

Please pray for:

International Community and Church in: China, Hong Kong, Macao

The Anglican Communion: Missouri - (VI, The Episcopal Church)

Churches in Australia: Serbian Orthodox Church

Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of Sydney.

The Diocese: St John's, Wagga Wagga, the Base Hospital, St Martin's College, Riverina Anglican College, Riverina Juvenile Justice Centre, Chaplaincy work in hospitals, schools, the workplace, prisons, Defence Forces and emergency services

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: Marjorie Sharp, Howard and Joan Smith, Richard and Trish Stoddart, Tony Strain, Francis Sutherland, Margaret Swift, Pat Tippetts.

People for Prayer: June and Keith Burnett, Barb Edward, Bryce and Kate Wilson, the people of Vanuatu.

Holy Cross Anglican Parish

Serving Hackett, Dickson, Downer, Watson



Fifth Sunday in Lent 22nd March 2015

The Rector Writes

Dear Friends,

A warm welcome to you all as we come to worship on this fifth Sunday in Lent. The weeks go quickly, and we are now only one week away from Palm Sunday and Holy Week.

We can't miss how close it is this morning when we hear the author of the Fourth Gospel tell us that Jesus' hour has come. According to John's gospel, somehow the appearance of Greeks, people outside the boundaries of traditional Judaism, signals for Jesus that the hour has come. The reason for Jesus' life, the event of universal significance for Jews and Greeks, is about to happen. John's gospel has been leading us to this moment, when he can announce, "the hour has come". As readers of the gospel, and as Christian people on this last Sunday before Palm Sunday and Holy Week, we stand with Jesus on the brink of the great events of our faith. Throughout Lent, we have been preparing so that we will be ready; we won't miss it and fail to understand what is about to happen. There are three things in our readings today that are not to be missed: that Jesus' death is glorification, a glorifying of God in the most transparent and direct revelation of God, on a cross; that Jesus' death inaugurates the new covenant which enables us to share the life of God; and that Jesus' death sets the pattern for fullness of human life if we will have it, of the grain that dies so that new life might come.

So next Sunday begins for us the most holy week of the Christian year. As we gather for worship, we will assemble outside for the blessing of the palms and branches and then process into the church. It is for us an act of recalling Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and helps us be ready for our observance of Good Friday. Bring a branch for the procession.

May you know the grace and peace of God this week,

Erica

FOR NEXT SUNDAY 22ND MARCH

Minister of the Word

Chris Ledger

Readings and Readers

Isaiah 50:4-9a John Nevile

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11 Audrey Aedy

John 18.1-19.42

Intercessor

Toni Hassan

Chalice

Jean Hambley

Organist

Susan Reid

Door

Anne Medling

Scott Medling

Welcomer

Volunteer

Morning Tea

Jean Hambley

Iris Forrest

Counting

Sue Jordan

Dorothy Mackenzie

Cleaning

Dorothy Mackenzie

Francis Sutherland

Children

Patricia Stoddart

Nichola Worrall

Flowers

Lent

Holy Cross Office: Lynda Dyer

Thursday, 1.30pm - 3.00pm

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All items for the pew sheet to **Lynda by Wednesday**, please.

Emergency in Vanuatu

Both the Anglican Board of Mission and the National Council of Churches have launched an Emergency Appeal for the people of Vanuatu in the aftermath of Cyclone Pam. It is the worst devastation the local people have seen. Entire villages have been blown away. The people need our prayers and support.

ABM has had a long relationship with the Anglican Church of Melanesia and is giving support in this crisis. More information is available at <http://www.abmission.org/vanuatu-emergency>

The NCCA works with the Vanuatu Council of Churches and local communities, especially on the island of Tanna, which is the worst hit. The website is <http://www.ncca.org.au>

Next Sunday we will have a collection in response to this emergency.

St John's Care

Sue and Tony are taking a well-earned break and enjoying Tasmania. I am working in the Assistant Director's position 3 days a week, with Robyn doing 2 days. The job has many and varied tasks and no 2 days are the same. Sometimes we are busy helping with clients, at others I might be shopping at Costco or Aldi for basics such as margarine, eggs and cheese, updating our governance documents, organising the Breakfast Club rosters or, as now, writing a pew sheet.

I like being able to have some involvement with our clients as that keeps me grounded. One client I saw had many issues and had not been to us before. She had 'googled' us and also rung Anglicare and been referred to us. She is a single parent raising 3 children. She has major health issues and cannot work, so she is supporting her family on a disability pension. She generally manages, budgets well, shops efficiently and creates a happy home life. She was in desperate need of food and some school supplies but also said in passing that she was driving an unregistered car as she needed it and had to take the risk. We were able to give her food, school supplies, and also 6 months car rego. She didn't ask for or expect the rego renewal, she just hoped for a little food to help them make ends meet. She also took some furniture we were disposing of as she has limited furniture in her small public housing house.

She was overwhelmed by the generosity and I knew it would help her get back on track. We don't often give 6 months rego as we try to share our limited funding between many clients. However, sometimes it is really worth it to give a little extra because a bit of help moves some clients forward significantly.

Your generosity in donating to SJC helps us to be generous to people like this client. Thank you.

My wish list for this week: rice, pasta meals, tinned vegetables, milo.

Many thanks **Rhonda**

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 continue. **Sundays 4pm, Mondays 10am**
In the Rectory. We continue to explore *Questions in Christianity*.

Holy Cross Walking Group **Tuesday 24th March 9.15 am**
The walk this week will be in Crace. The walkers are to meet in the church carpark. The morning tea will be @ cafe. For further details, please contact: Iris Forrest 6241 2200

Beyond the Parish

Mother's Union **Tuesday 24th March 10.00 am**
Celebrate Lady Day at All Saints' Church Ainslie followed by lunch, cost \$10. Speaker Christine Brain, MU Overseas and Northern Outreach Co-ordinator for MU Australia. RSVP by Friday 20 March - 62478116 (Anne Downing). Thank you.

Beyond this Week

In the Parish

Quiet Day for Lent **Tuesday 31st March 10.00 am until 3.00 pm.**
We will explore Ezekiel's 'Dry Bones' (and our experience of such times) and the possibility of life through the breath of God's Spirit. MT provided; BYO lunch. If you are able to attend or have any questions, please contact Joan on 62510374.

Car Boot Sale **Saturday 18th April 9.00am –12 noon**
Note the date in your diary and tell your friends. Cost of a site is \$20. Phone Chris Ledger 6262 5975 to book. We will have a Holy Cross site so collect your unwanted items and 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.

Beyond the Parish

Palm Sunday Refugee Rally. **Sunday 29th March**
Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, the community Refugee Rally will be held in Garema Place, commencing at 1.00pm. Christians, along with people of other religious faiths, are invited to gather in Glebe Park at 12.30pm for a walk of witness from Glebe Park to Garema Place. It would be good for Holy Cross to be well represented.