



**ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH,
MALVERN**

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



*Icon of Jesus with the Samaritan Woman
(traditionally called St Photia)*

8 March, 2026

8:00 a.m., 10 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.

*Before the service, speak with God; during the service, let God speak to you;
after the service, speak to one another.*

*The service begins on p. 119 of **A Prayer Book for Australia** (with Lenten variations on p. 151)*

Setting (at 10:00 a.m.): A Lenten Setting (for St George's, Malvern)

E. A. Nixon

Opening Hymn: **The Lent Prose**

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated:
bow down and hearken to thy weeping children:
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

COLLECT (OF THE DAY AND THE SEASON)

O God, the fountain of life,
to a humanity parched with thirst
you offer the living water that springs from the Rock,
our Saviour Jesus Christ:
stir up within your people the gift of your Spirit,
that we may profess our faith with freshness
and announce with joy the wonder of your love.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made,
and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we, worthily lamenting our sins,
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1-7

A reading from the book Exodus:

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.

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?'

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?' So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people?

They are almost ready to stone me.'

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.

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.

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 95

**Response: O that today you will harken to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
2. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
3. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. **R.**
4. In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
5. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land. **R.**

**Response: O that today you will harken to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

6. Come, let us worship and bow down and bend the knee,
and kneel before the LORD, our Maker.
7. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand. **R.**
8. O that today you would hearken to his voice!
Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.
9. They put me to the test, though they had seen my works. **R.**
10. Forty years long I detested that generation and said,
'This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways.'
11. So I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-11

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Church in Rome:

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand;

and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character,

and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person —

though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners

Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.

For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God

through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

No Gradual Hymn in Lent

GOSPEL

John 4:5–42

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give us living water, that we may never thirst again.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar,
near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well.
It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her,
'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

The Samaritan woman said to him,

'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?'

(Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her,

'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you,

"Give me a drink", you would have asked him,

and he would have given you living water.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep.

Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob,
who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?'

Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,
but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.'

The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.'

The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.'

Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!'

The woman said to him,

'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'

Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.'

Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came.

They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?'

Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city.

She said to the people,

'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done!

He cannot be the Messiah, can he?'

They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.'

But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.'

So the disciples said to one another,

'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?'

Jesus said to them,

'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.

Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"?

But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.”

I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour.

Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.’

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I have ever done.’

So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word.

They said to the woman,

‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.’

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Anglican Church

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East; The Diocese of Bunbury; St John’s, Frankston North w. St Luke’s, Carrum Downs; and St Michael’s, & St Luke’s, North Dandenong.

For all in need

We pray for: Ann; Carol and the Geddes family; Coral; David; George; Hilary; Jenny; John; Josie; Katherine; Mary and the Adamson family; Max; Murray; +Kate and family; Susan; Sarina; Sophie; and those we name before you in the silence of our hearts; and we rejoice with Anjali and Raveen, married here yesterday.

For the Faithful Departed

We remember those who have died recently: Thomas Watt Geddes; Roger William Prowd; and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Thomas (Ray) Casey; Gladys Harris; Willard May; and Jennifer Tonoli.

During Communion, the Anthem is sung by choir:

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindness, which hath been ever of old, O remember not the sins and offences of my youth; but according to Thy mercy think Thou on me, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

Words: Psalm 25:5, 6
Music: Richard Farrant (c.1525–80)

FINAL HYMN

*May this Lenten discipline,
which we undertake with love,
turn our minds to things above.*

1. Sin has sundered us from God,
selfish we have grown and cold,
foolish were the ways we trod,
evil habits keep their hold.
2. Now we fast that we may feast
where the Lord of Life presides:
may our hunger be increased
for the bread which he provides.
3. As we keep this Lent with prayer
and from pleasures are withdrawn,
minds and bodies we prepare
for the joy of Easter dawn.

*Words: James Phillip McAuley (1917–76)
Music: 'Lindfield', Richard Connolly (1927–2022)*

Postlude: *Postlude in D,*
C. V. Stanford (1852–1924)

The Week Ahead

Monday	Sister Emma SSA, superior of the Society of the Sacred Advent, Queensland (d. 1939)
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A reminder that the Daily Offices (Morning and Evening Prayer) are prayed in St Martin's Chapel each Monday – Saturday at 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. respectively, and can be joined via Zoom at:

Morning Prayer

8:30 a.m., Monday – Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRldmIXWDQ4Zz09>

Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday

Meeting ID: 709 867 2691; Passcode: 630283

<https://zoom.us/j/7098672691?pwd=TFBBSGYxb2lhcUI3RWRldmIXWDQ4Zz09>

Lenten Study

7:30 p.m. on Wednesday

Meeting ID: 868 9252 3142; Passcode: 744866

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86892523142?pwd=MlczZlJRempKL0hrQThORXBFeFFBdz09>

