

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday	6am	St John's Golf group
Thursday	10.30am	June Bain's funeral at Pinnaroo
Saturday	9.30am	Installation of new Dean at Cathedral

Help Around Parish Form – this is my last week of asking for the forms to be returned. It will be great to have you included in the pool of people.

Australia Day - 26 January, is the day to reflect on what it means to be Australian, to celebrate contemporary Australia and to acknowledge our history. The story of Australia, is the story of an extraordinary nation. The story begins 60,000 years ago. New chapters are written every day. On Australia Day, we reflect on our history, its highs and its lows. We respect the stories of others. And we celebrate our nation, its achievements and most of all, its people.

Prayers for End of Fires – We pray for the firefighters who lost their lives this week acknowledging their willingness to put their lives on the line to help those in need. We pray for their families in their time of grief that they will feel upheld by Your love and the prayers of people around the world. We give thanks for rains that have fallen in areas of need. We continue to pray for all who have been affected by the fires, all who are working as first responders, all who have donated or are offering their time and skills to help those who are in the process of recovery.



*Happy birthday to Howard Martin on 26th;
Chris Foster on 29th; Alison Dunne on 30th*

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Welcome to Worship

Epiphany 3

26th January 2020



We are a warm-hearted community who are delighted to have you worshipping with us today ...

Our Mission is to

- Know God personally
- Love and respect one another deeply
- Disciple and serve those around us

Sentence: What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Collect of the Day

Bounteous God,
we give thanks for this ancient and beautiful land,
a land of despair and hope,
a land of wealth and abundant harvests,
a land of fire, drought and flood.
We pray that your Spirit may continue to move in this land and bring forgiveness, reconciliation, and an end to all injustice;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's readings:

Deut 8:5-14a
Psalm 125
Hebrews 11:8-16
Matthew 5:1-12

Next Week:

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Cor 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12



Epiphany 3

Jesus said to Simon and his brother Andrew, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Galilee is the centrepiece of today’s readings.

In Jesus’ time, Galilee was the most populated and productive region of Palestine. The great roads of the world passed through Galilee, making it a strategic target for invasion. White-sailed ships crept up the Mediterranean coast from Alexandria and caravans travelled through the region from Mesopotamia and Egypt.

Galilee, unlike the rest of Palestine, had an international perspective, in touch with many non-Jewish ideas and influences. Josephus, the Roman historian, wrote of the people of Galilee: “They were fond of innovation and, by nature, disposed to change and delighted in sedition . . . The Galileans were never destitute of courage . . . They were ever more anxious for honour than for gain.”

In a few lines, Matthew sketches a new beginning in human history: the arrest of John and the end of the First Testament; the beginning of a New Testament in the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus in Galilee and the call of the first disciples from their fishing nets along the Sea of Galilee. Jesus’ beginning his public ministry in Galilee is, for Matthew, the fulfillment of an ancient oracle concerning the Messiah: that, through the darkness of Galilee’s Assyrian captivity, the “great light” of their deliverance will appear (Reading 1).

Like Peter, James and John, we are asked by Jesus to take on the work of discipleship; we are asked to leave our “fishing nets” – our own needs and wants – to follow the example of love and servanthood given to us by Jesus; we are asked to rebuild our lives, homes and cities in the justice and peace that Jesus proclaims.

Jesus calls his disciples of every time and place to be “fishers” of men and women, to use whatever “nets” we possess, in whatever oceans and seas we find ourselves, to catch the falling, rescue the endangered, gather in the lost and forgotten.

Christ is the light that illuminates our minds and souls with a new vision of the human condition: in the light of Christ, we are able to recognize one another as brothers and sisters, children of the same God; in the light of Christ, we realize our own need for healing and forgiveness and are then able to bring such transformation into our lives and the lives of others.

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Happy Australia Day

Please pray for: Paul; Colleen & Ted; Marge; Lynne; Frances; Rowan; Isla; Hieko; Brad; Peter; Lois; Jill, Albert, Ivan; Suzie; Jan; Dan; Maureen; Stuart

