fledged festival or holy day – a 'red letter day.'

But its origin is actually quite ancient. It originated in the east as a commemoration of Mary's death and was called the 'Dormition or Falling Asleep of the Mother of God.' Later, it was called the 'Assumption' in the Western church. In 1950 Pope Pius XII declared that Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven. All that did was to make official what had been accepted for centuries by Roman Catholics.

Unfortunately, Mary has been the subject of controversy. There have been those who seem to almost worship the Blessed Virgin and others who have reacted against that by going to the other extreme of practically ignoring her altogether.

Another unfortunate phenomenon is the attention given to private messages and miraculous appearances of the Blessed Virgin. These tend to detract from her role in Scripture and tradition and her place in the redemptive purposes of God and her place in the lives of believers today. Anglicans have always sought to give due honour to the Virgin through such observances as the Annunciation and the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (also known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the BCP) without allowing such devotion to detract from the primary role of Christ. We honour Mary or venerate her as distinct from worshipping her, which is due to God alone, recognising that our primary authority is Holy Scripture and we find there much to help us appreciate Mary's place in God's plan of redemption.

It's entirely appropriate to hold Mary in high esteem and to follow her example in our own lives. She was chosen by God to bear the incarnate Son, the Word-made-flesh. We can learn from her response to the news of the archangel Gabriel: "Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" – instant acceptance and humility, even though it must have been a terrifying prospect. In the visitation to her cousin Elizabeth, who exclaimed "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" we see Mary responding in humility by giving praise, not to herself but to God, in the song or canticle we know as the Magnificat.

In the way Mary cared for her Son, taking him to be circumcised on the eighth day after his birth in accordance with the Jewish Law, then presenting him in the Temple forty days after his birth, showing concern with Joseph when Jesus was twelve years old and got lost we see her diligent and caring motherhood. When Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding at Cana,

Mary demonstrated her obedience and recognition of who her Son was, telling those present after they'd run out of wine, "whatever he says to you, do it."

Mary also demonstrated steadfastness and loyalty. After his disciples had deserted him, Mary followed her Son to the cross and stood beneath it as he died. It was there that Jesus said to his beloved disciple John, "Son, behold your mother." It's been suggested that John represents all of us who are disciples of Christ. So as Mary was Mother of Jesus' humanity – his body on earth – so she continues to be the Mother of his mystical body, the Church, of which we are members and Christ is the head.

After Jesus had been raised from the dead and ascended into heaven, Mary gathered with the disciples and remained in prayer until the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Mary is also called *Θεοτοκος* (theotokos) which means 'God-bearer'. This title stems from the earliest days of the Church but later became a matter of controversy, being attacked by a man named Nestorius who felt it detracted from the full humanity of Christ. It was affirmed at the Council of Ephesus in 431, the third Ecumenical Council of the Universal Church accepted by all Christians. Martin Luther used the term and it is found in the Formula of Concord, one of Lutheranism's main confessions of faith. To ascribe to Mary the title of Mother of God is not a statement about her. It is a statement about her Son who is fully God and fully human.

In the life of Mary we see many virtues and examples for us to follow: acceptance of God's will, humility, faithful parenthood, loyalty and steadfastness, constancy in prayer, and above all pointing others to her Son.

Fr Mark

Offertories during the Suspension of Services

I encourage all parishioners to still continue with their weekly offering whilst we are unable to gather. This can be done by continuing to place your offering in the envelopes and keep them aside at home until we are able to again meet and have services. Alternatively, parishioners can move to offering via direct debit. Direct debit details of account: ASDF Account Parish of Terrigal BSB:705-077 Account Number: 00040934
Terry Rowe, Treasurer.

