



"From Warren"

Redeemed Sinner.

A sermon Warren preached in August.

In today's Gospel reading (John 6:56-69) those who follow Jesus are being pared back. They are a remnant of what they were. Jesus collected quite an array of followers, but over the course of his ministry they disappeared. The righteous are being thinned out. Today, they are thinned out because of his teaching about the bread of life and consuming him for eternal life. And in the end Jesus would lose all his followers, and he, Jesus, would be the remnant, the righteous one. His righteousness covers me, that's part of being redeemed. Being crucified to my old self, the self that makes crosses and all sorts of metaphorical crosses for others.

So I like the epithet of sinner. Not just sinner. Redeemed sinner. It's why Christians don't mind being named as sinners. We are redeemed. But often we think of 'sinner' as a judgment on us. A source of shame, and a state we should escape from. Not being a sinner is preferable to being a sinner. But I prefer to see 'sinner' as a way of being that is my identity, how I am in the world. Not as a description that can and should be jettisoned as soon as possible. I think of 'sinner' as something almost permanent; this is how I am. Not a layer poured over the top of who I am that I could peel off at some point (if I stopped doing bad things perhaps) and resume being me. I think redeemed sinner is who I am. Sounds negative, and the world rejects and avoids such an epithet. ("I'm not one of those...") Or sometimes it is embraced as an expression of a deep dislike of self. ("I'm worse than everyone else.") But for me it is always redeemed sinner, and that changes everything.

But doesn't "redeemed" mean that I am no longer a sinner? No, better to keep 'sinner' than not. Here's why. Sinners redeemed in Christ know that they are loved. Not because of their own righteousness (the remnant is Jesus, not Jesus and me), but because of God's unearned and freely given mercy and love. I receive and therefore my reconstitution comes from gift. That's what it means to be a redeemed sinner. 'To be' because of gift, the gift of love, or more precisely, the gift of a relationship of love. It changes how I see the world. It's all gift. I am built up by receiving, in thankfulness, not in grasping or resentment. What I learn as a redeemed sinner becomes a prism through which to see all of life. It is the beginning of joy and the scent of the peace that passes all understanding. 📖 WARREN

For more of Warren's work see his blog at <http://classic-theology-new.blogspot.com.au>

MOTHERS' UNION

Uganda, Nigeria, Rwanda, Brazil, Kenya, Surinam, Ireland, Canada, Mozambique. These are a part of the mixture of places that have Mothers' Unions.



Though not in every country, it is worldwide. Its members were in Rwanda during their troubles, and it is said that the local Mothers' Union is the only charitable body allowed to work in some villages in Sudan, because the mothers are trusted.

We hear at our meetings about these Mothers' Union groups, and it makes a lovely link between members all round the world

The Mothers' Union really began in 1876 when Mary Sumner, wife of an Archdeacon, later a Bishop, realised the need for mothers to have some support in bringing up their children, particularly those mothers trying to rear children while surrounded by the poverty and violence in parts of Victorian England. Mary began to invite groups of mothers into her home to meet and become acquainted. Her idea proved to be a great success. The women were soon supporting and learning from each other. They talked enthusiastically about it. Other Parishes began their own groups and finally, following a speech by Mary in Portsmouth 10 years later, the Mothers' Union was officially formed by the Church in Winchester. The movement spread

quickly around the world. Within 9 years it had arrived in Adelaide.

Adelaide's introduction to Mothers' Union first came from Mrs Francis Stow, widow of a Judge, Randolph Stow. It was taken up enthusiastically by Dorothy, wife of the newly arrived Bishop Harmer, who persuaded the in-coming Governor's wife, Lady Victoria Buxton, to be our first Mothers' Union President, so, on Thursday, 28th August 1895 at Bishop's Court, the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Adelaide came into being. We were off and running!

And we are still running, though for many of us perhaps, not so fast as we were. Diocese meets 3 times each year, Parishes usually once a month. Covid hasn't helped but at St Columba's our rector, Father Warren, has, so we are still meeting.

Visitors, female, male, married or not, are welcome.

📖 MARY HANDLEY

SECRETARY, ST COLUMBA'S MU

THANKS FROM BISHOP JEFFREY

See page 2



WILLUNGA MARKETS CHOIR

See page 4



Newton College appeals

Thanks from Bishop Jeffrey



Ways that you can continue to help:

- Pray for the health of the Newton Community through the COVID19 pandemic.
- Support ABM's ongoing operational grants to the college.
- Provide a student scholarship or part scholarship into 2022 (\$1000). This can be done through the Anglican Deposit Fund, Diocese of Gippsland. Through this fund you may also contribute to the

Spouses programme.

Account name:
Newton College
BSB 705 077

A/C 00041107

This is for online banking only.

You may also contribute to the refurbishment of the Medical Clinic and nurse's accommodation through Anglican Aid Abroad.

Please pass on our thanks to the Men's Group for organising the lunch on July 18th. I do trust that people felt encouraged that they were making a difference.



Patronal Festival

This year the Patronal Festival was celebrated on Sunday 27th June because St Columba's Day fell on the Sunday of the June long weekend.

The Almost Like Church community, guided by Julie and Tracey, had created dioramas to depict the journey of St Columba to Scotland. Columba was an Irish-born abbot of the 6th century. In 563 he sailed across to western Scotland after being involved in controversy at home. He settled on the island of Iona which became a centre for the spread of Christianity in Western Scotland and beyond. In the picture Mathilde explains the event to Warren and the congregation at the 9.30 service. The celebration was enhanced by the inclusion of a procession at the beginning – the first for a long time.



St Columba
Landing at Iona

Frank
Brangwyn



*Celebrating
St. Columba*

Columba Connections: Pastoral Care.

