

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA / LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona
St Clement's Altona Meadows
O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



*To proclaim God's love and life in Christ:
growing in faith † serving others † nurturing a common life*

22 March 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent (Year A)

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

1:00pm Te Hākari Tapu (Māori Service), St Eanswythe's

5:00pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

Wominjeka :: Welcome :: Haere mai



A warm welcome to our worship today,
especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting.

Please join us for refreshments following the service.

*Our parish lies on the country of the Kulin nation.
We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations,
and we pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.
We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing.*

Gathering in God's Name

We meet in God's name, as God's people – children of God in all our rich diversity, with all that we carry from the complexity of our lives.

We turn to God in praise and prayer; this includes recalling all that has separated us from God, and claiming the love and forgiveness that is always held out to us.

INTROIT HYMN

684 Love will be our Lent calling
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

Life-giving God,
your Son came into the world
to free us all from sin and death:
breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit,
that we may be raised to new life in Christ,
and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PARISH PRAYER

**God of this ancient land, holy beyond time and place,
you search us out and name us your beloved children.
Work in us to fulfil your longing and compassion for every person.
Send your Spirit to renew our life,
and give us courage to rise and follow where Jesus calls. Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from Ezekiel (37.1-14)

¹ The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.'

⁴ Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together,

bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God : Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.”’ ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God : I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord , when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord , have spoken and will act, says the Lord .’

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (130)

1. Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice;
2. **O let your ears consider well: the voice of my supplication.**
3. If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong: who then, O Lord, could stand?
- 4 **But there is forgiveness with you: so that you shall be feared.**
- 5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him: and in his word is my hope.
- 6 **My soul looks for the Lord: more than watchmen for the morning, more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.**
- 7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy: and with him is ample redemption.
- 8 **He will redeem Israel: from the multitude of their sins.**

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans (8.6-11)

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord: whoever believes in me will not die for ever. **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John

Glorify to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(11.1-45)

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill.

³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.'

⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸ The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?'

⁹ Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.'

¹¹ After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' ¹² The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.'

¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.'

¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.

²¹ Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'

²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ ²³ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ ²⁴ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’

²⁵ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’

²⁷ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’ ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, ‘The Teacher is here and is calling for you.’

²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.

³⁴ He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’

³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ ³⁷ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.’

⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’

⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

SERMON

Our Prayers

For the Nation and the World:

- Strength and resilience for charities and support groups serving those in need in our communities.
- Comfort and hope for widowed and bereaved families as they journey through life without their loved one.
- Support and recovery for rural communities affected by flooding and fuel supply disruption.

The Church:

World Council of Churches:

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania.

For Christians facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia:

The Diocese of Sydney (Abp Kanishka Raffel, Regional Bps Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Peter Hayward, Peter Lin, Malcolm Richards, Gary Koo, Clergy & People)

Diocese of Melbourne:

Lady Day Service – St Paul’s Cathedral (Abp Ric Thorpe)

Agencies supported by our parish:

Welcome West Wagon – providing support to asylum seekers in the western suburbs.

Our parish & community:

For God’s guidance, love and care of our people.

We pray for our clergy and all who serve and volunteer in our parish.

Those with particular needs:

Doris LeRoy.

The communion of saints:

Anniversaries this Week:

Shirley King (22nd).

Jack Kane (25th),

Lillian Brown (26th).



To add a name to the pew sheet prayer list or to remember someone on the anniversary of their death, please contact the parish office.

Notices

Thank You – High Tea: Thank you to our Maori Congregation, Te Wairua Tapu ki Poipiripi for hosting a very successful High Tea last Saturday at St Eanswythe's. It was a joyful afternoon of delicious food, warm hospitality, and excellent entertainment. Thank you also to everyone who attended and supported the event. Your participation helped make the afternoon a great success!

BCA Boxes: Bush Church Aid (BCA) donation boxes are now due. Please forward them to Beryl Brown or leave them with a Sides person.

New Area Bishop: Bishop Genieve Blackwell has moved from the Marmingatha Episcopate to the Oodthenong Episcopate, where she succeeds Bishop Brad in providing episcopal leadership for our area of the diocese.

