Prayers are requested for Shirley, Fr Andrew Covington; Fr Jonathan Chambers and Hannah – we pray for those who are homeless, for refugees and those seeking asylum escaping war, poverty and oppression.

**Readings for the coming weeks**

**18th AUGUST 25TH AUGUST 1ST SEPTEMBER**

**10TH AFTER PENTECOST 11TH AFTER PENTECOST 12TH AFTER PENTECOST**

**Isaiah 5.1-17 Jeremiah 1.4-10 Jeremiah 2.4-13**

**[Psalm 80.1-2,8-19] [Psalm 71.1-6] [Psalm 81.1, 10-16]**

**Hebrews 11.29—12.2 Hebrews 12.18-29 Hebrews 13.1-8,15-16**

**Luke 12.49—59 Luke 13.10-17 Luke 14.1,[2-6] 7-14**

Please save your postal stamps – Doreen collects them for BCA.

Give thanks, give hope, give generously

The contribution of the congregation to this need is fantastic and gratefully appreciated. If each of us contributes a packet, tin or product into the basket we can make a significant difference to a person’s life – non-perishable items (tinned or in packet) sanitary items; toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, razors etc) these items are all acceptable. These groceries are donated to **Anglicare** and then distributed to the needy – may God be with you in this ministry, Judi

Locum in Charge: The Revd. Judi Pollard

The Anglican Parish of Romsey/Lancefield, 33 Chauncey St, Lancefield VIC 3435

OFFICE: 5429 1830 OR MOBILE: 0402 268 001

Email: judepol@bigpond.net.au www.lancefieldromseyanglican.org

Available by request baptisms, weddings and funerals

Honorary Assoc. priest: Revd. Tom Morgan: 5429 6060

**DIARY DATES**

**18th AUGUST** - PARISH COUNCIL CANCELLED

**18th AUGUST** - 11am at the Romsey Cenotaph Vietnam Vets National service, all people welcome

**24TH AUGUST** – SAUSAGE SIZZLE – LANCEFIELD FARMER’S MARKET

**6TH OCTOBER** – FUNDRAISER – MARIA FORDE – IRISH SINGER – CHRIST CHURCH $25.00 entrance fee includes afternoon tea. Please see Val or Glenice or book online through trybooking

**AMS Men’s diaries available now -please see Tom. These handy little pocket diaries are week at a glance and contain the Church Calendar as well. Well priced at $6 each.**

**Welcome to the Anglican parish of St Paul’s Romsey**

**& Christ Church, Lancefield**

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**Welcome**: We extend a very special welcome to you if you are a visitor, a newcomer or attend regularly please stay with us for morning tea following the liturgy and then go in Peace. We hope your presence will bring you a blessing, as it has blessed us.

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**9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, AUGUST 11 YC 2019**

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**9.00am Sunday Eucharist @ St Paul’s**

**10.30am Sunday Eucharist @ Christ Church**

Judi’s Jottings Jesus tells us: ‘do not be afraid’.   We do not need to fear about anything, about whether we are ‘in’ or ‘out’, about what we are able to contribute towards God or others.   We are simply asked to include others. The kingdom is something given by God, not something that the church institutes.   The kingdom comes independently from the church, The church is no gatekeeper of the kingdom.   The church is not ‘the way, the truth and the life’, Jesus is,   And Jesus leads us to others, us to the community of faith - and the community of faith to the wider community.   For the kingdom is not the kingdom of the church, but the kingdom of the whole of creation.   It is a kingdom existentially including everyone, and it is precisely this that makes ‘the religious’ so angry.   They want a kingdom with boundaries, boundaries that ensure that others who don’t measure up to their standards are not included.   They do not  want to be associated with ‘riff-raff’.  So we don’t have to worry about this kingdom, because it already exists in the world as we know it; it is just that some want to take it away - to challenge, marginalise and alienate others in the name of the ‘god’ they have made for themselves in their own image - the image of someone who believes like them, worships like them, lives like them .. And when we are this inclusive, we have no need to fear, for when the time comes it may indeed be us who do not recognise the Lord in people who live differently to us, worship in a different manner, be intimate with people with whom we would not approve, and have to ask: “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?   And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?   And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?”  (Matthew 25.37-39).   We will be living in the kingdom already, because the Lord has already come at an unexpected hour, when we ‘did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me’. (25.40)   These ‘other’ people, people who seem so different, are just as much a part of God’s family, and deserving of inclusion. We are told, ‘Do not be afraid ..’   There is no need to worry that we will ever be too inclusive.

**Sentence**: Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Matthew 24.42, 44

**Collect/Prayer of the day:**  Kindle in our hearts, Father, the same faith that impelled Abraham to set out from his home and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign land. As we, like him, look for the city that none but you can design and build, keep us watchful for your Son’s coming, that we may be found faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah chapter one beginning at the first verse

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.  When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me.
New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.  Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil,
learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow. Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.
If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;
but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God***

A reading from the Book of Hebrews chapter eleven beginning at the first verse.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Lord be with you, ***and also with you***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke 12.32-40**

***Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord,  ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ***