

OUR MISSION STATEMENT - 'TO KNOW CHRIST, AND MAKE CHRIST KNOWN'

**SUNDAY APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**READINGS TODAY**

Isaiah 43. 16 -21    Ps. 126.    Philippians 3. 3 -14    John 12. 1-8

**VICAR'VOICE:** I spent a couple of days this week at the annual Preachers Conference sponsored by Ridley College. It was, as it always is, a wonderfully stimulating time of challenge and refreshment as we thought about the ministry of preaching, and what it means for us as preachers. The theme was "Preaching to the heart" and it was, for me, a great reminder that God desires the transformation not only of our minds and wills, but of our inmost beings, our hearts. As we reflected on this over lunch, a couple of us were reminded of the Prayer of preparation at the beginning of our communion service. You know it well:

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

As we journey through Lent, with Easter on a nearing horizon, I am challenged to pray this prayer with a renewed intention, to seek the inspiration of God's Spirit to breath in and through me, to work this transformation of my heart, and my whole being, that I may live for God's greater glory. Blessings, Jill

**Easter services**

Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion & Foot Washing	7:30 pm	St Peter's
Good Friday	Traditional service	9:00 am	St Peter's
	Readings & music	11:00 am	All Saints'
	Informal reflection	3:00 pm	St Peter's
Easter Sunday	Holy Communion	9:00 am	St Peter's
	Holy Communion	9:30 am	All Saints'

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*We worship on the land of the Bengalat clan of the Wathaurong people and we acknowledge and pay our respect to their Elders past and present*

DAILY READINGS – BEGINNING April 4 YEAR C			
Monday 4	Ps 80.	Jer. 40. 1-12	Matt. 21.23 -26
Tuesday 5	Pss. 82; 84	Jer. 40. 13 -41. 10	Matt.22. 1 -33
Wednesday 6	Ps. 86	Jer. 41. 11 – 42. 6	Matt. 22. 34 -23. 12
Thursday 7	Ps.90	Jer. 42. 7 -22	Matt. 23. 13 -26
Friday 8	Ps.89. 1-18	Jer. 43	Matt. 23. 27 -24. 2
Saturday 9	Ps. 89. 39 - 53	Jer. 45	Matt. 26. 1 -16.

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 10TH APRIL

Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-40

- **SAFE MINISTRY.** The Diocese is responding to the advice of the Royal Commission to ensure that all people involved in ministry and leadership have basic training the Diocese's expectations about safe and respectful conduct. We will be offering another training session in this material on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April from 2:30 - 4:00 pm in St Peter's Hall

Monthly Ladies' Coffee Morning will not be held in April because the second Thursday falls in the middle of the school holidays and on Maundy Thursday. The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th May.

**Mission Support Group News:** Judith Calf trains pastors and evangelists for the Diocese of Lweru in Tanzania. She says the church and Christians there have much to teach us about the importance of shared faith and responsibility for each other. As we find in the New Testament house churches, "Tanzanian Christian faith goes deeper than a personal or group Bible Study. It is living life together, and being disciplined by the way we live our lives of faith. It is singing together, praying together, cooking together, grieving together and so much more. Swahili grammar has an ending for verbs - 'ana' - which when added to the simple word to teach (kufundisha) changes it to mean "to teach one another" (kufundishana)."  
This way of "being church" is a reminder of the importance of small groups for study and sharing. It is a reminder of the need to keep our life groups going after Lent.

'Come to me, ALL you who struggle and are burdened. Come to me and I will give you rest.'  
There is no sense here of 'Stand up straight. Learn your lines. Put on your sabbath best and then I will see if I have time for you.' No! The welcome to return to love is unconditional, and unconditionally consoling.

Isn't it funny that day by day nothing changes, but when you look back, everything has!

Proverbs 19. 2. *Zeal without knowledge is not good; a person who moves too quickly may go the wrong way.* It is better to plan carefully than to move too quickly.

[something we certainly aren't doing as much lately...ie. moving too quickly!]

## WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

MONDAY	Hearts and Crafts 10 – 1	St. Peter's Old Church O. G
TUESDAY	Morning Prayer 9.30 <b>and</b> [Prayers-personal 9.30 ish –12 with John & Dawn.	St. Peter's Foyer O. G
WEDNESDAY	Morning prayer & staff meeting 8.30 – 9.50	Parish Office O.G
WEDNESDAY	Op shop 9.30 - 1 Jigsaw Library - 10am - 12	All Saints' Hall B.H
WEDNESDAY	All Saints' church is open for private prayer 9 - 1	All Saints' Church B.H
FRIDAY	Op Shop 9.30 - 1	All Saints' Hall B.H
SATURDAY	Op Shop 9.30 – 1 Jigsaw Library - 10 am - 12	All Saints' Hall B.H
SATURDAY	All Saints' church is open for private prayer 9 - 1	All Saints' Church B.H

## SERVICES

DAY	TIME	PLACE	SERVICE
Sunday	8 am	St. Peter's O. G	Holy Communion
Sunday	9.30 am	St. Peter's O. G	Holy Communion
Sunday	11 am	All Saints' B.H	Holy Communion
Tuesday	9.30 am	St. Peter's O.G.	Prayers
Wednesday	8.30	St. Peter's	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	10am.	St. Peter's O.G	Holy Communion
Saturday	9 am	St. Peter's O. G	Morning Prayer

**Dawn and John Northfield** offer – on Tuesday mornings- **anytime from 9.30 - 12** – the opportunity to have some **quiet prayer time with you personally**. This will be a beautiful time for you, so please take advantage, even if you think you don't NEED praying for, because we all do, and it will. The office of Morning prayer will also take place from 9.30, but if you turn up for 'Personal prayers', John and Dawn will be on the ready to attend to you.

### ALPHA IS COMING!

We will be conducting an Alpha course on Wednesday afternoons after Easter, until the end of May. Alpha is a series of video presentations combined with opportunities for discussion with a small group of people around a table. It is a relaxed and informal way to learn more about what it means to be a Christian. I encourage you to come and participate, and to invite a friend who doesn't belong to the church to come with you.

**FRESH FLOWERS** would be great in the church for **Easter Day!** If anyone would like to donate them in memory of a loved one, please contact Kathy Donaghey on 0448 434 110 before 13<sup>th</sup> April.

- The next meeting of the BARWON HEADS FOCUS GROUP will be held at All Saints' after church this Sunday 3rd April.
- **The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 5.00 – 7:00 pm at St Peter's, Ocean Grove**

**FOR THE HEALING OF BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT-**

Wendy Hudson, Deb Podbury, Glenys Russell, Betty Boyd, Jim Wilson, Pat Brady, Faye & Ken Birmingham, Alex Slocombe, Dot Sutcliffe, Elizabeth Polley, Judy Beach, David Bayne, Dawn White, Janet Paisley, Doris Loewy, John Bartley, Bev Stephenson, Diana Wilson, Marcel, Alison Fane and Mark Johnstone, and those we know personally and are not on this list.

**FOR THOSE WITH ILLNESSES WHICH MEDICATION WILL NO LONGER HELP, AND TO THEIR LOVED ONES-**

-give courage, strength and comfort in their faith of the joy of eternal life  
**TO THOSE RECENTLY BEREAVED** - give comfort and strength.

**FOR OUR MEMBERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE-**

give peace, comfort & contentment.

Hilda Clyne, Shirley Dodgshun, Kaye Middlehurst, Anne Shady, Jean Wadey, Beth Ward, Jenny Wood, Shirley Trimble, Stella Scheiner, Ross Smith and Keith & Kaye Houston.

**Our Prayer Chain.** Join the team who pray -contact Anna or Lyn 0418 171 787.  
If you would like us to pray for you, contact the Vicar on 0425 805 827.

**PRAYER FOCUS FOR APRIL: Persecuted Christians**

What would your Christian life look like if you lived somewhere else? Would you be imprisoned for your faith, followed by secret police, or kidnapped by extremists?

**These are the first 17 most dangerous places for Christians to be-**

Afghanistan; Northern Korea; Somalia; Libya; Yemen; Eritrea; Nigeria; Pakistan; Iran; India; Saudi Arabia; Myanmar; Sudan; Iraq; Syria; Maldives; China.

**Jesus died for you knowing that you may never love Him back. This is true love.**

Any items for Bridge, please email, or phone or message Isobel Dean [parish directory], before 10pm Wednesday. If anything is to be changed, added to or deleted, please let me know ASAP

**We repent enough to be forgiven, but do we surrender enough to be changed?**

**OPEN THE EYES OF OUR HEARTS LORD**

**We can ignore, but we can nowhere evade the presence of God.  
The world is crowded with Him. He walks everywhere incognito. C.S.Lewis**

**You have been assigned this mountain to show others it can be moved**