



Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7 am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: TIS 111, vv.1-3,5; TIS 638; TIS 48; TIS 447)

Sunday 9 am: Family Communion (also streamed via ZOOM*)

(Hymns: MP 254, TIS 607, MP 1151, MP 796)

* <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).
Contact the Parish Office for the password.

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

Isaiah 40.31

Rev'd Timothy writes...

Who is Jesus? This is the question being answered by the scripture readings through this season of Epiphany.

The images we have of Jesus in this week's gospel passage follow on from last week's with Jesus exercising God's authority in his teaching and healing. But then in the midst of the proclamation, and ministry, or more rightly, because of this, he finds time to be alone and to pray. (Mark 1:35).



The timing is important. The early morning is associated with revelation. Later in Mark's gospel this is the time when Jesus walks on the water and calms the storm (6:48), when the disciples see the withered fig tree, which Jesus interpretes as prophetic sign (11:20), when the events of the passion have their origin (15:1), and when the women find the empty tomb (16:2).

The message for us is of the importance of quiet and prayer, as we seek to see the signs that are always there of God's revelation.

Be still and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 18th February at 10.30am in St Luke's Church. It will also be possible to participate in this meeting by Zoom.

The Annual Report book will be distributed by Sunday 11th February.

Nominations are now open for the following positions: Churchwarden (2), Nominator (3), Synod Representative (2) and Parish Councillor. Details and nomination forms are available at the back of church or by contacting Rev'd Timothy.



Episcopal Visit

Today we WELCOME
The Rt Rev'd John Roundhill,
Bishop of the Southern Region,
at both our 7am and 9am services



Readings for the 5th Sunday after Epiphany

First reading (7am only)

A reading from the book of Isaiah

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³ who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God'?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount

up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40.21-31

Psalm 147.1-11

¹ O praise the Lord, for it is good to sing praises to our God: and to praise him is joyful and right.

² The Lord is rebuilding Jerusalem: he is gathering together the scattered outcasts of Israel.

³ He heals the broken in spirit: and binds up their wounds.

⁴ He counts the number of the stars: and calls them all by name.

⁵ Great is our Lord, and great is his power: there is no measuring his understanding.

⁶ The Lord restores the humble: but he brings down the wicked to the dust.

⁷ O sing to the Lord a song of thanksgiving: sing praises to our God upon the harp.

⁸ He covers the heavens with cloud, and prepares rain for the earth: and makes the grass to sprout upon the mountains.

⁹ He gives the cattle their food: and feeds the young ravens that call to him.

¹⁰ He takes no pleasure in the strength of a horse:

nor does he delight in anyone's legs,

¹¹ But the Lord's delight is in those that fear him: who wait in hope for his mercy.

Second Reading (7am & 9am)

A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians

¹⁶ If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe betide me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I might by any means save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

1 Corinthians 9.16-23

Gospel reading

A reading from the gospel of Mark

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' ³⁸ He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Mark 1.29-39

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Coming through Captivity

The limitlessness of God's love and work in Creation is revealed in Jesus. This week's passages suggest reaching out to God through prayer and reflection as we strive to keep our focus for ministry. Sustained and restored by faith, we can serve in fresh and vital ways as messengers of good news.

Isaiah 40:21–31 The prophet of Isaiah 40 calls God’s people to remember that God is their source of strength. Some scholars place the writing in the sixth century BCE when the people of Judah were living in exile following the Babylonian conquest. The temple and Jerusalem had been destroyed. It is easy to imagine the people’s discouragement and weariness. The prophet reminds them of the power of God to restore and liberate, of God’s desire to renew their strength.

The psalmist rejoices in God, who restores and renews. Psalm 147:1–11, 20 praises God who gathers those who are outcasts, heals the broken-hearted ones, and lifts those who are downtrodden.

To Paul, freedom in Christ is the source of strength for those who seek to further the mission of God’s realm. In 1 Corinthians 9:16–23, Paul’s rhetorical questions make a case for Paul’s apostolic rights and claims, including the right to be supported by the community. At times, Paul needed the community to be his source of strength as he ministered.

Mark 1:29–39 Immediately is a word used repeatedly in the gospel of Mark and suits its pace. The accounts in the first chapter of Mark’s gospel are a frenzy of activity: the preaching of John the baptizer, Jesus’ baptism, calling of disciples, teaching in the synagogue, and casting out an unclean spirit. Seeking rest at the home of Simon and Andrew, Jesus is called upon to heal Simon’s mother-in-law. Crowds begin to press in around the house, demanding more words and deeds of power from Jesus.

Jesus moves quickly in Mark’s narrative, but Jesus also stops, receives ministry of others, retreats away the crowd, and enters the stillness and into the presence of God. However, it isn’t much of a break from the action. The disciples follow Jesus and right away implore him to get back on the road. In that brief time apart, Jesus found renewed energy in God, the source of his strength. Jesus moves on with the disciples to preach and cast out demons throughout Galilee.

Such renewal is the gift Jesus offered to Simon’s mother-in-law the previous night. Jesus reaches out to this woman who is weak with fever, raises her, and restores her to serve. Jesus is restored to continue preaching and healing. Simon’s mother-in-law is restored to continue serving as host to those in her home. Common to both is a sense of ministering to and with others. The Greek word used for what the woman does, *diaconeo*, is often translated in English as “to serve” and also can be translated as “to minister.” This is the same word used in Mark 1:13 to describe how the angels cared for Jesus in the wilderness. Mark describes what Simon’s mother-in-law does as something beyond mere hospitality. This woman provides what is necessary to sustain life, as does Jesus.

