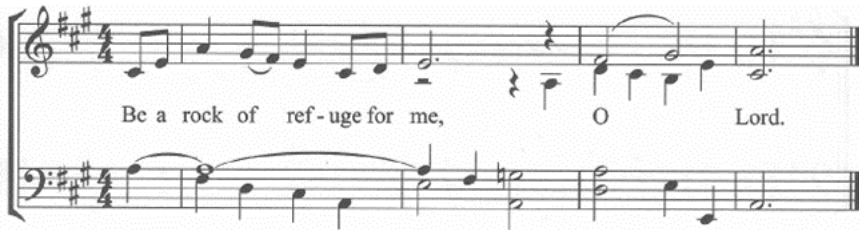


Psalm 31



Andrew Moore

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.
Let me never be put to shame.
In your justice, set me free,
hear me and speedily rescue me.

Response

Be a rock of refuge to me,
a mighty stronghold to save me,
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

Response

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your love.
Be strong, let your heart take courage,
all who hope in the Lord.

Response

-oOo-

Ngaala kaaditj Noongar moort keyen kaadak nidja boodja.
We respectfully acknowledge Noongar People as the original custodians
of this land, and their ongoing relationship with it.
We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

St David's, Ardross
St George's, Applecross
7 May 2023

Applecross
Anglican Church
Diocese of Perth



Reflection on Easter V

This week's reading from Acts describes the stoning of Stephen. It's a story of mob violence and religious rage that signalled 'a great persecution against the church at Jerusalem.'

We remember Stephen as the first of countless millions of Christian martyrs.

In fact, Stephen is not the first Christian martyr. Every year after Christmas, the church pivots sharply from joy and celebration to a most unlikely feast day - Herod's slaughter of the innocents. Christians honour the children of Bethlehem as the first martyrs of the Gospel.

What does the story of Stephen mean for us today? The Greek word *martyr* means *witness*, but to what did Stephen bear witness? His death was gruesome and unjust, but no more so than many millions of others. Christians can't claim any special persecution status. Other religions have experienced similar martyrdoms - indeed, sometimes at the hands of Christians. Christians are just one group among many that honours their martyrs. Very few times, places or peoples have been spared mass murder.

With Stephen we don't invoke any Christian privilege. Stephen expands our vision instead of narrowing it. We choose not to forget or exclude anyone. We honour the life of every person in all the world, for God created each one of us in his image.

In the language of our Jewish forbears, we

'speak up for those who have no voice, for the justice of all who are dispossessed. Speak up, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the oppressed and needy.'

Proverbs 31.8-9

Wendy

PRAYERS Gracious God, we ask for your blessing and healing for all.

In the Diocese we pray for: Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy and Bishop Kate Wilmot, and Bishop Christopher Ruto of our partnered Diocese of Eldoret. Our partnered parish St Stephens Aturei, priest Rev'd Josephat Bett and people.

For those in need at this time: Prayers of comfort, and peace for all in our hearts. We pray for Wimila, and for James and his family on the occasion of his father's death; and for the family of The Rev'd Belinda Newman on her recent death.

Grace Wardell-Johnson (1956), Herbert 'Bert' Elliman (1996),
Lyndon Forbes-Smith (2011), Errol Klirke (2018),

Charles Irgin (2004) and David Blair Stone (2015), Hilda McCann (2013)

May their portions in paradise be rest in peace.

7 MAY EASTER V	St George's 7.45 am	St David's 9.30 am
Welcomers	Dorothy	Chris and Lois
1st reading <i>Acts 7.55-60</i>	Leonie	Andrew
2nd reading <i>1 Peter 2.11-25</i>	Lilian	Daphne P
Intercessor	Sue	Meliata
Morning Tea	June	Anuja and Anchor
HYMNS	432 619 or Gospel Acclamation 647 98	

APPLECROSS ANGLICAN PARISH

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NOTICES

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS will be held on **Sunday 18 June**. All reports for the meeting must be to the office by Friday 26 May.

A VOICE to PARLIAMENT Yarning Session at All Saints Parish in Bull Creek **11 May 6.00-9.00pm** in the Chapel. RSVP 8 May. Booking www.trybooking.com/CHSH
Light supper provided.

Julian of Norwich's Day Retreat Saturday **6 May 9am to 2.30pm** St Paul's Anglican Church, Beaconsfield. Spend time with the mystic theologian who gave us the phrase "All Shall Be Well." \$15 donation. Morning tea and lunch provided.

COCKTAIL EVENING **Saturday 26 May from 6pm** in St David's hall. Gold coin donation to raise funds for the improvement of the playground equipment. Bring nibbles to share. Family and friends welcome.

MEDITATION Thursdays 5.30pm St David's church. All welcome.

TAKE 15 A service of 15 minutes continues **12.30-12.45pm every Wednesday**.

MUA (Mothers' Union) Meeting Monday 8 May **10.00am** Sr George's Church. All welcome. Phyllis 9364 5271.

WINTER APPEAL Knitted squares and strips for rugs needed, also beanies. Patterns on church noticeboards. Phyllis 9364 5271.

SUNDAY SCHOOL at St David's. Held on 1st and 3rd Sundays in school term. If you would like to be involved, in any way, please speak with James.

ADAM meeting scheduled for this Saturday is postponed due to James' absence and a speaker has not been organised. However if you would like to gather to discuss church matters such as in future ministry Brian will be there.

ANGLICARE BINS With the closure of Anglicare Op Shops their collection bins have been removed from St David's grounds and will not be replaced.

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE Fund raising The Parish number is **C10681155**

Manual Handling Training A free Manual Handling Training will be held on Saturday **20 May 9.00am** St. David's hall. This is in response to Diocesan WHS - Work, Health & Safety - requirements, though these skills can be useful in many aspects of life. All parishioners welcome. Further details to follow.

LIVE STREAM Team link We invite you to a scheduled Team meeting, for the 9.30am service. Join the Meeting using the link: <http://bit.ly/3JydKOd>