

Focus

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 28, 2024

Welcome to Worship

Sentence

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4.10–11

Collect

O God, form the minds of your faithful people,
that we may love what you command
and desire what you promise,
so that, amid the many changes of this world,
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



St. Bart's acknowledges the long custodianship by the Yugarra and Turrbal people of the land on which we meet for worship.

We thank God for their rich culture and faithful stewardship of the land.



St Bartholomew's
Anglican Church
MT GRAVATT

Acts 8.26-40

26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) 27 So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.'

30 So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' 31 He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 32 Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' 34 The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' 35 Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

36 As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' 38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm 22.26-32

26 From you springs my praise in the great congregation: I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

27 *The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied: and those who seek the Lord shall praise him— may their hearts rejoice for ever!*

28 Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord: and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

29 *For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he shall be ruler over the nations.*

30 How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage: or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

31 *But he has saved my life for himself: and my posterity shall serve him.*

32 This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation: and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

1 John 4.7-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15.1-8

1 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

MGCC Food Pantry Partnership

We continue this year to help our local community with the supply of:

**Long life milk, cereal, tinned tuna/
fish, jam, peanut butter, vegemite,
tea and coffee.**



Friday Card Day needs you!

Friday Card Days are a great community social event drawing in people from around the area. To continue to offer this fantastic morning we need volunteers on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. Can you help out one Friday a month? If so please see Amy Fussell or Joy Bowa.



Celebration Sunday Next Week - May 5

Bring along something to share for morning tea if you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in May.

Australian National Spiritual Direction's Men's Contemplative Group - online on zoom

We are a group of men seeking shared contemplative companionship through sharing our lives and reflections, lectio style, scripture, spiritual writings and so on. We build in an essential 15-20 minute period of silence. Each gathering is held online on Zoom, lasting about 75 minutes and held on the first Wednesday of each month. If you are interested, contact Gerard Sullivan on gedsull@gmail.com. No costs are involved.



**Ladies Coffee and
Conversation morning
Tuesday May 21
at 10am
Lovewell Cafe,
Mt Gravatt Lookout**



Quiet Morning of Mindfulness and Meditation

Saturday May 4, 8.30am - 12.30pm

Milton Anglican Church, 233 Milton Road, Milton

A morning of mindfulness & meditation using the teachings of Sr Joyce Rupp as the stimulus. Sr Joyce is an award-winning spiritual writer, having been a member of the Servites of Mary religious order for over 60 years. Cost: \$30/\$25 concessions. RSVP by Wed May 1 by emailing milton@anglicanchurchsq.org.au or call 3369 2797.



AYCF - Senior Camp

Do you have a grandchild or child in years 7 to 12 at school? Would you like to encourage their faith journey?

Senior Ichthus is a residential camp during the June school holidays for young people in Grades 7 to 12. It's an exciting holiday camping experience for young people - meals, accommodation all included.

WHEN: Monday 24th – Friday 28th June 2024

WHERE: QCCC Tamborine, Tamborine Mountain

COST: \$350 - all inclusive. Payment plans available. (Perhaps help sponsor your grandchild to go along!)

This is an opportunity for young people to gather and explore faith. On Senior Ichthus Camp there's outdoor and indoor games, singing and worship, inspiring talks from our Spiritual Directors, messy games, a campfire, trivia, scavenger hunts, a movie night and heaps more! All of this happens in a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental environment with a team of trained leaders and qualified Spiritual Directors.

Weekly Prayers -April 28, Easter 5

For the World:

- ◆ The Church of Bangladesh

In Australia:

- ◆ The Diocese of Willochra: †Jeremy James; Clergy and People
- ◆ The Parish of Roma
- ◆ Anglicare SQ Remote and Rural Community Services
- ◆ St John's College UQ: Warden - Rose Alwyn; Chaplain – Samuel Dow; Chair of Council - John Peden; members of College Council; staff & students

In the Diocese: We pray for:

- ◆ The Archbishop †Jeremy and his family.
- ◆ Our Regional Bishops, †Cameron, †John and their families.
- ◆ Ven. Dr. Ruth Mathieson & St Francis College.

In the Deanery:

- ◆ Archdeacon, Donald Campbell.
- ◆ Area Dean, Cameron Freese.

For St Bart's:

- ◆ Our Rector: Michael and Catherine, Cheryl and Ross, Trevor and Sandra. Our Assistant Curate: Lyn and Rob.
- ◆ Our Wardens: Jill, Fiona and Judith.
- ◆ Parish Council, Parish finances.

