



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds ...

22 March 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent

*We are a generous faith community—centred on Jesus, seeking wisdom for life and acting with compassion—in the heart of Grafton since 1842.*

The Cathedral is open every day. You are always welcome to use the Cathedral and its grounds for prayer and reflection, and we encourage you to make this a place of pilgrimage and prayer for our City.

*Setting*

Parish Eucharist - Michael Dudman

*Introit*

*Entrance Hymn*

[TIS]

*Prayer of 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.**

*Offertory Hymn*

[TIS]

*Communion Anthems*

*Mission Hymn*

[TIS]

*Organ Postlude*

## **BIBLE READINGS**

*First Reading*

[1 Samuel 16.1-13]

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.' 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 ." 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.' 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?' 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. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord 's anointed is now before the Lord .' 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.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' 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.' 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.' 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.

*Psalm 23*

1. The Lord is my shepherd:  
therefore can I lack nothing.
2. He will make me lie down in green pastures:

- and lead me beside still waters.
3. He will refresh my soul:  
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.
  4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil:  
for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.
  5. You spread a table before me  
in the face of those who trouble me:  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup shall be full.
  6. Surely your goodness and loving-kindness  
will follow me all the days of my life:  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.  
(R/.)

*Second Reading*

[Ephesians 5.8-14]

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—  
for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.  
Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.  
For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,  
'Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.'

*Gospel*

[John 9.1-41]

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.'

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, saying to him,

‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, ‘Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?’ Some were saying, ‘It is he.’ Others were saying, ‘No, but it is someone like him.’ He kept saying, ‘I am the man.’ But they kept asking him, ‘Then how were your eyes opened?’ 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.’ They said to him, ‘Where is he?’ He said, ‘I do not know.’

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 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.’ Some of the Pharisees said, ‘This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.’ But others said, ‘How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?’ And they were divided.

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.’ He answered, ‘I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.’

Then they reviled him, saying, ‘You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.’ The man answered, ‘Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.’



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<b>The Dean</b>	The Very Revd Dr Gregory Jenks dean@graftoncathedral.org.au	0426 067 344
<b>Assistant Priest</b>	The Revd Camellia Flanagan priest@graftoncathedral.org.au	0417 928 914
<b>Associate Minister Families &amp; Children)</b>	Mrs LEEANNE HARVEY families@graftoncathedral.org.au	0402 278 323
<b>Director of Music</b>	Mr Robert Eather music@graftoncathedral.org.au	0458 093 292
<b>Parish Office</b>	Mr Roger Millard office@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 2844
<b>Cathedral Bookshop</b>	graftoncathedralbookshop@gmail.com	02 6642 3958
<b>Cathedral Op Shop</b>	opshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 1906

**Prayers for those in need**

Joy Baldwin	Brian Holley	Kay Metcalf
Cheryl Cook	Fay Kelly	Eileen Rogan
Sue Cotter	Ruth Kingsley	Val Rogers
Kathryn Douglas	Doris Lee	Muriel Shepherd
Gail Gilmore	Joan Marr	Tammy Uren
Gladys Gray	John McAnally	Jessie Usher

**Remembering those who have died**

**Recently departed:**

**Year's Mind:** Olive Beazley, Ian Robinson, Jim Coombes, Gloria Hogan, Peter Challacombe

**Cathedral Prayer**

**Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage and prayer. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.**

## Around the Parish this Week

Today

### **LENT 4 - Mothering Sunday**

9.00am - Cathedral Live Online:

[www.facebook.com/graftoncathedral/](http://www.facebook.com/graftoncathedral/)

Weekdays

**Morning Prayer & Evening Prayer** will continue to be said in the Chapel of the Epiphany at the usual times so that we maintain our regular cycle of prayer at this time, but these services are not open to the public.

**Other parish activities are suspended**, unless otherwise advised.

Please ensure that we have your **email address** and **mobile** number so we can reach out to you with information, news and pastoral support.

[Download the Cathedral App](#) for daily spiritual messages as well as other information from the Cathedral.

If you have a Facebook account, please join us in the private [Grafton Anglicans Facebook Group](#) for a more interactive online community.

If you need **pastoral care** or other support, please call either the Dean or Rev Camellia.

From Tuesday afternoon we shall have supplies of **essential household items and non-perishable food** available for collection via the Cathedral OpShop. We are also seeking volunteers under 60 years of age to help with this important outreach to the wider community at this time of special need.

Next  
Sunday

### **LENT 5 (PASSION SUNDAY)**

9.00am - Cathedral Live Online:

[www.facebook.com/graftoncathedral/](http://www.facebook.com/graftoncathedral/)



*Please visit the Cathedral web site for the latest news, additional information, and the text of sermons as well as video recordings of many special moments in our life as a faith community.*

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