

St James' Old Cathedral

22nd January 2023 at 10:00am

Third Sunday after Epiphany

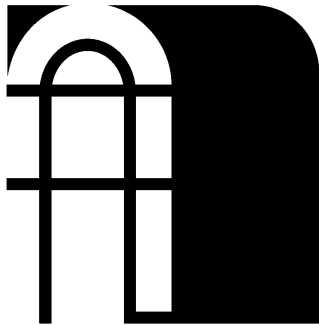
Baptism of Neelam Singh;

Uriel Nardo Santosh Parvade;

and Sergio Perez Guererro

The Greatest Love of All: John 3:16

*Service of Holy Baptism in Morning Prayer from
A Prayer Book for Australia (1995)*



St James' Old Cathedral

Acknowledgement of Country

We worship our creator God on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Child Safety Officer

We are committed to continuous improvement in a safe culture for all, and especially vulnerable persons. Our parish's Child Safety Officer is Una Ebsworth. Una is an accredited specialist in criminal law. All correspondence and questions relating to safety checks should be forwarded to her at safety@sjoc.org.au

The Old Cathedral Voices

Formed in March 2009 from some of Melbourne's finest choral soloists, The Old Cathedral Voices are a consort choir directed by Jenny George.

The choir is in recess, returning next Sunday.

The Organ

The present organ was built in 1991 by Australian Pipe Organs, restoring and expanding the 1866 Fincham organ. 2 manuals, 18 speaking stops, 8 couplers. Gt: 8.8.4.4.2.III. Sw: 8.8.8.4.2.III.8. Ped: 16.16.10-2/3.8.4.

The Old Cathedral's organist is David Brown. David undertook studies as an organ scholar at the Universities of Cambridge and St Andrews. He also serves as College Organist for Scotch College.

David is on leave. The organ is played today by Andrew Anderson.

The Bells

Melbourne's first peal of bells were the six bells hung in St James' Cathedral in 1853, replacing an old ship's bell. Two more were added in 1885. All were cast by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Road, London, and are reputed to be the finest ever cast there. They are still rung regularly by a team of volunteers.

Processional: Hymn 61 (Moscow)

J. Marriott (1780-1825)

**Lord, your almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.**

**Saviour, who came to give
those who in darkness live
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.**

**Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.**

**Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide,
let there be light.**

Greeting

Canon Matt Williams

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

There is one Body and one Spirit;
there is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,
one God and Father of all. *Ephesians 4:4-6*

Gathering

Canon Matt Williams

Friends in Christ,
we come together to meet with God,
and to take our part in the building up of his church.
We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise,
hear from God's holy word,
welcome Neelam, Nardo and Sergio into his church
through the waters of baptism,
and pray for this world, and for ourselves.

Confession (*Sit or Kneel*)

Canon Matt Williams

The Bible tells us to approach God confidently,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
As we do so, we must confess our sins, seeking forgiveness
through God's boundless goodness and mercy.
So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence,
and pray together,

God of all mercy,
we humbly admit that we need your help.
We have wandered from your way.
We have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy on us,
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.
Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit
that we may live the new life to your glory.
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Declaration

Canon Matt Williams

God desires that none should perish,
but that all should turn to Christ, and live.
In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.
God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel.
Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer for the Ministry of the Word ***Canon Matt Williams***

Heavenly Father,
 give us wisdom and understanding.
As we listen to your Word,
 may we know you better,
 love you more,
 and learn to please you in all we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gathering for Children's Chapel

Tegan Gillie

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Tegan Gillie. They are invited to process out to the conference centre, as the choir sings. They will return in time for the baptisms.

Childsafe Policy: Children's Chapel is supervised at all times by at least two unrelated adults with current Working with Children Check approvals.

Hymn 171i (Herongate)

W. W. How (1823-97)

**It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heaven
and die to save a child like me.**

**And yet I know that it is true;
he chose a poor and humble lot,
and toiled and suffered pain and died
for love of those who loved him not.**

**But even could I see him die
I could but see the smaller part
of that great love which like a fire
is always burning in his heart.**

**It is most wonderful to know
his love for me is free and sure
although, for all he does for me,
my love for him is still so poor.**

**And yet I want to love thee, Lord,
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.**

First Lesson: Isaiah 45:18-25

Micaiah Zwartz

¹⁸ For thus says the Lord,
who created the heavens
 (he is God!),
who formed the earth and made it
 (he established it;
he did not create it a chaos,
 he formed it to be inhabited!):
I am the Lord, and there is no other.

¹⁹I did not speak in secret,
 in a land of darkness;
I did not say to the offspring of Jacob,
 ‘Seek me in chaos.’
I the Lord speak the truth,
 I declare what is right.

²⁰Assemble yourselves and come together,
 draw near, you survivors of the nations!
They have no knowledge—
 those who carry about their wooden idols,
and keep on praying to a god
 that cannot save.

