

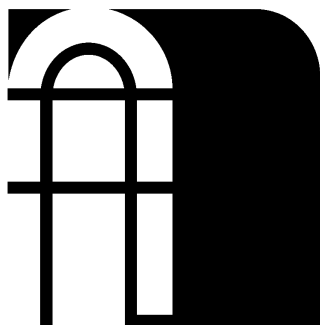
St James' Old Cathedral

9th February 2025 at 10:00am

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

The Elder Brother (Luke 15:11-32)

*Service of Holy Communion from
The Book of Common Prayer (1662)*



St James' Old Cathedral

Acknowledgement of Country

We worship our creator God on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Child Safety Officer

We are committed to continuous improvement in a safe culture for all, and especially vulnerable persons. Our parish's Child Safety Officer is Una Ebsworth. Una is an accredited specialist in criminal law. All correspondence and questions relating to safety checks should be forwarded to her at safety@sjoc.org.au

The Old Cathedral Voices

Formed in March 2009 from some of Melbourne's finest choral soloists, The Old Cathedral Voices are a consort choir directed by Alex Ritter. Alex is away today. The choir is directed by Chris Roache.

Today's singers are:

Eliza Bennetts O'Connor	Stewart Webb	Nick Christie	Matthew Crossley
Lucy Hood	Chris Roache	Alex Owens	

The Organ

The present organ was built in 1991 by Australian Pipe Organs, restoring and expanding the 1866 Fincham organ. 2 manuals, 18 speaking stops, 8 couplers. Gt: 8.8.4.4.2.III. Sw: 8.8.8.4.2.III.8. Ped: 16.16.10-2/3.8.4.

The Old Cathedral's organist is David Brown. David undertook studies as an organ scholar at the Universities of Cambridge and St Andrews. He also serves as College Organist for Scotch College.

The Bells

Melbourne's first peal of bells were the six bells hung in St James' Cathedral in 1853, replacing an old ship's bell. Two more were added in 1885. All were cast by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Road, London, and are reputed to be the finest ever cast there. They are still rung regularly by a team of volunteers.

Processional
Purge me, O Lord

The Old Cathedral Voices
T. Tallis (1505-1585)

*Purge me, O Lord, from all my sin,
and save thou me by faith from ill,
that I may rest and dwell with thee,
upon thy holy blessed hill.*

*And that done, grant that with true heart
I may without hypocrisy
affirm the truth, detract no man,
but do all things with equity.*

Sentence of Scripture

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

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.” ’ *Luke 15:31-32*

The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

**Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

The Collect

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

**Almighty God,
unto whom all hearts be open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Welcome

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Hymn 191 (Christe Sanctorum)

F. P. Green (1903-2000)

**Christ is the world's light, he and no other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high.**

**Christ is the world's peace, he and no other;
no man can serve him and despise his brother.
Who else unites us, one in God the Father?
Glory to God on high.**

**Christ is the world's life, he and no other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother -
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:
Glory to God on high.**

**Give God the glory, God and no other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;
give God the glory, God in man my brother:
Glory to God on high.**

The Commandments

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God: Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image,
nor the likeness of anything that is in heaven above,
or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth.

Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain:
for the Lord will not hold him guiltless, that taketh his Name in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou has to do;
but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.

In it thou shalt do no manner of work.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour thy father and thy mother.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Thou shalt not covet.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

The Collect of the Day

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

O Lord, we beseech thee to keep thy Church and household
continually in thy true religion;
that they who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace
may evermore be defended by thy mighty power;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gathering for Children's Chapel

Dr Callum Dawson

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Dr Callum Dawson. They are invited to process out to the conference centre, as the following anthem is sung. They will return in time to join us at Holy Communion.

Childsafe Policy: Children's Chapel is supervised at all times by at least two unrelated adults with current Working with Children Check approvals.

Meditation

The Old Cathedral Voices

Dwell in Unity (Psalm 133)

D. J. Griffiths (b. 1955)

*Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!*

*It is like the precious oil upon the head:
running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron,
running down the collar of his robes.*

*It is like the dew of Hermon
that falls on the mountains of Sion.*

*For there the Lord has commanded his blessings:
Life forevermore.*

First Reading: Proverbs 4:20-27

Rachelle Gilmour

²⁰ My child, be attentive to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.

²¹ Do not let them escape from your sight;
keep them within your heart.

²² For they are life to those who find them,
and healing to all their flesh.

²³ Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.

²⁴ Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.

