CROSS KEYS

St. Peter's Anglican Church, Bundoora – Anglican Diocese – Melbourne

Issue: 2 ph: 9467 4442 web: www.stpetersbundoora.org.au June 2017

The Vicar's Desk

Beloved in Christ,

We had an exceptionally eventful season of blessings during the last couple of months. We had Mum's market which is a new initiative of the congregation. Mum's market drew people from the locality which gave us one more opportunity to relate to the community. Many worked hard to make this program a successful event. Thanks to all who worked behind the scenes.

After several years, we had Harvest Festival which was meant to be a thanksgiving service. This was well attended and this initiative received excellent support. We could donate items ranging from grocery to blankets to support our dear brothers and sisters seeking refuge at St. Mark's Community Centre.

Our Wednesday gathering had couple of special meetings; one at the vicarage and the other at Highlands hotel.

We have a regular group of volunteers who keep our church clean. Apart from this, a group of school students in the locality started helping us in keeping our church neat and tidy as part of their school curriculum activities. Thanks to the school authorities for choosing us.

Apart from the above, The Pentecost Day celebration was appreciated by many. We need to keep the Pentecost experience alive in our churches. Pentecost is primarily and essentially a corporate experience and a reenergizing experience. It underscores the relevance of church and a new character emanating in the church. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on individual followers of Jesus as they were gathered together in Jerusalem. This gathering became the first 'Christian' church and the first sermon Peter delivered had attracted 3000 new believers. That was a fantastic beginning. The fact that the Spirit was given to a gathering of believers is not incidental. It underscores the centrality of the church in God's work in the world. In 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, Apostle Paul observes that the church is God's temple and that the Spirit dwells amid the church. Also in 1 Cor 6:19-20 we find an emphasis on the dwelling of the Spirit in individual Christians. But the focus is the church and her togetherness.

We are looking forward to having St. Peter's day celebration on June 25th. Our good Lord has been good enough to provide to us throughout these years with the support of our members and many who are not. I hope and pray that a renewed understanding will create in us a zeal for mission. Let us pray and work forward to accomplish this novel task given to church by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers and Blessings

Fr. Jobby John, Vicar

UP COMING EVENTS

St Peter's Anglican Church Bundoora

Invites you to their

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

At the Parish Hall,

Cnr. Grimshaw Street and Alma Road.

DATE 1ST July 2017

Cost $ 35.00 per person

Time 6.30 pm Dinner 7.00 pm

Dance your feet off from 8.00 pm

Smart casual BYO Drinks

Dance to the music from
REGENERATION
Playing music from the 60's, 70's & 80's

GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES

Free Return Air Trip for TWO

Dinner for 2 at an Indo Chinese Restaurant

AND MANY MORE ATTRACTIVE PRIZES

Bookings: Stephen slewis_2345@yahoo.com

LOOKING AHEAD

The following services are conducted at St. Peter's each week

Sunday	**8:00am**	**Holy Communion**
Sunday	**9:30am**	**Holy Communion with choir**
Wednesday	**9:30am**	**Holy Communion**
Thursday	**7:30pm**	**Choir Practice**
Saturday	**10:00am**	**Meditation**

June 2017

Sun 25th 4-6pm Messy Church

July 2017

Sat 1st 6:30pm Dinner Dance $35pp

Sun 2nd Soup & Roll Lunch following 9:30am service

Youth Group - Laser Tag at Thomastown
$5 per game – Meal back at Church. (Time to be confirmed)

Fri 14th 2pm Conversation, Craft & Coffee

Sun 23rd 4-6pm Messy Church

August 2017

Sun 6th Soup & Roll Lunch following 9:30am service

Youth Group - Sea Life Melbourne (Myki card required)
Early lunch together after church before heading into the city via public transport. Transport to Watsonia Train Station by Aimee & Stephen Simpson. Simpson's covering admission to Sea Life.
A visit to a chocolate shop is also planned. (spending money might be helpful)
Back at Church by 7pm.
Numbers are required in advance.

Sun 12th Youth Group - Fashion Parade - No details as yet.

An Interview with Ranjit Wijesinha Pastoral Assistant

By Nola Moulden

Tell us about coming to Australia and what drew you to this country. Did you have family here already?

In 1972 we migrated to UK from Sri Lanka. In 1979 we came to Australia. One of the reasons we decided to come to Australia was to escape the freezing cold winters of the Midlands-Stoke on Trent, where we lived. In Melbourne we stayed in a Migrants Hostel in Hawthorn and later moved to Migrant flats in Wood Street, Preston. We didn't have family here but had many friends.

