

# THE BRIDGE

THE ANGLICAN PARISH of  
ST PETER'S OCEAN GROVE & ALL SAINTS' BARWON HEADS  
OUR MISSION STATEMENT -  
'TO KNOW CHRIST, AND MAKE CHRIST KNOWN'

April 16<sup>th</sup>. 2023. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Today's readings: -

Acts 2. 14a.22 – 32 Ps. 16. 1 Peter 1.1-12 John 20. 19 -31

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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.*

## Service Times

**SUNDAY** 8am. then 9.30am at St. Peter's O.G. (also on Zoom.) 11am at All Saints' B.H

**TUESDAY** 9.30am. Prayers at St. Peter's O.G

**WEDNESDAY** 8.30am. Morning Prayer at St. Peter's & also 10am. Holy Communion

**SATURDAY** 9am. Prayers at St. Peter's.

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We welcome Rev. Geoff Pittaway as our Locum Priest today and next week while Jill is experiencing some time away.

### WHAT'S ON AND WHERE - regularly each week

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MON	Hearts and Crafts 10 – 1. Come and enjoy the fellowship.	St. Peter's Old Church
TUES	Prayers - group 9.30 <b>and</b> Prayers-personal 9.30 ish -12 with John &	St. Peter's Foyer O. G
WED	Staff meeting after 8.30 Morning Prayer	Parish Office O.G
WED	Op shop 9.30 - 1 Jigsaw Library 10 - 12	All Saints' Hall B.H
FRI	Op Shop 9.30 - 1	All Saints' Hall B.H
SAT	Op Shop 9.30 – 1 Jigsaw Library 10 - 12	All Saints' Hall B.H
DAILY	All Saints' church is open 9 – 5.	All Saints' Ch. B.H

On the last Sunday of the month, after church at All Saints, the Focus group meets.

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of the month, there is a morning coffee get together for the ladies at BT's 10.30

## VICAR'S VOICE

One of the introductory activities in the Leading Your Church into Growth program is a "Vision Exercise" in which participants are asked to imagine that they have only a year or two left in their present parish.

We are invited to dream of how we would like the church to look in three years' time.

The point, of course, is to look beyond ourselves, beyond our needs and abilities, and dare to create a bold but realistic vision for our church. You won't be surprised to hear that this resonated very strongly with me. It has been the approach I've taken over the past year or so as Parish Council have worked through the updating of our Strategic Plan.

The consultation with Archdeacon Glenn Buijs next Saturday (22/4) will provide another opportunity for the whole parish to engage with this same task, to create a bold vision for the future of the Parish. I encourage you to think, pray and reflect on the question over the next week, and to dare to dream of a future beyond ourselves. Blessings, Jill.

An elderly Chinese woman carried two large water pots on a pole that rested on her shoulders. One pot had such a crack in it that when she returned from the well, it was only half full. She made her trip daily, bringing home one and a half pots of water. The cracked pot was ashamed of its imperfections and confessed to the woman how inadequate it felt as it compared itself to the other pots. (Just like all pots do of course!!!)

The woman smiled and said, "Have you noticed the flowers on your side of the path, and that there are none on the other side? Because I've always known about your flaw, I planted cosmos seeds along the way. Every day as we walk home, you give those seeds little drink." She told how she enjoyed watching the flowers grow. Occasionally she picked some for her tiny home. "Without you being the way you are, we could have none of this."

This story might be a reminder of how to see things in a more positive way. Instead of lingering under a cloud of despair and self-pity, we can seek to see things from a different perspective, and to realise that we each have something to do, give, and even teach others, **because** of the chips, cracks, and brokenness which we see in ourselves. Each of us has unique flaws. But it is the flaws we have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. (Just imagine if we were all perfect how boring we would be!!!)

Doubt sees the obstacle; Faith sees the way.

Doubt sees a long dark night; Faith sees the day!

Doubt dreads to take a step; faith soars on high.

Doubt thunders, "Who believes?"; Faith answers, "I."

# NOTICES

**Saturday 22nd April at 2.30pm. at St. Peter's.**

Don't forget this Parish Meeting with Archdeacon Glenn Buijs. This is our chance to learn about and contribute to our search for a new vicar.

- Your voting forms for acceptance of the Reserve List (understudies) for the Nominations Committee need to be in before the meeting. Forms are available at both churches and have been emailed out. These can be placed in the boxes in the foyer/porch on this Sunday or brought to the meeting. "

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For those who love organ music.....

