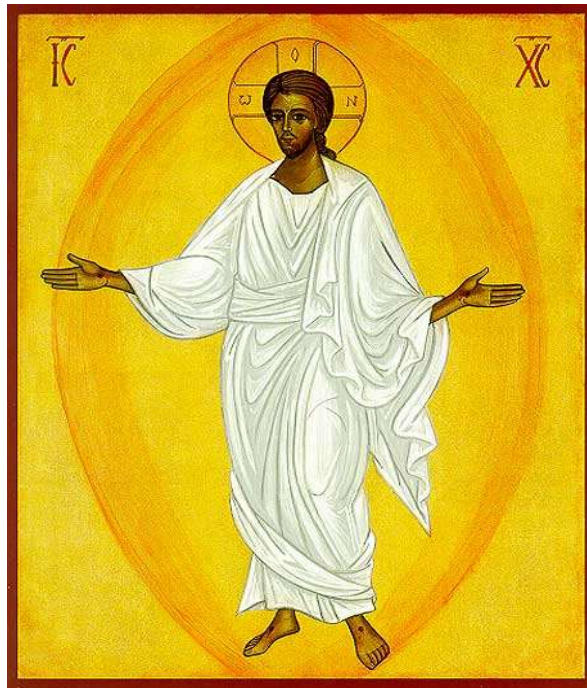


**Welcome to worship at Holy Trinity, Terrigal**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2020**



~~**7.30am – Sung Eucharist – Presiding & Preaching – Fr Mark Watson**~~

~~**Organist – Chris Sillince**~~

~~**Hymns: TIS**~~

~~English Organ Postlude:~~

~~**9.30am – Holy Eucharist – Presiding & Preaching – Fr Mark Watson**~~

~~**Trinity Band and Singers**~~

~~**Hymns: TIS**~~

~~[All hymns are from Together in Song unless otherwise specified.]~~

Prayer and anointing for healing are available at each Eucharist. If you would like prayer and anointing, please move in front of the step, at the left side of the altar, after receiving communion and a priest will come and minister to you.

## SO MANY VOICES

American political analyst, historian and journalist Thomas Frank in his book, *One Market under God*, coined the concept of “market populism”, the idea that the market is the best expression of the will of the people. He explains why it is so appealing although he doesn’t believe it himself:

Markets expressed the popular will more articulately and more meaningfully than did mere elections. Markets conferred democratic legitimacy; markets were the friend of the little guy; markets brought down the pompous and the snooty; markets gave us what we wanted; markets looked out for our interests (p. xiv).

Richard Sennett, Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics and University Professor of the Humanities at New York University, in his book *The Culture of the New Capitalism*, says the world that has been created by this market populism, is unsustainable. “Only a certain kind of human being can prosper in unstable, fragmentary social conditions” – someone able to manage short-term relationships and oneself, while constantly mobile, focused on retraining and constantly looking to update their skills, and with an ability to let go of the past. He goes on to say:

A self oriented to the short term, focused on potential ability, willing to abandon past experience is – to put a kindly face on the matter – an unusual sort of human being. Most people are not like this; they need a sustaining life narrative, they take pride in being good at something specific, and they value the experiences they have lived through. The cultural ideal required in new institutions thus damages many of the people who inhabit them” (p. 5).

Such a world view has permeated our whole society and our lives are so formed by it that we don’t even notice, or even question it.

After all, it has done us many favours. And therein lays the danger. Our market economy seduces us into a culture of constant consumption. The biggest threat to the Church is a consumerism that promises everything that the gospel does: why am I here? How can I be happy? How do I gain eternal life? The difference is that the gospel is life-giving, consumerism kills.

Market populism is based on the ideal of freedom – freedom is the ideal that's presented as the argument for our economic and political system. We all want to be free. God has made us to be free. But freedom is not an absolute value. To say, "I am free" is an incomplete statement. I am free but free from what or for what? If I am free, I am free to use my freedom for good or bad. If I use it well, I become 'good' as a result, and the good I do will have a positive effect on those around me. Conversely, if I use it wrongly, the result will be evil which will spread in me and to those around me.

Pope St John Paul II in his book of personal reflections, *Memory and Identity*, says, "The danger of the situation in which we live today consists in the fact that we claim to prescind from the ethical dimension in our use of freedom – that is, from consideration of moral good and evil. A certain concept of freedom, which has widespread support in public opinion at present, diverts attention from ethical responsibilities. Appeal is made today to freedom alone. It is often said: what matters is to be free, released from all constraint or limitation, so as to operate according to private judgement, which in reality is often pure caprice. This much is clear: such liberalism can only be described as primitive. Its influence, however, is potentially devastating" (Pope John Paul II, *Memory and Identity: Personal Reflections*, Weidenfeld & Nicolson London, pp 37-38).

Recently we have seen this in bold relief in the United States where a perverted idea of freedom has led protesters to complain

that restrictions designed to protect people from COVID-19 are impinging on their freedom.

