

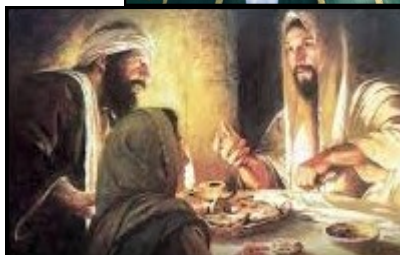


Pentecost 14

29 August 2021

Dear Friends,

In our reading today from Mark's Gospel Jesus rebuffs criticism by the Pharisees of the disciples, who have begun to eat their meal without observing the Jewish ritual of first washing their hands. Jesus takes this opportunity to point out that nothing going into the human body can defile it or make it unclean, because it routinely disposes of its own waste. Rather, Jesus indicates that it is what comes out of us that causes us to be defiled or unclean. That is, our thoughts, our desires, our actions, our overall behaviour. He quotes the prophet Isaiah, warning those who will listen not to fall into the trap of observing human doctrines, but rather urging all who would worship him, to do so with their whole being; with their lives and not just their lips.



It is so important to financially support our Parish with regular offertory so we can continue our ministry as effectively as possible during these frustrating times. Please give regularly, according to your means. Offertory may be hand delivered to the Parish Office or sent by post: (St Luke's Church Mosman, PO Box 162, Spit Junction NSW 2088), or deposited directly into our bank account (St Luke's Church Mosman, BSB 032-291, A/C 810105). Or you can contribute your offertory via: <https://donorbox.org/st-luke-s-anglican-church-mosman-support> (type or copy and paste into your browser). My grateful thanks to those of you who already support the parish in this tangible way.

If you would like to contact me for any reason, please use the contact details on the back cover to reach out to me. As always, you all remain in my thoughts and prayers. God's manifold blessings upon you and those whom you love.

Fr Max

The Reverend Dr Max Wood, **Rector**

PLEASE PRAY FOR...



Our Diocese, Northern Region and our local church community

The Archbishop: The Most Reverend Kanishka Raffel
The Regional Bishop: The Rt Revd Chris Edwards
Northern Region: Parishes of Dural, Glenhaven and Cherrybrook;
Year 12 students sitting trial examinations
Local churches: St Peter's Cremorne; Revd Tim St Quintin, clergy and people

Missions 2021

Anglicare Sydney:

Mobile Community Pantry Program;
Bill Farrand, Anglicare Community Services Manager

Bush Church Aid:

BCA Indigenous Ministry Officer,
The Revd Neville Naden and Mrs Kathryn Naden

Anglican Board of Mission:

Sustainable Livelihoods Program, Kenya;
The Revd John Deane, ABM Executive Director

Those we are holding in prayer

Recently Departed:

Philip Moore

Immediate Sick:

Jenny Willis

Those Requiring On-Going Prayer:

John Dimitric, Irina Dimitric, Heather, Bernie Walsh, Shannour, Chloe Turner,
Denise Thomas, Jackie Lockhart, Robert Rowlands, Tim Bolot, Robb Crawford,
Dorothy Bashford, Nancy Lovitt, Robert Alexander

People in Residential and Home Care:

Dawn Holdaway, Betty Gemmell, Mary Shuttleworth, Elaine Porter, Helen Huby,
Pat Wood, Jean Barton, Robin Wilks, Denis Pearson

The Prayer for the Day

Cleanse our consciences, O Lord
and enlighten our hearts
through the daily presence of your Son Jesus Christ,
that when he comes in glory to be our judge
we may be found undefiled and acceptable in his sight;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

James 1.17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act - they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Mark 7.1-8, 14-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honours me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. He said to them, "Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) And he said, "It is what comes out of a person that defiles. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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David Burke Mb: 0414 824 035

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St Luke's is a place of rich and diverse liturgy, where life and faith connect. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation or religion.