Before Worship

Born again! What an oxymoron! That’s what Nick must have thought when Jesus confronted him with that term (John 3:3). He was confused and you might be too, with that term! The words contradict each other!

By definition you are born once. To be ‘born again’ simply doesn’t make sense.

That’s why Nick tried to make it clearer- John 3: 4: “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” Nick uses the word from which we get geriatric. Is he ‘taking the mickey’ out of Jesus?

‘Born again’- O come now.

We have heard that term so many times. It is hard to put yourself in Nick’s shoes. We know Jesus is referring to Baptism. You are born naturally as Nick would put it from your mother’s womb and you are spiritually born into the Kingdom of God. But aren’t you born again and again and…again after that?

This morning in the address based on the Gospel reading for the day: John 3:1-17, we’ll be looking at the different ways God would have us be born again: a message most relevant to this season of Lent, as we’ll see.

I hope you are attending our mid-week Lenten Services. This year our Wednesday evening services in Lent are based on The Ten Commandment: Ten Words of Freedom. We shall be have a different guest Lutheran Pastors from our district (Light and Mid North Zones) leading the service.

I have produced a little booklet: The Ten Commandments: 10C. G.G.G. to explain and help you use the wooden disks I have been giving out in Lent. (still available on request.) These are inserts in this week’s Bulletin

This coming week we welcome Pastor Peter Ziersch who will basing his address on the fifth and eight commandments: “A call to life and protection.”

Pastor Leon
Propers
Psalm 121
P: I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
C: Where does my help come from?
P: My help comes from the Lord,
C: The Maker of heaven and earth.
P: He will not let your foot slip—
C: He who watches over you will not slumber;
P: Indeed, he who watches over Israel
C: will neither slumber nor sleep.
P: The Lord watches over you—
C: The Lord is your shade at your right hand;
P: The sun will not harm you by day,
C: nor the moon by night.
P: The Lord will keep you from all harm—
C: He will watch over your life;
P: The Lord will watch over your coming and going
C: both now and forevermore

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
Merciful God, we thank you for sending your Son to suffer and give his life for all people. Teach us, who have been born again, to forget ourselves and rely only on Christ our Saviour.
For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DAY’S BIBLE READINGS
Genesis 12:1-4a The call of Abraham p8
Romans 4:1-5,13-17 Abraham our father justified by faith p784
John 3:1-17 So God loved the world that he gave his only son p740

Worship in the Valley Next Week: 19th March 2017

Our Parish
Carlsruhe 10.30am Holy Communion
Saddleworth 9.00 Preaching
Riverton With Saddleworth

Other Churches
Anglican 9.00am Riverton
Baptist 10.00am Saddleworth
Catholic 10.45 Manoora
Uniting 9.30 Riverton
NEXT WEEK’S BIBLE READINGS 19th March 2017
Exodus 17:1-7 The Israelites put God to the test p50
Romans 5:1-5,1-11 While we are still sinners Christ died for us p785
John 4:5-42 Jesus and the Samaritan woman p741

Worship in the Valley: 26th March 2017
Our Parish
Carlsruhe 9.00am Preaching
Saddleworth 9.00am Reading
Riverton 10.30am Holy Communion

Other Churches
Anglican 9.00am Riverton
Baptist 10.00am Saddleworth
Catholic 8.30am Riverton
Uniting 9.30am Auburn

Easter Service Times
Maundy Thursday: 7.30pm Carlsruhe
Good Friday: 9.00am Riverton
10.00am Saddleworth
11.00am Carlsruhe
Easter Sunday: Dawn Service: 6.30am Out the front of St Stephen’s Catholic Church Saddleworth, breakfast following
8.30am place TBA
10.00am Carlsruhe

Invitation from St John’s Lutheran School, Eudunda
Join us for chapel on Tuesday 14th March at 8.50am in the church (Pastor Leon speaking) followed by a tour of the school and a cuppa.
A few words from Pastor Leon

Worship on Easter Sunday.

The team to determine where we are going to hold the dawn service, that was voted in at the Parish AGM, has met and has decided to hold the service in front of the Catholic Church of St Stephan. (We can experience a spectacular view of the sun rising as well a great panorama of Saddleworth.)

The dawn service (which is usually ½ hour in duration) will be followed by a cooked breakfast at Saddleworth Church Hall and an 8.30am Holy Communion service in Zion. The later service at 10am is planned for Carlsruhe.

This year’s ‘Retreat’ at Carlsruhe Manse Retreat, “A Sacred Journey,” has on the Saturday 8th April, as its focus, our community being involved. It features: the film ‘The Way’ (starring Martin Sheen on the Camino Walk), a pilgrimage from St John’s to St Peter’s, the opening of the (trial) Carlsruhe Labyrinth and a Bible Study on the spiritual discipline of pilgrimage in the evening.

Youth Event on April 2nd, including ‘Infusion’ Youth service in Tanunda. (More information closer to the date.)

Café Church at Willi’s is postponed for personal reasons until further notice.

The Messenger is due out next Sunday. (19th March)
# What’s Happening in the Parish (and further afield)

## THIS WEEK

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>8.50am St John’s Eudunda, chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>11am Carlsruhe/Riverton combined Ladies Guild. (Saddleworth)</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>7.30pm Carlsruhe Church Council (Judy’s home)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>15th March</td>
<td>7.30pm Midweek Lenten Service (at Saddleworth) Pastor Josh Muller) (Pastor Leon at Kapunda)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>1pm Holy Communion at Gilbert Valley Senior Citizens. 1.45pm Holy Communion at Riverton Hospital</td>
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## NEXT WEEK

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Next Sunday</td>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>Saddleworth small group. (See Pastor Leon for details)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>7.30pm Riverton AGM</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>7.30 Light House Bible Study (Riverton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>7.30pm Midweek Lenten Service (at Carlsruhe) Pastor Peter Ziersch) (Pastor Leon at Freeling)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Pastor’s Day Off</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Pastor’s Day Off</td>
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Nicodemus is born again

your old life is over, a new life has begun