

11th. May 2025

Fourth 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

TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE CHRIST KNOWN

VICAR
REV LIZ RANKIN
0419 581 792

HON.ASSOCIATE
PRIEST
Rev. Jill Poole
0437 450 329

READINGS TODAY
Psalm 23
Exodus 3
John 10:22-30

PARISH OFFICE @ St. Peter's Ocean Grove 5256 2446 parish.office@ogbha.org.au

PARISH TREASURER 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

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.

WELCOME

TO ALL VISITORS WITH US TODAY

Vicar's Voice

Hello again to each of you reading this newsletter, and greetings in the name of Jesus.

It's been a full week for me as I led each of our connect groups and enjoyed many rich conversations about the story of Abraham. This story forces us to look at our own relationship with God, and how we, as God's people, respond or react to moving into a place of the unknown. At the age of 75 God spoke to Abraham (Genesis 12:1) and asked him to leave his homeland, all that he knew and go into a land that God would show him. God had promised that Abraham would be the seed of nations to come. The first of generations to follow, who would become God's people, so that others may come to know God also.

Last week we looked further into Abraham's story, at the absurd yet incredible telling of Abraham preparing to sacrifice his son Issac on an altar for God. And we know that in the last seconds before the sacrifice went through, God intervened, stopped Abraham from going through with it and indeed provided what was needed, in order that God's original blessing and promises could come to fruition. This was the ultimate test to see how much Abraham trusted and was willing to obey God. In our services I took a huge risk myself and put a challenge to everyone, as I invited us to think about what things might God be asking us, his people in 2025, to be laying down at the altar. What things in our lives do we love so much, worked so hard for, cling to so dearly, yet these things have the potential to be a blockage to what God needs to and desires to do at this time, so that others may come to know Him. Holding onto these things are also a sign that we are not putting our full trust in God and where he may be leading us. I'll be honest, I was astounded at the engagement of so many who came forward and their responses and I was so thankful that God moved within so many of you, highlighting a turning point for us all.

Yet for some, this turning point has raised, fear, resistance to the unknown, questions of why we need to change. I'm sure Abraham and every other person across the ages that God has called to do things for His purposes and His ways have felt the same. Including me at times! I think it's important for me to share some examples of the things that were laid down on the altar last week, giving us insight for further reflection: I'm too comfortable, self-centredness, our services, letting go of the past, fear, anxiety, the noise of the world around me, family, friends, stressing over unimportant things, discomfort, people pleasing, control, pride, not trusting God, to name but a few of many more. These are the things that we have named, and have recognised, holds us back from allowing God to do what God does best, providing for and fulfilling His promises.

This, therefore, leads us to making a choice. Do we lean into and honour what we've laid down to move forward, trusting God and allowing him to work in and through us? or do we remain clinging onto the challenging feelings of resistance and fear? It is my prayer that we work together, not dismissing the challenges but rather moving through them. Ensuring that we don't become blockers for God's purposes, but rather we become instruments for building the church in this time and place, so others may come know Him and we may bring Him glory through our obedience. Let us continue on this journey, with eyes wide open through the unfolding story of God.

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

We as Christians don't escape illness, pain and grief .Sometimes things don't go our way and when pain hits and we can't work out why we have to suffer, we need to admit that we just don't know. We really don't know. However, with Jesus we have the 'I do know' things about him and the things we are promised..the absolute love of God, the care and comfort he gives, and life eternal with Him .

Mission News

Anglican Overseas Aid raised \$102,890 for Gaza's al-Ahli Arab Hospital during the Christmas period.

This is being used to cover the medical costs of thousands of people in Gaza.

In 2024 AOA received a bequest from Lorna Holsinger. Part of that bequest will fund a program with Mothers' Union in South Africa, training 225 women in sustainable food agriculture. These women will then pass on their knowledge to others in their communities, multiplying the program's impact.

Lorna's legacy will live on for many years to come.

More information about AOA programs and leaving a bequest can be found by going to aoa@anglicanoverseasaid.org.au and asking for an obligation-free information kit.

WHAT'S COMING UP ?	
May 15th	Ladies coffee morning at BT's 10.30 (3 rd Thursday)

May BIRTHDAYS 16TH.Jeanne Findlay  18th.Bob Fraser

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE- EACH WEEK		
MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearts and Crafts 10 – 1. BYO lunch. • 1.30 – 4 Art with worship & fellowship 	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 12

MON	Ps. 31	Exodus 24.	John 11. 1-16
TUES	Ps. 35. 1-17	25. 1-22	11. 17 -37
WED	Ps. 34.	25. 31 -40	11. 38- 44
THU	Ps. 37. 1- 17	28. 1-6; 29. 1-9	11. 45 - 54
FRI	Ps. 38	29. 38 – 30. 8	11. 55 – 12. 8
SAT	Ps. 40	30. 11 -25 . 34- 38	12. 9 -19

The difference between
Jesus and religion:
Religion shames people
for having dirty feet.
Jesus kneels down to
wash them.

Blessed is the crisis that made you grow
the fall that made you gaze up to heaven,
the problem that made you look for God.

"I've found that if I pray for
God to move a mountain,
I must be prepared
to wake up next to
a shovel."



Today the Lord spoke to me in the
flowers, but I nearly missed Him
because I was waiting for words.....