When did you become a parishioner of St Peters Ranjit?

My parents were parishioners of the Church of Ceylon (Anglican Church in Sri Lanka). My brother and I attended an Anglican school and were regular church goers. When we came to Melbourne we lived in East Reservoir. We attended St Mary's Church at the intersection of Plenty Road and Tyler Street which is now closed. In 1998 we moved to Bundoora. We were looking for an Anglican church. And the nearest Anglican Church was St Peters. It was in 2001 we became parishioners at St Peters when Fr Noel was the Vicar. We found the parishioners friendly and welcoming.

Would you like to tell us a little about your family?

My wife Flora and I have been married for 47 years. She has Parkinson's disease and is unable to attend church. We have three lovely daughters and two lovely grand-daughters. Our youngest daughter was born in Melbourne. My daughters live in the inner city suburbs of Richmond, Collingwood and Brunswick. They visit us regularly and we also visit them when we can. We also have three nephews and a niece with whom we are in close contact.

Would you like to share with us some of the roles you've had in your working life?

In Sri Lanka I was a teacher. I taught science subjects in secondary schools. Although trained in social work in UK, when I came to Australia I decided to work in the Disability Sector of the Human Services in Melbourne. I had many roles such as in direct care, staff training and management.

Ranjit, tell us about your role as pastoral assistant. Did you need to complete some study and what does the role entail?

I had training in counselling. But after I retired in 2004 I didn't want to do counselling. I became interested in Pastoral Care. I prefer the term Spiritual Care, instead of Pastoral Care. During a conversation with Fr Noel, I enquired about Pastoral Care Education. He replied if I'm interested, I may be able to enrol at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education Centre. I applied and was accepted. I completed the Basic unit in Clinical pastoral Education in 2008. Although I wanted to do more Units I did not follow through. In order to become a Pastoral Assistant at St Peter's I had to attend an interview arranged by the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne.

In 2008 the Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator from Northern Health enquired from Fr Noel whether there was a parishioner at St Peters trained in Pastoral Care to work at Bundoora Extended Care (BECC) as a volunteer. Noel recommended me and I commenced working two half days a week at BECC.

I have provided pastoral care for the past eight years to three wards at BECC. At times it has been very challenging. It has strengthened my faith when confronted by various issues and questions from patients. From 2016, Northern Pastoral Care employed a staff member who works two days a week. Every Thursday I do meditation with staff members at BECC.

As from January 2017, as a volunteer I'm able to provide Pastoral Care only to Anglican patients. This is due to policy changes at Northern Health Pastoral Care dept. Before this policy was implemented I was able to provide Pastoral Care to patients of any faith or denomination. As I have done training in Buddhist Pastoral Care, I used to provide pastoral care to English speaking Buddhist patients.

Would you like to tell us about your meditation group?

We have meditation at 10.00 am on a Saturday. It is a small group. Some days it may be two participants and other days five. We have two ladies in the group who are not parishioners of St Peters. These ladies have learned to meditate using the breath from a Buddhist monk in Melbourne. So I have told them to use that method in meditation. Others may use a prayer word such as "Maranatha" or Jesus prayer. We intend to advertise in the local paper about our meditation group.

Aside from your work at the church & your family, what else do you enjoy Ranjit?

I enjoy gardening, reading and travelling. I go to a local gym whenever I can, and some days I go for a walk/jog. I watch current affairs and documentaries on TV.I love watching British comedy shows. I was a volunteer Emergency Relief worker at Community Connections in Epping for about five years.

Thank you so much for taking the time with this interview Ranjit. I know our parishioners will enjoy reading about your life. Your voluntary work providing spiritual care at BECC and your meditation groups both there and at St Peters quietly demonstrates the strength of your faith in our community.

Fate or Fete?

