

**Welcome to worship at  
Holy Trinity, Terrigal  
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
10<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**



**The dates for the re-opening for services will be confirmed once we have received advice from the Diocese with regards to the new rules and that the Stay-at-Home Orders are removed.**

**Fr. Roy writes:** We have been informed that we have been more than 100 days in the current lockdown before some restrictions will be changed on Monday 11 October 2021. Some people are calling it FREEDOM DAY while others are not wanting it to be termed in this way. I am not entering the debate with my opinion, however, I ask two questions "Freedom from what and to do what?" Is it freedom from government regulations? On the other hand, is it freedom to do what I like in my home, community, state, commonwealth with no consideration for other people generally throughout the world or is it a desire to go back to the old ways before the pandemic hit and interrupted our lives? I am not writing to answer these questions, but I want us to look forward into what the future will be like if the people of the world set to work to make it a better place in which to live for all people. Will we, at the end of the lockdown have the desire and the strength to work towards a greater fairness, truth and security for the people who have suffered most during the lockdown? Who are the people who have suffered most during the lockdowns within the pandemic? The suburbs with the larger ethnic communities with high rates of infection and deaths, the disabled, Indigenous Australians, many handicapped, people, and the people suffering with mental illness in its various forms; those who are unemployed as a result of the lockdown, small businesses who have been closed down for months, and young people for whom opportunities for embarking on a chosen career are very slim along with health workers and other essential workers who day by day place themselves in the way of contracting the Delta strain of Covid-19. What, then, can be done to provide a better deal for them and other disadvantaged people so that all people have an equal opportunity in our society?

Thank you for your prayers and concern for Maureen following a fall and a week in hospital. I am aware that most of you did not know of this event, but I was busy with our scattered family with

phone calls, etc. She is now home and improving daily and receiving plenty of attention.

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**

There is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for Jesus' sake, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

Mark 29.30

## **Prayer of the Day**

Merciful God,  
in your Son you call not the righteous  
but sinners to repentance:  
draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction,  
and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant,  
that is seeking your truth, and obeying your will,  
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our Saviour:  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **A reading from Amos Chapter 5 verses 6 – 7, 10 – 15**

Seek the LORD and live,  
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.  
Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,  
and bring righteousness to the ground!  
They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore, because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.  
For I know how many are your transgressions,  
and how great are your sins—  
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,  
and push aside the needy in the gate.  
Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;  
for it is an evil time.  
Seek good and not evil,  
that you may live;  
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,  
just as you have said.  
Hate evil and love good,  
and establish justice in the gate;  
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,  
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 90. 12 – 17**

12 Teach us so to number our days:  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

**13 Relent, O Lord; how long will you be angry?:  
take pity on your servants.**

14 O satisfy us early with your mercy:  
that all our days we may rejoice and sing.

**15 Give us joy for all the days you have afflicted us:  
for the years we have suffered adversity.**

16 Show your servants your work:  
and let their children see your glory.

**17 May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us:**

**prosper the work of our hands,  
O prosper the work of our hands!**

**A reading from Hebrews  
Chapter 4 verses 12 – 16**

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

Alleluia, **alleluia!**

Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

**Alleluia!**

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Mark Chapter 10 verses 17 – 31

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." ' He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

For the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Please pray for:**

Norm Williams, Tania Howlett, David Lamb and Gloria Townsend,  
Val Stratford, Irene Neville, Graham Pattison and Margaret Hassall.



**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10<sup>th</sup> October**

**2021** Readings: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90. 12-17; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

Some people have the impression that faith means accepting some things without question. The journey of faith, in this understanding, leads to a gradual increase in knowledge that provides answers to the tough questions. "When my faith has matured I won't have so many questions; in fact I'll have more answers."

Currently the lectionary readings from the Old Testament for Evening Prayer are from the book of Job. This book asks many of



our deepest and most basic questions: why do bad things happen to good people? If God is love, why do we experience suffering?

Some see the Christian faith, the Church and the Bible as all about providing answers. The Bible does answer many of our questions. It also raises questions that challenge the questions we looked for answers to in the Bible in the first place.

In today's Gospel a man comes to Jesus with a question. It's a simple question, a basic question, but also a deep and far reaching one. "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus says, "You know the commandments: murder, adultery, stealing, bearing false witness, fraud, badmouthing your parents – all forbidden." The man says, "I've kept all those; I've known them since Sunday school."

Jesus then moves from the negative prohibitions of the commandments to a more positive statement of what's required of the man – "Go . . . sell . . . give . . . follow." After all the man did ask "What must I *do*?"

I read recently that the older some people get, the smaller their questions become. We become too easily satisfied with questions to which there are simple direct answers. In fairness, it could be some people are just plain tired. The stress of COVID, lockdowns, the threat of climate change, financial and health problems, all take their toll. It may be easier not to think about it too much.

Jesus doesn't ignore or trivialise this man's question. He treats it seriously and respectfully. Jesus looked at him and loved him. He had personal regard for the man. He saw his humanity.

Yet Jesus didn't give a simple answer that would ensure the man's satisfaction or attract him to become another follower. As is often the case, Jesus doesn't give a direct answer. This is of



vital importance in our understanding of what Jesus is about. Jesus didn't come so we could go to him with all our questions and find answers. Jesus often reframes our questions. We may have been asking the wrong questions to begin with. Being a person of faith may not be so much having the right answers as learning to ask the right questions.

