

Parish Press

Sunday March 23rd, 2025

Sentence

'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts,' says the Lord. Isaiah 55.9

Prayer of the Day

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Readings

Isaiah 55.1-19	Page (OT) 531
Psalms 63.1-9	Page (OT) 409
1 Corinthians 10.1-13	Page 132
Luke 13.1-9	Page 58

Today's services are

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Sung Holy Communion followed by morning tea

This week we pray for all who live in Benwerrin Road, Surrey Hills.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8.28)

Mark's Reflections

Today in our Gospel, Jesus is confronted with a tragic event where some Galileans, likely innocent people, are killed by Pilate. The people who bring this up seem to imply that these people must have been sinners, otherwise why would such a tragedy have befallen them? Jesus, however, challenges this understanding. He refutes the idea that suffering is always a result of sin. He uses the tragedy to remind His listeners that they too are vulnerable to suffering and death, and that they must repent and turn to God.

Jesus asks, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?” and answers His own question, “No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.” The message is clear: suffering and misfortune are not necessarily a sign of greater sinfulness. It’s not a straightforward cause-and-effect equation.

It is a powerful reminder that life is fragile and unpredictable. We cannot assume that bad things only happen to bad people, or that we are immune from hardship just because we may be living “good” lives. Jesus invites His audience—and us—to reflect on our own lives, to confront the reality of our own sinfulness, and to repent. Repentance, in this sense, is not just about guilt or shame; it’s about turning toward God, seeking His grace, and aligning our lives with His will.

Today our Gospel invites us to reconsider our assumptions about suffering, sin, and the nature of God’s judgment. It encourages repentance—not just for the sake of avoiding disaster, but as a means of opening ourselves to God’s transformative love. It also reassures us of God’s mercy, offering us time to grow and change. The key is to remain attentive and responsive to the opportunities for growth that God gives us.

God Bless

Mark

Lent Studies

This year we will be using the Hope 25 Lent Study Book (a copy is available for every family). Our Studies will be on a Tuesday evening at 7.30pm at the home of Garry and Maureen Ireland and Wednesday following our mid-week services.

Confirmation

We are holding a Parish Confirmation on Sunday April 13th with Bishop Paul Barker. If you know someone wanting to be confirmed please see Mark.

Women's Breakfast

The next Women's Breakfast on the 29th March at Chit Chat 9am. Our guest speakers will be Joan Willenberg and Susan Havelock.

ANZAC Day Service

This ANZAC Day Service we are having a display of memorabilia of parishioners who fought in WWI and WWII. Please can you help by contributing items or stories that could be used. Email us at office@holytrinity.sh or speak to Ruth Theodoridis.

Parish Prayer List

Helen Burston, Stephen Binns, William Stewart (Stu) Parry, Robyn Foskett, Thelma Fiddymont, Rachel Hayman, Bruce Knox, Helen Morris, John and Sally James, Pam Dewar, Edith Jenkins, Sue Hand, Ann Constable, Gwen Jackson, Verna Hubert, Hayden Daley, Sue Brown, Rosemary Parker, Joy Hayman.

We remember

We give you thanks for your servants in every age. Grant that we, with all your saints, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of your kingdom. William George Welch B.E.M, Geoffrey Albert Hughes, Ivor Hector Cochrane.

Hope 25 prayer:

God of Hope you call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world; by your Spirit awaken in us a true vision of your kingdom, a greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service; that through our words and actions the same Spirit may bring many who are lost to be found, and for them to celebrate the hope that we can only have in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

This Week at Holy Trinity

Tuesday

9.30-12.30 Office Hours
7.30pm Lent Study at the home
of Garry and Maureen Ireland

Wednesday

10am Service of Holy
Communion followed by
morning tea
10.45am Lent Study

Thursday

9.30-12.30 Office Hours
10am Parish Prayer Service
7-10pm Choir Practice

Sunday

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Sung Holy Communion
and morning tea

Readings this week

Monday	Luke 4.24-30
Tuesday	Matthew 18.21-35
Wednesday	Matthew 5.17-19
Thursday	Luke 11.14-23
Friday	Mark 12.28-34
Saturday	Luke 18.9-14
Sunday	Joshua 5.2-12
	Psalms 32
	2 Corinthians 5.16-21
	Luke 15.11-32

Direct Giving to Holy Trinity

To give directly to the Parish, via the
Anglican Development Fund,
BSB: 703-122. Acct No: 0500 4680.
Holy Trinity Surrey Hills.

Scan to access our website
holytrinity.sh



Vicar:
Rev Mark Pearce
0407 326 894
pearce.mark.a@gmail.com

Office Administrator:
Claire Morris
9890 2165
office@holytrinity.sh