

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
PARISH OF BURNLEY



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

15th March 2026

10:00 a.m.

Before the service, speak with God; during the service, let God speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

INTROIT HYMN, AM 119 Forgive our Sins

Sentence 'I am the light of the world,' says the Lord; 'those who follow me will have the light of life.'

Collect for Lent

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthy lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect FOR THE DAY

Gracious God' in order that we children of earth might discern good from evil you sent your son to be the light of the world: as the light of Christ shines upon us, may we learn what pleases you, and live in truth and goodness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen

1st Reading 1 Samuel 16.1-13

16 The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a

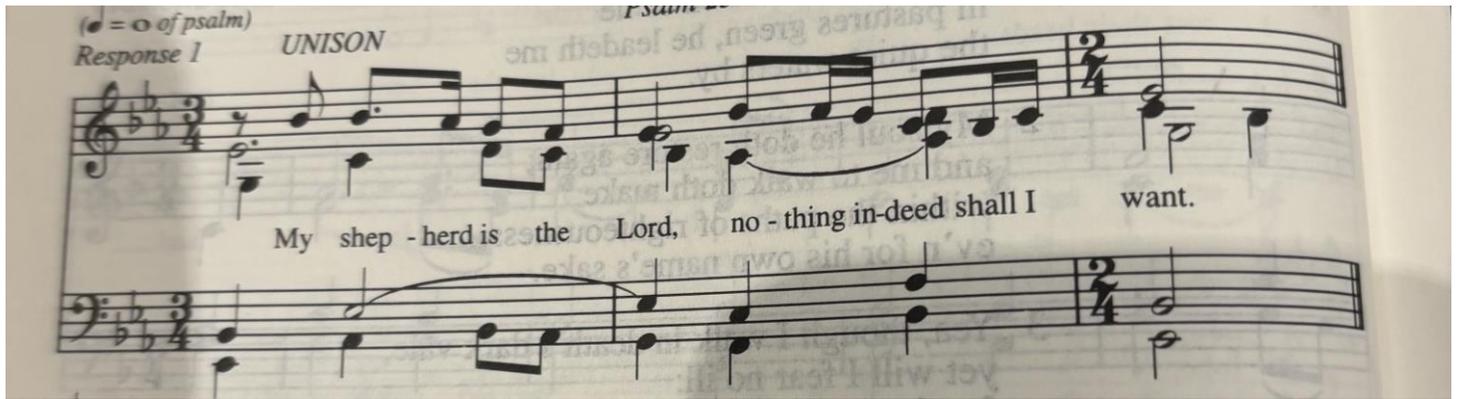
king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Psalm 23



2nd Reading. Ephesians 5.8-14

⁸ for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light^[a] is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we^[a] have peace with God

**For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God**

Praise and honour to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory'

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John Chapter 9.1-41
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

9 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. **2** His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" **3** Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. **4** We^[a] must work the works of him who sent me^[b] while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. **5** As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." **6** When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, **7** saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. **8** The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" **9** Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." **10** But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" **11** He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." **12** They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. **14** Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. **15** Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and

now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus^[c] to be the Messiah^[d] would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"^[e] ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir?^[f] Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord,^[g] I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind."⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains

For the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Intercessions

FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD: Peace in the Middle East, Sudan, Congo Venezuela and Ukraine for the Jewish community for the Richmond Churches Food and for all organizations that provide safety and relief during this summer season and all those in need.

FOR THE SICK, RECOVERING, AND THOSE WHO GRIEVE Bruce, Sharon, Carol, Jack, Nanette, Liam, Craig, Helen, Marilyn, Alan, Kay, John, John and , Shaohua, Susan

FOR THOSE RECENTLY DECEASED: Robert West

FOR THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S MIND OCCURS THIS WEEK, Natasha Maher, Roy Ross, Louise Ennor, Hazel Thompson, Malcolm Fraser, Roy Falconbridge, maxwell Holmes

Offertory Hymn: AM 587 Amazing Grace

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Recessional Hymn AM 666 I cannot tell

Rosters

15th March

1st Reading Jenny Scott
2nd Reading Martin Smith
Intercessions Martin Smith
Euch. Assistant Sarah Harrison
Welcomers Martin Smith and Kathy
Hospitality Andre Lim and Lee Ewe

22nd March

Greg Scott
Kathy Kozlowski
Prue Borthwick
Kim Ricketts
Anne Czech
Evan and Kathy

Notices

Thursday Mass 10am

Richmond Food bank urgently needs donations of food and funds.
Please help

Archbishops Mandate for the election of Lay Representatives for Synod has been issued. The election of Synod representatives is an important part of our shared life together. Fr Ray will speak to this matter over Morning tea.

Lent Discussions

Wednesday Mass at 7.30pm followed by discussion

During the season of Lent this year are offering each Wednesday evening starting the 25th February from 7.30-9pm a time for reflection and discussion on the theme of "Grace of Earth". The first session begins on the 25th February

At the beginning of each session, we will celebrate the Eucharist according to the liturgy of the Iona community. We will gather in

the parish centre and share our prayers and thoughts on the challenges facing the environment. Themes will include,

1 Earth as prophet

2.The oceans

3. Fresh water

4. Plant life

5. Animal life

Printed material will be distributed for reference

Please join us.

Fr. Ray