²⁵ Let your eyes look directly forwards,
and your gaze be straight before you.

²⁶ Keep straight the path of your feet,
and all your ways will be sure.

²⁷ Do not swerve to the right or to the left;
turn your foot away from evil.

Here endeth the reading.

Psalm 15

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Lord, who may abide in your tabernacle:

or who may dwell upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads an uncorrupt life and does the thing which is right:

**who speaks the truth from the heart,
and has not slandered with the tongue;**

Who has done no evil to a friend:

nor vented abuse against a neighbour;

In whose eyes the worthless have no honour:

but who makes much of those that fear the Lord;

Whoever has sworn to a neighbour:

and will not go back on that oath;

Who has not put money to usury:

nor taken a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things:

shall never be overthrown.

Epistle: Romans 14:13-23

James McComish

¹³Let us therefore no longer pass judgement on one another,
but resolve instead never to put a stumbling-block
or hindrance in the way of another.

¹⁴I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus
that nothing is unclean in itself;
but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean.

¹⁵If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat,
you are no longer walking in love.

Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died.

¹⁶So do not let your good be spoken of as evil.

¹⁷For the kingdom of God is not food and drink
but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God
and has human approval.

¹⁹Let us then pursue what makes for peace
and for mutual edification.

²⁰Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God.

Everything is indeed clean,

but it is wrong for you to make others fall by what you eat;

²¹it is good not to eat meat or drink wine

or do anything that makes your brother or sister stumble.

²²The faith that you have, have as your own conviction before God.

Blessed are those who have no reason to condemn themselves
because of what they approve.

²³But those who have doubts are condemned if they eat,
because they do not act from faith;

for whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Here endeth the reading.

Hymn 503 (Londonderry Air)

J. G. Whittier (1807-92)

O brother man, fold to thy heart thy brother:
where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;
to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.
For he whom Jesus loved has truly spoken:
the holier worship which he deigns to bless
restores the lost, and binds the spirit broken,
and feeds the widow and the fatherless.

Follow with reverent steps the great example
of him whose holy work was doing good:
so shall the wide earth seem our Father's temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

Then shall all shackles fall: the stormy clangour
of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease;
love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.

The holy gospel is written in the fifteenth chapter of the gospel according to Luke, beginning at the eleventh verse.

¹¹Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons.

¹²The 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.

¹³A 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.

¹⁴When he had spent everything,
a severe famine took place throughout that country,
and he began to be in need.

¹⁵So he went and hired himself out
to one of the citizens of that country,
who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods
that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷But 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!

¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him,
'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;

¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son;
treat me like one of your hired hands.'

²⁰So 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.

²¹Then the son said to him,
“Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;
I am no longer worthy to be called your son...”

²²But 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.

²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;
²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again;
he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate.

²⁵Now his elder son was in the field;
and when he came and approached the house,
he heard music and dancing.

²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.

²⁷He replied, “Your brother has come,
and your father has killed the fatted calf,
because he has got him back safe and sound.”

²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in.

His father came out and began to plead with him.

²⁹But 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.

³⁰But when this son of yours came back,
who has devoured your property with prostitutes,
you killed the fatted calf for him!”

³¹Then the father said to him,
“Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

³²But 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.” ’

Here endeth the gospel.

The Sermon

Rev. Mike Raiter

Anthem

The Old Cathedral Voices

Psalm 131

R. Page (b. 1952)

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;

My eyes are not raised too high;

I do not occupy myself with things too great and marvellous for me.

But I have calmed and quieted my soul

like a weaned child is my soul within me.

O Israel, hope in the Lord:

from this time forth and forevermore.

The Nicene Creed

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

**I Believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible :
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
Begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God,
Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father,
By whom all things were made :
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,
And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
And was made man,
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
And ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory
to judge both the quick and the dead:
Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one Catholick and Apostolick Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Intercessions

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's
Church militant here in earth.

