St Philip's Come & See

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Sunday 1 November 2020

All Saints

While the COVID19 restrictions are in place St Philip's is delighted to be celebrating the Eucharist online on *Facebook* at 8.00am this morning. It will then be available on either our *YouTube channel* or *Facebook*. All links and details are on our web page *www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au*

Front Cover: Fra Angelico 1423-24, The National Gallery - London

Dear Friends,
Welcome to November, traditionally a month of remembrance. Today All Saints, tomorrow All Souls, next Sunday Remembrance Sunday, each has its own particular emphasis.

A great Jewish Rabbi, Abraham Joshua Heschel said: Much of what the Bible demands can be comprised in one word: Remember. The Bible's view is first and foremost that when we remember

something from the past we make it present again, make it once more potent in our lives for good or ill.

Every Sunday when we gather for the Eucharist we hear the words 'do this in remembrance of me.' For some in the Church this means just that, in a plain, rather passive sense - we remember Jesus and his life in this meal that he commanded us to celebrate. But many others who come together to celebrate the weekly Easter, the 'anamnesis' (the word which we translate as remembrance) of the crucified and risen Lord, believe Christ is present in all his living reality in their midst.

But what of All Saints and All Souls? In The Apostles Creed, which is used predominantly at baptisms we declare our belief in the 'Communion of Saints.' So when we gather for the Eucharist we do so with all those who have gone before us. To be Christian is to be able to embrace those who have gone before us (and also those who will come after us). It is to be able to accept our place with others—indeed, to call them *friends*.

Some have found this poem by Monk Gibbons an inspiration:
Who'd be afraid of death,
I think only fools
are. For it is not
as though this thing
were given to one man only, but all
receive it. The journey that my
friend makes, I can
make also. If I know
nothing else. I know
this, I go where he is.
O Fools, shrinking from this little door,
Through which so many kind and lovely souls have passed
Before you,
Will you hang back?
Harder in your case than another?
Not so.
Has there not been enough stir here?
Go bravely, for where so much greatness and gentleness have been
Already, You should be glad to follow.

Blessings to you all *Martin*

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Entrance Antiphon [Introit]

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:
We praise you, heavenly Father,
that you have knit together your chosen ones
in one communion and fellowship
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord:
give us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

A reading from the book of Revelation (7:9-17)

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation,
from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed
in white, with palm branches in their hands. [10]They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'
[11]And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures,
and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, [12]singing,
'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'
[13]Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have
they come from?' [14]I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are
they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in
the blood of the Lamb.
[15] For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
[16] They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
[17] for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Psalm 34:1-10,22

I will bless the Lord continually:
his praise shall be always in my mouth.
Let my soul boast of the Lord:
the humble shall hear it and rejoice.
O praise the Lord with me :
let us exalt his name together.
For I sought the Lord's help and he answered:
and he freed me from all my fears.
Look towards him and be bright with joy:
your faces shall not be ashamed.
Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me:
and saved him from all my troubles.
The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him:
and delivers them in their need.
O taste and see that the Lord is good:
happy are they that hide in him!
Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones:
for those who fear him never lack.
Lions may suffer want and go hungry:
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing good.
The Lord ransoms the lives of his servants:
and none who hide in him will be destroyed.

A reading from the first letter of John (3:1-3)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what
we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2]Beloved, we are God's
children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is
revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. [3]And all who have this hope in him purify
themselves, just as he is pure.

The Gradual

Alleluia! **Alleluia**. Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. **Alleluia!**

Matthew 11:28

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:1-12)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. [2]Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
[3] 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[4] 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
[5] 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
[6] 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
[7] 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
[8] 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
[9] 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
[10] 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[11] 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. [12]Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the People

In our prayers we remember those in need, particularly: Roger, Ros, Sam, Ben, Gage, Hugh, Beryl, Denise, Margot, Sarah, Tien and Myrle and those unable to gather with us.

We commend to God the recently departed especially Joan Anderson and those whose year's mind falls at this time: Marjorie Dixon (2/11/1975) and Frances Trivett (3/11/1988). We remember those whose memories are dear to us and all who have no one to remember them.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Happy are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Happy are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Matthew 5:8-9

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

[When the clergy make their communion if you are watching from home you may like to privately make the following prayer. It was believed from earliest times that Christians could receive the benefits of Holy Communion even if they were unable to be present at the Eucharist. This teaching was of particular comfort to so-called Confessors of the Faith, who were imprisoned and deprived of access to the sacraments].