Listening in Lent: During the season of Lent, Archbishop Ric Thorpe has invited everyone to take part in Listening in Lent by completing an online questionnaire. This is an opportunity to pause, reflect, and share what you notice and hope for as part of the Diocese of Melbourne today, and as we look to the future together. You are invited to follow the link below to watch the Archbishop's short introductory video and to complete the questionnaire: <https://www.melbourneanglican.org.au/listening-in-lent/>

Volunteers Needed – Lawn Mowing & Cleaning Roster: We are seeking parishioners willing to assist with lawn mowing and cleaning at our churches. Your time and care will help reduce maintenance costs and, just as importantly, strengthen fellowship. If you are able to help, even occasionally, please write your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Lenten Bible Study: Join us as we journey through the season of Lent with a six-week study on Tuesday's at 7pm, 24 & 31 March at St Clement's.

Palm Cross Making: Have some time to spare? Come along and help make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday! No prior experience necessary — we'll show you how! Where: St Clement's, 12 noon, Friday 27 March.

Palm Sunday Combined Service: Join us on Sunday, 29 March, 9:30am at St Clement's for our Palm Sunday Combined Service, where we will come together as a parish to begin Holy Week. As is customary with our combined services, there will be no 8.30am or 5pm services that day.

Prayer List: If you know someone who is in need of prayer and is comfortable for their name to be included in the parish weekly service sheet, please pass their name to Edita in the parish office on 03 9398 1005 or parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au. Names will remain on the prayer list for six weeks. If ongoing prayers are needed beyond this time, please let Edita know.

Notices

Fix & Fellowship: Come and help keep our churches and grounds neat and tidy by lending your time and energy to various cleaning and maintenance tasks.

St Clement's – 2 May. (Monthly, 1st Saturday, 9:30am).

St Eanswythe's – 21 March, 18 April, 16 May. (Monthly, 3rd Saturday, 9:30am).



This Week in our Parish

Sunday 22 March: Second Sunday in Lent

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5:00pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

Tuesday - Friday

10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop Open

Tuesday 24 March

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10:00am Tiddlers Playgroup,
St Eanswythe's*
7:00pm Lenten Bible Study, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 25 March

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

Thursday 26 March

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 27 March

9:15am-11:15am Clementines Playgroup,
St Clement's*
6:30pm Board Game Night, St Clement's

Sunday 29 March: Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's
5:00pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

Readings for this Week

Take time to prepare for worship by exploring the readings for this week.

Wednesday 25 March: 9:00am St Clement's
The Annunciation th the Blessed Virgin Mary
Isaiah 7.10-14; Ps 40.6-13; Luke 1.26-38

Thursday 26 March: 10:00am St Eanswythe's
Genesis 17.3-9; Ps 105.7-11; John 8.51-59

Sunday 29 March: Sixth Sunday in Lent: Palm Sunday
Sunday of the Passion.
Isaiah 50.4-9a; Ps 31.9-18; Philippans 2.5-11; Matthew 27.11-54

Morning Prayer:

Tuesday, 9:00am, at St Eanswythe's. Everyone is welcome.



Groups Meeting Regularly in the Parish

Sunday School:

Sundays at 10:30am at St Eanswythe's (except December school holidays).

Tiddlers Playgroup:

Tuesdays in term time 10:00am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993).

Clementines Playgroup:

Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's.

Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661) or Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).

Mothers Union:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11:00am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661).

Caritas:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday at 3:00pm. Contact Susan Maddox (0439 167 377).

St Eanswythe's Centenary Working Group:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 4th Thursday at 11:00am. Contact Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).

Parish Contact List

St Eanswythe's: Cnr Bent & Queen St, Altona 3018 | PO Box 48, Altona VIC 3018
Parish Administrator Office Hours [Wednesday & Thursday, 8:30am to 2:30pm]

St Clement's: 85-95 Central Ave, Altona Meadows 3028

www.anglicanaltlav.org.au | T: 03 9398 1005 | E: parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Vicar: The Rev'd Kerry Davis [Tuesday to Sunday, Monday rest day]

M: 0425 163 063 | E: kdavis@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assist. Curate: Rev'd Johnwerni Maryoe [Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday]

M: 0450 183 388 | E: jmaryoe@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Priest and Māori Minister: The Rev'd Danny McRoberts

M: 0448 841 196 | E: dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Anna Watts (0422 874 061), Denis Lee (03 9398 2993), Lily Griffin (0413 065 705).