The Christian ideal is that we are free to love. St Paul wrote, "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1). What slavery? Shortly after he says, "For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another" (5:13).

We are free to love. St Thomas Aquinas said the highest realisation of human freedom is to be found in our obedience to the commandment to love God and our neighbour. Our society says the highest realisation of human freedom is to do as you please, especially to fulfil the endless cycle of consumption. Our model is Christ who laid down his life for his friends.

Many voices clamour for our attention today. Among them all we hear in today's Gospel the voice of the Good Shepherd. Jesus says "the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers" (John 10:4-5). Unlike the voices of consumerism which promise life but bring death, the voice of Jesus calls us to nourishment and safety.

These other voices seek to drown out the voice of the Good Shepherd. He calls all to enter the safety and nourishment of the sheep pen and to go in and out and find pasture. The voice of Jesus not only calls us to nourishment but to unity. Many voices clamouring for our attention today are voices of division and blame and scapegoating and conflict. Jesus calls all to come to him and to be one flock. Jesus doesn't cast anyone out. "I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will be one flock, one shepherd" (Jn 10:16).

We come to church, we pray, we read the Bible, we receive the sacraments, in order to discern the Shepherd's voice amidst all the other voices that clamour for our attention. The voice of the Shepherd brings true freedom. It also provides the only real security. It says, "You belong to me and no one can snatch you out of my hand" (cf. Jn 10:28).

Fr Mark Watson

## **Sentence**

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

*John 10.11*

## **Prayer of the Day**

God of all power,  
you called from death our Lord Jesus,  
the great shepherd of the sheep:  
send us as shepherds to rescue the lost,  
to heal the injured,  
and to feed one another with understanding;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Chapter 2, verses 42 – 47**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd:  
therefore can I lack nothing.

**He will make me lie down in green pastures:  
and lead me beside still waters.**

He will refresh my soul:  
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

**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.**

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.

**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.**

**A reading of the first letter of Peter Chapter 2,  
verses 1 – 10**

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner',

and

'A stone that makes them stumble,

and a rock that makes them fall.'

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Once you were not a people,

but now you are God's people;

once you had not received mercy,

but now you have received mercy.

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Alleluia, **alleluia!**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep and mine know me.

**Alleluia!**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
Chapter 10, verses 1 – 10

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

For the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



**Prayer in time of life-threatening illness** (*A Prayer Book for Australia*, p. 691)

God our refuge,  
when human resources fail,  
you alone remain our sure hope and defence.  
In the knowledge of your love, grant us courage.  
We place ourselves in your hands,  
confident that nothing can separate us from your love,  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayer for those suffering severe illness** (adapted from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, p. 692)

Healing Spirit,  
we pray for those suffering from serious diseases  
and for those who are terminally ill,  
and those living with the COVID-19 virus.  
We pray for skill and patience for the doctors and nurses who  
care for them. We pray that their relatives and friends may be  
strengthened and comforted.  
May their faith not falter as they support each other through  
testing times.  
We pray for those engaged in research  
that by your inspiration and their skill  
the scourges of this generation may be overcome.  
Help us to live in your way  
and to seek health in body, mind and spirit. **Amen.**

## **FINANCIAL GIVING WHILE SERVICES ARE SUSPENDED**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, during the COVID-19 pandemic and the suspension of church activities – including worship services – the church worldwide has had to adapt to different ways of functioning. Live-streaming services, video messages, innovative use of YouTube, 'Zoom' and other media have enabled churches to continue to some extent a great many of their activities, meetings, liturgies and Bible studies. Holy Trinity Parish has maintained communication by emailing the weekly bulletins including the Sunday readings and collects, topical articles and news items. The Parish Facebook page has been used to provide messages – both written and recorded – and photos to help us feel connected and to provide information and updates. The Parish Council meeting the week before last took place via 'Zoom'.

While recognising the value of technology, several church leaders have cautioned about its downsides. The Rev'd Dr Ephraim Radner, Episcopal priest and professor of historical theology at Wycliffe College, an Anglican Seminary affiliated with the University of Toronto, warns of the "siliconization" of the church. "Be creative! Innovate! Try new things!"

There can be a focus on the media rather than the message. ([livingchurch.org/covenant/2020/03/20/should-we-live-stream-worship-maybe-not/](http://livingchurch.org/covenant/2020/03/20/should-we-live-stream-worship-maybe-not/)).

The Bishop of Rome has said that our forced isolation "was presenting the danger of people living the faith only for themselves – detached from the sacraments, the Church and the people of God." Online Masses and prayers can never replace our relationship with Jesus, which is intimate, personal and takes place in community ("Pope warns of danger of online Masses", *Catholic News Service* April 20, 2020). Many of you have expressed how much you miss being in church with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The current measures for our protection are temporary, not permanent. The Church, the sacraments and the people of God are tangible, material, physical. This includes our financial stewardship. Jesus spoke about the use of material possessions more than any other subject. During this time, churches are affected by the economic stress felt by the rest of society.

