

ST. SAVIOURS

Calling out the demons and naming them!

Greetings dear friends in Christ.

This week, there were once again some explosive revelations at the Zondo commission, and it seems every time we think we have heard the worst, we discover it's just the tip of the iceberg. What is becoming more and more evident is that we now need to shift into a space of active citizenship. We can no longer sit back and merely just be disgusted. We now need to live out the Gospel and become participants of the Good News. It cannot be just disgusting to hear about how **9 BILLION RAND** was looted from the State for personal and political gain while we have so many people going hungry and remaining homeless; while our children have to be taught in classrooms filled with 40 plus learners and our educators are being overworked. We have care centers being closed because of lack of funding, we have people who have disabilities waiting months for grants; we are unable to procure vaccines at this time. All this while politicians of all political persuasions continue to subject this beautiful nation to greed and corruption. **The demon of greed and corruption will continue to terrorize us if we do not call it out and rebuke it.**

Today our Gospel reading clearly illustrates the power of the Good News, the power of Jesus Christ. Jesus rebukes the demon and silences it, as His first act of ministry, the ministry of healing. As a people we need physical, emotional and spiritual healing, but first we need to recognise our demons. Jesus in the scripture recognises the presence of the demon, and thus able to demonstrate authority over it. So too, as people of faith we have been empowered to have authority over the many demons in our world. The authority we have is THE GOOD NEWS.

Again, just as we simply cannot be just hearers of these stories of disgust, we cannot just remain hearers of the Good News. We have been invited into the ministry of Jesus through our Baptism. We are now called to allow ourselves to be healed, but also to become healers of God's world. We are challenged to call out the demons which possess our lives, our families, our communities and our nation. We do so not on our strength or accord but being empowered by the Holy Spirit.

As we recognize the power of God breaking through into the world, we are challenged to recognize the role we are called to play.

This coming Tuesday, 2 February 2021 we celebrate the festival of Candlemas.¹ It's a festival which ends the Christmas season; 40 days after Christmas. I invite you to light a candle at nightfall and recite The Song of Simeon (pg. 58 in An Anglican Prayer Book) as we give thanks to God for the gift of the incarnation, and commit ourselves to living out the ministry of Jesus Christ in the world.

I remain available for telephonic prayer and/or counselling and, in urgent circumstances, in- person meetings too. Currently the Church is only available for funerals. I continue to pray for you, parishioners and friends of St. Saviour's and I trust you will continue to pray for me and my family.

PARISH FAITH SHARING

In this time of being physically distanced, we will meet virtually on Wednesday at 19h00, to share in the reading and reflection of God's word. We will reflect on the reading and sermon of the past Sunday, and just share our experiences on this journey of faith.

Simply click on the link and use the passcode: Parish to join us. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71457143899?pwd=U2F4REVUemVGc0FzSnRxMohKR1RmQT09>

Meeting ID: 714 5714 3899

Passcode: Parish

This week will reflect on the following questions:

1. What are the demons we face in the world today?
2. How can we call out the demons of our time?
3. What needs healing in our lives?

¹ Candlemas commemorates the ritual purification of Mary, 40 days after the birth of her son Jesus. This day also marks the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke says that Jesus was met by Anna and Simeon. Simeon held the baby Jesus and called him a Light to the World...The festival is called Candlemas because this was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. On Candlemas night, many people place lighted candles in their windows at home.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for the sick or hospitalised

Mervyn Bost, Zara Osbourne, Edith Abrahams, Sandra Fourie, Joyce Erasmus, Crystal Bouwers, James April, Iris Hartnick, Mervyn Johnson, Frank Kennel, Monica Fry, Muriel Tshitshiba and Martin Dyers.

Housebound and elderly:

Christabel Nokumbuza, Rachel Vermeulen, Evan Brink, Breval Brown, Aletta Cloete, Freda Connelly, Brenda de Vos, Linda de Vos, Constant Eckardt, Joyce Hiebner, Edith Lekay, Daniel & Magdalene Meyer, Lionel & Muriel Woldson, Joanne White, Ronald Smedley and May Rushin.

✝RIP

We remember in love those who have died this week:

24 January 2021 – **Govindasamy Padayachie**

“The God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles” 2 Cor 1:4

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful Lord,
 your word brings healing and life:
 cleanse us from our sins
 that we may serve you with a quiet mind;
 for you live and reign with the Father
 and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, in glory everlasting.
 Amen.

