

4<sup>th</sup> May 2025

third SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE BRIDGE – NEWSLETTER FOR

# LIVING WATERS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

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

Our mission is

**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

Psalm30

Gen. 22. 1 -18

John 21. 1-19

PARISH OFFICE @ St. Peter's Ocean Grove 52562466 [parish.office@ogbha.org.au](mailto:parish.office@ogbha.org.au)

PARISH TREASURER [parish.accounts@ogbha.org.au](mailto:parish.accounts@ogbha.org.au)

If you would like to contribute to our parish (*Living Waters*), and support our mission, direct Deposits can be made to:

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

PARISH WEBSITE [www.ogbha.org.au](http://www.ogbha.org.au)

## Regular Service Times

SUNDAY 9.00am at St. Peter's O.G.& 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.

ZOOM 834 736 598 23 Anglican

If you cannot join us in person on Sunday, please jump online by using this link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83473659823>

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 to you in the name of Jesus!

It was great to return last week and step back into the unfolding story of God, through scripture. Still in the book of Genesis, we began to look at the story of Abraham, one which many have heard before and know well. God's promise in Abraham to make him into a great nation and God blessed him to be a blessing. A promise that highlights the desire of God to redeem humanity, that was yet again in chaos and living separate from God. However, God's heart never changes, and his heart's desire came through this promise to Abraham, to make him a great nation so that generation after generation might know God and be in relationship with him.

I encourage you to read Genesis 12 through to 25 to explore all that took place in Abraham's life from the age of 75 through to his death. His obedience to God, his doubts in God, his scheming to try to make the promise of God come to fruition by his own ways, the consequences of doing things in his own way, his ordinary life with such extraordinary twists and turns, miracles and blessings. We will also see the character of God through it all, His goodness, His heart, His promises not just to Abraham but to all generations to follow, including us today.

The key things I spoke about last week in my message where, how Abraham trusted God so much that he was willing to obey God's command to leave his country and all that he knew in life and go to where God will show him (Gen 12:1). He was stepping into the unknown, unfamiliar, into the un-defined, into ambiguity of an unplanned future. This is the ultimate way of trust. From this point nothing was straightforward or quick in Abraham's life. So, you can imagine the doubts and concern he must have been feeling. Possibly even asking the question, what have I done? Yet, in Genesis 15:1 we see God reassuring Abraham by giving him a vision: *"Do not be afraid, I am your shield, your very great reward."* We see that along the way God continued to show up, to reassure, to draw Abraham back into God's presence and his greater reality, that can so easily be lost sight of.

This week we'll look further into this story, the section after the miracle of Abraham and Sarah's son, Issac being born. The promise fulfilled, the beginning of the generations (nations) to come. As we continue to explore, I encourage you to ponder these questions for yourself.

Do you trust God, I mean trust him to the point of stepping into the unknown, unfamiliar, unplanned, and trust him with what is still to come? Are you willing to leave what you have known, and allow God to show you a new life ahead? Do you recognise that God's presence for us today is the same presence of God which Abraham experienced? Might you have you lost sight of God's presence and greater reality? It is my prayer that as we explore these stories of the past, we might recognise what God is speaking into in our present. That we might trust him and seek his presence for our lives, and that we might join Him as co-workers for a time such as this, to expand and extend this promise that all may come to know God and be redeemed by Him.

Have a blessed week everyone.

Shalom Vicar Liz

## PRAYERS

**Give thanks for the healing of many who have been on our sick list previously**

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

*Pat Brady, , Charlie, Heather Franken, Bill Jefferies, Suzi Jefferies, Doris Loewy, Alli McLaren, Jim O’Keefe, Prue Kensell, Janet Paisley, Glenys Russell, Dot Sutcliffe , & 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.*

### WORDS OF COMFORT

“I shall cover you with my feathers, and you will be safe under my wings: my faithfulness will be your shield and defence”.

“I will protect you because you know my name.”

“You will call upon me and I shall answer you: I will be with you in trouble; I will rescue you and bring you to honour”.

The Lord is our shepherd, and we shall want for nothing if we follow him.

## Mission News

**CMB** is what was formerly known as Christian Blind Mission International. These days CBM is not only concerned with sight issues but a whole range of disabilities.

For example, a 16 year old Indian boy, Jitesh, has clubfoot. He is top of his class, loves science and absolutely adores cricket. However, because of the very painful clubfoot he cannot play. He comes from a family which does not have the money to pay for the operations necessary to correct his problem.

CBM is planning to step in and help with the cost of the year of surgery and rehab necessary to allow him to lead a normal life.

To find out more about the work of CBM go to [cmb.org.au](http://cmb.org.au) or ring 1800678069.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

WHAT'S COMING UP ?	
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Flower spray making 9.30 and then giving them in the town area.
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies coffee morning at BT's 10.30 ( 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1<sup>ST</sup>. Marilyn Hansen    12<sup>th</sup>. Lyn Carey-Nicholson    16<sup>th</sup>. Jenny Wood  
 20<sup>th</sup>. Rhonda Gillard    29<sup>th</sup>. Lesley Fenton    30<sup>th</sup>. Gaye Fraser

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE- EACH WEEK		
MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearts and Crafts 10 – 1. BYO lunch.</li> <li>• 1.30 – 4 Art with worship &amp; fellowship</li> </ul>	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

## DAILY READINGS BEGINNING May 5

MON	Pss. 15;16	Exodus 19. 1-15	John 9. 1-12
TUES	Ps. 18.1-31	19.16-20. 17	9. 13-23
WED	Ps. 19.	20. 18-21. 6	9.24-41
THU	Pss. 20. 21. 1-7	22. 20-23.3	10. 1-18
FRI	Ps. 22.1-22	23. 4-17	10. 19-30
SAT	Ps. 25	23.20-33	10. 31-42



A reminder that we will be distributing flowers on **Sat. May 10<sup>th</sup>**. We are to meet in the church hall at 9.30 to make the flower sprays. This is always a positive experience & if you haven't previously participated, please join us. Bring secateurs, baskets & long stemmed green foliage if possible. You could consider donating money as flowers are expensive to buy. Speak with Dawn Northfield or Alison Aitken for details.

' We tend to stay away from mourning and dancing. Too afraid to cry, too shy to dance. We may then become narrow-minded complainers- avoiding pain and also true human joy.

While we live in a world subject to the evil one, we belong to God. So – let us mourn and let us dance.' Henri Nouwen