Jesus, you have given us in the Holy Eucharist
your Body and Blood to be our spiritual nourishment
through which we may have life everlasting.

I desire, with all my heart, to receive this living Bread
which came down from Heaven.
Send your Spirit upon me, come and refresh my soul.
That, whilst I may be isolated from your sacramental presence
and from your Body, gathered;

I may know the peace and joy of communion with you
and your body the Church, in my heart.

Increase my faith,
strengthen my hope,
kindle my love,
that I may die to self and live but for you. Amen.
[If you are interested in the history and the theology behind Spiritual Communion this YouTube clip is helpful. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uBiqbTY7oA&feature=youtu.be]

For Reflection

Why Honour the saints?
This is an important question that many exploring Anglicanism ask, especially those peering into this tradition from the standpoint of "non-Catholic" Christianity.

The talk of "saints" quickly strikes a nerve with some as it conjures up Roman Catholic devotions: prayers to saints, veneration of relics, and the constant observation of saint days. This "cult of the saints" was at its zenith during the late Middle Ages, and so it became a casualty as the Reformation sought to purify the Church.

The result is that most Protestant and Evangelical churches don't mention the saints. They fear that labelling someone as "St. so-and-so" sets them up on a holy pedestal and creates a "class distinction" among the Body of Christ. Anglicanism's response to the medieval situation and the modern practice among Evangelicalism is both "yes and no."

Anglicans generally agree with Luther's critique of Rome's outlandish devotions. It is notable that when Thomas Cranmer wrote the Book of Common Prayer, he didn't include a single prayer to a saint, and no BCP has included one since.

But Anglicans don't go so far as to ignore the long history of the Church regarding saints and their veneration. The BCP has always included assigned readings and prayers (to God) for particular saint days. Cranmer wanted the saints and their veneration to play an important role in our devotion to God. Why?

Honouring the saints honours the One who makes them holy. The saints ("Holy Ones") are those "knit together" in Christ's "mystical Body," the Church. This is a gift given to us from our gracious God. We become a saint when we are baptized into Christ. His holiness sets us apart and makes us holy as well.

His holiness is not static, though. It is alive and active. It is the Holy Spirit, whose job it is to transforms us and conform us to the image of Christ. A saint, then, is someone on the journey of becoming by grace what God is by nature: holy and perfect. I think Evangelicals would agree with this: every Christian is a saint and will become like Christ when he returns.

Anglicanism pushes even further. While agreeing that everyone who is baptized and believes is a saint, we also recognize that there are those in whom the image and holiness of Christ is abundantly manifested. These we boldly label as "St. so-and-so."

I say "boldly," because calling someone a saint in this regard is more than an honorary title—it is a powerful proclamation about God's ability to take someone "dead in their sins" (Eph. 2:1) and make them alive in Christ.

In other words, to venerate a saint and observe his or her feast day is nothing more than to venerate the all-surpassing power of Christ himself. This is why we observe the feast days of saints and a day like All Saints. It reminds us of our own "sainthood" given to us in baptism. It calls to mind Christ's work among our brothers and sisters departed this life in holiness. And it even serves as an invitation to us to "go and do likewise."

As the collect for All Saints' Day puts it, we remember the saints and pray that God will grant us "grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living." By grace alone the saints

have embodied divine love, so much so that we can hold them up as role models for discipleship. Their life and witness calls us to continue progressing along the path of perfection in Christ. If we do this, we too might be remembered as "St. so-and-so."

Fr. Myles Hixson serves as rector of Holy Cross Anglican Church in Knoxville, TN. He is also the co-host of The Sacramentalists Podcast.

