

Please pray for:

International Community and Church in: Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands

The Anglican Communion: Meru (Kenya)

Churches in Australia: Romanian Orthodox Church, Romanian Patriarchate Australian Churches

Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of Bunbury.

The Diocese: St John's Canberra, St John's Care, Sutton Road Mission District, ANU Chaplaincy Team, University of Canberra, Radford College, Bishop's Prayer for Healing Team, Ministry to post-secondary students.

St Margaret's: Rev Chris Lockley and wife Madeleine and church Elders.

Our Parish: Erica Mathieson and Ray Williamson; Wardens and Parish Council, the Tucker box, choir and Children's Ministry.

From the Parish Directory: Rosemary Radford and Lara, Nick Radford, Judith Ramage, Susan Reid and Michael Braund, Mildred Rendell.

People for Prayer: Keith and June Burnett, Barb Edward, Jackie and Brush Gordon-Smith, Miriam Rijven, Bryce and Kate Wilson.

Give thanks for the life of: Marie Humphries (14.3.2001), Richard Clarke (15.3.2006)

Holy Cross Anglican Parish

Serving Hackett, Dickson, Downer, Watson



Third Sunday in Lent 8th March 2015

The Rector Writes

Dear Friends

Welcome to Holy Cross this morning and our celebration of the Eucharist. May you find new strength, courage and wisdom as you worship, and a fresh awareness of God's love.

In the early church this Sunday was the first of the 'scrutinies' for those preparing for Easter baptism. The Ten Commandments, our Old Testament reading today, had a significant place in candidates' learning and preparation. The commandments make it clear that they are a response to the prior loving action of God in setting the Hebrew people free from slavery, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you up from the land of Egypt, you shall have no other gods'. The commandments also represent the way to remain free - free from false gods and harmful relationships with others. Our contemporary gods of racism, consumerism, individualism and the numerous addictions around attract slaves not free worshippers and that is not how God would have us be. This perhaps explains Jesus' anger at the money-changers and sellers of animals in the temple. No doubt some place of exchange was necessary, but there is something deeper happening here - the recognition of people's need for a place of worship and prayer that had been 'taken over' and which needed restoration. Jesus is portrayed as being angry on other occasions in the gospels, eg when little children are kept from him, when people close their hearts to the needs of others, when religious practice acts as a barrier to God rather than a door into relationship with God. In Lent we scrutinise our lives for all that hinders our relationship with God and seek God's grace.

Thank you to the hard-working little band who helped at the working bee yesterday. Isn't the church beautifully clean?

God bless and be with you this week.

Erica

FOR NEXT SUNDAY 15TH MARCH

Minister of the Word

David Campbell

Readings and Readers

Numbers 21:4-9 Michael Braund
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10 Natalie Collis
John 3:14-21

Intercessor

Chris Ledger

Chalice

Dorothy Mackenzie

Organist

Grace Mya

Door

Michael Braund
Tony Strain

Welcomer

Volunteer

Morning Tea

Chris Ledger Don Doering
Patricia Stoddart

Counting

Richard Stoddart
Nick Radford

Cleaning

Dee Baird
Mark Sayer

Children

Patricia Stoddart
Nichola Worrall

Flowers

Lent

Holy Cross Office: Lynda Dyer
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All items for the pew sheet to **Lynda by Wednesday**, please.

Recent Church Appointments

On this International Women's Day, it is a pleasure to note that this year two women have been appointed to significant positions in the church in Australia.

⇒ **Ms Anne Hywood** is the new General Secretary of the Anglican General Synod. She has been a member of the General Synod and has served as Registrar of two dioceses, Adelaide and Grafton.

⇒ **Sister Elizabeth Delaney** has taken up the role of General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in Australia. She is the first Roman Catholic to hold the position, and until late last year was the Executive Officer for the RC Bishops' Commission for Ecumenism and Inter-Religious Dialogue - based in Canberra.

