

Anglican Parish of Avon



Sunday 4 October, Pentecost 19

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**Welcome to our All-age Family
Service**



The Beauty of God's Creation

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the original inhabitants of this land. We acknowledge their elders past and present and their children who are their hope for the future.

Holy Trinity is fitted with a hearing loop

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: 'Let there be love'

//Let there be love shared among us,
let there be love in our eyes;
may now Your love sweep this nation,
cause us, O Lord, to arise:
give us a fresh understanding
of Christlike love that is real;
let there be love shared among us,
let there be love.//

Words and music by Dave Bilbrough alt.

Music arranged by David Peacock

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CCLI #35483

Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Acknowledgement of Country/Welcome

Call to worship

The goodness of God beckons,
calling us to goodness and grace.

The grace of God redeems,
saving us and making us whole.

The love of God welcomes,
inviting us to worship and praise.

The Sentence

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

(Ephesians 2.10)

Time of Thanks

Prayer of Thanks

Let us pray,

**Creator God,
we give thanks that you formed our universe,
fashioned the planets, and forged the stars.
You painted nature into beautiful colour
and stirred seas and rivers to song.
You called forth creatures of every shape and size,
and breathed life into them that they might know you.
You filled your earth with tribes and nations,
and entrusted your precious world to us your family.**

**Almighty God, today we celebrate the good gift of your creation;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, today we rejoice in the gift of
relationship with you. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day – *Together*

Let us pray.

**God of goodness and grace,
gather us in your arms of love.
Gather us as people of your goodness and grace.
Gather us in worship and prayer,
that we may be strengthened
with faith and courage.
Gather us as those who are eager to live
and to share your goodness and grace.
In Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

A Reading from Paul's to the Church at Ephesus

But God's mercy is great, and he loved us very much. We were spiritually dead because of the things we did wrong against God. But God gave us new life with Christ. You have been saved by God's grace. And he raised us up with Christ and gave us a seat with him in the heavens. He did this for those of us who are in Christ Jesus. He did this so that for all future time he could show the very great riches of his grace. He shows that grace by being kind to us in Christ Jesus. I mean that you have been saved by grace because you believe. You did not save yourselves. It was a gift from God. You cannot brag that you are saved by the work you have done. God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would do good works. God had planned in advance those good works for us. He had planned for us to live our lives doing them.

Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Homily

Time of Discussion

During the time of discussion, we move into groups with those around us to discuss questions as displayed on screen, arising from the sermon's themes.

If you'd prefer to remain by yourself in silence, prayer or reflection, please indicate by placing your hands over your heart.

The Prayers

Please sit or kneel for prayer as you are able.

Response:

Lord of creation, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us 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.**

The Confession

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence for self-reflection

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,
this is your world and we are your people:
come among us and save us.

**Forgive us, dear God,
for the words we have spoken that have hurt others;
for the ideas we have shared that have confused others;
for deeds done that have hindered and have not helped;
for our closed ears, when open ears would have heard a need;
for our closed eyes, when open eyes would have shown love.
Forgive us, dear God, and let us walk the paths of life,
in your way, in your truth and with your love.
Amen.**

The Absolution

God who has called us is faithful,
and will not remember our sins.
Our sins are forgiven,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Let us live by the Spirit's transforming power,
and forgive as we have been forgiven.
Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: 'They'll know we are Christians'

1 We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity,
may one day be restored.

Chorus:

*And they'll know we are Christians,
by our love by our love,
yes they'll know we are Christians,
by our love.*

2 We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news,
that God is in our land.
And they'll know...

3 We will work with each other,
we will work side by side,
we will work with each other,
we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each other's dignity,
and save each other's pride.

And they'll know...

4 All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus,
his only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit,
who makes us one.
And they'll know...

*Words and music by Peter Scholtes
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Offertory Prayer

**Merciful God, you have richly blessed our lives
with love and bounty beyond measure.
Bless these gifts we return to you now,
that they may bestow the same richness
of your love and grace in the world.
Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.
When we turned away
you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

The Sending Out of God's People

We thank you, God,
for all the blessings of this table:
for the life-giving story,
the living bread
and the wine of new creation.

**Send us, we pray, in the strength of this meal,
to tell the Good News to neighbours and strangers
with creative words
and compassionate service,
walking the way of Christ.**

Announcements

Missional Hymn: 'Beautiful Saviour'

1 All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
for in my helplessness You heard my cry
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

2 I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,

I will sing of the blood that never fails,
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
of death defeated and life without end.

Chorus:

*Beautiful Saviour, wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the way, the truth, the life.
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the risen One, heaven's champion,
and You reign, You reign over all!*

3 I long to be where the praise is never ending,
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades,
where countless worshippers will share one song,
and cries of 'Worthy!' will honour the Lamb!
Beautiful Saviour...

*Words and music by
Stuart Townsend
Mission Praise 1024
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The Blessing and Dismissal

Go forth in the light of God's grace.
Go forth with the love of Christ's mercy.
Go forth with the goodness of the Spirit's generosity,
and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go, walk gently on country to love and serve our God.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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Bulletin Prayer Points

Friends in Christ, as we gather on this Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, in the days surrounding the commemoration of Saint Francis of Assisi, let us lift our hearts in thanksgiving for the whole created order.

Francis saw all creatures as brothers and sisters, each reflecting the glory of God. Today, we join in that vision — giving thanks for the earth, its beauty, its abundance, and its fragile balance.

Prayer of thanks.

Creator God,

We thank You for the vast tapestry of life:

- For mountains that stand as sentinels of time,
- For rivers that carry life through the land,
- For forests that breathe and shelter,
- For the creatures great and small, each with their place in Your design.
- AND especially for our pets, our dogs, cats, birds, guinea pigs, snakes and all others, that we are blessed to have

We praise You for the abundance of the earth's fruits — grain, fruit, fish, and all that sustains us.

We thank You for the seasons, for the rhythm of planting and harvest, for the joy of sharing food with others. For the joy of the birth of baby animals,

Intercession for Stewardship

Lord of all creation,

You have entrusted us with the care of this earth.

Forgive us when we have squandered its gifts,

when we have taken without giving back,

when we have ignored the cries of the land and the creatures who dwell upon it.

Grant us wisdom to use resources rightly:

- To conserve water and soil,
- To protect forests and oceans,
- To guard against waste and greed,
- To seek sustainable ways of living that honour Your creation.

Bless farmers, fishers, and all who work the land and sea.

Bless scientists, conservationists, and leaders who strive to protect the earth.

Bless communities who share and care for one another in times of scarcity.

We ask that countries suffering war, destruction and deprivation be returned to peace, rebuild and restoration of your creation.

We pray for Your worldwide Christian church

Bless our Bishop, Richard, and our Priest Dave. May your Holy Spirit guide them in all that they say and do to your glory. May the Clergy Retreat this week give peace, affirmation and spiritual nourishment to all clergy.

Bless Bishop Richard's and Priest Dave's families, watch over them and all families during these term holidays.

We pray for the sick, the weak, lonely, depressed and those who mourn—may God's comfort surround them. For Dylan, Kerrie, Gail, Paul, Barb, Fiona, George, Edie, Tim, Keith, Angela, Cynthia, Lloyd, Dawn, Mick, Judy, Deb, Joy, Marion, Jan and Graeme.

Mighty God, we remember in your presence all those who have died, and particularly those we have known and loved. Thank you for them and thank you for your promise of eternal life and peace.

We thank you for all the blessings and gifts you lavish on us. In the weeks ahead help us to keep the faith deeply and passionately. **Amen**

NEWS AND NOTES

Good morning, friends,

A very warm welcome to Rev'd Anne and Lance, who are worshipping with us today. Anne will share the Lord's message.

Dave will attend the Clergy Retreat from Monday to Thursday this week. We wish him a blessed and spiritually nourishing retreat.

Last Sunday's Congregational Meeting was productive.

We shared "light at the end of the tunnel" on the Briagolong property subdivision. All Saints Church will be deconsecrated in early November, and work has begun on the crossover linking the road to the two blocks' shared entrance.

Interest was expressed in holding a weeknight Christmas Carol evening at Holy Trinity. The program would feature well-known Carols, including children's action songs, with the hope of welcoming families and people from the other two sister Stratford churches.

The carolling could be followed by a light meal.

Regarding support for charities: -

Eddie highlighted Chris Dixon's Helping Hands Charity Run, which reflects his commitment to supporting others. The event raises funds for Free #D Hands, an organisation that provides life-changing assistive devices for people with limb differences. Beginning on 17 October, the run is expected to involve more than 50 local runners and aims to raise \$50,000 through online donations. It supports a local charity while demonstrating the community's care for people in need.

darrenchester.com.au

Chris Dixon | darrenchester.com.au

Bev H spoke about the \$1000,000 to rescue young girls who are victims of sexual abuse trade. Four people, 3 men and 1 woman are running from the Northern tip of Australia down to Phillip Island. They are down to NSW at this stage.

In response to the question, “Have our finances improved?”,

Dave invited fundraising ideas for the new church year.

Gail reported that the Trivia Night questions are ready and that she can run the event later in the new year.

Judy K has offered to host a Garden Tea in mid-November next year, one week after opening her garden for the Maffra Garden Club.

Other suggestions included: -

“Run a Function on \$50”.

“Auction a Promise”.

Garden bus tours have previously been successful fundraisers.

A street stall, particularly before Christmas next year, was also identified as a promising fundraiser. We would need food-safety certification for street traders, public liability insurance, and compliance with Wellington Shire’s current food-stall requirements. These may now be stricter than for our previous stalls which included listing all ingredients, avoiding cream, and maintaining correct food temperatures. Denise has begun researching the current guidelines.

