Archbishop Jeffrey Smith Grace St James Anglican Church Day St. James, Mile End



Archbishop Jeffrey Smith Baptising and confirm senior parishioners at St James Anglican church

A memorable combined service was held at Mile End parish on Sunday 23rd July 2017. The main focus was to celebrate St. James Day. To have Archbishop Jeffrey Smith and his wife Lyn attend the service added to the occasion. Then to have a mature parishioner be baptised and confirmed by the Archbishop resulted in a moving service.



John 3: 5

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Once again, the Kidman Park choir commenced the service with an anthem "I Thank you Lord." It is always a pleasure for the choir to sing at Mile End, where the acoustics are so effective.

When presenting his sermon, Archbishop Jeffrey referred to Mathew Chapter 20, where Zebedee, the mother of James and John requested that one of her sons sits at the right hand of Jesus and the other on the left-hand side "in your kingdom."

Throughout the sermon, Jeffrey often referred to *"the James and John syndrome"* – to think of what is best for yourself, rather than to think of what is best for others. We were reminded that Jesus worked for the good of others and if we follow Jesus, others will benefit. The Archbishop suggested a great measure of ourselves is to assess how we act towards each other. Having so many parishioners attend each of the combined services was a good example of thoughtfulness for each parish.

Witnessing Lawrie's baptism and confirmation by the Archbishop was a very special moment. For Lawrie, the occasion was personal, emotional and uplifting. To have Raelene by his side, and give him extra support when needed was a great example of what the Archbishop suggested to us in his sermon.

As is always the case with a combined service, a shared lunch followed. This was a great opportunity for parishioners to chat with the new Archbishop and his wife. Sincere thanks go to all parishioners who contributed to another special service.



Archbishop Jeffrey deliver his first sermon at St. James Anglican Church Miles End on 23/7/2017