Scripture Readings next week

I Samuel 16: 1–13
Ephesians 5: 8–14

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Psalm 23
John 9:1–41

Roster for today Third Sunday in Lent 8 March 2026		Roster for next Sunday Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday) 15 March 2026	
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
Sides-persons	Campell Paine	Sides-persons	David Sheppard Claire Sheppard
Acolyte	Bryan Elmes	Acolyte	Ravi Renjen
Eucharistic Assistant	Jenny Weller Newton	Eucharistic Assistant	Betty Renjen
Intercessor	Jenny Robertson	Intercessor	Leigh Mackay
Readers	Lorilae Garcia Helen Baddeley	Readers	David Sheppard Betty Renjen
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist		10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
Sides-persons	Geraldine Powell David Powell	Sides-persons	Grant Rowlands Len Whitehouse
Acolytes	Jenny McPherson Alison Canty	Acolytes	Alison Canty Meg Winter
Eucharistic Assistant	Ray Lester	Eucharistic Assistant	Lyn Beaumont
Intercessor	John Stewart	Intercessor	Meg Winter
Readers	Muriel Porter David Powell	Readers	Robyn Whitehouse Riley Brooks
Morning Tea	Sibella Guest Robin Barrett	Morning Tea	David Amos Joy Brown
Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist		Thursday 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
Sides-person	Jenny Robertson	Sides-person	Andrea King
Reader	Jenny Robertson	Reader	Andrea King

Of your charity, **please continue to pray** for those in long term need or sickness:
His Majesty the King; Ann; Geoff; Ivan; Jane; Joan; Liza; Mary; and Simon.

NOTICES

LENT STUDY GROUPS

Continue on Wednesday evenings by Zoom; and on Thursday mornings, after the eucharist, in the North Room

LENT provides an opportunity not only for ‘reading and meditating’ (as in our Study Group), ‘self-examination, prayer and fasting’ (as we heard on Ash Wednesday), but also for ‘self-denial and acts of generosity’, including alms-giving!

Each week in Lent we will publish the amount received in offerings in the last week, as well as the budgeted costs for running the parish each week of the year. These figures are:

Church Income – \$14,501

Church Expenditure for the week – \$16,911

You will see there is a short fall of **\$2,410**. To assist in this, please contact Geraldine Powell: dgp3934@icloud.com/0414 831 968 for details.

Sundays being *IN* Lent, but not *OF* Lent, we delighted to be able to mark **today** with Fr John Stewart his attainment of “four score years”. Cake and St George’s water will be provided in the Parish Centre after the 10 a.m. service.

Lenten Quiet Day with Dr Paula Gooder on next Saturday, 14 March will be a time for silence, prayer and quiet reflection, along with a series of talks from Dr Gooder at particular intervals during the day. There will be a Eucharist in the Chapel at midday and opportunity for attendees to enjoy the grounds at Trinity College. Dr Paula Gooder is a speaker and writer on the Bible, particularly on the New Testament. Please register for this free event by referring to instructions on flyers located on the service counter.

NEXT SUNDAY is the 4th Sunday in Lent. Traditionally, in the Western Church, this is known as *Laetare* or ‘Refreshment’ or ‘Mothering’ Sunday. It marks the ‘mid-point’ in Lent, and so the regular ‘austerities’ of Lent (which don’t apply on Sunday anyway, as Sundays are *in* but not *of* Lent – each Sunday being a commemoration of the Resurrection!) were briefly suspended. In England, the tradition grew of giving servants (agricultural or domestic) the weekend that includes this Sunday “off”, and they were encouraged to return to visit both their natural mothers, and the Church of their baptism – their ‘mother Church’. Hence the tradition of ‘Mothering Sunday’. Taking gifts for their mothers was encouraged – the origin of “Mothers’ Day” (which is still observed on this day in the United Kingdom – we have unaccountably followed the American dating!). This giving of gifts is now marked symbolically with the giving of Simnel Cake, which will be blessed for distribution.

We need at least one new Brass Polisher. If you are able to assist, or would like to learn the requisite skills, please speak to Miriam Cherry.

Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) St George’s allocated collection days are four/year, each on the fifth Sunday of a month when such occurs. Thus the 2026 collections will be on **29th March, 31st May, 30th August, and 29th November**. We will issue collection flyers for the two Sundays before the collection date to identify the items most required.

Spiritual Café returns for 2026! Tuesday 31 March. Our guest speaker is **Arthur Andronis**, Heritage Architect and Surveyor of St Paul's Cathedral. His topic is The Restoration of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Join us for dinner at Giorgio's, 1235 High St Armadale at 6.30pm followed by the speaker at 7.30pm.

Pre Payment Required. Cost \$55 for two courses, drinks available to purchase. Tickets via TryBooking <https://www.trybooking.com/DJQQF>
For further information email: office@stgeorgesmalvern.org or call 9822 3030.

We will be holding a series of fundraiser concerts in 2026. The first will be on **Saturday 9th May at 2pm** in our Hall. **Featured artists: Shu-Cheen Yu and her Lotus Wind Choir.** Put the date in your diary now and encourage others to attend!



PARISH DIRECTORY

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, VIC 3144



VICAR

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

Phone: 9822 4662 (h); 0408 505 646 (m)
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Day off: Friday

ASSISTANT CURATE

The Reverend Dr Callum Dawson

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Day off: Saturday

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Matthew Dowsey 0412 852 697

CHURCH OFFICE

Adrian Chong
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Phone: 9822 3030 Option 2
Email: office@stgeorgesmalvern.org

WARDENS

Malcolm Tadgell 0400 799 030
Robyn Whitehouse 0409 707 117
Vicar's Warden *to be appointed*

CHILD SAFE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Andrea King 0407 810 651

We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Custodians and Owners of the land upon which we meet, land which was taken, not ceded.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, acknowledge their continuing spiritual connection to Country, and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.