

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday Friendship Group meet @ 10am
Wednesday Golf Group meet @ 6am
Pick-A-Book from 9am
Thursday Funeral Service for Dorothea MacDonald @ 10am
Sunday 18th October Shoeboxes blessed at the services

OUR THANK YOU SUNDOWNER – will be on Saturday 10th October between 4.30 – 6pm. All are welcome to come along and enjoy some nibbles, soft drink, wine, beer, coffee or tea. Please put your name on the Notice Board in the hall so we know how many we're catering for.

CHRISTMAS FAIR – is fast approaching. If you can help with some donations towards items for the Raffle (tins of food); Cake Stall (mixed fruit, eggs, butter); Garden Stall (potted seedlings herbs, flowers), please place them in the foyer.

Please pray for: Paul; Isla; Keena; Cheryl; Charlotte; Gavin; Annette; Claire; Eric; Lynn; Doug; Dave & family; Karen; lafeta; Valerie; Margaret; Michelle; Charlie; Vince & Sue; Margo

This week Johnny is with Denys & Elizabeth McIlveen



*Happy birthday to Lynda Reed for today;
Shirley Olliver on 29th*

Wardens -	Phil Goulding	Phone: 9247 4978
	Judith Smith	Phone: 9246 3745
	Scott Tanoai	Phone: 0425 320 434
Parish Priest – the Reverend Josie Steytler Phone: 0421 115 438		
Work Days -	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday	

Electronic giving: Account Name - Anglican Parish Greenwood
BSB - 706 001 **Account Number** - 3000 3969

Website: <https://greenwood-anglican.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodanglican>

Email address: greenwoodanglican@gmail.com

Phone Number: 9447 9243

Welcome to Worship



Pentecost 18

27th September 2026

We are a warm-hearted community who are delighted to have you worshipping with us today ...

Our Mission is to

- **Know God personally**
- **Love and respect one another deeply**
- **Disciple and serve those around us**

Sentence: Come, let us return to the Lord, that we may live before him.
Hosea 6:1a, 2b

Collect of the Day

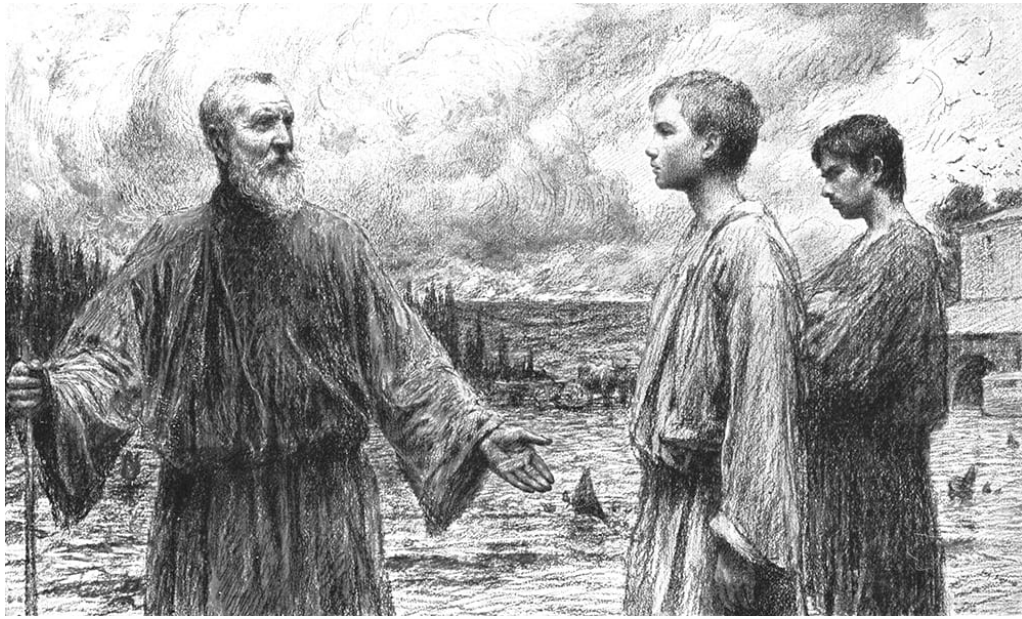
Grant, O merciful God,
that your people may have that mind that was in
Christ Jesus, who emptied himself, and took the
form of a servant,
and in humility became obedient even to death.
For you have highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
that is above every name, Jesus Christ, the Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in everlasting glory. **Amen.**

Today's readings:

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 11-16
Philippians 2
Matthew 21:23-32

Next Week:

Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3
Matthew 21:33-46



Pentecost 18 – Matthew 21:23-32

The parable of the two sons: “Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did.”

Today’s parable of the two sons is a devastating condemnation of the Jewish religious leaders whose faith is confined to words and rituals. Jesus states unequivocally that those the self-righteous consider to be the very antithesis of religious will be welcomed by God into his presence before the “professional” religious.

Prostitutes and tax collectors were the most despised outcasts in Judaism. In light of the First Testament tradition of God’s relationship with Israel as a “marriage” and Israel’s disloyalty as “harlotry,” prostitution was considered an especially heinous sin. Tax collectors were, in the eyes of Palestinian Jews, the very personification of corruption and theft. According to the Roman system of tax collection, tax collectors (also called publicans) would pay the state a fixed sum based on the theoretical amount of taxes due from a given region. The publican, in return, had the right to collect the taxes in that region – and they were not above using terrorism and extortion to collect. Tax

collectors, as agents of the state, were also shunned as collaborators with Israel’s Roman captors.

Jesus’ declaration that those guilty of the most abhorrent of sins would enter God’s kingdom before them deepened the Jewish establishment’s animosity toward Jesus.

Jesus’ simple story of the two sons takes the Gospel out of the realm of the “theoretical” and places the mercy of God into the midst of our messy, complicated everyday lives. Compassion, forgiveness and mercy are only words until our actions give full expression to those values in our relationships with others; our calling ourselves Christians and disciples of Jesus means nothing until our lives express that identity in the values will uphold and the beliefs we live.

The words of the Gospel must be lived; Jesus’ teachings on justice, reconciliation and love must be the light that guides us, the path we walk, the prayer we work to make a reality. Discipleship begins within our hearts, where we realize Christ’s presence in our lives and in the lives of others and then honouring that presence in meaningful acts of compassion and charity.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus shatters labels and stereotypes in order to uphold the sacred dignity of all men and women in the eyes of God. Christ calls us to move beyond our own contemporary version of the designations of “tax collector” and “prostitute” to recognize, instead, the holiness that resides within the soul of every person, who is, like us, a child of God.

© Connections/MediaWorks

