

Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese of Melbourne



# ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH PARISH OF BURNLEY

Telephone: 9943 8442 [stbartsburnley 'at' gmail.com](mailto:stbartsburnley@gmail.com)

[www.stbartsburnley.org.au](http://www.stbartsburnley.org.au)

## Worship Bulletin



*St Bartholomew*

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**13<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**10.00am Sung Mass**

**Welcome to St Bart's!**

*We are an inner-city Anglican church in the progressive catholic tradition welcoming people of any race, language, culture, age, ability, gender or sexual orientation.*



*We recognize and give honour to the first peoples of Australia, and especially of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nations, past, present, and emerging, the traditional custodians of the land on which this parish has its mission and ministry.*

## ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, BURNLEY

### Our Vision

To live as citizens of, and invite others into, God's Kingdom.

### Our Mission

The Mission of St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Burnley, is to be a community who values the blessings and trust in the promises of God's Kingdom within the cultural and social context of Richmond, Melbourne:

- To live humbly before God and with all people
- To be dependent on God's comfort
- To be gentle with people and all Creation
- To hunger and thirst for the right ways of God
- To show mercy and compassion toward others
- To live with purity in motive and deed
- To be passionate for peace
- To persevere in the face of opposition

*Based on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10) Adopted by the 2015 Annual Meeting*

### CHILD SAFETY COMMITMENT

*St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Burnley commits to meeting all of the standards of the Child Safety Code of Conduct of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne, and the Victorian Government's mandatory Child Safe Standards (Child Wellbeing and Safety Amendment (Child Safe Standards) Act 2015, Child Wellbeing and Safety Amendment (Oversight and Enforcement of Child Safe Standards) Act 2016). The parish community seeks to promote the cultural safety of all children, including Aboriginal children, who come to us from a culturally or linguistically diverse background. We also seek to ensure the safety of any child with a disability. The parish community affirms that all children who come to St Bartholomew's have a right to feel and be safe. We are committed to ensuring that children's best interests are met within our parish. We have zero tolerance towards child abuse. The parish community actively works to listen to and empower children within our community.*

**Facilities including disabled and baby change room are located in the front entrance of the main hall. Enter via the main door of the hall. For all able access see welcomer.**



*If you want to ensure regular giving to St Bart's, but find you never have the right amount in cash, or are sometimes unable to attend on Sundays, then*

**St Bart's Direct Transfer** may work for you.

**Account Name:** St Bartholomew's Anglican Church Burnley

**BSB:** 703 122

**Account Number:** 05009430

*As a reference you can use your own name, or you can use 'Offering' & your name will remain anonymous with your personal details not appearing on the St Bart's bank statement.*

## 10:00am SUNG MASS

**Presider & Preacher:** *Rev Graeme Brennan*  
**Deacon:** *Rev James Brady*  
**Sub Deacon:** *Tim Collison*  
**Organist:** *Linda Kent*  
**Mass Setting:** *Christ Church Mass – Philip Matthias*

*Organ Prelude*

## GATHERING

*The Introit is sung as the Sacred Ministers enter to commence the liturgy.*

**Hymn** (AM 783) – *Stand up and bless the Lord (Tune: Carlisle)*

## INVOCATION & GREETING

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## SENTENCE

May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways.

*2 Thessalonians 3.16*

### *Kyrie Eleison*

*mp*  
 Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy Lord, have mer -  
*cresc.*  
 -cy. Christ, have\_ mer - cy, Christ, have\_ mer - cy, Christ, have\_ mer -  
*mf* *dim.* *mp*  
 -cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Sisters and brothers, as we prepare to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins. *(Silence may be kept.)*

## CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: • pardon you and set you free from all your sins, Confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## GLORIA

*f*

Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and

*mf*

peace to God's peo-ple on earth, Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - might - y God and

*cresc.*

*f*

Fa-ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for\_ your

*mp*

glo - ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have

mer - cy on us: you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## COLLECT

Lord God of all the ages, the One who is, who was, and who is to come: stir up within us a longing for your kingdom, keep our hearts steady in times of trial, and grant us patient endurance until the Sun of justice dawns. We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING

MALACHI 4: 1 – 2

*The sun of righteousness will rise upon you.*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

The Lord says this: 'See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up,' says the Lord of hosts, 'so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 98: 1 – 6

*Response*


All the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va-tion of our God.

