

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*

27 September 2026

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost (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

650 Brother, sister, let me serve you
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE COLLECT *(prayer of the day)*

Grant, O merciful God,
that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus,
who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant,
and in humility became obedient even to death.
For you have highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
Jesus Christ, the Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in everlasting glory. **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 Exodus (17.1-7)

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, ‘Is the Lord among us or not?’

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (78.1-4, 11-16)

¹ Give heed to my teaching, O my people: incline your ears to the words of my mouth;

² **For I will open my mouth in a parable: and expound the mysteries of former times.**

³ What we have heard and known: what our forebears have told us,

⁴ **We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come: the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.**

¹¹ For he did marvellous things in the sight of their ancestors: in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan.

¹² **He divided the sea and let them pass through: he made the waters stand up in a heap.**

¹³ In the daytime he led them with a cloud: and all night long with the light of fire.

¹⁴ **He cleft rocks in the wilderness: and gave them drink in abundance as from springs of water.**

¹⁵ He brought streams out of the rock: and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.

¹⁶ **But for all this they sinned yet more against him: and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.**

SECOND READING

A reading from Philippians (2.1-13)

¹ If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me.
Alleluia.The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to St Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

(21.23-32)

²³ When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ ²⁴ Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?”’ ²⁶ But if we say, “Of human origin”, we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.”’ ²⁹ He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

SERMON

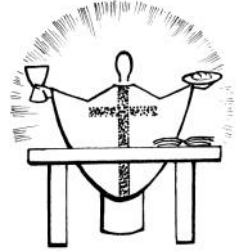
BAPTISM (ST EANSWYTHE’S)

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

Our sharing is a gift of grace, a communion with Jesus and with each other. There is a place here for each and every person.

OFFERTORY HYMN 491 Father welcomes all his children
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

*Everyone is invited to receive communion or receive a blessing.
Children who have been baptised are welcome to receive communion.
If you would prefer not to receive communion but to receive a
personal blessing, please indicate this when the minister comes to you.*



AS COMMUNION IS RECEIVED, WE SING:

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
break me, melt me, mould me, fill me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

*Words: Daniel Iverson
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Going into the World

The Eucharist offers us a way to be renewed, transformed, and blessed: now we take that blessing to share with others, in our words and actions, our hearts and lives.

'The Eucharist never ends – it must be lived.'

RECESSIONAL HYMN 28 God is our strength and refuge
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



Giving: Deposits can be made to the parish Bendigo Bank account at any time (BSB 633 000, account number 157 594 722, account name "St Eanswythe's Altona with St Clement's Laverton Anglican Churches"). For pledge giving please include your name or envelope/reference number. For further details see anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving

The Anglican Diocese of Melbourne is committed to churches being places where everyone is safe, especially children and vulnerable people. All church workers and volunteers are required to complete training and relevant checks. If you wish to raise any concerns about misconduct, past or present, please contact the independent Professional Standards body, Kooyoora (1800 135 246; www.kooyoora.org.au).

Notices

Planned Giving Programme: Thank you once more to all who participated in our Planned Giving Program on Stewardship Sunday. Our 2026/2027 program starts on 4 October. The current pledge total stands at \$2,315.52 per week. A detailed report will be provided for the Annual Parish Meeting. For those still considering their response, kindly provide this to Anita McAnda by email/phone (amcanda@hotmail.com/ 0438 260 374) as soon as you are able.

2026 Annual Parish Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting for 2026 will be held on **Sunday, 1 November at 11:00am at St Eanswythe's**, following a combined parish service at 9:30am. All parishioners are encouraged to attend both the service and annual meeting. Leaders of parish ministries are kindly asked to email their annual report as a Word document to the Parish Administrator, Edita Abram, at parish@anglicanaltav.org.au by Thursday 8 October 2026.

St Eanswythe's 100th Anniversary Service: Our 100th Anniversary Service and lunch on 13 September were a joyful celebration of worship and fellowship at St Eanswythe's. Many have expressed their appreciation for the day and the sense of God's Spirit among us. Thank you to everyone for your prayers and hard work in making the occasion so special. May God continue to bless the future of our parish.

