

'THE BRIDGE'

Newsletter for

LIVING WATERS ANGLICAN CHURCH

SUNDAY 15th. Dec.

Advent 3.



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

ALL SAINTS' BARWON HEADS
61-63 Hitchcock Ave. Barwon Heads 3227

PARISH OFFICE

St. Peter's Ocean Grove
Phone 52562446
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

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. Peters O.G.

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:

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Song of Isaiah APBA page 391

Philippians 4:4-47

Luke 3:7-18

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve

St Peter's:

6.30pm Family Service &
11.15pm Holy Communion

All Saints': 6.30pm

Christmas Day

St Peter's: 9.00am

All Saints': 9.30am

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 Advent three. Following on from last week's Advent Meditation called *PEACE ON EARTH*, which has been resourced 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 3 ***Peace is Walking by the Spirit***

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked in fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (aka Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

John 20v19-27

What are Jesus' first words to his followers after he's back from the dead? "Peace be with you." Jesus repeats it two verses later: "Peace be with you." And a little further in the story, when Jesus appears again, this time with Thomas present, he says it a third time. Three times in a row. That's Jesus and John's way of making sure we don't miss how important this line is.

In the resurrection stories, the throughline is that the disciples are afraid, hiding in an upper room, racked by anxiety; and Jesus comes, and the first thing he offers is peace. And in John's version, right after Jesus says, "Peace be with you" for the second time, we read that "... he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"

This isn't just a greeting; it's a blessing. It's a gift of the Spirit of Jesus to his followers — the same Spirit that empowers us today, moment-by-moment, to live in the peace of Jesus.

Just before his arrest, Jesus comforts his troubled followers with a promise: "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. ... I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you" (John 14v16-18). The same comfort holds true for his followers today. When we're in a tense conversation or responding to a rebellious child or navigating a major life change or moving toward a hurting friend with no words to say — we're never abandoned as orphans.

The Spirit of truth is with us. And in all situations, at all times, the fruit of the Spirit is peace.

REFLECT

- In what types of situations do you find it most difficult to maintain peace?
- How have you experienced the Spirit enabling inner peace in the midst of turmoil or tension? What might our role be in giving the Spirit space to form us into people of non-anxious presence?
- How might entrusting yourself to the Spirit of peace change the way you relate to others, even during periods of stress?

I again 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, Glenys Russell, Dot Sutcliffe, Bert Tilley, Judy & Bill Jefferies.

- 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.

PRAISE BE TO GOD!

Mission News

Nungalinga College is the training college in Darwin run by the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Uniting Churches. It runs theological education courses as well as media, art and other courses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Australians. The end of this year sees a number of staff members departing and some of those positions have still to be filled.

The December prayer points from the College included:

Giving thanks for:

- * The church leaders who completed Certificates III and IV in Christian Ministry and Theology.
- * The departing principal's leadership and ministry over 6 years.
- * The work of the outgoing Uniting and Anglican Deans, Travel Clerk, and Communications Officer - Dean, Ruth, Hannah and Steven.

Pray For:

- * Graduating church leader as they return to their communities and leadership roles.
- * God's provision of new personnel.
- * Dr. Yani Daamanik as she starts as the new principal.
- * The family and friends of Michelle Cook, staff member who was killed in a car accident several weeks ago.

Please include these prayer points in your prayers.

LIVING WATERS FAMILY GET - TOGETHER.

Our Living Waters church is a family, and families get together at this time of the year. So Friday 20th of December there will be a get together at Fraser's (22 Sandpiper Ct) from 5 till 7 for drinks and nibbles. Bring your own drinks, nibbles will be supplied. If your spouse/partner is not in the church family, they are most welcome to come with you. As we live in a court parking is limited but there is plenty of parking in Presidents Ave. and we are only 2 houses down through the road closure. Any questions call Gaye or Bob Fraser.



LOOK HERE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING

20 Dec	5pm.-7pm. nibbles & drinks see previous page notice
	Prayers with John & Dawn on Tuesdays are in recess until mid- January.

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 (in recess)	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

BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER

This free service operates from the Bellarine Police Station in Ocean Grove and provides Bellarine residents with an additional layer of safety and peace of mind along the way. It is a secure database of personal information such as emergency contacts, doctor's name, pet carer, spare key location, keypad code etc. that can be accessed by police in case of an emergency.

There are 4 main aspects to the service that is operated by trained and authorized Volunteers and includes:

- **Care Calls** to those who may be living alone, whose family is not close by, who are caring for someone in their own home.
 - **A Window Sticker** for the front door area that alerts the police to the residence being registered with the organization in case of emergency.
 - **An Identification Card** with a unique number that is used to put a name to someone who may have experienced a medical incident and cannot communicate; and
 - **A Key Tag** with the same unique number in case the owner's keys are found and handed into the police station.
- ❖ If you would like more information for yourself or someone you know, Sharm and Sandy will be available after today's service to chat with you further.

.....
 Readings beginning Monday (just testing your memories as last week I had this week's printed – so see if they all made sense now) SORRY SORRY

MON	Ps. 89. 39 - 53	Isaiah 7. 1-17	Mark 6. 30 -56
TUES	Pss.92; 93	7. 18 – 8. 4	7. 1 -23
WED	Pss. 95; 96	8. 5- 9. 1	7. 24 -37
THU	Pss. 99; 100	9. 2 -17	8. 1 -13
FRI	Pss. 101; 102. 1-11	9. 18-10. 11	8. 14 -26
SAT	Pss. 108; 109.20-30	10. 12 -32	8. 27 -9.1

**Thousands of
 babies became
 kings,
 but
 only one King
 became a baby!**