

**The Following Collect, Epistle & Gospel will be read during the Eucharist today in the personal Chapel of the Presiding Archbishop of the Australian Church of Antioch, The Most Reverend Frank Bugge.**

**Ash Wednesday (The first day of Lent)**

**Violet.**

**Intent - Purified with fire.**

**Candles 6.**

*Before the celebration of Holy Eucharist, the celebrant, or ranking clergy present, blesses the ashes of unused crosses from the previous Palm Sunday, with the following prayer and blessing:*

**P. May God be with You.**

**C. And Also with You.**

**P. O eternal and immortal God, who has deigned to ordain that thy children should purify themselves in preparation of the ineffable mystery of the passion and resurrection of The Logos, we pray Thee to (+) Bless and (+) Hallow these ashes, that they may serve as an outer symbol of our inward humility and repentance from our ways of imperfection and darkness, through The Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The celebrant then shall call for the members of the congregation to receive the signing of the ashes in the following manner:*

**P. Let those who are about to receive the symbol of Lenten purification come forward.**

*The Priest signs the forehead of each person with the ashes in the form of a cross while saying to each one:*

**P. Remember O Soul, that thy body is dust, and to dust it shall return.**

*The Eucharist is now commenced and is that ordained for the first Sunday in Lent.*

**The Collect.**

Be with us O Lord in all our doings and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued and ended in thee, we may glorify thy Holy Name; through The Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Epistle and Gospel shall be those for the previous Sunday.*

**The Epistle for Ash Wednesday is from the writings of international healer Alan Young.**

There are two points to understanding, namely unconditional love, and complete surrender. Unconditional love is the power we receive from God, both directly and through other beings living on earth and the spirit world. We enable ourselves to receive that love by expressing love to God and others. Thus it is a two way street. Complete surrender is the abandonment by us of our own desires, expectations, and personal wills. This allows God's will to manifest itself, even if it means moving from the physical vehicle by so called death. This surrender eliminates fear, establishes trust, and allows the power to flow without obstruction. It establishes peace and harmony, and opens us to spiritual guidance. What could be more natural and beautiful than allowing the force of life and love, which created us in the first place, to flow through us and restore us to pristine glory.

**Here Endeth the Epistle.**

**The Gospel for Ash Wednesday are the words of Annie Kirkwood in her book *Mary's Message to the World*.**

The Utopian life you on earth seek is your spiritual life which is lived from the highest Spiritual level. This is your desire; to live in complete happiness. It is your memory of the Garden of Eden. This is what you seek to regain. In learning of Spiritual love you expand your knowledge and vision of the spiritual world. My desire is that you know how God works to preserve your spiritual life. How great his love is for you, that each cell in your body is surrounded by God's love. Your physical body is transitory and not permanent, yet God's love is active in every function. How much more active is he in your permanent spiritual function, which is the real life where you are even more special to God. God's love is active on every level and is an inseparable part of us, and this can be magically amplified to enormous levels if we but return a fraction of this love to others.

**Praise Be to Thee O Christ.**