How did a one table stall of craft work, to be held on a Sunday morning become a Saturday market? It wasn't supposed to be!
What do you say to parishioners, who say,
"What can I do? How can I help?"
The answer is simple, you embrace all that is offered.
From a starting point, it was to be a Joan and Thelma's stall, but offers continued week after week and the end result was a great day. Yes, some money was raised, but of greater importance was the empowerment of people to share in a wonderful team effort, the smiles and laughter, the fun generated, the constant willingness of people to contribute.
The weather wasn't great, the crowds weren't massive, there wasn't a great deal of space to utilize, but it did come together.
Our thanks to all, who were involved. Whether the role was big or small, every participant made a contribution.
From Henna artwork, face painting, cakes, preserves, plants and hot sausages, to clothes, jewellery, craft, "T-shirts, lucky dips, books, cards, the inevitable raffle and the table of opportunity, not forgetting the tireless work in the kitchen; the company and contribution of every person was greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

This edition is an opportunity to say thank you to the small group within the Parish, who are responsible for the floral decorations in the Church. I know their names are listed in the pew sheet, but I thought it might be appropriate to pass on a bouquet, as a means of saying thank you for a job well done. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and add considerably to the atmosphere and appearance.
Thank you.

Did you know?

In an effort to ensure that everyone is able to access the Cross Keys Newsletter, a digital copy will also be available for distribution by email. If you would be happy to receive your Newsletter in this format, please ensure that your address is on the list being collected, or email your address to jeffcripps@optusnet.com.au with the short statement: *"Please include me on the Cross Keys Newsletter list."*

HELP!!

In an effort to provide care for you in the case of an emergency or sudden illness, while at church, we would like you to consider the provision of some contact names and details. Hopefully, they will never be required, but should a need arise, it would help if we knew who to contact.

MONSTERIA DELICIOSA – By Merle Foggie

As I sit in my chair and look out on our fernery
I see all sorts of flora and fauna
It's interesting to see as the stakes grow and the leaves unfold
And the flowers bloom and blossom
Into a canopy of cover for the plants below
And amongst them is my "Monsteria Deliciosa"
One that can be medicinal and decorative
O' Montsteria Deliciosa aren't you wonderful!!!
Root or leaf infusion of yours
made use of in Arthritis in Mexico
In Martineque snake bite it is
And decorative plant it is in Columbia
Monsteria Deliciosa you are my favourite!

Bishop's Court

On Saturday, 4th March, a number of our parishioners seized the opportunity to tour the gardens at Bishop's Court and to partake of a fabulous morning tea.
The trip was so enjoyable that arrangements have been made to do a return trip at the start of Spring. While some were time conscious, others were happy to soak up the beauty around them. The buildings and surrounds were magnificent.

Cross Purposes for Cross Keys:

The Church offers study group activities or Bible studies … and of course each time we gather to worship Almighty God we have a time of teaching (sermon) just as Jesus our Lord taught the people who gathered around Him when He trod on planet Earth ….

Many people receive their "Christian teaching" from well meaning secular sources and often their perception of Christianity is not always in step with the Church.

When I was first ordained, I used to trudge a new housing estate in Canberra. At that period, people were being relocated from Melbourne to Canberra as the Public Service was being updated. These people were feeling "lost" and to make matters worse, Canberra (at that time) did not have TV coverage, so TV's were sitting and looking lonely in these new houses.

I remember knocking on one particular door. A man in blue shorts and singlet – looking glum, answered. He took one look at me in my clergy collar and immediately reacted, by saying, "You need to talk to the missus, she's the religious one here. Anyway, I don't believe all that stuff you believe." He then started to reel off weird concepts of Christianity. I asked where he got his understanding…. He replied that he was taught it at Sunday School. I said : "we do not believe what you have just told me, and no Sunday School would teach that in the name of Christ." He then replied that as far as he was concerned, that is what he was taught and he accepted it and would have nothing to do with the "Church" because of the rubbish they believed.

Teaching the Faith of Christ is our responsibility and we need to take our responsibility seriously, so we can try and counter the warped ideas many people have concerning Christianity.

Unfortunately, many worshipping Christians have confusing concepts of our Faith, and some of the expressions we have adopted from secular sources, have introduced confusing avenues of belief.

Perhaps I could elaborate further in future articles.

Fr. Barry Green

Who's Who in the Pew?

June Warbuton

A hardworking member of Parish Council. Devotes a great deal of time to fundraising with the intention of providing an add-on. Has conducted a stall in the grounds of the church for an extended period of time selling clothes and jewellery she has been able to obtain through business contacts. Also assists by providing at low cost an eggstraordinary, but eggscellent product to Sunday Worshippers.

Ken Foggie

Another hardworking member of Parish Council, Ken generously gives of his time for things musical. He leads the choir rehearsals and assists with services. Currently, he is planning and preparing for St Peter's Hymnfest No.2, which is a difficult task when the list needs to be halved. An award winning blood donor and a highly skilled cross stitch artisan.