'Whispers of Love' Meditation

Reflection: Reflection on Mary Mother of our Lord

Julian of Norwich wrote:

God brought Jesus's mother Mary to my understanding. I saw her spiritually in her bodily likeness, a simple, humble maiden, young in years, of the stature which she had when she conceived. Also God showed me part of the wisdom and truth of her soul, and in this I understood the reverend contemplation with which she beheld her God, marveling with great reverence that he was willing to be born in her who was a simple creature created by him. And in this wisdom and truth, this knowledge of her Creator's greatness and of her own created littleness, made her say meekly to the angel Gabriel:
Behold me here, God's handmaiden
Prayerfully, Reverend Ann.

Op Shop Closed

The Op Shop is closed until after the NSW Government lifts the Stay-at-Home Order.

Samaritans

When we are able to return to church, some suggestions for donations are clean blankets, roll-on deodorant and shampoo.

Thank you.

Margaret MacLachlan.

The Anglican Women's Spring Celebrations which was scheduled for the 7th of September 2021, at St Peter's East Maitland sadly has been cancelled due to the covid.

love Irene Neville (AWA contact)

Prayer of the week

Almighty God,
you have given your only Son
to be for us both a sacrifice for sin
and also an example of godly life:
give us grace that we may always thankfully receive
the benefits of his sacrifice,
and also daily endeavour
to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost [OS 20] – Sunday 15 August 2021

1 Kings 2.10-12; 3.3-14; Psalm 111; *either* Ephesians 5.11-21;
or Ephesians 5.11-31; John 6.51-58

- Today St Paul tells us to live with wisdom, not doing foolish things like getting drunk but rather 'giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our

Lord Jesus Christ'. May we all make the decision to examine our lives each day to discern what is good and what is not.

- May we always be grateful for all the blessings of this life.

Text: Robert McLean
ABM's Partnerships Coordinator
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Rosters for next week –

22nd August – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

There will be no rosters until after services resume when the NSW Government Stay-at-Home Order is lifted.

Next Sunday 22nd August, 2021 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8.00am – No service

Presiding & Preaching – *N/A*

Organist – *N/A*

9.30am – No service

Presiding & Preaching – *N/A*

Organist – *N/A*

Readings: Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18, Psalm 34.15-22, Ephesians 6.10-20

Gospel: John 6.56-59

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This Week

Please note there will be no events until after the NSW Government has lifted the Stay-at-Home Order and Church has resumed.

Monday 16th August

Tuesday 17th August

Wednesday 18th August

Thursday 19th August

Friday 20th August

Bernard of Clairvaux, abbot and teacher (d.1153)

Saturday 21st August

The Anglican Diocese of Newcastle - The Parish of Terrigal
The Church of the Holy Trinity
92 Serpentine Rd, Terrigal, 2260
Parish Postal Address – P.O. Box 167, Terrigal, 2260
Office Phone: 4365 1115 (Office open Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 2pm)

Parish Email – admin@terrigoalnglican.org.au

Website – www.terrigoalnglican.org.au

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

Email – cyprian7@bigpond.com

Associate Priests

The Reverend Ann Watson –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

Rector's Warden – Neil Ewer 0412 640 477

People's Warden – Terry Rowe 4365 0430

People's Warden – Kyara Newport 0400 994 779

Parish Secretary - Kyara Newport 0400 994 779

Parish Treasurer - Terry Rowe 4365 0430

Parish Ministries

Parish Organist - Chris Sillince 0422 225 849

Sacristan - Coralie Taylor

Office Co-Ordinator – Cal Priest 4365 1115

Messy Church Convenor - Rhonda Kiss 4363 5001

Pastoral Care - contact 4365 1115

Trinity Band & Cursillo – Libby Harvey 0431 315 085

Safety Officer - Mike Keaney 0412 370 716

Copyright Compliance Officer – Terry Rowe 4365 0430

Parish Bookshop – Ronda Kiss 4363 5001

Women's Fellowship – Pam Flegg 4384 5326

Market Day Co-ordinator – Ian Wolstenholme 0426 366 565

Parish Opportunity Shop

Carolyn Shields / Christine De Gans - 4365 1280

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