

Lent 3 – Handing on of the Faith to the Catechumens

This rite would normally follow the homily.

The catechumens come forward wearing their Lenten journey-bags about their shoulders.

Listen everyone!

This faith of ours in a precious gift from God,
made flesh in Jesus Christ
and handed on to us through the faithful witness
Of saints, preachers and apostles.

What we received from them, we now pass on to you.
Come now and receive the substance of the faith you are to learn
in the hallowed forms of Bible, Prayer-book, and the Creed of Nicea.

While the catechumens come forward, the congregation sings one verse of the following hymn, which forms a choral refrain while each of the traditions are handed on:

***When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the prince of glory died
My richest gain, I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.***

The Word of God is living and active.
Sharper than any two-edged sword,
It is able to divide soul from spirit, joints from marrow.
It is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4.12

***Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the cross of Christ my God
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to his blood.***

Bibles are handed to each catechumen. The bible may be kissed by each recipient as a sign of respect, and then placed in their journey-bags.

Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: rejoice! Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4. 4, 6-7

I'm singin' and prayin' with my mind stayed on Jesus . . .

Prayer books are handed to each catechumen, and then placed in their journey-bags.

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.

Hebrews 10. 23

I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus . . .

Copies of the Creed of Nicea are handed to each catechumen, and then placed in their journey-bags.

The service continues with the recitation of the Nicene Creed.

Prepared for the South Yarra Community Baptist Church
by Garry J. Deverell
© 2003 South Yarra Community Baptist Church
12 Surrey Road, South Yarra, Victoria 3141, Australia.
church@laughingbird.net