

THE BRIDGE

THE ANGLICAN

PARISH OF

OCEAN GROVE & BARWON HEADS
St Peter's Ocean Grove & All Saints' Barwon Heads

OUR MISSION STATEMENT -

'TO KNOW CHRIST, AND MAKE CHRIST KNOWN'

VICAR: THE VEN. Jill McCoy; 52 562 446; 0425 805 827; jillm@ogbha.org.au

HON. ASSOCIATE PRIEST: REV Jill Poole; 0437 450 329; jillrpoole@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE; St Peter's, Draper St. Ocean Grove 5256 2446;

PO Box 683 Ocean Grove.

parish.office@ogbha.org.au

PARISH TREASURER: parish.accounts@ogbha.org.au

PARISH WEBSITE: www.ogbha.org.au

February 14 th. 2021 Transfiguration

OUR 'normal' WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES WILL BE:

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------------|-------------|
| SUNDAY | 7:45 am | Holy Communion | St Peter's |
| | 9:30 am | Holy Communion | St Peter's |
| | 11:00 am | Holy Communion | All Saints' |
| WEDNESDAY | 10:00 am | Holy Communion | St Peter's |

You may continue to use ZOOM at home to participate in the 9.30 service.

VICAR'S VOICE The hot cross buns have been in the shops since Boxing Day, but this week the church begins to prepare for Easter. The 40 days of Lent (we don't count the Sundays, because every Sunday is a day of resurrection celebration) have their origin the days of the early church, where people were usually baptised (as adults) at Easter. Being a Christian was a risky business, as the church was subject to persecution. So, it was important that those who were planning to profess faith in Jesus should undergo a rigorous preparation. This involved being taught about the faith, and spending time in prayer and fasting to ensure that you were prepared to give yourself wholeheartedly to God, no matter what the cost.

Today, we are privileged to live in a context where we do not need to fear for our lives because of our faith. But it is still a helpful thing to take some time to reflect on what it means to be a whole-hearted follower of Jesus. For some people, this means giving up some indulgence or habit, in order to focus on what God has given us. For others, it may mean taking up a new spiritual discipline, paying more attention to prayer and Bible Study, or doing more in terms of charity.

I encourage you to use this Lent as an opportunity to open yourself to God in new ways, and to prepare to renew your baptismal promises at Easter.

Blessings, Jill.

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins on **Wednesday 17th February**. Ash Wednesday services offer an opportunity for us to reflect on our weaknesses and shortcomings, to ask God's forgiveness, and to receive the sign of ashes (a cross made with ash on your forehead) as a reminder of our human frailty and dependence on the work of Christ as we enter into the reflective time of Lent. This year, we will have services at 10:00 am and 7:30 pm at St Peter's, and at 5 pm at All Saints.

LENTEN STUDIES This year's Lenten study guide, "It's all about hope" is now available. \$8:00 will cover the costs incurred by the parish in acquiring the books.

There is a long tradition in the church of people meeting together during Lent to study the Bible together and to encourage one another in the life of faith. This is a wonderful practice at any time, and especially valuable as many of us seek to be more intentional about our Christian disciplines during Lent. We are offering a number of Lenten Study groups, and I strongly encourage you to join one. Please see the list at the back of the church or in the foyer if you would like to participate. You are also welcome to purchase the study booklet for your own personal Lenten reflections.

DAILY READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK STARTING 15th February

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| MONDAY 15 | Ps.104. 1 - 25 | Genesis 35. 1 - 15 | Luke 10. 1 – 12 |
| TUESDAY 16 | Ps 105. 1 - 22 | Gen 35.16-29; 36. 6 -8 | Luke 10. 13 -4 |
| WEDNESDAY 17 | Ps.38. 1 – 4, 18 -21 | Daniel 9. 3 -6, 15 -19 | Matthew 6. 7 - 15 |
| THURSDAY 18 | Ps. 107. 1 – 22 or Ps.39 | Gen. 37. 1 - 24 | Luke 10. 25 - 37 |
| FRIDAY 19 | Pss.110;111 or Ps.39 | Gen. 37. 25 – 38. 11 | Luke 10. 38 – 11. 4 |
| SATURDAY 20 | Pss. 114,115 or Ps.88 | Gen. 38. 12 - 20 | Luke 11. 5 - 13 |

TODAY'S READINGS 14.02. 21. 2 Kings 2. 1 -12 Ps. 50. 1 - 62 Cor. 4. 3 - 12 Mark 9. 2 - 9

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS... Gen 9. 8 -17 Ps. 25. 1 – 10 1Peter 3. 18 – 22 Mark 1. 9 – 15

WHAT'S ON

| | | |
|-----------|--|-------------|
| Monday | Hearts and Crafts 10 - 1 (byo cup & lunch) | St Peter's |
| Tuesday | Op Shop 9.30 - 1 | All Saints' |
| Tuesday | Prayers – personal- with Dawn & John 10 - 12 | St. Peter's |
| Wednesday | Op Shop 9.30 – 1. Jigsaw Library 10 -12 | All Saints' |
| Friday | Op Shop 9.30 – 1 | All Saints' |
| Saturday | Op Shop 9.30 – 1 Jigsaw Library 10 -12 | All Saints' |
| Saturday | Prayers in the chapel 9am | St Peter's |

JIGSAW SALE We need space to shelve lovely new donations (people have been buying up big in the lockdown) so we're getting rid of some excess stock **on Sat 27th Feb** and **Sat 6th March**. Please tell your friends, and if you know any (other) Op Shops that need stock we'd love to donate. contact Cathy 52641157.

