



ST OSWALD'S ANGLICAN CHURCH GLEN IRIS

Sunday 25 October, 2026



Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to our Service today celebrating

Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude: selections from the *Holy Trinity Mass* John Ross

Acknowledgement of Country

Processional Hymn Together in Song 168

The Greeting: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Sentence for the Day:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all you soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hand all the law and the prophets. *Matthew 22: 32 - 40*

Please follow service in green Prayer Book starting page 119

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

Confession APBA page 120

Absolution APBA page 120

Kyrie please refer to screen

Prayer of the Day:

O God,
Whose son taught us that love is the fulfillment of your law:
stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts Your greatest gift of love,
so that we may love you with our whole being,
and our neighbors as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and forever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

[Deuteronomy 34: 1 -12]

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, ‘This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’ Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty

deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90: 1 – 6, 13 - 16

8 am page 318

10 am NPCW

Gerry Fitzpatrick



May the fa - vour of the Lord, our God be up - on us.

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May the favour of the Lord, our God be upon us.

A Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Thessalonians

[Thessalonians 2: 1 - 13]

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and

encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Fintan O'Carroll

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia al - le - lu - ia

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Gospel Acclamation Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

A Reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew [Matthew 22: 34 – 46]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’

He said to him, ‘ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet' ”? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

For the gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Please stand

THE CREED *please refer to the screen*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE — *please refer to the screen for the prayers.*

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Offertory Hymn Together in Song 534

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING 5 with special preface—please refer to screen.

Music during Communion

Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele BWV 654 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD please refer to screen.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Bountiful God,
at this table you graciously feed us
with the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation.
May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament
be strengthened in your service;
we who have sung your praises
tell of your glory and truth in our lives;
we who have seen the greatness of your love
see you face to face in your kingdom
and come to worship you with all your saints for ever.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love,
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

God stir up within you the gift of the Spirit that you may confess
Jesus Christ as Lord and proclaim the joy of the everlasting gospel
wherever you may be:
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Together in Song 47

Postlude: Prelude in Eb (the 'St Ann' Prelude) J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

My Dear Family ,

One of the greatest challenges we face as Christians is not simply hearing the Word of God, but being willing to listen to it with open hearts and obedient lives.

Sometimes, we prefer to hear only what comforts us, agrees with our opinions, and supports the way we live. Yet, the Word of God does not always tell us what we want to hear. At times, it challenges us, corrects us, convicts us, and calls us to change our ways.

In 2 Timothy 3:16, we read, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

God's Word is not given merely to make us feel comfortable; it is given to transform us into the people God wants us to be. Like a mirror, it reveals who we truly are. Like a lamp, it guides our steps. Like a seed, it bears fruit when it falls into a receptive heart.

As a church, we must therefore ask ourselves: Are we allowing the Word of God to shape our lives, or are we trying to shape God's Word to suit our own preferences?

A faithful Christian does not approach Scripture simply to find support for personal opinions, but to discover God's will. We must be prepared to listen humbly, even when the message is difficult, and to respond faithfully, even when obedience requires sacrifice.

At St. Oswald's, let us become a community that welcomes the whole counsel of God—not just the comforting promises, but also the challenging truths. Let us listen before we judge, pray before we respond, and allow the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts and minds.

May we be like the people of Berea, who received the message eagerly and examined the Scriptures carefully (Acts 17:11). Above all, let us remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:24, that the wise person is the one who hears His words and puts them into practice.

My dear friends, the question is not whether we have heard the Word of God, but whether we are willing to let it change us.

May our hearts always be open, our ears ready to listen, and our lives willing to obey. May God's Word lead us closer to Christ and help us become a church that faithfully lives out the Gospel in our homes, our community, and the world.

God bless you all!

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Mal

PART 2

Continued from last week.....

The Consecration of Holy Emmanuel Church

On 27th December 1860, the Holy Emmanuel Church was consecrated by Bishop Chapman. The Governor and Lady Mc Carthy together with a number of Europeans assembled in the Church before the consecration. The Church was titled with the most distinguished congregation from the immediate vicinity. At 2 pm the Bishop attended by his clergy and choristers from the Cathedral walked in solemn procession from the Galle Road to the Church, The service was conducted both in English and Sinhala and the sermon was delivered by the Revd. S. W. Dias in Sinhala.

The Cathedral choir without the aid of any musical instrument was in attendance. Soon after the Bishop had taken his seat, the service commenced at the instance of Revd. C. Senanayake. The consecration of Holy Emmanuel Church was conducted by the Bishop, assisted by the Revd. C. Senanayake. The Revds. B. Bailey. J. de Silva. F. de Mel, Abraham Mendis and S. W. Dias also assisted in the service which was conducted in Sinhala.

At the conclusion of the service, His Excellency and Lady Me Carthy along with the other dignitaries present on the occasion were received by Mr. and Mrs Jeronis de Soysa at their residence. The proceedings closed with the presentation of an address to the worthy founder by the residents of Moratuwa as a token of their deep gratitude for his magnanimous gesture in providing a beautiful edifice for Divine Worship.