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This week’s texts sing with confidence in God’s faithfulness. Jesus drew from this source of strength as his authority for healing and teaching. With Jesus, we are invited to trust in the power of God, who promises: “I will raise you up on eagles’ wings.” In what ways does confidence in God’s faithfulness give shape and purpose to your life as an individual disciple and as a church? How might you forge a stronger connection with this source of strength?

Redevelopment News

An initial meeting has been held with the builders and the diocesan team during last week. A few final details are being worked on that will enable a contract to be signed. We are still hopeful for a commencement of the project in February.



Hall and office clear out

Working bees will continue to be held on Saturday 10 February to clear out the halls and parish centre. All are welcome to come along and help whenever you are available.

If anyone has space that could be used for storage during the build, such as an unused garage, please speak to the Wardens.

The Parish Council also discussed ways in which we can use the church during the build including to continue to offer meeting spaces and refreshments after services. We will be temporarily removing three pews at the back of church on the north side to facilitate this.

Prayer:

Please join with me in giving thanks to God that our redevelopment project is now going ahead, and pray for all that needs to be done in both the preparation for the build, and to keep our ministries going during the build.

Church News

The next edition of Church News will be out in March.

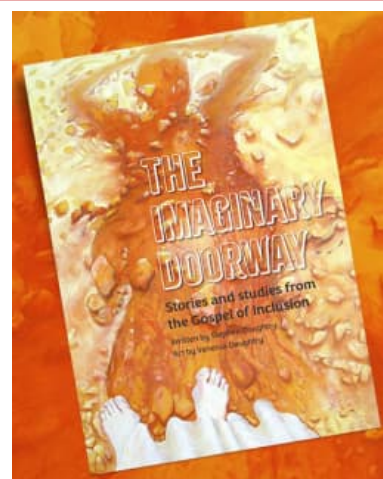
Now is the time to send articles and photos for inclusion to Honor phlawler@optusnet.com.au phone 0410 423 446.

Please send by 15th February



Lent Study

Our Parish Lent study this year will be 'The imaginary doorway', from the Australian Board of Mission (ABM). This takes encounters that Jesus has with different people, such as Legion and Zacchaeus and invites us to take an



imaginative journey into their lives. As we consider how Jesus made such people whole we see links to ABM's contemporary mission.

Tuesday's 10am or Thursday 7.30pm, starting 13th/15th February. Speak to Rev'd Timothy or June if you are interested in joining us.

For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

Saving God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, healed the sick and brought them wholeness of body and mind: inspire us, his disciples, so that we may constantly proclaim his gospel by our words and by the dedication and integrity of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The World

Pray for those affected by ongoing weather extremes of temperature and rainfall, and for the emergency and medical service staff who continue to work under much pressure.

Anglican Communion

The Anglican Church of South America

The Diocese of Bathurst: †Mark Calder; Clergy and People

The Parish of Buderim: Lucy Morris, Lynette Neil, John Cornish, Montague Morris, Theo Woods

NQ Townsville Correctional Centre: Ed Spriggins & Neil Bruce

Canterbury College, Waterford: Principal - Daniel Walker; Chaplain – Dan Talbot;

Chair of College Council –Jonathan Waterworth; members of College Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Robyn Maxwell, the chaplain at Wellers Hill State School.

Our parish

Pray for architect and others who are bringing together the final details needed before the contract can be signed for our redevelopment project.

Local Schools & Colleges

Wellers Hill Primary, Junction Park Primary. Moorooka Primary

Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Jan Moody, Robyn McElnea, June McNicol, Ash and Joh, Cathy, Rita Johnson, Sharon L.

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

5 February: Maxwell Scott Butson; *7 February:* John Henry South, Ian Salisbury Hankey, John Derek Dickey; *8 February:* Gordon Oliver Cameron; *9 February:* Eileen Clara Summerson; *10 February:* Alice Cocking

Dates for your diary



13th February: 6pm –
Pancake Dinner for Shrove
Tuesday (venue TBA)



14th February: 9.30am and
6.30pm – Services for Ash
Wednesday

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

18th February: 10.30am –
Annual Parish Meeting

Children's Church continues each Sunday during school term



Given the current increase in the presence of COVID, if you are feeling unwell please stay home and rest. You can join our 9am service on Zoom. Details of how to do this are included with the weekly parish email.

If you are rostered for a task, don't worry, we will fill your spot.



Services This Week:

Tuesday—Friday

6pm: Evening prayer on Zoom

Sunday 11th February

(Feast of Transfiguration)

7am: Holy Communion

9am: Family Communion (St
Lukes's / Zoom) with
Children's Church

*Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2
Corinthians 4:3-12, Mark: 9:2-9*

Keep in touch:

-  priest@stlukesekibin.org.au
(Rector, Rev'd Timothy)
-  admin@stlukesekibin.org.au (Office)
-  families@stlukesekibin.org.au
(Children's church)
-  3848 2123 (Rectory and Office)
-  P.O. Box 79, Wellers Hill, QLD 4121
-  www.stlukesekibin.org.au
-  @stlukesekibin

Parish Wardens:

Brian Wood (0466 656 149)
Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)
Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

Offerings:

Bank details (internet banking):

Anglican Parish of Ekibin

A/C 0000 7820

BSB 704 901

Or scan the QR
code to give
online:



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