Quiet Days: -

Hold a Quiet Day with a fee of \$20 per person.

Hold an ecumenical Quiet Day before Advent and Lent.

Hire a minibus to go to the Abbey.

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From Bishop Richard

Jim Pilmer Award

I have great pleasure in sharing the glad tidings that our own Kate Campbell is to be the recipient of this year's Victoria Police Jim Pilmer Award.

Gippsland has a fine tradition of police chaplaincy, with a number of our colleagues currently engaged in this vital ministry to those who serve in VicPol. The late Tom Binks was also a long serving police chaplain in 'retirement', along with other PTOs who have pioneered this particular way of connecting with our local communities.

Kate was recently presented with a regional award, and this statewide honour recognises the value placed on her contribution to the mission of Victoria Police and - by extension - the contribution of all our police and emergency services chaplains.

The citation for the award reads as follows:

In 2024 we instigated the Rev Jim Pilmer Chaplaincy Award. This award is presented in recognition of a Chaplain who displays the values, persistence, faithfulness and contributions as a local volunteer within their allocated police service area. In 2026, this award has been given to Rev Kate Campbell in Sale. Kate is well embedded into the Sale station, through her consistent presence and exemplifies what it is to be a Police Chaplain. With humility and grace, she walks alongside employees and is a listening ear. Congratulations Kate on being our 2026 recipient.

Yes indeed, congratulations Kate, and thank you to all who are exercising, or have at one time exercised, the 'ministry of presence' to those who may need a moment of accompaniment and a safe space in which simply to 'be', and to feel what they are feeling.

Launch of an exciting and historic “The Spirit of MUNRO”. Written by David Luxford, this near-complete history of Munro is a comprehensive revised edition of *Sap in their Veins: A History of Munro* (1988).

Saturday 10 October 2026 in the Munro Hall from 3pm. No RSVP required—just come along to Munro on the 10th.

Sunday: St Mary’s Church at 8.30am, followed by a catch-up and cuppa in the Munro Hall.

Please see the flyers available in the hall.

What’s Coming up at the Abbey

Take a look at what the rest of the year brings, especially those events coming up in September and October:

- Hush Oct 8 – Hush Quiet Day: Being Present in The in Between.
Facilitator: Rev’d Gradwell Fredericks
- October 9-11. Weekend retreat: Restoration of Relationships.
Facilitator: Julia Fullarton
- October 16-18 - Weekend retreat: Zen and the Art of Lego.
Facilitator: Grant palmer.

Looking to support us? Ways to give:

- Via the offertory bags passed around during our Sunday services (sealed envelopes also available)
- Via bank transfer –
Anglican Parish of Avon, BSB – 063526,
Account number – 10493155.
- Or follow the QR code below:



READINGS AND ROSTER FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER. PENTECOST 20

Exodus 32.1-14 Phil. 4 or 4.1-9 Matthew 22.1-14

PIC Dave. LA Kevin. Chalice Paul. 1st Bev T. 2nd Theresa.

Intercessions: Kevin. Org: Vic. Sides: Bev T. Judy K.

Camera: David, PPT. Miriam. Flowers: Judy T

Morning Tea: Judy K. Jenny A.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

OCTOBER

Thursdays mainly music. 9.30am Parish Hall during School Term.

Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity

Wednesdays 7.30pm Bible Studies

Clergy Retreat 5-8 October

October World Community Day - the last Friday in October. but we will celebrate on the last Sunday in October this year.

Retiring Offertory: Catherine Hamlin Fistula Foundation: Australian Charity in Ethiopia working to Eradicate Fistula (repeat from 2025)

Sun 4 October Pentecost 19. (Feast of St Francis of Assisi always 4 October)

**10am All Age Family Worship at Holy Trinity and 5pm
Briagolong Community Centre**

**DAY LIGHT SAVING BEGINS – CLOCKS 1 HOUR FORWARD
to the 4th April 2027.**

Tues 6

AGM Reports to the Secretary from now on please

Sun 11	Pentecost 20 4pm Healing Service at Holy Trinity.
Sat 17	Men's Breakfast
Sun 18	Pentecost 21 All-age services
Tues 20	Parish Council Reports
Fri 23	Family Movie Night
Sun 25	Pentecost 22 World Community Day, Ecumenical Service at St Andrews UCA Usually the last Friday in October

It is very apt that Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) collections are also dedicated at this service because the FLC is a worldwide ecumenical movement of prayer for peace, justice and reconciliation. The first FLC ingathering was held at the 1965 World Community Day.

Sharing through projects and offerings has been one of the main purposes of World Community Day since its beginning in the USA in 1943. This special day strengthens the bond of understanding between Church women as they join together in fellowship and worship for others.

Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035 379.

Email:davidjrperryman@gmail.com