**TOM HEALEY: Organ Recital - 5 pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - St Paul's Anglican Church**  
171-177 La Trobe Terrace, Geelong

\$25/\$20/Under 18 Free. Card or cash at the door or

[www.trybooking.com/CGOGD](http://www.trybooking.com/CGOGD)

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS On Saturday **May 13<sup>th</sup>**, please meet at St. Peters at 9:30 to prepare flowers, with Bible verse attached, and then to distribute them in and around the Ocean Grove precinct. Please bring greenery, secateurs, and baskets.

If you are new to this, contact Dawn Northfield on 0421129324

LOIS HOULT has asked that her new address and phone number be added to the Bridge.

3 Tenbury Wells Ave., Drysdale 3222 0407562208

**Mission News:** Barnabas Aid is asking all Christians to pray for the historic Christian community of Myanmar's Sagaing Region, where 3 Christians - including a 7-year-old child - in the village of Mon Hla were killed in a joint land and air attack by the Myanmar military (Tatmadaw).

A church and a Christian school were among 200 buildings destroyed by fires started by soldiers.

Just a few weeks later another 300 houses were burned down by soldiers in the neighbouring Christian village of Chan Thar.

Ask God to comfort and sustain his people in Sagaing and across Myanmar as brutal anti-Christian violence continues and pray that peace will come.

## DAILY READINGS

Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Ps 106 1-24	Exodus 15. 1-18	Matt. 28. 1-10
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ps 107. 1-22	Exodus 15. 19 – 27	Matt. 28. 11 -20
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pss. 110;111	Exodus 16. 1-21	Luke 24. 1 -12
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pss. 114; 115	Exodus 16. 22 – 17.7	Luke 24. 13-27
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Pss. 121;122;123	Exodus 17. 8 – 18. 9	Luke 24. 28 – 35
Sat. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ps. 118. 1-18	Exodus 18. 10 -27	Luke 24. 26 - 53

**PRAYERS...** For our friends who are unwell, that they may remember the love God has for them and that they will be comforted and strengthened by that knowledge. 'He will cover you with his feathers and under his wings you will find refuge'. Psalm 91:4

Wendy Hudson, Deb Podbury, Glenys Russell, Pat Brady, Elizabeth Polley,  
Ken Bermingham, Dot Sutcliffe, David Bayne, Dawn White,  
Janet Paisley, Doris Loewy, Marcel, Alison Fane, Mark Johnstone,  
Alli McLaren,  
and those we know personally who 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.

Shirley Dodgshun, Kaye Middlehurst, Anne Shady, Beth Ward, Jenny Wood,  
Shirley Trimble, Stella Scheiner, Keith & Kaye Houston, Barry Judd,  
Dawn White, Shirley Welsh, Lorraine Holbrook, Rosemary Stark,  
Barry Aitken & John Hault

Help me, Lord Jesus Christ, to softly fold inside my grief, my pain, my sadness,  
and to take each day in your company, travelling every step in your love.

Watch, dear Lord, with those who wake or weep tonight. Let your angels guard those who sleep. Tend the sick. Refresh the weary. Comfort those who are dying. Soothe the suffering. Have mercy on those who are distressed. We ask this for your love's sake.

*Augustine of Hippo.*

There will always be someone for you to ask to pray with you or for you ... John and Dawn on Tuesday mornings, Jill M or Jill P, prayer chain via Jill M., services on Tuesdays and Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays or via telephone. Do not be afraid to ask for prayer for yourself or someone you care about

*'Unbelief 'in the Bible is always regarded as tantamount to rebellion, a moral rather than an intellectual problem. Where there is honest doubt, (as Thomas had) it is always dealt with gently by Jesus, because there was a great desire to believe, and it was the mind and not the will that was involved. The mind can be enlightened, but the rebellious will has to be broken.*

*"Faith gives substance to our hopes and makes us certain of realities we do not see."*

*Heb. 11:1*

*'Faith' is not used much in the O.T. but is frequently present in words such as 'trust; or 'believe'. In the N. T. the word 'faith' and 'to believe' appear on almost every page and is the 'master-key' to all kinds of Christian experience. Indeed, without it we cannot begin to please God. Taken from "Dictionary of Bible Words" by Rev. John Eddison Scripture Union*