²¹Declare and present your case;
 let them take counsel together!
Who told this long ago?
 Who declared it of old?
Was it not I, the Lord?
 There is no other god besides me,
a righteous God and a Saviour;
 there is no one besides me.

²² Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!

For I am God, and there is no other.

²³ By myself I have sworn,
from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness
a word that shall not return:

‘To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear.’

²⁴ Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength;
all who were incensed against him
shall come to him and be ashamed.

²⁵ In the Lord all the offspring of Israel
shall triumph and glory.

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67

Canon Matt Williams

Let God be gracious to us and bless us:

and make his face to shine upon us,

That your ways may be known upon earth:

your liberating power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God:

let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing:

for you judge the peoples with integrity,

and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God:

let all the peoples praise you.

Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:

and God, our God, will bless us.

God shall bless us:

and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Epistle: 1 John 4:7-16

Jean Miller

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way:

God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.

¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God
but that he loved us
and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we also ought to love one another.

¹²No one has ever seen God;
if we love one another, God lives in us,
and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us,
because he has given us of his Spirit.

¹⁴And we have seen and do testify
that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world.

¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God,
and they abide in God.

¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them.

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

Hymn 93 (Abbot's Leigh)

T. Rees (1874-1939)

**God is love, let heaven adore him;
God is love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
he who spread the heavens above,
he who breathes through all creation,
he is love, eternal Love.**

**God is love, and he, enfolding
all the world in one embrace
with unfailing grasp is holding
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then they find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.**

**God is love, and, though with blindness
sin afflicts our human hearts,
God's eternal lovingkindness
holding, guiding, grace imparts.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.**

Gospel Reading: John 3:16-21

Canon Matt Williams

The Gospel is written from the third chapter of the Gospel according to John, beginning at the twenty-first verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life.

¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world
to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him.

¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned;
but those who do not believe are condemned already,
because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

¹⁹And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world,
and people loved darkness rather than light
because their deeds were evil.

²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light,
so that their deeds may not be exposed.

²¹But those who do what is true come to the light,
so that it may be clearly seen
that their deeds have been done in God.'

For the gospel of the Lord: **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Mike Raiter

(The children's chapel will rejoin us during the anthem.)

Anthem

Jenny George (Solo)

My Eyes for Beauty Pine

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

*My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for God-des grace;
No other care nor hope is mine,
To heaven I turn my face.*

*One splendour thence is shed
from all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love!*

*And every gentle heart
that burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
of that celestial fire.*

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

The Presentation

Canon Matt Williams

(Candidates and sponsors stand before the congregation.)

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who commanded his followers to go
and make disciples of all nations,
baptising them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism signifies the cleansing from sin
that Jesus' death makes possible,
and the new life God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

The promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us.

We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church.

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love.

Parents and godparents who have responded to that love
come now to bring their children for baptism.

Before this congregation they must express
their own trust and commitment to the promises of God,
and their intention to bring up their children
in the faith and practice of the Church.

In due time these children should make their own responses to God,
and be prepared for confirmation.

So we welcome you, Sergio Perez Guerrero;
Uriel Nardo Santosh Parvade; and Neelam Singh;
with your sponsors and family.

We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know
God's love and faithfulness for ever.

I invite the sponsors of Uriel Nardo to present him now.

We present Nardo to be baptised.

I invite the sponsors of Sergio to present him now.

We present Sergio to be baptised.

The minister addresses the sponsors:

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing this child for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of this child?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage this child

in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

I invite the sponsors of Neelam to present her now.

We present Neelam to be baptised.

The Decision

Canon Matt Williams

The minister addresses the candidates able to answer for themselves, and the sponsors of those unable to answer for themselves:

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

The minister says to the congregation:

You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers:

We will.

Let us pray. Grant, merciful God, that Neelam, Nardo and Sergio may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in them.

May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in them. **Amen.**

While singing the hymn that follows, all follow the minister to the entrance of the church where the font is located (this symbolically expresses that baptism is the 'way in' to the church). The rest of the congregation may leave their pews if necessary to gather around the same area.

Hymn 405 (Mit Freuden Zart)

T. H. Kingo (1634-1703)

**She that believes and is baptized
shall see the Lord's salvation;
baptized into the death of Christ,
she is a new creation;
through Christ's redemption she shall stand
among the glorious heavenly band
of every tribe and nation.**

**With one accord, O God, we pray:
Grant us your Holy Spirit,
and look on our infirmity
through Jesus' blood and merit.
O keep us in baptismal grace,
until at last we take our place
with all who life inherit.**

**He that believes and is baptized
shall see the Lord's salvation;
baptized into the death of Christ,
he is a new creation;
through Christ's redemption he shall stand
among the glorious heavenly band
of every tribe and nation.**

The Baptism

Canon Matt Williams

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea
you led your people out of slavery into freedom.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ:

for his baptism by John,

for his anointing with the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death

Jesus delivered us from our sins

and was raised to new life in triumph.

Thanks be to God.

