

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'

May 7th . 2023. 5th Sunday of Easter

Today's readings: -

Acts 7. 55- 60. Ps. 31. 1-5, 17 -18. 1 Peter 2. 11 -25 John 14. 1-14

VICAR: THE VEN. Jill McCoy; 52 562 446; 0425 805 827; jillm@ogbha.org.au

HON. ASSOCIATE PRIEST: REV Jill Poole; 0437 450 329.

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PARISH TREASURER: parish.accounts@ogbha.org.au

PARISH WEBSITE: www.ogbha.org.au ZOOM 488 270 257

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. (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.

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 and Prayers-personal 9.30 ish -12 with John & Dawn	St. Peter's Foyer O. G
WED	Staff meeting after 10.30 service	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 2nd Thurs. of the month, there is a morning coffee get together for the ladies at BT's 10.30

VICAR'S VOICE After visiting a couple of very different churches whilst on holiday recently, I've found myself thinking a lot about worship. I've again been reminded of the resources in the Leading your Church into Growth program. The writers of the program remind us that churches are helped to grow by having "user-friendly" worship. They invite us to imagine a group of people coming to our church for the first time. If we think about timings, books, words, activities, and the "feel" of the event, what do you think these visitors would find most difficult and off-putting? What might be interesting and attractive?

The LYCiG material also offers this reflection about worship:

We want them to come.

To come and see for themselves,

to be moved,

to hear the truth and feel the peace.

We want them to sense the joy,

be excited when the book is opened.

To eat and drink the bread and wine.

We want them to come.

And then we want them to come again.

This is what I want for our church.

Blessings, Jill

Keep PRAYING for our Parish , and a new Vicar following Jill's retirement. PRAY together and by yourself ; discuss thoughts with others in our congregation; offer support to the Committee and PRAY for them, because this won't be an easy task.

PRAY, seek and suggest possible candidates for the Committee to research, interview and consider.

There is no perfect life, no perfect job, no perfect childhood, no perfect marriage, and no perfect set of people who will always do what we expect them to do.

What we do have is a perfect God, who is able to lead us through this imperfect life, with unfailing strength, incomparable wisdom and infinite love.

'If the lesson you get from Jesus hanging with sinners is that you should hang out more with sinners, you're confused with who you are in the story.'

R.C.Sproul jnr.

"The reason why so many are still troubled, still seeking, still making so little forward progress is because they haven't still come to the end of THEMSELVES. We're still trying to give (God) orders and interfering with God's work within us." A W Tozer

NOTICES FOR MAY

- Mens Coffee morning 10.30 Thursday **11th May** at "The Parade"
- All Saints' next Christian film afternoon will be "Pilgrim's Progress" on Thurs. 11th at 2pm.

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS On Saturday **May 13th**, 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

- **BUSH CHURCH AID POSTAGE STAMP APPEAL** We are collating our next consignment of used postage stamps for BCA as part of their fundraising program.

If you have used postage stamps, please give them to Betty Cameron by Sunday, **28 May**. Stamps addressed to me can be left in envelopes at St. Peter's Church or in locked letterbox at 2/24 Wyatt Street, Ocean Grove. With many thanks, Betty Cameron

- *Jill Poole is away from the parish from 28th April until 27th May*

Mission News Church Missionary Society History:

CMS was initially focussed on East Africa, and the first missionaries went to Tanganyika (Tanzania) in 1893.

In 1927 CMS Australia accepted responsibility for the development of Anglican Diocese of Central Tanganyika.

In 1947 there were 10 African clergy in Tanzania.

Today there are 28 dioceses, each with many dozens of ordained clergy.

Over time, CMS has sent missionaries to Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, DR Congo, Namibia and South Africa.

After independence, for many countries in the 1960's, leadership and management of the church was handed over, by missionaries, to Africans. Missionaries now work in partnership and under indigenous leaders.

In 1990 there were 69 CMS missionaries across 4 countries. In 2010 there were 57 across 7 countries. In 2023 there are 21 across 9 countries.

There is still an important role for missionaries in Africa, and there is much demand for them; but to work collaboratively rather than in leadership. This is a sign of health in the African church. In 1900 there were an estimated 9 million Christians.

Today the estimate is 380 million.

READINGS FOR next Sunday May 14. (6th Sunday of Easter)

Acts 17.22 -31 Ps. 66.7-19 1 Peter 3. 8 – 22 John 14. 15 -21

DAILY READINGS

Mon 8	Ps. 89. 1-18	Exodus 31	John 12.20-33
Tues 9	Ps 89. 39 -53	Exodus 32.1- 14	John 12. 34- 43
Wed 10	Pss. 92; 93	Exodus 32. 15 -35	John 12. 44-50
Thurs 11	Pss. 95; 96	Exodus 33.1 - 17	John 13.1-11
Fri 12	Pss. 99; 100	Exodus 33. 18 -34. 10	John 13. 12 -20
Sat.13	Pss. 101; 102. 1 - 11	Exodus 34.11 – 24 (25,26)	John 13. 21 -35

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.

May you be wrapped up in God's Love, found deep in His everlasting wings, carried and kept safe and cherished.

May the healing power of Christ breathe across you.

Wendy Hudson, Deb Podbury, Glenys Russell, Pat Brady, Elizabeth Polley, Ken Bermingham, Dot Sutcliffe, David Bayne, 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, Shirley Welsh, Lorraine Holbrook, Rosemary Stark, Dawn White, Barry Aitken & John Hoult

Lord of heaven and earth, I rest underneath your mighty wings of love.

I dwell within your gentle heart. I know there is healing in your touch.

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

MUSIC IN OUR CHURCH. Singing to God is what it is all about, and because words and context are so important, the idea is to think about them and to whom you are singing them –our God. We try to cater for all members, modern tunes and words are just as important as well- known tunes and words from the Hymn Books . There is room for both. Also, if a particular song doesn't quite follow the theme for the day, do you think God would be upset, or loving the fact that we sing praises to Him? Singing is a joy...so sing it with whatever voice you have. Just sing to God with joy in your hearts.

Lord...We thank you for your church, founded upon your Word, that challenges us to do more than sing and pray, but go out and work as though the very answer to our prayers depended on us and not upon you. Help us to realise that humanity was created to shine like the stars and live on through all eternity. Keep us, we pray, in perfect peace. Help us to walk together, pray together sing together and live together until that day when all God's children will rejoice in one common band of humanity in the reign of our Lord and of our God, we pray. Amen.- *The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.*