

# ST AGNES<sup>†</sup>

## ANGLICAN CHURCH

### Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare Sunday)

30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly is a welcoming and hospitable faith community, celebrating God's compassion and love for all. As an Anglo-Catholic church, our faith, worship and community life finds its ultimate expression in encounter with the Risen Christ in Scripture and Sacrament. Together we are committed to growing in spirituality and service as disciples of Jesus, glorifying God and serving our local community.

You can find out more about us at [www.saintagnes.org.au](http://www.saintagnes.org.au).

#### The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes

114 Booran Road Glen Huntly VIC 3163  
03 9571 6616  
[secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au)

#### REGULAR SERVICES

##### Sunday

8:00am: Eucharist (Saint John's)  
9:30am: Choral Eucharist (Saint John's)  
9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint Agnes')  
6:00pm: Choral Evensong  
(Saint John's, First Sunday)  
6:00pm: Congregational Evensong  
(Saint John's, Third Sunday)

##### Weekday Eucharists

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes')  
10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

#### Vicar

Fr. Alex Ross  
0431 308 703  
[vicar@saintagnes.org.au](mailto:vicar@saintagnes.org.au)  
(Day-Off: Monday)

#### Associate Clergy

Fr. Ken Hewlett  
Bp. Brad Billings  
Fr. Mick Potter  
Adn. Colleen O'Reilly  
Fr Luke Hopkins

#### Churchwardens

John Hooper 0416 185 005  
Anne Kerin 0411 587 180  
Robert Buckmaster 0437 014 090

#### Director of Music

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

*We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this place and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all and on which we worship the God of all Reconciliation and Hope*

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*Text marked with ♪ is sung to the Mass Setting by Michael Dudman. Please stand when the bells are rung.*

## OPENING HYMN

1. King of glory, King of peace  
I will love thee;  
and, that love may never cease,  
I will move thee.  
Thou hast granted my request,  
thou hast heard me;  
thou didst note my working breast,  
thou hast spared me.

2. Wherefore with my utmost art  
I will sing thee,  
and the cream of all my heart  
I will bring thee.  
Though my sins against me cried,  
thou didst clear me;  
and alone, when they replied,  
thou didst hear me.

3. Seven whole days, not one in seven,  
I will praise thee;  
in my heart, though not in heaven,  
I can raise thee.  
Small it is, in this poor sort  
to enrol thee:  
ev'n eternity's too short  
to extol thee.

*George Herbert 1593-1633  
TIS 201*

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ Jesus said ‘This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off. Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:  
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE COLLECTS

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

*Please sit.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Joshua

[5.2-12]

At that time the Lord said to Joshua, ‘Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites a second time.’ So Joshua made flint knives, and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath-haaraloth. This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the warriors, had died during the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt. Although all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people born on the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. For the Israelites travelled for forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the warriors who came out of Egypt, perished, not having listened to the voice of the Lord. To them the Lord swore that he would not let them see the land that he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way.

When the circumcising of all the nation was done, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

[32]

Blessed are those whose sin is forgiven:  
whose iniquity is put away.

**Blessed are those to whom the Lord imputes no blame:  
and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

For whilst I held my tongue:  
my bones wasted away with my daily complaining.

**Your hand was heavy upon me day and night:  
and my moisture was dried up like a drought in summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you:  
and my iniquity I did not hide;

**I said 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord':  
and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.**

For this cause shall everyone that is faithful  
make their prayer to you in the day of trouble:  
and in the time of the great water-flood,  
it shall not come near them.

**You are a place to hide me in,  
you will preserve me from trouble:  
you will surround me with deliverance on every side.**

¶ I will instruct you, and direct you in the way that you should go:

I will fasten my eye upon you, and give you counsel.

**‘Be not like horse or mule, that have no understanding:  
whose forward course must be curbed with bit and bridle.’**

Great tribulations remain for the ungodly:  
but whoever puts their trust in the Lord,  
mercy embraces them on every side.

**Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and be glad:  
and shout for joy, all you that are true of heart.**

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from the Second letter of Paul to the Corinthians. [5.16-21]

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand. A Gradual hymn is sung*

## **GRADUAL HYMN**

**1. The church’s one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord:  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word;  
from heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;**

with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

3. Though with a scornful wonder  
the world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping,  
their cry goes up, 'How long?'  
and soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

4. Through toil and tribulation  
and tumult of her war  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore,  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blessed,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

5. Yet she on earth has union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion,  
with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give to us the grace  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
in heaven to seek your face.

*Samuel John Stone 1839-1900 alt*  
*TIS 457*

## GOSPEL

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.**

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ, and given us the ministry of reconciliation.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

[15.11-32]

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.” So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, “How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead



with him. But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.” ’

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

## **THE SERMON**

*The Sermon is followed by a time of reflection*

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Let us together stand to affirm the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the ✠ resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*Prayers are offered for the Church and for the world. Each petition ends with...*

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

*The final petition for all the faithful departed ends...*

May they rest in peace: **and rise in glory.**

*All stand.*

## GREETING OF PEACE

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We greet each other with a sign of peace.*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*A collection is taken to support the life and mission of the parish.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

1. O love how deep, how broad, how high!  
it fills the heart with ecstasy  
that God, the Son of God, should take  
our mortal form for mortals' sake.

2. He sent no angel to our race  
of higher or of lower place  
but wore the robe of human frame  
himself, and to this lost world came.

3. For us he was baptised, and bore  
his holy fast, and hungered sore;  
for us temptations sharp he knew;  
for us the tempter overthrew.

4. For us he prayed, for us he taught,  
for us his daily works he wrought,  
by words and signs and actions, thus  
still seeking not himself but us.

5. For us to wicked hands betrayed,  
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,  
he bore the shameful cross and death;  
for us at length gave up his breath.

6. For us he rose from death again,  
for us he went on high to reign,  
for us he sent his Spirit here  
to guide, to strengthen and to cheer.

7. To him whose boundless love has won  
salvation for us through his Son,  
to God the Father, glory be  
both now and through eternity.

*Attrib. Thomas à Kempis 1379—1471  
tr. Benjamin Webb 1819-85 alt  
TIS 194*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The priest continues in thanksgiving...*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

♪ **Blessed ✠ is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The priest continues with the prayer of consecration...*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

♪ **Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues...*

... we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

**♪ Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**♪ Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and  
forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the  
time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the  
glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body:

**For we all share in the one bread.**

*The priest breaks the bread while the Agnus Dei is sung*

**♪ O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*All baptised Christians who seek Christ in this sacrament are invited to receive Holy  
Communion. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.*

# BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*Notices may be given here.*

*The priest prays the post-communion prayer, followed by*

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.**

*The priest pronounces this blessing:*

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord:

**In the name of Christ. Amen**

## CLOSING HYMN

**1. I will sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
how he left the realms of glory  
for the cross on Calvary.**

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
sing it with his saints in glory,  
gathered by the crystal sea.*

**2. I was lost: but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray,  
raised me up and gently led me  
back into the narrow way.**

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story...*

3. Faint was I, and fears possessed me,  
bruised was I from many a fall,  
hope was gone, and shame distressed me:  
but his love has pardoned all.

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story...*

4. Days of darkness still may meet me,  
sorrow's paths I oft may tread;  
but his presence still is with me,  
by his guiding hand I'm led.

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story...*

5. He will keep me till the river  
rolls its waters at my feet:  
then he'll bear me safely over,  
where the loved ones I shall meet.

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story...*

*Francis Harold Rowley 1854-1952*  
*TIS 233*

*The organist plays the Postlude*

*Please join us for Morning Tea.*



ST AGNES<sup>†</sup>  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

[www.saintagnes.org.au](http://www.saintagnes.org.au)

# SAINT AGNES' GLEN HUNTLY



[www.saintagnes.org.au](http://www.saintagnes.org.au)

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Palm 13 April 9:30am Sung Eucharist  
Sunday

Holy 15 April 10am Eucharist  
Tuesday

Good 18 April 12noon Liturgy of the Day  
Friday

Easter 20 April 6am Easter Vigil  
Sunday & Sung Eucharist