ASK GOD TO HELP OUR FRIENDS, FOR THE HEALING OF BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT—
Wendy Hudson, Deb Podbury, Glenys Russell, Betty Boyd, Faye & Ken Bermingham,
Jim Wilson, Alex Slocombe, Dot Sutcliffe, Pat Brady, Catherine Fane, Elizabeth Polley,
Judy Beach, David Bayne, Dawn White and those we know personally and are not on this list.

FOR THOSE WITH ILLNESSES WHICH MEDICATION WILL NO LONGER HELP -
give courage, strength and comfort in their faith of the joy of eternal life.
TO THOSE RECENTLY BEREAVED - give comfort and strength.

FOR OUR MEMBERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE GIVE PEACE AND COMFORT —
Hilda Clyne, Shirley Dodgshun, Kaye Middlehurst, Anne Shady, Jean Wadey, Beth Ward,
Jenny Wood, Shirley Trimble, Stella Scheiner, Ross Smith, and Keith & Kaye Houston.

IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

Please let the prayer team know about additions and subtractions for our prayer list, so that we can
keep it up to date

Our Prayer Chain provides a way for people to request prayer for particular situations. If you'd like to join the team who pray, contact Anna or Lyn Carey-Nicholson on 0418 171 787 and they'll send you a text message when they receive a prayer request.
If you would like us to pray for you, contact the Vicar on 0425 805 827.

Saturday Morning Prayer 9.00 am. in St. Peter's Chapel. All are welcome.
Please feel free to come regularly, or whenever you have a need for prayer.

Tuesday Morning Prayer is a wonderful opportunity for you to have quiet, personal prayers for yourself or a loved one, with Dawn and John. **10 - 12 at St. Peter's.**

MISSION SUPPORT GROUP NEWS Our Link Missionary has sent the following prayer points:

1. Give thanks for his holidays in December and the chance to catch up with extended family.
2. Give thanks to God for the protection of churches across Indonesia as they celebrated Christmas.
3. Pray for those who have been evacuated and/or made homeless as a result of natural disasters.
4. Pray for protection and strength for the health care workers in Indonesia, and throughout the world.

Please continue to pray for Rowan as he works remotely again, at the start of 2021. Pray that he will be able to return to his role during this year.

FOCUS FOR FEBRUARY - Those who have been devastated by so many recent tragedies.

Remember those who have lost their lives so suddenly and, hold in our hearts the families forever changed by grief and loss, asking for consolation and comfort. Pray for those who have survived, and healing of their memories of trauma and devastation, giving them the courage to face the days ahead. Keep our hearts focused on the needs of all who need help because of natural disasters, accidents, pandemic and all tragic circumstances. Pray for ourselves to respond with generosity in prayer, in assistance, and in comfort to the best of our abilities

'Nor do you need wings to find Him. You only need stillness and a willingness to look within. with utter humility talk to Him as you would to a beloved father; ask for what you want; tell of your sorrows; seek to be free'. Excerpt from Teresa of Avila.

We worship on the traditional lands of the Wathaurong People of the Kulin Nation, and we acknowledge and pay our respect to their Elders past and present.

- The Sunday sermons are available on the parish website www.ogbha.org.au
- We will be circulating another update of the PARISH DIRECTORY next month. If you haven't checked your entry yet, please do so now, and let the office know of any corrections or additions
- **SNAIL MAIL MINISTRY** If you think there is someone who would appreciate a 'Thinking of You' card from the Parish, ring Jill Poole and she will attend to it.
- **ZOOMING** - Still available for 9.30 services –refer to earlier pew sheets for instructions
 - If you need information changed, or added to 'The Bridge', please **email** or **message** me (details for Isobel Dean in the Parish Directory) by 5 pm Wednesday, as then it is more likely you will get the right outcome. If you can't do this a phone call is fine.

PLEASE READ THIS

The following general regulations apply whenever you are coming to St Peter's or to All Saints' for any reason:

- 1.If you feel unwell, have a cough, sore throat, fever, or loss of taste or smell, have recently had contact with a person diagnosed with COVID19 or awaiting the result of a COVID19 test or are yourself awaiting the results of a COVID19 test you may not enter church property
- 2.Masks must be worn at all times.
- 3.Whenever you enter the church building you must register your attendance, and sanitize your hands.
- 4.You are required to maintain a respectful distance of 1.5 metres from others at all times.

There are also some specific things you need to be aware of as you come to worship together. The State Government requires that we have a 1-hour interval between the end of one service and the start of the next. This means that our service times will be 7:45 am and 9:30 am at St Peter's, and 11:00 am at All Saints.

The early service will be 45 minutes long.

We will not be passing the offertory plate around the church. A plate will be available near the entrance. Please place your offertory in it as you arrive.

To assist with cleaning, alternating pews will be used at St Peter's for the 7:45 and 9:30 am congregations. **Please observe the signs on the ends of the pews.**