News

The ACT Chief Officer regularly updates information regarding interstate COVID19 outbreaks. Below is the link to the site which outlines areas of risk in Australia (Hotspots) https://www.health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-10/COVID-19%20Advice%20on%20interstate%20COVID-19%20outbreaks_26102020.pdf [The latest guidance on this site dated 26 October is in the church foyer].
The NSW CHO's site provides detailed information on the situation in NSW. https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates

Bridging the Gap - Breaking the Cycle

Each week St Philip's donates non-perishable food items to **St John's Care** in Reid. Thank you to those who continue to donate. The baskets at the back of the church are ready to receive your donations! As well as food, items such as shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste (especially for children) are needed at this time. Thank you.
Please refer to the list of suggested items and if you would like to know more about this important outreach visit ww w.stjohnscare.org.au.

St Philip's National Mission - Australia Youth Engagement

Our National Mission Project for 2020 - Australia Youth Engagement through ABM is coming to a close. I hope that you have managed to read about this project which supports Church initiatives to engage young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people. The project aims to produce culturally relevant Sunday School resources for ATSI communities in their own language which are then incorporated in their existing programs and church services. The envelopes for your donation are at the giving bowl and the back of the church. Watch out for news of our next outreach project.

Hope you enjoyed the latest edition of **Church Chat**; many thanks to our editor Laura Wood. Don't forget to get your recipes, news and chat to Laura for the last edition of 2020.
yourlaurawood@gmail.com

Thank you to those of you who braved the weather and helped out at yesterday's **Working Bee!** Coffee drank, currant buns consumed and the conversation flowed as we watched the rain fall. We even managed to pull a few weeds. Thank you all very much!

Tomorrow, Monday 2 November is **All Souls Day.** After the festivities of All Saints it is appropriate that we gather, pause and remember those dear to us, those who have no one to remember them and particularly this year remember those who died as a result of the Pandemic that has afflicted us. A Requiem Eucharist will be celebrated at 9.00am. Please let Martin know the names of anyone you would like remembered.

A Pop-up concert will be held next Sunday 8 November at 3pm at St Philip's. The programme will include Beethoven's Sonata no.14 in C Sharp Minor Op.27 no.2 (Moonlight) performed by Colin Forbes and Vaughan Williams *Songs of Travel* sung by Janene Broere. Tickets $15.

Joan Anderson one time 8am regular died on Wednesday morning (28 October) at The Leslie Morshead Manor. Her funeral will be conducted at St Philip's on Monday 9 November at 11am. May she rest in peace.

This week @ St Philip's

Today	*All Saints*	
8am		**Eucharist -** Livestreamed
10am		**Eucharist with music**

Monday 2 November *All Souls (Commemoration of the Faithful Departed)*
9am **Requiem Eucharist**

Wednesday 4 November *Feria*
7pm Parish Council

Thursday 5 November *Feria*
10am **Eucharist**

Saturday 7 November *Feria*
10am – 1pm Pandora's

Sunday 8 November *Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost*
Remembrance Sunday
8am **Eucharist** - Livestreamed
10am **Eucharist with Music**
3pm Pop up Concert – See News

Dates for your Diary

Monday, 9 November 11am Funeral for Joan Anderson –

Saturday, 21 November 9am-1pm CBR Garage Sale Trail @ Pandora's, with some additional stall including books.

Sunday, 22 November Christ the King

Saturday, 28 November 10am – 1pm Festive Fashions @ Pandoras

Saturday, 28 November 6pm Advent Dinner – (More on this soon)

Saturday, 19 & Sunday, 20 December 7pm Christmas Concert

Christmas Services – More details soon.

Roster

		1-Nov-20	8-Nov-20	15-Nov-20
	Sunday of Month	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
	Liturgical Season	All Saints	23rd Sunday after Pentecost	24th Sunday after Pentecost
	Flowers	Flower team	Flower team	Flower team
8am	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)			Rev'd Canon Scott
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Margaret or Russell	Alison & Alistair	Vicki L & helpers
	Liturgical Assistant	Lisa C	Ellie P	Lisa C
	Bible Reader	Margaret or Russell	Alison & Alistair	Rebecca P
10am	Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Canon Scott
	Preacher (if different to Celebrant)			
	Sidespeople & Welcomer	Nirmal F, Fred A & Janene B	Hardy & Helen P, Jeanette M	Laura W, Richard G & Sally A
	Liturgical Assistant		Rebecca K	Server: Leighton
	Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F
	Bible reader	Fred A	Jeanette D-T	Laura W