 * *Parish Connectors* will be making contact with everyone in the parish in
 * preparation for Holy Week and Easter over the next days and weeks. You can
 * expect a visit, contact, connection in the near future. We hope in this way to build
 * our community life and let everyone know about Holy Week and Easter services.

St John's Care

This morning we had a young Refugee woman come. She and her husband and 3 children escaped from a violent country to start a new life in Australia but it has not been all she had dreamed. There has been domestic violence and the woman and children have had to leave the family home. After a couple of months in a refuge they have now been given their own house. It is one of the few Centrelink cards that I have seen that does not have an address on it – trying to protect the family. This morning she needed food, bedding and clothes for the children. What a disappointment it must have been for her – a bright new future gone wrong.

A young woman we saw yesterday had also escaped from a violent relationship. She had been with her partner for a couple of years and everything was going smoothly then all of a sudden he became violent. She left and went back to her family home. After a few months he convinced her that he had turned his life around so she went back, partly because she thought that she couldn't do any better. They had a child together and then the violence started again only worse. She put up with it for a while for the sake of the baby, so that they could be a family. She was constantly beaten and dragged around the apartment. A couple of times there was Police intervention, and finally she left. She has taken a Domestic Violence Order out against him so he should not be able to hurt her.

Domestic Violence is something that I have not experienced, but when you hear some of our clients talk it makes you shudder. How can people, who say that they love each other, be so cruel? A pet hate is that it is the victim of Domestic Violence who has to leave the family home, usually with children, usually with only the clothes that they have on and find emergency shelter in a Refuge, while the perpetrator stays in the family home!

Domestic Violence is a crime and it should be treated as such.

My wish list for this week: Tinned Fruit, Pasta Sauce, Pasta Dishes and Tinned Fish.

Many thanks *Sue*

This Week

In the Parish

<i>Eucharist</i>	10.00 am	Wednesday
<i>Meditation</i>	5.30 pm	Wednesday
<i>Gardening Group</i>	9.00 am	Thursday
<i>Choir</i>	6.30 pm	Thursday
<i>Tuckerbox</i>	2.00 pm	Saturday

Lent Groups

In the Rectory. We continue to explore *Questions in Christianity*

Sundays 4pm, Mondays 10am

Holy Cross Walking Group

The walk will be Sullivans Creek. Meet in the church carpark. Morning tea @ cafe.
 Contact: Barbara Campbell 6249 8853

Tuesday 10th March 9.15 am

Beyond this Week

In the Parish

Lunch and Celebration for Seniors' Week

Wednesday 18th March 10am

Holy Cross will host our annual Senior's Week lunch and worship. The day begins with a service of celebration at 10am followed by morning tea. Graham Downie will speak on *Life as a Journalist*, followed by a chicken and champagne lunch. Invite friends. There is no cost but bookings are essential. Phone 6248 5327 or put your name on the list at the back.

Beyond the Parish

Ecumenical Service for the Feast of St Patrick

Tuesday 17th March 12 noon

At the ACCC. Speaker, child refugee advocate and Brigidine nun, Sr Jane Keogh. The Celtic Choir and traditional musicians will perform. Light refreshments follow.
 Enquiries: 6251 4838 or 0451175728.

Mothers' Union

Tuesday 24th March 10am

Celebrating Lady Day at All Saints Ainslie followed by lunch, cost \$10. Speaker, Christine Brain, MU Overseas and Northern Outreach Co-ordinator for MU Australia. Everyone is welcome. RSVP Friday 20 March - 62478116 (Anne Downing).

Car Boot Sale

Saturday 18th April 9am-12

Note the date in your diary and tell your friends. Cost of a site is \$20. Phone Chris 6262 5975 to book. We will have a Holy Cross site so collect your unwanted items bring them along. Help is needed with marshalling, tea/coffee and a sausage sizzle. Please speak to David Campbell, Co-ordinator, if you can help.