Almighty and everliving God,
who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us
to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men:
We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept these offerings,
and to receive these our prayers,
which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty;
beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church
with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord:
And grant, that all they that do confess thy holy Name
may agree in the truth of thy holy Word,
and live in unity, and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend
all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors;
and specially thy servant Charles our King,
that under him we may be godly and quietly governed:
And grant unto his whole Council,
and to all that are put in authority under him,
that they may truly and indifferently minister justice,
to the punishment of wickedness and vice,
and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and Curates,
that they may both by their life and doctrine
set forth thy true and lively Word,
and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace;
and specially to this congregation here present;
that, with meek heart and due reverence,
they may hear, and receive thy holy Word;
truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness
all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord,
to comfort and succour all them,
who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow,
need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants
departed this life in thy faith and fear;
beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples,
that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom:
Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake,
our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Preparation for Confession

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,
and intend to lead a new life,
following the commandments of God,
and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:
Draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;
and make your humble confession to Almighty God,
meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Confession

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Maker of all things, Judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,

Which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

By thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty,

Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,

And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

The remembrance of them is grievous unto us;

The burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

Forgive us all that is past;

And grant that we may ever hereafter

Serve and please thee in newness of life,

To the honour and glory of thy Name;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins

to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him;

Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins;

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;

and bring you to everlasting life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The children's chapel rejoin us as the following hymn is sung.

Hymn 513 (Song 1)

J. W. Chadwick (1840-1904)

**Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round
of circling planets singing on their way,
Guide of the nations from the night profound
into the glory of the perfect day:
rule in our hearts, that we may ever be
guided and strengthened and upheld by thee.**

**We are of thee, the children of thy love,
the brothers of thy well-beloved Son;
descend, O Holy Spirit, like a dove,
into our hearts, that we may be as one;
as one with thee, to whom we ever tend;
as one with him, our brother and our friend.**

**We would be one in hatred of all wrong,
one in our love of all things sweet and fair,
one with the joy that breaks forth into song,
one with the grief that trembles into prayer,
one in the power that makes the children free
to follow truth, and thus to follow thee.**

**O clothe us with thy heavenly armour, Lord,
thy trusty shield, thy sword of love divine;
our inspiration be thy constant word;
we ask no victories that are not thine:
give or withhold, let pain or pleasure be;
enough to know that we are serving thee.**

Thanksgiving

Rev. Professor Graham Cole

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith
unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you. *Matt 11:28*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Tim 1:15

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 2:1

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty,
that we should at all times, and in all places,
give thanks unto thee, O Lord,
Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we laud and magnify thy glorious Name;
evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Amen.**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in thy manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much
as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.
But thou art the same Lord,
whose property is always to have mercy:
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption;
who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered)
a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction,
for the sins of the whole world;
and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue,
a perpetual memory of that his precious death,
until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee;
and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine,
according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood:
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread;
and, when he had given thanks, he brake it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you:
Do this in remembrance of me."
Likewise after supper he took the Cup;
and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
"Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament,
which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins:
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." **Amen.**

(The Communion)

*All baptised believers in the Lord Jesus Christ
including children at their parents' discretion
are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.*

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

*If you prefer an individual cup of grape juice,
simply decline the common cup of wine when it is offered to you.*

During Communion

The Old Cathedral Voices

A New Commandment

T. Tallis (1505-1585)

*A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord:
that ye love together, as I have loved you,
that e'en so ye love one another.*

*By this shall ev'ry man know that ye are my disciples:
if ye have love one to another. John 13:34-35*

After Communion***Rev. Professor Graham Cole***

Our Lord and heavenly Father,
we thy humble servants entirely desire thy fatherly goodness
mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
most humbly beseeching thee to grant,
that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins,
and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord,
ourselves, our souls and bodies,
to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee;
humbly beseeching thee, that all we,
who are partakers of this holy Communion,
may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer unto thee any sacrifice,
yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service;
not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences,
through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom,
in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee,
O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

Notices***Rev. Professor Graham Cole***

Hymn 364 (Vienna)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**Christ, from whom all blessings flow,
perfecting the saints below,
hear us, who thy nature share,
who thy mystic body are.**

**Join us, in one spirit join,
let us still receive of thine;
still for more on thee we call,
thou who fillest all in all.**

**Move, and actuate, and guide:
various gifts to each divide;
placed according to thy will,
let us all thy work fulfil;**

**freely may we all agree,
touched with loving sympathy;
kindly for each other care;
every member feel its share.**

**Love, like death, has all destroyed,
rendered all distinctions void;
names, and sects, and parties fall;
thou, O Christ, art all in all.**

Blessing**Rev. Professor Graham Cole**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional**David Brown (Organ)**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA
IN THE CONFERENCE CENTRE NEXT DOOR
AFTER THE SERVICE**

Instead of collecting offertories during the service, we gratefully receive offerings made at the exit, where a tap and go facility is provided. Bank transfers may be directed to:

St James' Old Cathedral**BSB: 013 377****Acc. No.: 008 684 064**

Tax deductible giving to support our music program is also possible through the St James' Gift Fund:

Melbourne West ITF Gift Fund**BSB: 013 377****Acc. No.: 526 890 909**

HOPE25

HOPE IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

What is Hope25?

