



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

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

2 February 2020

Presentation of the Lord

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.

<i>Setting</i>	A Short Communion Service in D – John Beck arr. R Eather
<i>Introit</i>	Suscépinus - Plainsong
<i>Entrance Hymn</i>	Come you people [101 TIS]
<i>Prayer of the day</i>	Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only Son was presented in the temple in accordance with the law, so we may be dedicated to you with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
<i>Offertory Hymn</i>	Let all mortal flesh keep silent [497 TIS]
<i>Communion Anthems</i>	Jesu, lover of my soul – David Wilson Teach me O Lord – Peter Moger
<i>Mission Hymn</i>	Lord, bid your servant go in peace [324 TIS]
<i>Organ Postlude</i>	Grand Choeur – Theodore Dubois

BIBLE READINGS

First Reading

[Malachi 3.1-4]

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm 84

Peter Waters

How hap-py — they who dwell in your house, O Lord How

hap - py — they who dwell in your house.

1. How lovely is your dwelling-place:
O Lord God of hosts!
2. My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
3. The sparrow has found her a home,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young :
even your altar, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

4. Blessed are they who dwell in your house:
they will always be praising you. (R/.)
5. Blessed are those whose strength is in you:
in whose heart are the highways to Zion;
6. Who, going through the valley of dryness,
find there a spring from which to drink:
till the autumn rain shall clothe it in blessings.
7. They go from strength to strength:
they appear, every one of them, before the God of gods in Zion
8. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer:
give ear O God of Jacob. (R/.)
9. Behold O God, him who reigns over us:
and look upon the face of your anointed.
10. One day in your courts is better than a thousand:
I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
11. For the Lord is a light and a shield, the Lord gives favour and honour:
and no good thing will he withhold from those who walk in innocence.
12. O Lord God of hosts:
blessed are those who put their trust in you. (R/.)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 2.14-18]

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’),

and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed

so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage,

then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day.

At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Candlemas blessing and Recessional procession

The Candles are lit and blessed.

O God, source and origin of all light, who on this day showed to the just man Simeon the light for revelation to the Gentiles, we humbly ask that, in answer to your people's prayers, you may be pleased to sanctify with your blessing these candles, which we are eager to light in praise of your name, to grace our homes and devotions, for the welfare of body and soul, so that, treading the path of virtue, we may reach that light which never fails. **Amen.**



We bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth.

Help us, in whom he has been born, to live his life that has no end.

We have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise

Help us, who have received the bread of life, to be thankful for your gift.

We have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna

Help us who have found the Lord in his temple, to trust in your eternal promises.

Here we have greeted the Light of the world.

Help us never to forsake the light of Christ.

We have been received by baptism into the Family of your Church

Help us, who are marked with the cross to share the Lord's death and resurrection.

We turn from Christ's birth to his passion.

Help us, for whom Lent is near to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.

We are blessed in your name. The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world. Thanks be to God. Amen.

People collect their candles and process out following the Sanctuary party.

ANNUAL MEETING



CONNECTION • INSPIRATION • RECOGNITION

The 2020 AGM for the Parish of Grafton will be held in the Cathedral shortly after the 9.00am service on Sunday, 23 February.

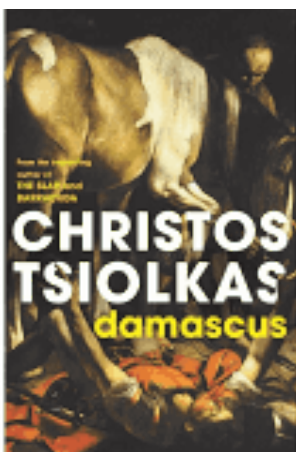
This is a particularly important AGM as the Diocese is about to begin a new three-year cycle of Synod appointments, and also because of the important decisions to be made as part of the diocesan restructure proposals.

If you are responsible to prepare a report for the AGM, please have it to the office as soon as possible so that we can prepare all the business papers for distribution on Sunday, 16 February. Thank you to those who have already sent their reports.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIPPERS

The first Wednesday 10.00am service for this year is next week on 5 February 2020. The next monthly Wednesday Worshippers Morning Tea will be on 4 March 2020.

BOOK CLUB – READING WITH SPIRITUAL EYES



Damascus is the book choice for this term. Discussion will take place in the Parish Centre at 6pm on Tuesday 31st March – so pick up a copy and read so you can join in the conversation.

The book explores the themes that have always obsessed Tsiolkas as a writer: class, religion, masculinity, patriarchy, colonisation, refugees; the ways in which nations, societies, communities, families and individuals are united and divided.

But this book is specifically about Paul.

Alone and unloved, Saul, scrapes together a living exposing these nascent Christians, but after conversion as Paul on the road to Damascus, everything changes. He becomes drawn into this new religion and its mysterious leader, whose crucifixion leaves followers waiting in limbo for his promised return...

Cathedral Parish Directory

www.graftoncathedral.org.au

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

Prayers for those in need

Cheryl Cook
Sue Cotter
Kathryn Douglas
Roy Ford
Gail Gilmore
Gladys Gray

Brian Holley
Fay Kelly
Ruth Kingsley
Doris Lee
Joan Marr
John McAnally

Kay Metcalf
Eileen Rogan
Val Rogers
Muriel Shepherd
Tammy Uren
Jessie Usher

Remembering those who have died

Recently departed: Thelma Thompson

Year's Mind: Shirley Harris, Annie Ayres

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 **PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE**
9.00am – Sung Eucharist (Cathedral)
11.00am – Dean’s Forum (Edwards Hall)

Monday 8.30am – Morning Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)

Tuesday 8.30am – Morning Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)
5.15pm – Evening Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)

Wednesday 8.30am – Morning Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)
10.00am – Eucharist (Cathedral)
5.15pm – Evening Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)

Thursday 8.30am – Morning Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)
12.00pm – Friends for Lunch (Parish Centre)
5.15pm – Evening Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)
7.00pm – Choir Practice (Cathedral)
7.00pm – Living the Questions (Edwards Hall)

Friday 8.30am – Eucharist (Chapel of the Epiphany)
9.00am – Clergy Conference (Parish Centre)
5.15pm – Evening Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)

Saturday 8.30am – Morning Prayer (Chapel of the Epiphany)

Next **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**
Sunday 9.00am – Sung Eucharist (Cathedral)
11.00am – Eucharist (All Saints, Lawrence)

Next Sunday’s roster: Cathy Eggins/Jenny Vaughan (sidespeople), Robyn Higham (Reader 1) Kay Alden (Reader 2 & Prayers), Kaye Ware (Morning Tea)



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

Toilets are located in the Parish Centre 40m north of the Cathedral