For those in Need:

- ◆ Peter, Alex, Dale, Judith

Beyond the Parish:

- ◆ Our clergy in the rural areas
- ◆ Our twin Parish of Charleville, including centres Augathella and Morven.

- ◆ Mt Gravatt Community Centre
- ◆ Mt Gravatt Men's Shed
- ◆ School Chaplaincy Ministry.
- ◆ Insync Youth Service (AnglicareSQ): Nathanael House & Bart's Place

Missions Support

- ◆ ABM— Rev Eron Perry
- ◆ BCA— Rev Michael Uptin
- ◆ BMF— Bishop Cameron Venables
- ◆ CMS— Rachel—Eurasia.

Prayer for Peace

God of the nations,
whose sovereign rule
brings justice and peace,
have mercy on our broken
and divided world.
Shed abroad your peace
in the hearts of all
and banish from them the spirit
that makes for war,
that all races and peoples
may learn to live
as members of one family
and in obedience to your law,
through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen

Readings for Next Week:

Easter 6, May 5

Acts 10:44-48

Psalms 98

1 John 5: 1-12

John 15:9-17

Weekly Message

St Bart's Mt Gravatt is firmly committed to being generous, making it an integral part of our dedication to "Be with" our community and "each other". It is part of the response to the share the ways we have known God's generosity in our lives. Each year, we shape our budget around a commitment to allocate at least 10% of our income towards mission work beyond our parish.

We consistently contribute to the Anglican Board of Mission and Church Missionary Society, and we also support the parish of Charleville, our covenant partner. Even after these commitments, we usually have funds leftover to donate to other worthy mission opportunities as they arise. Recently, we have directed this extra giving towards the Goodna Anglican Church. Goodna is a parish doing important work in their community with limited resources. Despite having only a part-time clergy person, the parish manages two centers, an active social welfare program, and a Suda-nese congregation, in addition to its regular services.

Much of the facilities we take for granted, they struggle to afford or maintain, including their audio-visual equipment. With our financial support and a bit of technical assistance, we are gradually rebuilding a sound and AV system that is both simple to use and reliable.

This week, we installed new speakers, stands, and wireless microphones using funds we raised over the past 12 months. This assistance will undoubtedly elevate the worship experience at Goodna, particularly for those with hearing difficulties. We are grateful for the resources we have and the ways we can share them with others.

God's Peace, Rev Michael



Free Talk: Service Dogs for Veterans

Sunday May 5, 10.30am - 11.30am

ANZAC Square Memorial Gardens, Brisbane

In this talk, guest speaker Bill Marklew OAM from PAWs for Hope and Understanding will explore the long history of dogs in the ADF. He will also share how PAWs, trains dogs to perform a range of life-enhancing tasks, allowing Veterans to reclaim their independence and find comfort in adversity. RSVP to: 0466 922 259.

PARISH CONTACTS

Church Address

1357 Logan Rd (cnr Mountain Street)
P O Box 275, Mt Gravatt 4122

Office Hours:

Mon 9.00am– 12 Noon
Tues—Thurs 9.00am—1pm

Administration Officer: Susan Pietsch

Parish Office: 3835 2220
mtgravatt@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Parish Website

www.stbarts.net.au

Rector: The Reverend Michael Stalley

0407 466 108
rector@stbarts.net.au

Assistant Curate:

The Reverend Lyn Kareta

0422 277 061
curate@stbarts.net.au

Hon Associate Clergy

The Reverend Canon Cheryl Selvage
The Reverend Trevor Butler

Treasurer: Fiona Milne

mtgravatt.treasurer
@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Churchwardens:

Jill Patrick
Fiona Milne
Judith John

Urgent Prayer Requests

Margaret Samuels
0400 233 546

Giving

As a church we rely on giving to support our staff and services. If you would like to support our community financially please scan the QR code below to give online.



Or set up a direct debit to our bank account:

Mt Gravatt Anglican Parish General A/c
BSB: 704-901
Acc. No. 00009030

We also have a Tap'n'go machine at the church entry if you would like to give that way.



~to know Christ and to make Christ known~

Visiting or new to St. Bart's?

Please join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat after the service. We'd love to meet you!



St Bartholomew's Ministry Team

All the Congregation

Our Service Times:

Sundays 7am & 9am

Wednesday 10am

2nd & 4th Saturday of the month - 5pm