READINGS OF THE DAY

OT Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm: Psalm 111

NT Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

LECTIONARY FOR THE WEEK

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<p>MON 1 FEB (White)</p> <p>Eucharist: Hebrews 11:32-40 Psalm 31:21-27 Mark 5:1-20 Morning Prayer: Psalms 40, 41 Isaiah 51:17-23 Galatians 4:1-11 Evening Prayer: Psalms 42, 43 Genesis 19:1-29 Mark 7:24-37</p>	<p>WED 3 FEB (White) † Anskar, Bishop and Missionary in Denmark and Sweden, 864</p> <p>Eucharist: Hebrews 12:4-15 Psalm 103:1-2, 13-18 Mark 6:1-6 Morning Prayer: Psalms 47, 48 Isaiah 54:1-10, (11-17) Galatians 4:21-31 Evening Prayer: Psalm 49 Genesis 22:1-18 Mark 8:11-26</p>	<p>FRI 5 FEB (Red) † The Martyrs of Japan, 1597</p> <p>Eucharist: Hebrews 13:1-8 Psalm 27:1-12 Mark 6:14-29 Morning Prayer: Psalms 52, 53, 54 Isaiah 56:1-8 Galatians 5:16-24 Evening Prayer: Psalm 55 Genesis 24:1-27 Mark 9:2-13</p>
<p>TUE 2 FEB (White) † THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE</p> <p>Eucharist: Hebrews 12:1-4 Psalm 22:24-32 Mark 5:21-43 Morning Prayer: Psalm 44 Isaiah 52:1-12 Galatians 4:12-20 Evening Prayer: Psalms 45, 46 Genesis 21:1-21 Mark 8:1-10</p>	<p>THURS 4 FEB † Manche Masemola of Sekhukhuneland, Martyr, 1928</p> <p>Eucharist: Hebrews 12:18-24 Psalm 48:1-3, 8-10 Mark 6:7-13 Morning Prayer: Psalm 50 Isaiah 55:1-13 Galatians 5:1-15 Evening Prayer: Psalm 51 Genesis 23:1-20 Mark 8:27-9:1)</p>	<p>SAT 6 FEB (White)</p> <p>Eucharist: Hebrews 13:9-21 Psalm 23 Mark 6:30-34 Morning Prayer: Psalms 56, 57, 58 Isaiah 57:3-13 Galatians 5:25-6:10 Evening Prayer: Psalms 59, 60 Genesis 24:28-51 Mark 9:14-29</p>

PRAYER DIARY

Monday: We continue to pray for ail affected and infected with the Covid 19. Fray for the procurernent and distribution of the vaccines and that the roll out of it be free from corruption"

Tuesday: Pray for us to heed to the call to be vaccinated and a massive education drive to educate people on the need to be vaccinated. Pray for those who are skeptical, afraid or indifferent to be vaccinated.

Wednesday: Pray for learners and educators when they return to their respective institutions. Pray that they will observe the protocols and remain safe.

Thursday: Pray for home and family life. For parents and their responsibilities and their children. Pray that every family may be surrounded and upheld by God's loving presence, that conflicts may be healed, needs provided for and every act of kindness blessed.

Friday: We pray for SASSA that the problems with payment and renewal of grants be amicably resolved and that the elderly, the infirm and those with disabilities be treated with dignity and not police brutality.

Saturday: We pray for communities who live in fear because of gangsterism and xenophobia. We pray for the elderly, the infirm, the unemployed, the homeless and the destitute. We pray for refugees and asylum seekers.

Sunday: We pray for the Church, for Archbishop Thabo, Bishop Joshua and all the clergy. We eagerly anticipate the re- opening of church buildings for public worship.

Holy Lord, Thank you for grace. Please help us move beyond the hurdles that trip us and give us the strength and wisdom to look up and see the hope we run toward in Christ.

BIRTHDAYS

Prayers for those with Birthdays and Anniversaries

We pray for and celebrate with those who have birthdays this week: (2 Feb) Paul Davids, Mervyn Davids (3 Feb) Cornelius Saayman, Sandra Santon (4 Feb) Carl Jeffries, Aaron Smith, Brinsley van der Vent (5 Feb) Hazel Williams. (6 Feb) Tarin Scharneck. Also those couples celebrate Wedding Anniversaries.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” -Romans 15:13

NOTICES

- ❖ As the Church currently closed for public worship, the Parish office will remain closed until further notice.
 - If you need to make contact with the Church, please call the Churchwardens or the Rector.
 - If you would like your name, or name of a loved one, added to the prayer list, please message or email the Rector.
 - The Church bell will toll daily at midday to remind us to pray for all those infected and affected by COVID-19. Parishioners are encouraged to observe a moment of prayer daily at 12h00 midday.
- ❖ If you would like to be added to the Parish WhatsApp group, please send a message to the Rector (073 256 5200) or Nerine Meyer (072 180 0592).
- ❖ We will gather virtually on a Wednesday evening as a means of remaining in fellowship. It will be a time of reflecting on scripture and praying as a community.
- ❖ Social Outreach – Citrusdal, Ashton And Surrounding Areas. We still continue with our drive for stationery, school uniform and sanitary towels for girls. As your donations of these essentials will make a significant difference in the lives of these desperately needy people. Please drop off your donations at the office or the church or speak to Paul Davids. 082 055 1375

God bless the world,
Give it wisdom at this time,
Grant us relief and release,
Be with those who are ill,
And bless the carers fighting this pandemic,
For Jesus Christ's sake,
Amen

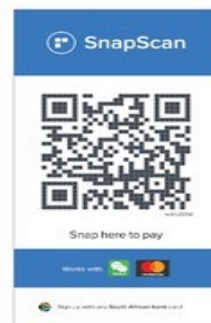
PARISH BANK DETAILS

STANDARD BANK

CLAREMONT

CURRENT ACCOUNT

072635703



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