Sing to the Lord a new song for he has done marvelous things. With his own right hand and with his holy arm he has brought salvation. **R/-**

The Lord has made known his salvation, and has shown his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his mercy and truth towards the house of Israel. **R/-**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Let all the world be glad in him, sing, rejoice and give him thanks. **R/-**

Let music sound upon the harp, and psalms be offered to his praise; with trumpets and with sounds of joy proclaim the praise of God our King. **R/-**

## SECOND READING

2 THESSALONIANS 3: 7-13

*Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.*

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Brothers and sisters, you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.

This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: 'Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.' For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.

Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. But you, brothers and sisters, must not become weary of doing what is right.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (AM 374)



Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand. Luke 21.28



## GOSPEL

LUKE 21: 5 – 19

*By your endurance you will gain your souls..*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.' They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?'

And Jesus said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.'

Then Jesus said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from. 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be before kings and governors because of my name. 'This will give you an opportunity to testify.

So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. 'You will be betrayed even by parents, by brothers and sisters, and by and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON

*Fr Graeme Brennan, Locum Tenens*

## THE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the ✠ life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for all people and for the Church throughout the world.

*(Pause)*

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith: receive the prayers we offer:

*After each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord:

**And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE PEACE *(Stand)*

We are the Body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*The Peace is shared*

*Notices and announcements*

## THE SACRAMENT

**Offertory** (AM 452) – Let all mortal flesh (Tune: Picardy)

*During the Offertory Hymn the altar is prepared. Gifts of bread, wine and the collection are gathered and brought to the front of the church. At the end of the hymn, the celebrant invites all present to prayer.*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord God, by this holy exchange of gifts, you share with us your divine life. Grant that everything we do may be directed by the knowledge of your truth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty, our joy and our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord. For he is the true high priest, who has freed us from our sins and made us a royal priesthood, to serve you, our God and Father.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,  
 God of pow'r and might, Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -  
 -san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And now, Father, we pray that we who receive these your gifts of bread and wine according to our Saviour's word may be partakers of his Body and Blood.

*The Celebrant takes the bread in his hands and says:*

For on the night he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, his almighty Father, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'TAKE, EAT. THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU. DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.'

*The Celebrant takes the cup in his hands and says:*

After supper, he took the cup and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'DRINK FROM THIS ALL OF YOU. THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW COVENANT WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS. DO THIS, AS OFTEN AS YOU DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Therefore, in obedience to his command, we commemorate and celebrate his saving passion and death, his mighty Resurrection and Ascension into heaven and we eagerly await his coming again in glory. We thank you that by your grace alone, you have accepted us in Christ; and here we offer you a spiritual sacrifice, holy and acceptable in your sight. Through Christ, receive this our duty and service, and grant that we who eat and drink these holy gifts may, by your Holy Spirit, be one body in Christ, and serve you in unity and peace.

In your grace and mercy, bring us to the joy of your eternal kingdom with all the company of the redeemed. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father eternal, in songs of never-ending praise:

Bless - ing and ho - nour and glo - ry and pow'r are\_\_  
yours for ev - er and e - ver. A - men.

## RITE OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour 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 forever. Amen.**

### FRACTION

We who are many are one body in Christ,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

### FRACTION ANTHEM

*mp*  
Je - sus, Lamb of God, have  
mer - cy\_\_ on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our\_\_ sins, have  
mer - cy\_\_ on us. Je - sus, re-deem - er of the\_\_ world,  
grant us your peace, grant us\_\_ your peace.

## THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

✠ This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Holy Communion is administered with these or similar words:*

The Body / Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

*All communicant members of any Christian Church are invited to receive the Sacrament. All others are very welcome to come forward for a blessing.*



## COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, 'This is the Bread come down from heaven: anyone who eats this Bread will live for ever.' (Jn 6: 58)

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen.**

Father . . .

**we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**Thanksgiving Hymn** (AM 284) – For the Fruits of all Creation;  
Tune: Ar hyd y nos (AM 16)

### BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

### PRAYER DIARY

**For the sick, suffering, frail with age, and those who grieve:**

Milenka Skoblar, Mira Krslovic, Joy Turner, Bruce Kelsall, and Hank, and for those with ongoing or immediate needs: Fr Robert Whalley, Bp John Parkes, Peter Bryce, Howard, Stephen and Nilani

**Recently Departed:** Brian Porter, Priest (29<sup>th</sup> Oct);

**and for those whose Anniversaries of death occur in Years mind:**

Graham Giesler (13<sup>th</sup>), David Coburn (14<sup>th</sup>), Ivan Walkinson (15<sup>th</sup>), Leon Bramich, Sid Bryant, Graeme Thornton (16<sup>th</sup>), Colin Hall, Thomas Haddock, Michael Symions, Priest (17<sup>th</sup>), Anne Fitzpatrick (18<sup>th</sup>), John Martin, Robert Ely (19<sup>th</sup>).