Jesus' answer presents a more urgent question to the man. The man's question was about eternal life. Jesus turns it into a question of discipleship. It's not about having the right answer so much as it's about commitment leading to action.

We live in a world that seeks answers. Statistics show that churches, religions, self-help gurus that provide simple, black-and-white answers attract followers. Fundamentalist forms of faith are the ones that are growing. It's tempting to get on the bandwagon and provide simple answers. Leaders political and religious who give pat answers and media sound bites are loved by the media because that's how the media operates.

When someone asks a question and is given a multifaceted answer or one that isn't expected, there's often the accusation that one is being evasive. Some questions don't have simple answers.

The answer Jesus gave the man went deeper than he was expecting. The gospel of Jesus Christ is not about neat solutions to our problems. God cannot be contained or domesticated. Simple solutions may give us a warm fuzzy feeling but will fail when it comes to the big issues that are larger and more complex than we'd like.

I've known adult Christians who haven't moved beyond a Sunday school faith of childhood impressions of a God of blue skies and smooth sailing. Such faith collapses when the tough and challenging dilemmas of life come along. Our faith is not about a God on standby waiting to fix up our problems. God is

too big to be contained in simple answers. Life is large and complicated and at times confusing. Having the faith of a little child has nothing to do with immaturity. Childlike is not childish.

Maybe the problem with the church isn't that we don't provide simple and straightforward answers to people's questions. I suspect it may be more that we're all too ready to provide the answers people want because we imagine that will satisfy their need for security and maybe they'll join our ranks. Jesus doesn't call people to a life of security; he calls them to discipleship and conversion. This man seems to have wanted the security of eternal life without conversion.

The church trivialises the faith when it's seduced by that sort of thing. God is larger than that. Life is more demanding than that. Jesus is more interesting than that.

We live in a culture where things are turned into a commodity. We are trained from a young age to want more, to satisfy our cravings by more consumption. We can enlarge our lives this way. The reality is our lives are shrunken and diminished. Archbishop Rowan Williams says in his excellent book *Lost Icons: Reflections on Cultural Bereavement*, "the child targeted by advertising . . . becomes an economic subject without the opportunity to recognise those painfully-learned truths about how economic activity commits and limits you" (p. 28). The liturgy of the church, the preaching of the gospel, the activities of the spiritual life, must never become commodities that narrow, limit and shrivel our experience of life. They must be the doorway to a greater and more expansive experience of life than we might have known if we'd never met Jesus in the first place.

We don't come to church to be sedated; we come to be energised. We walk by faith not by sight. That means even when life is rough Jesus walks with us. Instead of giving us answers he gives us himself. Then we find he trains us to ask the right

questions and the most important ones. Our discipleship must be rooted and grounded in a life of prayer and reading of the scriptures and the sacraments.

As we come to church with our questions Jesus, instead of giving us simplistic answers offers us an invitation: "Come, follow me." That's better than any answer. Will you accept his invitation?

Fr Mark Watson

### **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:**

Psalm 85:8

*I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;  
For you speak peace to your faithful people  
And to those who turn their hearts to you.*

Let us pray for hope and healing during this COVID 19 pandemic. Let us pray for those afraid of being a burden to others; for those who have no one to care for them; for those who are caregivers to others.

Prayerfully, Reverend Ann.

## **Women's Fellowship**

Women's Fellowship will not be meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Hopefully the Fellowship group will be able to meet in November and further information will be given about that meeting. Thank you.

## **Op Shop Update**

Re-opening Dates will be confirmed once we have received advice from the Diocese with regards to the rules to reopen.

## **Prayer of the week**

Almighty God,  
in your wisdom you have so ordered our earthly life  
that we must walk by faith and not by sight:  
give us such trust in all your fatherly care  
that in the face of all perplexities  
we may give proof to our faith by the courage of our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Ordinary Sunday 28B[Pentecost 20]**  
**– Sunday 10 October 2021**

- Job 23.1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22.1-15;  
Hebrews 4.12-16; Mark 10.17-31

Psalm 22 speaks very honestly of the hard times that come with being human, times when God might seem far away. 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' says the Psalmist. These are the words Jesus cried out on the cross, in the depth of his suffering. And yet Jesus himself reminds us that God does not forsake us, that there is hope and wholeness for the world. Right there on the cross, Jesus embodies the presence of God with us, holding the broken and hurting world in his outstretched, crucified arms.

- Reflect on your life right now. What hurts? What is hard? Place all your hurt and suffering in Jesus' gentle and compassionate arms. Pray that he will fill you with hope and wholeness.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Melanesia.

*Text:* The Reverend Cathy Ridd  
Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans  
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**Rosters for next week –**

**17<sup>th</sup> October – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**

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

**Next Sunday 17th October, 2021 – Twenty-First 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:** Isaiah 53, 4-12, Psalm 91. 9-16, Hebrews 5.1-10

**Gospel:** Mark 10.35-45

## 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 11<sup>th</sup> October**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

*Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer, England (d. 1845)*

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

*Teresa of Avila, teacher (d. 1592)*

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

*Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, bishops and martyrs (d. 1555)*

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**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@terrigan.org.au](mailto:admin@terrigan.org.au)

Website – [www.terrigan.org.au](http://www.terrigan.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 – 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**

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