The Revd. Abraham Mendis 1861 – 1883

Five days after the consecration, the Revd. Abraham Mendis. who was the third and last Colonial Chaplain, while still a Deacon, was appointed to the Chaplaincy of Moratuwa and Koralawella on 1st January. 1861. Revd. Mendis was born on 3rd April, 1827, at Idama, Moratuwa. He had his early education at the Moratuwa Government English School, where he studied for 3 years. He then entered the Cotta Christian Institution under the Revd, J.F. Hastam, M.A. As a young lad, he evinced a high degree of intelligence and promise. After completing his course of studies he was appointed an Assistant Master of the Institution. Later he was elevated to the rank of Catechist under the Revd. C. Senanayake. On 7th June, 1857. he was ordained Deacon by Bishop Chapman and for 3 years he functioned as an Assistant Curate. When the Revd. Senanayake was transferred to the Chaplaincy of Galkissa and Milagiriya shortly after the consecration of the Church, Revd Mendis succeeded him. On 20th December, 1863. he was ordained a priest by Bishop Claughton. Revd. Mendis ministered to the spiritual and temporal needs of his flock. He married Caroline, who was the daughter of Domingo Soysa. brother of Jeronis de Soysa, the founder.

The Revd. Mendis was assisted by Elias Perera. Catechist. who relieved him of much of the pastoral work in the districts of Lakshapathiya, Kaldemulla and Angulana.

Death of Jeronis de Soysa

The Revd. Mendis was only 2 years in office when our revered founder Jeronis de Soysa was called to his eternal rest at the age of 65 on 28th May. 1862, The vast concourse of officials and others, who were present to pay their last respects, bore ample testimony to his popularity and munificence.

Notable Events

Dr. Claughton, Bishop of Colombo, visited the Moratuwa Parish for the first time in January 1863. He held a Confirmation Service at Holy Emmanuel Church.

In 1870, Dr. Milman, Metropolitan of Calcutta, visited the Moratuwa Parish. Again on 18th February 1881. Dr. Johnson, the Metropolitan of Calcutta visited the Moratuwa Parish, This was followed by full morning service with the Metropolitan as the preacher. The Bishop of the Diocese celebrated and the Metropolitan took part in the administration assisted by Revds. Mendis and de Mel.

Death of the Revd. Abraham Mendis

The 25th anniversary of the ordination of Revd. Abraham Mendis to the Diaconate was celebrated on 7th June 1882. He laboured in the Lord's vineyard for 38 years. He served in Moratuwa for 30 years and held the Colonial Chaplaincy for no less than 23 years when he was suddenly called to his rest on 1st July 1883. His sad and sudden death when he was in full harness created much anxiety and came as a rude shock to all Christians of the Anglican Church. The Chaplain's funeral service was well attended with the Bishop officiating.

Immediately after the Chaplain's death, Bishop R.S. Copleston took temporary charge of the Parish. During the Bishop's stay for about 3 months, he organised a series of sermons and delivered them on eight successive Wednesdays. A service in memory of the Revd. Abraham Mendis was held at the Church on 4th July 1889.

The Revd. Ernest Arthur Copleston 1883 – 1889

On the death of the Revd. Abraham Mendis, the Revd. Johannes de Silva was posted to be in temporary charge of the Parish. On 18th August, 1883, the Bishop in consultation with the Church Wardens appointed the Revd. E.A. Copleston as the first Incumbent and the Revd. Cornelius de Mel as Assistant Curate. The institution of the Revd. Copleston took place on 15th September 1883, in the presence of a large congregation at Holy Emmanuel Church.

With the enactment of the Ordinance of 1881 withdrawing state aid from all ecclesiastical bodies. Holy Emmanuel Church has been maintained by voluntary contributions and this ultimately proved to be a blessing in disguise.

The most important event at this time took place on All Saints' Day (1st November 1883), when St. Peter's Church. Koralawella was consecrated.

When Revd. E.A. Copleston proceeded to England on furlough, the Parish was left in charge of the Revd. Johannes de Silva. On his return to Ceylon in 1884, the Revd. Copleston went into residence at Copleston House, the present site of the Home for the Elders, Moratuwa. on 30th November. The Revd. Johannes de Silva stayed on till April. 1885, when the Revd. A.S. Amarasekera came to the Parish on the 15th of April as an additional assistant curate.

After a term of four and a half years the Revd. E.A. Copleston resigned from the Incumbency and proceeded to England on 29th April 1889. During his period of Incumbency, the Holy Emmanuel Church proved to be a hive of religious activity and the Parish work was not only systematic and regular but also exemplary and inspiring. His labours in the Lord's vineyard were so devoted and zealous that later he was elevated as the 5th Bishop of Colombo.



View of the church cemetery from the church tower





Sunrise from the church tower

Centre - Parish halls and the Parish office

Left side - Church Cottage (Curate's quarters)

Right side - Vicarage

Below - Structure of the church from the church tower



Intercessions

For the church:

The World: Caribbean

The Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of Central Africa

The Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of Wangaratta;

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Dean Neill Hicks; clergy, lay ministers and people

The Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop in Council and diocesan governance; for wisdom, integrity, faithful stewardship and decisions that serve the Church's mission across Melbourne and Geelong.

Diocesan ministries, schools and agencies:

The Melbourne Anglican Schools Commission;

Sojourners AAC Werribee; St Stephen's Werribee

Departed

Keith Wray, Bruce Woods, Rev. John Hall, John Watkins

Diary for the Week

St Oswald's Live Stream on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@stoswaldgleniris/live>

Wednesday 28 October

10 am **Holy Communion**

Sunday 1 November

All Saints Day

8 am **Holy Communion**

10 am **Sung Eucharist**

Readings

Revelation 7: 9—17

Psalm 34: 1—10, 22

1 John 3: 1—3

Matthew 5: 1—12

Today's Ministries

10 am

Cantor

P. McLeod

Communion Assistant

C. Adams

Reader

P. Johnson

Intercessor

W. Andrews

Welcome /

C. Adams

Offertory

Morning Tea

J. Haigh

P. Dalrymple

