



# May 24<sup>th</sup> 2020



## God gives His people His Laws

### A note from the Rector:

When I first prepared this year's preaching plan, this week's talk was meant to line up with Pentecost. Now my reasons for this were two-fold. For, firstly, I am led to believe that, around the time of the exile, the Jews began using the Festival of Pentecost to celebrate God giving them His laws so that they would know how to live as God's people under the Old Covenant. My second reason is because, on the Day of Pentecost after Jesus ascended into heaven, God poured out His Spirit on His people so that His laws might be written on our hearts, to help us to live as God's people under the New Covenant.

But God did not give the Jews His laws so that they could earn their salvation, and neither did God send us the Holy Spirit so that we could earn our salvation. And this is why it is very fitting that the Feast of Pentecost comes after the feast in which God's people celebrate their salvation, namely the Passover Festival. For it is through the Passover, which we celebrate at Easter, that we, as Christians celebrate that Jesus died as our Passover Lamb, so that we could be saved from sin and death and become full members of God's people.

**Allan**

### This week's Zoom links:

Sunday Morning Church via Zoom 9.00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89163303726>

Meeting ID: 891 6330 3726

Or dial 8015 6011

Morning Tea Zoom Meeting 10.00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/718032017>

Meeting ID: 718 032 017

Or dial 8015 6011

Tuesday's Prayer meeting 9.00am <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/787794144> ID: 787 794 144

If you are NOT planning to join us by Zoom at 9am then please begin by listening to one or both of these songs.

*Only a holy God*

[https://youtu.be/7HSdeeCm8\\_g](https://youtu.be/7HSdeeCm8_g)

*Love divine all loves excelling*

<https://youtu.be/udfVtSSZSyg>

then click on this link to hear this week's message:

<https://kincumberanglican.com/sermons/god-gives-his-people-his-laws/>

## Exodus 19:3-8 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

<sup>7</sup>So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. <sup>8</sup>The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.

## Deuteronomy 6:4-19 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup>Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup>Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup>Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

<sup>10</sup>When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, <sup>11</sup>houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, <sup>12</sup>be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>13</sup>Fear the LORD your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. <sup>14</sup>Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; <sup>15</sup>for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land. <sup>16</sup>Do not put the LORD your God to the test as you did at Massah. <sup>17</sup>Be sure to keep the commands of the LORD your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you. <sup>18</sup>Do what is right and good in the LORD’s sight, so that it may go well with you and you may go in and take over the good land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors, <sup>19</sup>thrusting out all your enemies before you, as the LORD said.

## Some questions to ponder:

1. As we look at God's people, we see they often took for granted what God had done, and was doing, for them. In Deuteronomy 29:5, the Lord said to them, *"During the forty years that I led you through the wilderness, your clothes did not wear out, nor did the sandals on your feet."* Consider what other needs God may have provided for his people in the wilderness that they may have taken for granted.

What provisions does God make for you, each day, that you may be tempted to take for granted?

2. In verse 6 of our reading from Exodus, God said that His people 'would be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation'. Now read 1 Peter 2:9. Here Peter describes us as being a chosen people, a royal priesthood and a holy nation'. For what purpose has God set us apart to be His royal priesthood?
3. Obedience to the Law was not the means by which God's people were saved. See Exodus 20:2-3. Discuss Graeme Goldsworthy's statement, 'At Sinai God spells out for his people what it means to be the people of God,' and discuss how this statement applied to Israel.

Why should you obey God?

4. The Covenant made between God and His people at Sinai was sealed with blood. This 'old' covenant brought an awareness that a person had sinned by breaking God's law. Now read Matthew 26:27-28. On the night before He died, Jesus spoke of establishing a 'new' covenant that was sealed by His blood. What did this 'new' covenant, in His blood, bring to us?

Read Hebrews 9:15. What was received under the Old Covenant for God's people? What is received under the New Covenant by us, through the blood of Christ?