100 Years of St Eanswythe's, Altona: Sandra Hansen has compiled a history of St Eanswythe's Church, Altona along with contributions from various parishioners. Copies are available to purchase at a cost of \$10.00 each at St Eanswythe's and St Clement's. Please reach out Sandra directly or the parish office if you would like a copy.

Practice of Peace Concert: Bishop Philip Huggins invites us to a special Practice of Peace Concert at All Saints Newtown, Geelong, on Sunday 27 September at 3.00 pm. Marking the International Day of Peace and the Church's observance of St Michael and All Angels, the event offers music, reflection, and community to encourage peace, healing, and hope. Entry is by donation, with proceeds supporting the UNHCR Australia Ukraine Emergency Appeal.

Men's Monthly Lunch: Our parish men meet for a casual lunch on the first Friday of each month at 12.30pm at Harmony Restaurant, 69 Pier St, Altona. The next lunch is on Friday 2 October. All are welcome to attend.

Fix & Fellowship: Fix & Fellowship will take place at **St Clement's on Saturday 3 October at 9.30am**. Your help with cleaning and light maintenance would be greatly appreciated.

Name Tags: As we often have visitors and new people attending our services, it would be helpful if we all wore our name tags. This makes it easier for others, especially those who are new or still getting to know our community, to remember names and feel more at home among us.

Our Prayers

For the Nation and the World:

- As parishes begin the new financial year, may God grant wisdom and faithful stewardship in managing their resources.
- Leaders and communities will act decisively to halt environmental destruction and protect creation.
- Strong safeguards will be established so that artificial intelligence is used for the wellbeing of all people.

The Church:

The World: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru.

The Anglican Communion:

The Church of Bangladesh and the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

The Diocese of Melbourne:

Episcopal Area of Geelong - Bishop Nigel Pope; Archdeaonry of Williamstown and the Deanery of Werribee.

Agencies supported by our parish:

Latitude Youth Services, Altona – supporting at-risk young people.

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:

Rosemary Henshall.

The communion of saints:

Anniversaries:

James Barger (21st),
Yvonne Atkins (21st),
Archie Burt (22nd),
Nesta Barassi (23rd),
Ivy Shillington (23rd),
Betty Priest (25th),
James Featherby (28th),
Doreen McAnda (1st Oct),
Joan McFarland (1st Oct),
Alexander Lambert (2nd Oct),
Ken Porter (3rd Oct).



To add a name to the pew sheet prayer list or to remember someone on the anniversary of their death, please contact Edita in the parish office on (03 9398 1005 or parish@anglicanaltlv.org.au). Names will remain on the prayer list for six weeks, unless a longer period of prayer is required.

Readings for this Week

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

Wednesday 30 August: 9:00am St Clement's

Jerome, priest and biblical scholar (d.420)

Job 9.1-12 (13) 14-16; Ps 88.8-15; Luke 9.57-62

Thursday 1 October: 10:00am St Eanswythe's

Job 19.21-27; Ps 27.9-17; Luke 10.1-12

Sunday 4 October: Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps 19; Philipians 3.4b-14; Matthew 21.33-46

Morning Prayer:

Tuesday and Friday, 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, 9:15am 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).

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 27 September:

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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 29 September:

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

10:00am Tiddlers Playgroup,

St Eanswythe's*

7:00pm Online Bible Study, via Zoom

Wednesday 30 September:

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

**During school terms*

Thursday 1 October:

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

1:15pm Estia Aged Care Service,
Altona Meadows

Friday 2 October:

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

9:15am Clementines Playgroup,
St Clement's*

12:30pm Men's Monthly Lunch,

Harmony Restaurant, 69 Pier St, Altona

Saturday 3 October:

9:30am Fix & Fellowship, St Clement's

Sunday 4 October:

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

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

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).

Child Safety Officers:

Anita McAnda (0438 260 374), Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661), Michael Francis (0411 196 167).