And now we give you thanks

that you have called these your servants

to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water

so that those who are baptised in it

may be made one with Christ

in his death and resurrection.

May they die to sin, rise to newness of life,

and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord,

through whom we give you praise and honour

in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Affirmation of the Apostles' Creed *Canon Matt Williams*

The whole congregation affirms the creed together.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith:

We believe in one God:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Baptism

Canon Matt Williams

The minister baptises each candidate by pouring water over them, saying:

Sergio Perez Guerrero / Neelam Singh / Uriel Nardo Santosh Parvade
I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The minister then makes a cross on her forehead, saying:

I sign you with the sign of the cross
to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

The minister addresses the baptised:

Live as a disciple of Christ:
fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

*The minister may present lit candles to the godparents,
while saying to the baptised,*

God has brought you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

The congregation responds:

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins the minister in saying:

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

The Greeting of Peace

Canon Matt Williams

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

(All make their way back to their seats as we sing the hymn.)

Hymn 81 v1-3,6 (Dominus Regit Me) H. W. Baker (1821-77)

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.**

**And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.**

Intercessions

Chris Jones

Gracious God, we who have been brought from death to life
dedicate ourselves to you.

Produce in us the fruit of your Spirit.

Equip us to serve your people

and advance your gospel in the world.

Enable us to live in holiness and righteousness

and to please you in all that we do;

in the name of Jesus our Saviour. **Amen.**

Spirit of truth and love,

we pray for Neelam and Nardo's sponsors

Mike and Sarah;

for Sergio's parents, Andres and Sindy,

and his godparents, Greg and Chaido.

Enable them to share with them

what you have revealed to us in your holy gospel.

We ask this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

(Other intercessions may follow.)

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

Notices

Canon Matt Williams

Prayers of Farewell

Canon Matt Williams

For Joel and Tegan Gillie

Holy God, Alpha and Omega,
Lord of beginnings and endings,
we thank you for all we have shared with Joel and Tegan,
and ask your blessing on them as they continue to walk with you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Before you move onward,
we ask forgiveness where we have failed you,
we give thanks for all you have given us,
we assure you of our love and prayers.**

Joel and Tegan: Before we leave,
we ask forgiveness where we have failed you,
we give thanks for all you have given us,
We assure you of our love and prayers.

**(All:) What we forgive, if there is anything to forgive,
we have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake. 2 Cor 2:10**

Let us pray.

We praise and thank you, faithful God,
for our brother and sister soon to leave us.
We entrust them into your loving care.
Shelter and protect them from harm and anxiety,
grant them courage to meet the future,
and the grace to do the good works you have prepared for them,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 148 (Blaenwern 165ii)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

Grace***Canon Matt Williams***

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Recessional***Andrew Anderson (Organ)***

Morning Tea is served in the Conference Centre after the service.

Offertories are no longer collected during services due to the health risks in passing objects around. Please use the donations facility at the exit, or direct online contributions to:

St James' Old Cathedral

BSB: 013 377

Acc. No.: 008 684 064

St James' Old Cathedral

Commitment to Child Safety

Jesus said:

*"Anyone who welcomes a little child in my name welcomes me.
But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble –
it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck
and he were drowned in the depths of the sea."*

Matthew 18:5-6

As we meet together to worship God,
we seek to honour him by the diligent protection of children.

We are committed to creating a culture of safety for all,
and undergoing regular training to do so.

We seek to normalise routine submission
to Police Checks and Working With Children Checks
for all members of the community.

If anyone sees any behaviour
related to child safety that strikes them as odd,
they should not investigate the matter themselves,
but call the independent Professional Standards Hotline
(Kooyoora Ltd) for expert guidance:

1800 135 246

or our local police (313 Spencer Street, Docklands):

03 8690 4444

Intercessions

We pray for: Our West Melbourne Community; Haileybury College; Mike Raiter and The Centre for Biblical Preaching; Zoe Creelman (CMS); Chris & Sarah Griffioen and family (OM); City to City Australia; Australian Indigenous Churches; Ridley College; Trinity College; the Overseas Chinese Christian Church; Edith Weaver; Joan Heard; Lola Russell-Dixon; Joy Palmby; Andrew; Ron & Janette Wells; Rod Robertson; Beverly Stephenson; Jill Sculley; Sergio Altin; Hugo Ellis; Richard Fleming; Kevin Neumann.

Notices

- Today we farewell our 2022 students, Joel and Tegan Gillie.
- The choir is in recess, returning next Sunday.
- Weekday Zoom prayer services are in recess until 30th January.
- David Brown is on leave, returning next Sunday.

Contact Details

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Matt Williams	0403 770 867
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Student Ministers:	Ms. Tegan Gillie	0428 040 798
	Mr. Joel Gillie	0433 670 374
Lay Minister:	Ms. Bei-En Zou	0434 899 839
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Child Safety Officer:	Ms. Una Ebsworth	0400 717 571
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Mr David Spriggs		0417 190 319
Ms Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton		0423 100 677
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