You might like to finish by listening to this song:

*This life I live*

<https://youtu.be/8clZA9HFxtU>

## Thanks

*To our amazing Christian family,  
We want to say how much we appreciate all the encouraging messages we received from you, for our marriage. Also, a big "thank you" to those who, via Arthur, Jan and Janet, afforded us the beautiful flowers and delicious evening meal. Jill and Frank.*

# PARISH PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for those in need: Lisa Landale (Hankin), Ian Fraser, Remi Carnaby, Marie Norman, and Clarice and Geoff Grose.
- Pray for the future of SRE in NSW as it has been put on hold till possibly Stage 4 of the lifting of restrictions. The government is also considering not allowing SRE teachers, who are over the age of 70, to return to teaching SRE. Pray that, in His grace, God may enable the Good News of Jesus to be proclaimed amongst the children of our state.
- Pray for wisdom for our church leaders, as they begin allowing us back into our buildings to gather together.
- Pray for our state and national leaders.
- Pray for those advising our government on how best to respond to and balance our health needs and our economic needs during this pandemic.
- Pray for those members of our community who have lost their jobs, or whose jobs are under threat, or whose income is down significantly.
- Pray for wisdom and generosity in the way that we use the resources God has given us.
- Pray for the homeless, the poor, and the unexpected poor as many support organisations have either closed their doors or are only offering very limited services.
- Pray for our medical workers and paramedics. Pray that the virus may not spread throughout our hospitals and nursing homes.
- Pray for revival – that, in His grace, God may pour out His Spirit on the people of our nation and our world through this pandemic. Pray that the Holy Spirit may empower God's people throughout the world, including us, to be a *kingdom of priests and a holy nation* so that, in living under God's rule, others may be drawn to join us in worshipping our God.

## Contact Information



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# MISSIONARY PRAYER POINTS

**Our link missionaries: Brownings, Buchanans, Dousts, and Kyngdons**

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## **EXCITING NEWS FROM ANDREW AND ABI**

Abi is now seventeen weeks pregnant, with the baby expected at the end of October. The baby is doing well and Abi's energy levels have improved in the past couple of weeks. This adds to our need to trust God's timing for our return, along with COVID-19 and waiting for Abi's permanent residency visa.

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## **Andrew, Stephanie, William and Christopher**

### **Andrew sends these points for prayer:**

**Ethiopia** - Pray for our hospitals in Mille and Barhir Dar. Staff are working hard under the current restrictions and are also implementing measures to prevent any coronavirus transmission. Thankfully there have been no cases at either centre.

Thank God women are still coming to deliver in Mille and Barhir Dar and ask this will continue. Barhir Dar had its busiest quarter so far with 708 deliveries!

The volunteer program is on hold due to travel restrictions Pray it can start again soon.

**Tanzania** - We've had record levels of deliveries at **Kivulini** hospital, our busiest quarter so far too! Pray staff continue their good work with strength.

Pray for the future of the hospital as the major donor from the US has reached the end of their contract and we don't have anyone to replace them yet. Pray for a miracle.

**Australia** - Pray for two Australians recently diagnosed with fistulas. Pray they can be healed and that I can be accredited to operate in Australia so I can help these and other women. All fundraising events have been cancelled, pray for donations to come flowing through. Continue to pray for our fellow countrymen and women. There seems to be much anxiety and uncertainty. Pray that people will realize that the only certainty and hope we have is in Christ and His promise to come again and restore everything to Him. Please continue to pray for a turning to Him.

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**Giving to Missionaries:** Many missionaries and missionary organisations are struggling financially. You can still give to the work of CMS and BCA through our Parish by making an electronic deposit into our account and marking it either 'CMS' or 'BCA'. All other missionary donations should be deposited into that missionary's preferred bank account.

**ONLINE** *giving*

During this period of 'no church services', the only way that you can safely give to the Parish is electronically. To give online use the following account:

Kincumber Anglican Parish, BSB: 705077 (Indue), Acct No: 00040910