

'THE BRIDGE'

Newsletter for

LIVING WATERS ANGLICAN CHURCH

ST. PETER' S OCEAN GROVE
35-37 Draper St. Ocean Grove.3226

ALL SAINTS' BARWON HEADS
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PARISH OFFICE

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Parish.office@ogbha.org.au

PARISH TREASURER:

parish.accounts@ogbha.org.au

PARISH WEBSITE

www.ogbha.org.au

If you cannot join us in person on Sunday,
please jump online by using this link below
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83473659823>

ZOOM : 834 736 598 23
Anglican

SUNDAY 1st. December

Advent 1.

TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE CHRIST KNOWN

VICAR:

Rev. Liz Rankin

0419 581 792

HON. ASSOCIATE PRIEST

Rev. Jill Poole

0437450329

jillrpoole@gmail.com

READINGS TODAY:

Jeremiah 33.14 -16

Ps.25.1-10

1 Thess.3.9 -13

Luke21. 25 - 38

If you would like to contribute to our parish and support our mission, Direct Deposits can be made to:

*St Peters Anglican Church Ocean Grove BSB: 063 834 CBA
Acc. No. 1005 0271*

Regular Service Times

SUNDAY 9.00am 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 10am. at St. Peter's. O.G.
SATURDAY 9am. Prayers at St. Peter's O.G.

If you've a notice for the
Bridge, email, message,
write a note, or phone
Isobel Dean **before**
9.30 am Thursday.
(check the Parish Directory
for my numbers)

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.

VICAR'S VOICE

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Welcome to the season of Advent, as we dedicate some time to mark and remember, with anticipation, the arrival of Jesus of Nazareth, the long-awaited Messiah and King. Over these next four weeks I thought it would be good to offer you a short advent reflection to ponder. This Advent Meditation is called *PEACE ON EARTH*, and it comes from Practicing the Way, a nonprofit organisation that creates spiritual formation resources for churches and small groups learning how to become apprentices of 'the Way of Jesus.' I hope you find it helpful.

Advent 1 Peace Is Being Present

My heart is not proud, Lord, my eyes are not haughty;
I do not concern myself with great matters of things too wonderful for me.
But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned
child I am content.

Israel, put your hope in the Lord both now and forever.

-Psalm 131-

When we're consumed by future plans, fret about hardships to come, or, to borrow the words of the Psalmist, when we concern ourselves with "great matters or things too wonderful," we risk becoming people who can't be present. Some of us fixate on future goals because it helps us escape present pain and confusion. As one pastor shared, "Even in ministry, I've become comfortable with a farsightedness — of looking ahead to 'things too great for me' — to avoid the difficulty of facing a blurry near-term." Others of us compulsively look ahead out of fear and a desire to control. Some clinicians define anxiety as "the anticipation of evil." We're scanning the horizon, trying to predict what may come and bracing ourselves against future pain.

Both types of fixations can steal our peace and make it difficult to be present to Jesus and to those around us. With Jesus, we don't need to avoid what's right in front of us. We can face the pain, confusion, or chaos today brings, because he is waiting to meet us in it. And Jesus teaches us to release the fantasy that we control future plans. He helps us "abandon outcomes to God," in the words of Jan Johnson. We plan as best we can for the future, and then we let go, consciously placing whatever comes at the feet of Jesus. The sooner we turn to Jesus and accept our contingency, our dependence, and our limitations, the sooner we become more "like a weaned child with its mother" — deeply content and calm. And with that peace, we become more present to God, to ourselves, and to those we love.

REFLECT

What is stealing your peace in this season of your life? Take a moment to offer to Jesus anything that comes to mind.

What is your typical go-to response when feelings of anxiety or confusion surface?

How might Psalm 131 inform your response?

How have you seen Jesus meet you in your confusion or pain? How did you create space for him to meet you there?

I encourage you to make some time (even a few times) across this coming week to find some space to sit quietly with these words and reflect on them with Jesus by your side.

Shalom Vicar Liz

PRAY — For all our unwell friends & family, that they may remember the love God has for them and be comforted & strengthened.

*Pat Brady, Alison Fane, Heather Franken, Glenn Hooper,
Suzi Jefferies, Doris Loewy, Alli McLaren,
Jim O'Keefe, Prue Kensell, Janet Paisley, Deb Podbury,
Glenys Russell, Dot Sutcliffe and Bert Tilley.*

▪ For those with illnesses which medication no longer helps, give comfort in their faith of the joy of eternal life, and to their loved ones give courage, strength. To those recently bereaved give comfort & strengthen their belief of eternal life.

▪ For our members in residential care give peace, comfort & contentment.

*Rose Ailey, Barry Aitken, Lynette Dehnert,
Jenny Maxwell, Stella Scheiner, Beth Ward & Jenny Wood.*

Pray for each one with love in your hearts – holding them up before our God, and giving thanks for any healing that takes place.

*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.*

Mission News—Lunga Makhanya is studying for a Bachelor of Theology at George Whitefield College in Cape Town, South Africa.

While at university in 2015, he encountered God through a Bible study on Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

He went on to serve as an apprentice at Christ Church Leondale in Germiston. He learned that "fruitful ministry is governed by good theology and good administration."

Christ Church has sent Lunga to George Whitefield. It is an exciting time in the South African church, which is growing exponentially, and it needs not only preachers and evangelists but also readers, thinkers, scholars and teachers. Lunga wants "to make his humble contribution".

SparkLit, formerly Society for promoting Christian knowledge Australia, is helping students like Lunga by giving them a copy of "Encountering Theology of Mission". A donation of \$66 will provide one copy.

Lunga says "Please pray that God will provide for my family. Pray that God will use me to equip and empower believers to share the transforming message of the gospel."

Find out more about the work of SparkLit by ringing 1300 13 7725 or go to www.sparklit.org

There may be a couple of calendars left - talk to Betty Cameron or Beryl Slocombe

DAILY READINGS BEGINNING MONDAY Dec.2.

MON	Ps. 77	Isaiah 1. 18 -31	Mark 4. 1 -20
TUES	Ps. 78.16 -38	2. (1-5) 6 -18	4. 21 -41
WED	Ps. 80.	2. 19 – 3. 12	5. 1 -20
THU	Pss. 82; 84	3. 13 – 4. 6	5. 21 - 43
FRI	Ps. 86.	5. 1 -17	6. 1 -13
SAT	Ps. 90.	5. 18 -30	6. 14 -29

READINGS
 Next SUNDAY
 DEC. 8th
 Malachi 3:1-14
 Song of Zechariah
 APBA page 425
 Philippians 1:1-11
 Luke 3:1-6



LOOK HERE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING

• Sunday Dec 1	Barwon heads Focus Group meet after Church.
Thursday Dec. 12	Search the Spirit St. P's Hall 3pm.
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WHAT'S ON AND WHERE- EACH WEEK		
MON	Hearts and Crafts 10 – 1. BYO lunch.	St. Peter's Old Church
TUE	9.30 -12 Prayers 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
	All Saints' church is open 9 – 5. Daily	All Saints' Ch. B.H

The old man was out walking when he noticed a whole lot of sparrows happily munching on some grains which had been spilt on the road. He approached carefully, but as he came closer, they all started to flutter and panic, and soon all had flown away.

He watched them and wondered why – he wasn't going to hurt them, so why did they go?

He realized then that he was just too big!

So he wondered how he COULD walk amongst them without frightening them by his size.

The only way that could happen was if he could become a sparrow and fly down among them.