- It is an initiative of the Anglican Churches of Australia.
- It is an intentional season of **sharing hope in Jesus** for every parish and community in the Anglican Church right across Australia.
- It aims to strengthen the church as they reach out to others.
- We want to be a part of this at St James' Old Cathedral.

When is Hope25?

- We launched at St James' Old Cathedral on the 2nd February when opportunities to be involved were shared.
- From the start of Lent (3rd March) we seek to strengthen one another in our hope as we pray and prepare.
- We reach out to others from Easter Day (April 20th) to Pentecost Sunday (June 8th) 2025
- ***During Lent***, we will prepare using a study booklet put together by our bishops - Hope25 Lenten Studies 2025. The booklet contains daily devotions and testimonies from a wide variety of Christians from across Australia. It also contains **weekly group studies** which we will go through after church:
 - Sundays in Lent (Sunday March 16th - Sunday April 13th)
 - Beginning 15 minutes after the end of the service (enough time to grab a hot drink and refreshment—and lasting around 30 minutes (i.e. approximately 11:45am - 12:15pm)
 - In the Conference Centre adjacent to the hall

Collect for Hope²⁵

God of Hope

you call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world;

by your Spirit awaken in us

 a true vision of your kingdom,

 a greater certainty of our salvation, and

 a deeper dedication to your service;

that through our words and actions the same Spirit may

 bring many who are lost to be found,

 and for them to celebrate the hope

 that we can only have in Jesus Christ,

 in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

St James' Old Cathedral

Commitment to Child Safety

Jesus said:

*"Anyone who welcomes a little child in my name welcomes me.
But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble –
it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck
and he were drowned in the depths of the sea."*

Matthew 18:5-6

As we meet together to worship God,
we seek to honour him by the diligent protection of children.

We are committed to creating a culture of safety for all,
and undergoing regular training to do so.

We seek to normalise routine submission
to Police Checks and Working With Children Checks
for all members of the community.

If anyone sees any behaviour
related to child safety that strikes them as odd,
they should not investigate the matter themselves,
but call the independent Professional Standards Hotline
(Kooyoora Ltd) for expert guidance:

1800 135 246

or our local police (313 Spencer Street, Docklands):

03 8690 4444

Intercessions

We pray for: Our West Melbourne Community; Haileybury College; Joy Surgical; Mike Raiter and The Centre for Biblical Preaching; Emma Payne (CMS); Chris & Sarah Griffioen and family (OM); Australian Indigenous Churches; Ridley College; Trinity College; the Overseas Chinese Christian Church; Andrew; Neil; Beverly Stephenson; Jill Sculley; Sergio Altin; Hugo Ellis; Josephine Carne; Jean Ely; Lorraine Hedley; Merle Taylor; Jamie Chisholm; Zoe Creelman; Stuart; Janette Wells; The Altin family; Lisa Thompson; Jenny Swain; Jean Miller; Tony Billington; The Family of Chris Coffee.

Notices

- Canon Matt is on Long Service Leave from December 16th to February 24th. The Reverend Professor Graham Cole is Locum Vicar.
- Youth Group has returned on Fridays at 7pm.
- A 9 week study using Know Your Bible (KYB) study materials, for the women in our church, will re-commence this Thursday at 10am in the Conference Centre. For more details see Diana Robertson or Sarah Raiter.
- Hope25 was introduced last Sunday. Details are on page 25 – see Owen Billington if you are interested in participating. There will be a short video presentation about Hope25 during morning tea today.

Contact Details

Locum Vicar:	Rev. Prof. Graham Cole	0420 611 661
Vicar (Returns 24.2.25):	Rev. Canon Matt Williams	0403 770 867
Associate Minister:	Rev. Mike Raiter	0425 211 058
Lay Minister:	Ms. Bei-En Zou	0434 899 839
Student Minister:	Dr. Callum Dawson	0417 749 379
On-Site Manager:	Ms. Lisa Wardell	0417 624 915
Child Safety Officer:	Ms. Una Ebsworth	0400 717 571
Churchwardens:		
Mr David Spriggs		0417 190 319
Ms Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton		0423 100 677

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