

For upcoming events and Calendar <https://events.stphilipsoconnor.org.au>

This week @ St Philip's

Tues	7pm	10 Mar	Parish Council meet
Wed	1.30pm	11 Mar	Eucharist at Lesley Morshead
Wed	6pm	11 Mar	Evening Prayer in Lamerton Centre
Thurs	10am	12 Mar	Eucharist followed by refreshments
Thurs	11.30am	12 Mar	Lent Study 3 in Lamerton Centre
Thurs	7pm	12 Mar	Lent Study 3 in Lamerton Centre
Sat	10am	14 Mar	Pandora's Open
Sat	11am	14 Mar	Eucharist Canberra Aged Care

Today's Roster — 8th March – Third Sunday of Lent

Celebrant: Rev Dr Bili Malek & Preacher: Rev Christine Cargill

8am Welcoming/Offertory: vacant ; LA/Prayers: Julianne; Readers: Lari; Breakfast: Martin and Julianne.

10am Welcoming/Offertory: Helen and Hardy; LA/Prayers: Rev Robin and Ashton; 2nd Chalice: Brian; Slides: Liz D; Musician: Colin F; Readers: Laura and Fr Hartley; Morning Tea: Helen.

Next Sunday— 15th March – Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5: 8-14 and John 9: 1-41

8am Celebrant & Preacher: Rev Christine Cargill Welcoming/Offertory: vacant; LA/Prayers: Lari; Readers: Rebecca P and Julianne; Breakfast: Martin and Julianne.

10am Celebrant: Rev Christine Cargill Preacher: Rev Sarah Gibson Welcoming/Offertory: Fred + Volunteer; LA/Prayers: Rebecca; 2nd Chalice: Fr Hartley; Slides: Ben and Fiona; Musician: Colin F; Readers: Liz D and Fiona; Morning Tea: Liz D

<https://stphilipsoconnor.org.au/news/rosters>



Prayers of the People. In our prayers we remember all in need, including Barbara, Brad, David, John, Sandra, Wendy, Nicholas, Zahra, Margaret, Lyn, Katherine, Bob, Judy, Rosemary, Pauline, Victoria and Marcus. We pray for those unable to gather with us & those in hospital or other care. We commend to God the recently departed, Nathan Caesar, as we remember those whose anniversary of death falls at this including John Victor Cousins (14 Mar 1994) and Aileen Mary Elizabeth MacDonnell (14 Mar 1999). We remember those whose memories are dear to us & those remembered only by God.

St Philip's Anglican Church, O'Connor

24 Macpherson Street O'Connor. 2602

Rector (Priest in charge): Revd Christine Cargill

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St Philip's
Come & See

Third Sunday of Lent 8th March 2026

Welcome to St Philip's – it is great to have you with us.

St Philip's is the local Anglican church, and we are a very diverse group of people. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship. If you are new, please do say hello – we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure about what is going on, please do ask. We will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal, but we hope relaxed- as we come to worship God in our midst.

Today's Readings

Exodus 17: 1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5: 1-11

John 4: 5-42

Hymns at 10am

446 – Glorious things of thee

223– How sweet the name of Jesus

112– through all the changing

453 – We limit not the truth of God

We acknowledge the Ngambri and Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship. We pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who worship with us.

A thought from the Rector

Our reading from John today, I think one of the most powerful stories in the Gospel. Last week, we were introduced to Nicodemus who comes to Jesus by night. This week Luke narrates another character's encounter with Jesus, the Samaritan woman at the well. The contrast between Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman is striking. Nicodemus is a Pharisee, an insider, a leader of the Jews. He is a man, he has a name, but he comes to Jesus by night. This week we meet a Samaritan, a religious and political outsider. She is a woman, she is given no name, but she meets Jesus at noon, in full daylight. And the contrast between their conversations with Jesus is even more extraordinary. Whereas Nicodemus struggles to move beyond the confines of his religious system, the Samaritan moves outside of her understanding and

engages Jesus in theological debate.

It can be easy to impose a simple interpretation on this text declaring that it is about how Jesus 'includes in' this outsider. But this is a two-way conversation. This is as much about the woman engaging in conversation with Jesus, as it is about Jesus engaging in conversation with her.

Many use the 'outsider' card when they really have power, and we need to be careful in our contextual reasoning not to read things in which help our argument to the exclusion of others. This story is about inclusion, but inclusion can mean different things in different contexts. As we continue to journey through lent, what might we need to let go of to truly include?

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

We are now in Lent

This year's Lent Study we are using *Holiday* prepared by Anglican Board for Mission. *Holiday* is a series of stories about Jesus set in an Australian Landscape. Even if you haven't signed up, you are welcome to join in any session.

Session 3 – **Thursday 12th March – 11.30am** or 7pm

Session 4 – Quiet Morning Saturday **21st March 9am – 1pm**

(with invitation to share lunch together afterwards).

Lent pamphlet available in church or on the website. Please look at the different ways you might engage this Lent.

Opportunities to hear Dr Paula Gooder

Last year we used one of Paula's books for our Lent study. Dr Paula Gooder is the Canon Chancellor at St Paul's Cathedral and lecturer in church history. She offers a perspective about the importance of women in the life of the early church that has been neglected. The Women in Leadership Commission have arranged a visit from her to Canberra during March. There are 2 chances to hear her.

Saturday 21st March 7.30am Breakfast Conversation at Holy Covenant Jameson. Bookings essential but free event.

Thursday 19th March 7 for 7.30pm at St Mark's Theological College – lecture *Lives, Leadership and Legacy – Women in the earliest Christian Communities*. Bookings essential but free event.

Booking Details at the back of church.

Praying at a time of conflict

How might we pray about all that is happening in the world at present? Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford; herself a refugee from Iran in the 1980's, offers this prayer for us to share in...

Ever-loving God, who hears us in our anguish and distress, and longs for us to be free.

We pray for the people of Iran and the wider Middle East, at this time of fear and uncertainty.

Be near to those who are anxious;

bring comfort to all who are suffering.

Guide those with the power to make decisions,

and lead them in the ways of wisdom,

compassion and moderation:

that people of goodwill would seek harmony and reconciliation.

Join us with our Christian brothers and sisters in all places,

in praying for peace with justice, through him who is the prince

of peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

Takes place each **Wednesday at 6pm** in the Lamerton Centre We use different styles of prayer and meditation as we pray together for about 35mins. During Lent it provides a great space to focus our prayer.

Save the date – Parish Working Bee Saturday 28th March

starting from 8am till about 11am there will be plenty of jobs for any ability level, from sweeping leaves and cobwebs, to polishing brass. Do plan to pop in and help a little as we prepare the church and grounds for autumn and Easter.

Easter Flowers 2026

Easter Sunday is Sunday 5th April. Further details for services during Holy Week and Easter will be distributed next week.

We are inviting members of the congregation to donate towards flowers for our Easter Celebrations.

Offertory. Please place your gift in the offering bag or use the Eftpos machine in the foyer. St Philip's account for regular giving is: 702-389 05202512. For those who give electronically, giving cards are available to put in the bag offered at the altar.