

Bible Readings next week. Australia Day. 28 January 2018

Jeremiah 29.1-14; Ps 33.12-21; I Thessalonians 5.12-24;
John 8. 31-36.

Prayer for the Week O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you: mercifully accept our prayers, and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God, Phyllis Hope Murphy, Doris Campbell, James (Jim) Ronald Austin, Mona Kingsmill, Lloyd Slattery, John McDonald, Esther Hazel Atkinson, Edward Newton, George Elliot, James Cable and Isabel Ann Osborn *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the week.

January 22 Vincent of Saragossa, Spain (d. 304). Deacon and martyr in the Roman persecutions. Nothing certain is known of his life, except his martyrdom.

January 24 Companions of St. Paul, Timothy, Titus and Silas. Referred to in Paul's letters and Luke's second book, the Acts of the Apostles.

January 25 Conversion of Paul the Apostle. Described in Acts 9.3-10; 22.6-16 and 26.12-18. Clearly Paul learnt to read the familiar Hebrew scriptures in a new way after his encounter with the risen Christ as he came to see Jesus as the fulfilment of God's purposes, not a cursed criminal.

January 26 Australia Day.

January 27 John Chrysostom (347-407) Archbishop of Constantinople. Noted preacher and commentator on the Christian scriptures.

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Third Sunday after Epiphany

21 January 2018

Sentence

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel.
Mark 1.15

Collect

Lord of time fulfilled,
who was not born an angel,
but walked the common earth:
with those you called by the lakeside
may we share your mission to bring good news to all,
to let the world know that God is among us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, the One who reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, time without end. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of the prophet Jonah

Despite being shipwrecked trying to escape God's call, God commands Jonah to go to Nineveh a second time and he obeys. The readers of this Hebrew wisdom novel would have identified 'forty' with the exodus and the flood and known that this would be a story of God's deliverance. The residents of Nineveh repented, change their behaviour and God changes God's own mind about punishing them.

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying,
"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth,

and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.” When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. *Jonah 3.1-10*

Reader For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

**Psalm 62.5-12 at 8am APBA page 283
at 10am Together in Song 33**

In God the psalmist finds his hope for deliverance, the reference point in life and a “refuge” from enemies.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Paul expected the present era to end in his own lifetime and for human history to be brought to fulfillment, so he urges detachment from the dominant social norms and forms that govern this age. We have another perspective, but are also urged to live with God’s future in mind at all times.

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. *Cor 3.85-31*

Reader May your word live in us.

All And bear much fruit to your glory.

Gospel Acclamation

All Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor Jesus taught them as one having authority: his fame spread throughout Galilee.

All Alleluia!

Reader The Lord be with you

ALL And also with you

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

“The kingdom of God has come near”: the final era of history is imminent. Such sayings of Jesus support Paul’s view that the end is near, but Jesus also said that no human knows when Christ will come again, and he will not come when expected. The first disciples called immediately leave their previous occupations, and follow Jesus.

After John [the Baptizer] was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. *Mark 1.14-20*

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



A fishing net being cast on the Sea of Galilee