## Prayer for Ukraine

*In February, when war in Ukraine began, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York wrote a prayer for the country and its people:*

God of peace and justice,  
 we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
 We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.  
 We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
 that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.  
 We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
 for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.  
 Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
 that you would hold and protect them.  
 We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.  
 Amen

*Archbishop Justin Welby  
 Archbishop Stephen Cottrell*

### ST BART'S VICARAGE RENOVATION APPEAL



*The last major capital expenditure on St Bart's Vicarage was in 1990, some 32 years ago. That work has proven long-lasting in conjunction with some updating of areas in the house over the past 10 years, including: a new kitchen, areas with new flooring, renovated ensuite shower, new carport, paving, and new back garden. There are now other areas of the house that require attention to maintain a reasonable living standard, including: a new family bathroom, new flooring, back veranda work and a complete interior redecorating. We won't be able to achieve it all at once but we do need to get the major items fixed as a matter of urgency so to house an additional priest in 2023. If you could consider donating to the Vicarage Renovation Appeal, it would be much appreciated. You can donate via a specific EFT (below), by cheque (payable to St Bartholomew's, Burnley) or by cash.*

**Account Name:** *St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Burnley*

**BSB:** 703 122    **Account Number:** 05009979

**FOR YOUR DIARY****Sunday, 13 November 2022 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost****10.00am Sung Mass****5.00pm Mass****Monday, 14 November**

10.00am to 12noon Richmond Churches Food Centre

**Tuesday, 15 November**

10.00am to 4.00pm St Bart's Opportunity Shop

7.30pm Parish Council

**Wednesday, 16 November**

10.00am to 4.00pm St Bart's Opportunity Shop

**Thursday, 17 November****10.00am Mass**

10.00am to 4.00pm St Bart's Opportunity Shop

**Friday, 18 November**

10.00am to 4.00pm St Bart's Opportunity Shop

**Saturday, 19 November**

10.00am to 4.00pm St Bart's Opportunity Shop

**Sunday, 20 November 2022 – Christ the King****10.00am Sung Mass****5.00pm Mass****Saturday, 26 November****3.00pm Commissioning of Fr Matthew as Rector of Beechworth and Yackandandah.** Christ Church, Beechworth.**Sunday, 4 December****10.00am Sung Mass****5.00pm Family Service & Meal****Wednesday, 21 December****7.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols****Saturday, 24 December: CHRISTMAS EVE****5.00pm Family Carols****11.00pm Vigil of Carols & Midnight Mass****Sunday, 25 December: CHRISTMAS DAY****10.00am Mass & Carols****Sundays 1, 8, 15, 22 January 2023****10.00am Mass** *and refreshments***Sunday 29 January 2023****11.00am Mass** *followed by Summer Garden Party*



## Anglican Church of Australia ~ Diocese of Melbourne

### ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

#### PARISH OF BURNLEY

Telephone: 9943 8442

stbartsburnley 'at' gmail.com

www.stbartsburnley.org.au

### 2022 PARISH MINISTRIES

#### Bell Ringers

**Captain:** Jonathon Harrison

- jmharrison 'at' iinet.net.au  
0490 450 974

#### Book Club

*(2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of the month @  
7.30pm in Café)*

**Co-ordinator:** Ann Brady

- ajbrady 'at' cobwebs.id.au  
0423 723 009

#### Climate Action Group

**Convenor:** Kathy Kozlowski  
kathykoz45 'at' yahoo.com.au

#### Opportunity Shop

*(Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00am to  
4.00pm)*

**Assistant Manager:** Sandi Power

- stbartsopshop 'at'  
gmail.com (03) 9429 7223

#### Richmond Churches Food Centre

*(Mondays, 10.00am to 12noon)*

**Manager:** Francis Flood

- rfoodcentre 'at' gmail.com  
0493 104 144

#### Sanctuary Guild

**Warden:** Jonathon Harrison

- jmharrison 'at' iinet.net.au  
0490 450 974

#### St Bart's Close

*(1-4/2 Canterbury Street,  
Richmond)*

**Guardian:**

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- stbartsburnley 'at'  
gmail.com 0473 493 153

#### Social Enterprise Cafe

**Committee Chair:** Glenis Heath  
glenisheath 'at' gmail.com

## 2021/2022 PARISH GOVERNANCE



### **Churchwardens:**

- Helen McDonald (People's)
- Cynthia Nyholm (People's)
- Glenis Heath (Vicar's)

### **Parish Council:**

*(meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm)*

- Trevor Blake
- Glenis Heath
- Helen McDonald
- Cynthia Nyholm
- Dr Muriel Porter
- Tom Ransom

### **Parish Administrator:**

Warren Collins

- 03 9943 8442
- 0408 020 446
- stbartsburnley 'at' gmail.com

### **Parish Honorary Treasurer:**

Tom Ransom

- 0400 187 584
- transom2000 'at' gmail.com

### **Parish Honorary Secretary:**

Dr Muriel Porter

- 0430 575 874
- murielporter5 'at' gmail.com

### **Incumbency Committee:**

- Don Heath
- Dr Muriel Porter
- Helen McDonald (Churchwarden)

### **53<sup>rd</sup> Diocesan Synod Representatives:**

Ann Brady & Jonathon Harrison  
Dhakshini Saravanamuttu  
(alternate)

### **Child Safety & OHS Compliance**

**Churchwarden with Oversight:**  
Glenis Heath

### **Compliance Officer:**

Jonathon Harrison

- 9943 8442
- stbartscompliance 'at' gmail.com

## **WORSHIP SUNDAY**

**10.00am SUNG or SOLEMN MASS**

**5.00pm MASS**

## **MID-WEEK**

**Thursday 10.00am Mass**

## **MINISTRY TEAM**

*To prevent internet spamming 'at' replaces the @ symbol*

### **Locum Tenens:**

- ❖ Rev Graeme Brennan  
0473-493-153                      vicarburnley3121 'at' gmail.com

### **Associate Clergy:**

- ❖ Rev Canon (Emeritus) Jim Brady  
0422-566-184                      fjhbrady1 'at' gmail.com
- ❖ Rev Barry Brown  
0478-767-728                      bbrownh1910 'at' hotmail.com
- ❖ Right Rev Alison Taylor  
0417-593-833                      amtaylorms 'at' outlook.com

### **Honorary Lay Reader:**

- ❖ Dr Muriel Porter  
0430-575-874                      murielporter5 'at' gmail.com

### **Candidate for Holy Orders:**

- ❖ Tim Collison  
0420-954-601                      tcollison 'at' gmail.com

### **Organist and Director of Music:**

- ❖ Linda Kent  
0425-745-924                      lkent56 'at' me.com

### **Weekly Bulletin, Prayer Diary & Rosters:**

- ❖ Warren Collins  
0408-020-446                      stbartsburnley 'at' gmail.com

## Weekly Reflection

Dear Friends of St Bart's,

It's good to be back.

Walking through the liturgical 'West' door into St. Bart's, one is immediately aware of a sense of Presence that is not found in many places in Melbourne. What is this '*sense of Presence*'? It is not the architecture or the atmosphere, nor is it only the contrived artificial light or the natural light refracted through the sanctuary and nave windows – or anything like that, even though all these things are important.

The experience one has on entering the church is much more than just an aesthetic experience. It is true religious experience. One is touched by another Presence, something that belongs to this time and place, yet which belongs out of this time and place.

All of our corporate worship is in this context: '*Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven . . .*' It is easy for us to forget that our worship is not something that we do on our own or something that we ourselves offer. We belong not only to the Church, the Body of Christ on earth, but we belong also to the mystical Body of Christ. It is the language of this mystical body that we sense as we enter this place. It is very special and it is a great privilege to be aware of it.

While we gratefully acknowledge the firmness with which so many in this parish are so committed to this abiding universal Presence within Anglicanism of parish churches like our own, it is *God's Church* and it is his Presence that we seek. He is beyond all Church politics, all doctrines, all dogmas and all else.

The call to give one's life for one's friends is worked through in many ways by many people, not always in the classical sense. Over the 137 wonderful years of the ongoing life of this lovely Parish family, so many have literally '*given their lives*' to God for the sake of the Church and we remember their dedication and devotion. We remember particularly those self-giving and devoted friends of St. Bart's who ('*it only seems like yesterday*') have gone to be in the nearer presence of God and whose steadfast example stirs us to extend their noble work of sharing our acceptance, love and encouragement with each other and the wider community in His name.

Wishing you His grace and peace.

Fr Graeme (*Locum Tenens*).