

## The Year of the – WORD

You are my refuge and my shield;  
I have put my hope in your word.  
Psalm 119:114 | NIV

### **BIBLE CHALLENGE**

*(Answers will be in next week's leaflet)*

1. Which prophet saw a vision of The Valley of Dry Bones?
2. Who prayed and raised Tabitha from the dead?
3. For what did Esau sell his birthright?
4. The good Samaritan helped a beaten man on the road to what city?
5. While the three disciples slept, how many times did Jesus go away and pray?
6. What is the fourth commandment?

### **Previous week's Challenge answers**

1. Moses and Aaron *(Exodus 5:1)*
2. The Holy Spirit *(Matthew 4:1)*
3. Authority to drive out evil spirits,  
heal disease and sickness *(Matthew 10:1)*
4. Aram Naharaim (Mesopotamia) *(Genesis 24:4-10)*
5. The third day *(Genesis 1:9-13)*
6. Greek

IT IS NO ADVANTAGE TO BE NEAR THE  
LIGHT IF THE EYES ARE CLOSED.

- AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO -



'I am the light of the world' (John 8:12)

We are a church in Umhlanga that connects people to God,  
to others and to the needs of the world.  
We're glad you're here.

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## **31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

### **BIBLE READINGS**

Deuteronomy	18:15-20	OT	Pg	216
Psalms	111	APB	Pg	749
1 Corinthians	8:1-13	NT	Pg	248
Mark	1:21-28	G	Pg	54
Canticle	The Song of Simeon	APB	Pg	58
Creed	Apostles	APB	Pg	58
Eucharistic	Prayer	APB	Pg	117

**COLLECT:** 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.*

**A PRAYER FOR OUR CONTINENT** God, bless South Africa and Africa, guard her children, guide her leaders and give her healing and peace; for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen*

### GOD'S PROMISE:

Remember that God made you. God loves you. And that God is with you.

### FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS



O God, my Father, silence everything in me that would keep me from hearing what you have to say. Control my mind, that all my thoughts may be concentrated on you. Help me find here a light to shine upon my path and strength to walk in it through Jesus Christ my Lord.

### THE SICK (JAMES 5:13-16)

**For our Parishioners:** Barry Lambert, Anand Rapiti, Stan Bromley, Mike Sturgess, Don Attwood, Laurelle Barnett, Marcus Smidt, Barbara Crossley, Maeve Pearce, Di Aiken, Shirley McMullen, Rob Stock, Margaret Beaumont

**For family and friends:** Courtney Hunt, Theo Prinsloo, Jessica Wilson, Caleb Camp, Natasha Heffer, Roy Dunster, Alex Whitehead, Belinda Imscher, Chloe Sherwood

Please can you keep Kerry updated on your progress via email and if you are sick at home or are going into hospital, please also inform her.

Pray for the Parish of St Christopher, Sobantu, Pietermaritzburg; and in our Archdeaconry, the Parish of St Michaels, Umhlanga and their Rector Rev Martin Tiffin

### For Your Prayers & Reading of Scripture this week

Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Parishioner Mark	Nicolette Butler 1:21-28
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Parishioners Birthday Years Mind Mark	Colin & Joan Camp Edna Firmani Cecil Spykerman 5:1-20
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Parishioner Birthdays Anniversary Years Mind Luke	Jill Campbell Caryn Erasmus, Anthony Thomas John & Marita Berning Steve Carratt, Michael Henry 2:22-40
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parishioner Birthdays Anniversary Years Mind Mark	Phoebe Carnegie Harry Hawthorne, Simone Scharnick Peter & Wendy James John Ferguson 6:1-6
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Parishioners Matthew	Janet & Mark Carter 25:1-13
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Parishioner Birthdays Mark	Wendy Carter Mary Platt, Mike Schubach 6:14-29
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parishioner Birthday Years Mind Mark	Lilian Charles Samantha Kruger Michael Graham, Mick Armstrong 6:30-34



## ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

facebook

LIVE

HOME PILGRIMAGE  
ST. MICHAEL'S ANGLICAN PARISH UMHLANGA ROCKS

MONDAY

3pm Issues of Faith  
Bible Study via Zoom

6pm Evening Prayer

TUESDAY

7am Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY

9am Holy Eucharist

THURSDAY

7am Morning Prayer  
6pm Evening Prayer

SUNDAY

8am Holy Eucharist  
6pm Evening Prayer

MONDAY TO  
THURSDAY

12noon - Daily Prayer for Covid

### COVID-19 PRAYER

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



## NOTICES

**Rest in Peace Margaret Beaumont 28 January 2021** It is with great sadness that we inform you that Margaret Beaumont, a longstanding organist at our Parish, has passed away today on her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. God in His love and mercy has received into His eternal rest the soul of Margaret Beaumont. We give thanks to God for her faithfulness to her church and pray His comfort on her family in their grief. May light perpetual shine upon her, may she rest in peace and rise in glory.

**No in-person Church Services for February** There will be no in-person services in the Church. We will remain with on-line services and prayers for the month of February.

**Annual Vestry Meeting for 2021 is postponed** We have been informed by the Vicar General that the annual vestry meeting for this year is to be postponed indefinitely.

**Faith for Daily Living Booklets have arrived.** We have received 50 booklets for March/April. Please come and collect one from the Office.

### **Zapper**

The QR Code below is for St Michael's Parish. You can make payments by scanning this QR Code with your mobile. If you are making a payment for anything other than plate giving, please let Kerry in the office know.



### **Bank Details:**

St Michaels Church,  
ABSA 4068992982  
Umhlanga Ridge, 632005

## FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE – 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY

This feast, celebrated on February 2, is known as The Presentation of Christ in the Temple. About 450AD in Jerusalem, people began the custom of holding lighted candles during the Divine Liturgy of this feast day. Therefore, some churches refer to this holy day as Candlemas. The Feast of the Presentation concludes the observances related to the Nativity of Christ, a period that opened on November 15 with the beginning of the Nativity fast.

The story of the Presentation is told in Luke 2:22-29. Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews and observed their religious customs. An important custom was for the couple to take their first-born son to the Temple. The baby was taken to the Temple forty days after his birth and was dedicated to God. In addition, if the parents were wealthy, they were to bring a lamb and a young pigeon or a turtle dove to be offered as a sacrifice at the Temple. The custom provided that if the parents were poor, they were to offer two pigeons or two turtle doves for the sacrifice.

When Jesus was forty days old, Mary and Joseph took Him to the Temple in Jerusalem. They were not wealthy, so they took two turtle doves with them to offer as a sacrifice at the Temple. As they arrived at the Temple, Mary and Joseph were met by a very old man named Simeon. He was a holy man and was noted as a very intelligent scholar. Simeon spent much time studying about the prophets of Israel. It was during his studies that he learned of the coming of the Messiah. The Jewish people were waiting for the Messiah to come and deliver Israel from their conquerors. From that time on, Simeon spent his time praying for the Messiah to come. He spent many years in prayer. Finally, while Simeon was praying he heard the voice of God. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.

When Simeon saw Jesus, he took the baby in his arms and blessed the Lord and said: "Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to your people Israel."

The words Simeon spoke when he saw the Christ Child are known as "St Simeon's Prayer."

## The Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32) (APB pg58)

Lord now you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation: which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

A light to reveal you to the nations: and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father and to the son: and to the Holy spirit.

As it was in the beginning: is now and will be for ever. Amen



### Collect for February 2 Feast of the Presentation of our Lord

Almighty and ever living God,  
your only-begotten Son  
was this day presented in the temple:  
grant that through him we may be  
presented to you  
and made worthy to reflect his glory  
in the world;  
through the same Jesus Christ our  
Lord  
Amen

## A daily reading

Strive to trust me in more and more areas of your life. Anything that tends to make you anxious is a growth opportunity. Instead of running away from these challenges, embrace them, eager to gain all the blessings I have hidden in the difficulties. If you believe that I am sovereign over every aspect of your life, it is possible to trust Me in all situations. Don't waste energy regretting the way things are or thinking about what might have been. Stat at the present moment – accepting things exactly as they are – and search for My way in the midst of those circumstances.

Trust is like a staff you can lean on as you journey uphill with Me. If you are trusting in Me consistently, the staff will bear as much of your weight as needed. *Lean on, trust, and be confident in Me with all your heart and mind.*

*But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God;  
I trust in God's unfailing love for ever and ever.*

PSALM 52:8

Also read: PROVERBS 3:5-6