Last month, the income for the Parish was \$8,870.74, expenditure was \$18,272.91 leaving a shortfall of \$9,402.17. Expenses have not ceased since social isolation. Op Shop and market days have been suspended. The Bishop recently said in a meeting with the clergy that electronic giving is the key to sustaining financial viability. Approximately 35% of our parishioners give electronically. Across the Diocese parishes range from 83% of parishioners giving electronically to nil. Holy Trinity has the chance to not only survive but thrive. We can emerge from this stronger. I encourage you to prayerfully consider giving electronically.

Direct debit details of accounts:

ASDF Account

Parish of Terrigal

BSB:705-077

Account Number: 00040934

Or

Westpac Bank

Account Name: Anglican Church of Australia, Parish of Terrigal

BSB: 032-545

Account Number: 16-9152

If you require help transferring to electronic giving please do not hesitate to contact our treasurer Terry Rowe and/or wardens for assistance. If you have any questions, please ask me or one of the Wardens.

Every blessing  
Fr Mark

### **Please pray for**

Barb Matthews, Graeme Patterson, Ken Hope, Norm Williams, Emma Horton, Isobel Hargraves, Daniel Kristensen, Gail Lyndon, Joyce Taylor, Jason Newton, Sue Wilkinson, Jean Jackson, Marian French, Aaron Lane, Pat Lindsay, Toby Lindsay, Gloria Townsend, Kath Connor-Brown, Fred Luxford.

### **'Whispers of Love' Meditation –**

#### **Reflection**

"He said not 'Thou shalt not be tempested, thou shalt not be travailed, thou shalt not be dis-eased'; but he said, 'Thou shalt not be overcome.'"

— **Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love**

All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well."

— **Julian of Norwich**

Prayerfully Reverend Ann

### **Prayer of the Week**

O God,  
whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people:  
help us when we hear his voice  
to know him who calls us each by name,  
and to follow where he leads;  
who with you and the Holy Spirit  
lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

## **Anglican Women**

Dear members & friends I would like to let you know that the Spring Celebration of AWA which was to be held at St Peter's Maitland on the 1st September, 2020 has been cancelled due to the Corvid19 & the Deanery Autumn celebrations which was to be held at Christ church Gosford on the 23rd May 2020 has also been cancelled.

The Good news is our Thankyou boxes will carry on supporting the Hunter Medical Research for the next 12 months.

If you don't have a thankyou box please put your donations in a plastic zip bag or small jar marked AWA thankyou box.

Thank you for your support Keep well & stay safe.  
with christian love from your AWA representative

Irene Neville

## **Parish Directory**

**The Church of the Holy Trinity – 92 Serpentine Rd, Terrigal, 2260**

**Parish Postal Address – P.O. Box 167, Terrigal, 2260**

**Office Telephone - 4365 1115.**

**Parish Email – [admin@terrigalanglican.org.au](mailto:admin@terrigalanglican.org.au)**

**Website - [www.terrigalanglican.org.au](http://www.terrigalanglican.org.au)**

**Rector – The Reverend Canon Mark Watson – 4365 1374 or 0434 431 400**

**Email - [cyprian7@bigpond.com](mailto:cyprian7@bigpond.com)**

### **Associate Priests**

**The Reverend Ann Watson – 4365 1065 or 0427 135 771**

**The Reverend Roy Hazlewood – 0418 290 192**

**The Reverend Dr Richard Harvey – 0422 109 262**

**The Reverend Bruce McAteer - 0417 229 296**

### **Parish Executive**

**Neil Ewer (0412 640 477) – Rector’s Warden**

**Terry Rowe (4365 0430) - People’s Warden**

**Kyara Newport (0400 994 779) - People’s Warden**

**Parish Secretary - Kyara Newport (0400 994 779)**

**Parish Treasurer - Terry Rowe (4365 0430)**

### **Parish Ministries**

**Parish Organist - Chris Sillince - 0422 225 849**

**Sacristan and Mission Secretary - Coralie Taylor**

**Messy Church Convenor - Rhonda Kiss – 4363 5001**

**Pastoral Care - contact - 4365 1115**

**Trinity Band & Cursillo – Libby Harvey – 0431 315 085**

**Safety Officer - Mike Keaney**

**Copyright Compliance Officer – Terry Rowe**

**Parish Bookshop – Kyara Newport**

**Women’s Fellowship – Pam Flegg – 4384 5326**

**Market Day Co-ordinator – Ian Wolstenholme**

### **Parish Opportunity Shop**

**Carolyn Shields / Christine De Gans - 4365 1280**

**The Op Shop is open Tuesday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.00pm  
and each Saturday from 10.00am to 1.00pm**