Our mission (on the St Columba website) states that "We are on a journey, both inwardly and outwardly. Inwardly, we seek a deeper sense of self and the divine, and outwardly, we seek to connect with and serve our community.

We value variety in our expressions of faith, celebration, friendship, and seeking to help those we know and meet. And we have come to see that Jesus, in his life, death, and resurrection leads us in the ways that we follow."

If a newcomer stepped beyond our website into the life of the parish, what connections might they find over time? Family connections are made through worship attendance, including Almost Like Church. Formal pastoral care includes home communion, hospital, home and residential care visits as well as phone calls. We strengthen connections by supporting people in crisis and transition and in life

events including baptism, confirmation, weddings and funerals.

St Columba's fellowship based mission groups include Men's Group, Coffee, Craft and Chat and Mothers' Union. Church life groups include the Sanctuary Guild, sides-people, flower arrangers, garden volunteers, Parish Council, Inter-Church Council and hospitality events including Second Sunday Lunch. Columba Playtime and the fete draw members from the extended community and we enjoy engaging with groups that use our facilities. Supporting the work of the Magdalene Centre in providing meals for the vulnerable not only strengthens connections but reminds us that these must be outward looking as well.

Our Worship team includes readers, intercessors, Choir and organist, Lay assistants and the liturgy group. The Friday Morning Prayer Group, Study Groups and our online presence deepen the ways we explore our faith. At St Columba's we have a strong sense that these connections are

missional. They build a sense of belonging and are an important aspect of pastoral care. And it's no surprise to read this perspective from the National Church Life Survey: "Churches are advised to give attention to expanding the number of relational groups they have. Mainline churches in particular need to change the emphasis on committees to giving more attention to involving people in small groups."

Even before these especially challenging times, Christopher Walker in 'Seeking Relevant Churches for the 21st Century' wrote that "For the most part people do not require professional help; they simply need to be cared about. By putting in place pastoral carers and small groups, churches can practice the love for others Jesus called them to display. By being a loving community in this way the church will be carrying out one of its most essential tasks."

ANN NADGE



Dance Event



Church Procession

Parish Activities

Men's Group
 Mission Support



Nancy's Cousin Roger visits

Worship and Events

Sundays:
 8.00 a.m. BCP Eucharist
 9.30am Contemporary Holy Communion

9.30 a.m. Almost Like Church on alternate Sundays in school term time: Service in parish centre.

Birthdays are celebrated after both morning services on the 1st Sunday in the month.

Weekdays:
 Wednesday: 1.00pm Coffee, Craft and Chat in term time.
 Thursdays: 10.30 a.m. BCP Eucharist
 Fridays: 9.30a.m. Morning Prayer
 10.00 a.m. Columba Playtime In school term time.



SERVICES ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE:

Sundays after 1.30 p.m.: First part of 9.30 service.
 Tuesdays at 5.00 p.m.: Message of the Day by Warren.
 Wednesdays at 5.00 p.m.: Evening Prayer
 Thursdays at 9.00 p.m.: Prayer at the End of the Day.
 You can always watch these at a later time if you wish.

ST COLUMBA'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
 101 CROSS ROAD HAWTHORN

ALL GOD'S CREATURES GOT A PLACE IN THE CHOIR



Lift Choir at Willunga Market

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER:

Sunday 5th:	Bishop's visit and Confirmation
Monday 13th:	Mothers' Union
Tuesday 14th:	Sanctuary Guild
Tuesday 21st:	Men's Group
Friday 24th:	School Term Ends
Wednesday 29th:	Parish Council

OCTOBER:

Saturday 9th:	Annual Fete
Monday 11th:	School Term Starts
Mothers' Union	
Tuesday 12th:	Investment Committee
Friday 16th	
Saturday 16th:	Synod
Tuesday 19th:	Men's Group
Wednesday 27th:	Parish Council

NOVEMBER:

Monday 8th:	Mothers' Union
Tuesday 9th:	Sanctuary Guild
Tuesday 16th:	Men's Group
Wednesday 24th:	Parish Council

My specialist suggested that exercise was good medicine and referred me to the Cancer Care Centre, Lift. Lift has specialists dealing with prescribed exercise medicine, clinical psychology, dietetics, speech pathology, physiotherapy, lymphoedema but they say that they are focused on treating the person, not the cancer

I attended the gym and went regularly. Then one day, someone mentioned that there was a choir with the usual problem of a shortage of men. There was a rehearsal that afternoon so I stayed. It was most interesting. Some sang high and some sang low. Sometimes there was about half an octave difference between the sung note and the actual note. There was one thing which dominated the rehearsal – there was great joy in singing.

As time went on I learnt that almost all, including the choir master, had cancer. The stories of some with stage 4 cancer and yet they sing with delight to be alive and among friends. The songs which were chosen were happy, friendly and joyful.

As a group we went to the Willunga Market one Saturday morning and did 2 brackets of songs which were well received. We have made contacts with hospitals, nursing homes etc with a view to performing there, and have heard back from some of them. So we sing on.

To quote Mark Twain - "Sing like no one is listening, love like you never been hurt, dance like no one is watching and live like it is heaven on earth."

CHRIS ADCOCK.

PARISH PRIEST:

The Reverend Dr Warren Huffa
 0438 988 448
 email: rector@columba.org.au

PRIEST'S WARDEN:

Elizabeth Bleby 8272 4017
 0419 810 037

PARISH OFFICE:

8272 7266
 email: welcome@columba.org.au
 Usual opening times:
 Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00 pm
 Friday 9.00 - 11.00 am

PEOPLE'S WARDEN:

Neville Haar 8272 3813

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website: www.columba.org.au