

# 'THE BRIDGE'

*Newsletter for*

March 10<sup>th</sup>. 2024  
4<sup>th</sup>. Sunday in Lent

**THE ANGLICAN PARISH of  
ST. PETER'S OCEAN GROVE**

35-37 Draper St. Ocean Grove.3226

**& ALL SAINTS' BARWON HEADS**

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## Regular Service Times

SUNDAY 8am. FOLLOWED BY 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 &

10am. Holy Communion

SATURDAY 9am. Prayers at St. Peter's- all welcome.

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.

## TODAY'S READINGS

Numbers 21. 4-9 Psalm 107.1-3.17-22 Ephesians 2. 1-10

John 3. 14 -21

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY March 17

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Ps 119:9-16 Hebrews 5:5-14 John 12:20-33

## Our Mission

To know Christ and to make Christ known.

**Vicar's Voice...**Greetings to you all in the name of Christ Jesus, our Saviour.

## **Why? How?**

Why should I participate in the season that we know as Lent? Why should I self-examine? How does it make any difference to my life? Why am I suffering? How am I going to get through this? Why, why, why, how, how, how?

The questions of 'why and how' can often be seen as negative questions, and they can hold great pain and angst, especially when they come to us amidst challenging times, or when these questions lead us to a crossway of change within ourselves, or the need for change within our circumstances. Yet these are the questions Jesus himself often asked. Around 80 of the questions Jesus asked (and He asked a lot of questions) are "how" and "why" questions. One of Jesus' most powerful questions was asked as he suffered on the cross, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which means "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*"

It is extremely hard when we struggle to find the answers to such questions, however, it is important to be asking them, as it allows us to seek new information about ourselves, about others and most importantly about God. Jesus shows us what it means to live fully under the will of God, the Father, yet we often bypass God's will to ensure our own ways remain secure. However, from my experience God's ways are always better, not always easy but always better, and as we trust Him we can gain great strength, comfort and endurance as we share in the power and hope in God, even through difficult times.

Therefore, as we continue to journey through this time of Lent, I'm offering the following prayer which may help you as you ask questions, self-examine, and seek God in your every day.

*Afresh I seek you this day O Lord, lead me once more I pray,  
If ever it should be against my will, my way, let me not feel your absence  
this day,  
or shrink from you as an estranged power.  
Through doubt, through faith, through bliss, through stark dismay,  
through sunshine, wind, rain or storm, draw me ever closer to You,  
my one true hope and life everlasting.  
Amen.*

Have a blessed week.

Vicar Liz

## DAILY READINGS BEGINNING MONDAY March 10th

MON	Pss.28;29	Jeremiah 36. 1 -19	Hebrews 12. 1 -11
TUES	Ps. 31	Jeremiah 36. 20 - 32	Hebrews 12. 12 -24
WED	Ps. 35.1 -17	Jeremiah 37	Hebrews 12. 25 - 29
THURS	Ps. 34	Jeremiah 38. 1 -13	Hebrews 13. 1-6
FRI	Ps. 37. 1 -17	Jeremiah 38. 14 -28	Hebrews 13. 7 -17
SAT	Ps.38	Jeremiah 39.	Hebrews 13. 18 -25

## PRAYERS

-for **all** of our unwell friends, that they may remember the love God has for them and be comforted and strengthened by that knowledge.

*Anne, David Bayne, Pat Brady, Alison Fane,  
Lyn Carey-Nicholson, Tom Hudson, Doris Loewy,  
Jenny Maxwell, Alli McLaren, Jim O'Keefe, Janet Paisley,  
Deb Podbury, Glenys Russell, and Dot Sutcliffe.*

-for those with illnesses which medication no longer helps, and to their loved ones give courage, strength, and comfort in their faith of the joy of eternal life.

-for those recently bereaved - give comfort and strength.

-for our members in residential care give peace, comfort & contentment.

*Barry Aitken, Ron Cameron, Shirley Dodgshun,  
Lorraine Holbrook, John Hoult, Stella Scheiner,  
Beth Ward and Jenny Wood.*

'He will cover you with his feathers and under his wings you will find refuge'.

**MISSION** **The Leprosy Mission (TLM)** is having a special Easter Appeal for victims of Leprosy in Nigeria.

According to TLM leprosy remains out of control in Nigeria, and in Zamfara State a new case is reported every 35 hours.

The story of Jane is typical of many in Nigeria. When her father died from leprosy complications, her extended family turned up and tried to marry her off and force her 2 younger brothers to become farm labourers.

TLM Nigeria rescued the family and sent the children back to school.

Jane is now married and has a Master's Degree in Public Health. The brothers are at university studying electrical engineering and computer science.

Lives have been transformed through the work of the TLM.

**The great news is that every dollar donated by TLM supporters for work in Nigeria, is matched by a 5:1 grant from the Australian Government through Australian Aid. In other words, every \$1 we donate means \$6 goes to TLM.**

This grant from Australian Aid is in operation from now until **28th March**.

If you are interested in giving to this cause, you can:

\* send a cheque or money order to The Leprosy Mission Australia, PO Box 293 Box Hill, Vic 3128

OR

\* Direct deposit donations into ANZ BSB 013225 Account No. 29711472  
(In the reference field enter D0078605 24EASPY.

Please email notification of payment to [hello@leprosymission.org.au](mailto:hello@leprosymission.org.au)

## DIARY DATES - WHAT'S ON & WHAT'S COMING UP

Lenten studies	Sundays	@ St. Peter's	5.30 – 8pm	bring finger-food meal
	Tuesdays	@St. Peter's	2 – 4 pm	bring afternoon tea
	Thursdays	@ All Saints'	2 – 4pm	bring afternoon tea

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

MON	Hearts and Crafts 10 – 1. BYO lunch.	St. Peter's Old Church
TUES	Prayers-personal 9.30 ish -12 with John & Dawn	St. Peter's Foyer O G
WED	Staff meeting 9 - 9.50	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

**All Saints' church is open 9-5 - with Way of the Cross and Lenten Meditation Space.**

*Kintsugi — which means “join with gold” — is the Japanese art of repairing broken objects, often ceramic pottery or glass. Traditionally, gold lacquer is used to piece shards together again, creating a more beautiful object through the acts of breaking and repair.*

The scars of our life are usually unseen by others but felt by us and can affect our lives completely. By embracing a new life, offered by Jesus, and filled with His Holy Spirit, we can eventually walk through our daily lives with grace and loving acceptance, and become a new vessel. However, our scars are what make us uniquely beautiful. Jesus can do this for us.