Susie Scarecrow

Harvest Festival was the time Susie chose to make her first appearance at St Peter's. While she didn't have too much to say, she was welcoming with her outstretched arms and cheerful smile. Susie was delighted with the abundance of produce presented by the congregation, and while she seemed a bit of a loner, she did find a friend at the end of the service.

Aimee Simpson

Too young to be old, but old enough to be promoted to a senior role in Youth Ministry. Aimee has responsibilities on the Committee, Messy Church and the Teen and Pre-teen Programs. A keen and enthusiastic singer, which comes from ten years of involvement in the Australian Youth Choir.
Assists as a server, demonstrates skill with computer & has an active role on the Newsletter Team.

Harvey Wonson

Harvey confided that the three greatest influences on his life were his school, his wife and the church. The latter two we know about, but his school was unique. The Freemasons in NSW, established a boarding school for children disadvantaged by the loss of their father as a result of WW1. The school's care was comprehensive. Prep to University; no cost.

This must surely make you stop and think! - *Submitted by Jeff Cripps*

THE SITUATION

In Washington, DC, at a Metro Station, on a cold January morning in 2007, this man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work

After about **3 minutes**, a middle-aged man noticed that there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds, and then he hurried on to meet his schedule.

The violinist received his first dollar. A woman threw money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

At 6 minutes:

A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

At 10 minutes:

A 3-year old boy stopped, but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head the whole time. This action was repeated by several other children, but every parent - without exception - forced their children to move on quickly.

At 45 minutes:

The musician played continuously.. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of $32.

After 1 hour:

He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed and no one applauded. There was no recognition at all. No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth $3.5 million dollars.

Two days before, Joshua Bell sold-out a theatre in Boston where the seats averaged $100 each to sit and listen to him play the same music. This is a true story. Joshua Bell, playing incognito in the D.C. Metro Station, was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities.

This experiment raised several questions:

*In a common-place environment, at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty?

*If so, do we stop to appreciate it?

*Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this:

If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made .. . ..

How many other things are we missing as we rush through life?

Enjoy life NOW. It has an expiry date.

JOE'S BLANKET

By Sylvia Peacock

Joe was dying, slowly and peacefully, and it was my work as a pastoral care worker to visit him on a regular basis. Neatly folded on the foot of his bed was an old worn blanket. Over the next few weeks I heard the story of that blanket, and it was really the story of Joe's life.

In 1945, after a war of being a prisoner in a forced labour camp, Joe washed up in a D.P. camp in Berlin. (In Europe after war refugee camps were called Displaced Persons' camps) It was while he was there that a Red Cross worker gave Joe the blanket. "It saved my life many times," he said. "So often in my mind I thanked that kind lady."

The Berlin winter of 1945-46 was very bitter and food was still scarce, but Joe had his blanket and had met the love of his life, Anna, who had also gone through many trials during the war in Europe. They were married in the camp and later their small daughter was born, but even with her parents care and the blanket to keep her warm she did not survive the harsh conditions. She was their only child, Joe and Anna did not have any more children.

By 1948 they were offered resettlement in Australia, an unknown country with a different language, but anything would be better than the D.P. camp. But, first they, with many others, had to make the long journey from Berlin, by truck to Italy, where the boat to take them to Australia was waiting. Travelling through the Alps in the back of a truck, the blanket was again a godsend.

Once in Australia they were sent (no choices in those days) to Bonegilla, the army camp now a migrant hostel. The closest town was Albury, several miles away, and the migrants took jobs on the land or as construction workers. This was part of their immigration deal with the Australian Government that they would work for two years and then they could choose where to live and work after that.

Once again, the blanket was very useful as the windows at Bonegilla were the open louvered kind, and the nights can be very cold in winter in that area.

After their stay at Bonegilla, Joe and Anna settled in Melbourne. Joe became a motor-mechanic during the week and a keen angler at the weekends. He and Anna travelled all over Victoria and New South Wales, fishing all the rivers and developing a deep love for their new country. Of course, the blanket went with them, sometimes used for sitting on, sometimes in the back of the car. "I always took care of it, though," Anna said. "It means so much to us, there are so many memories attached to this."

So now the blanket was folded at the foot of Joe's bed, reminding him of the many weekends spent in the bush and also the beauty, diversity and peace of his adopted country. His earlier war experiences had given him an appreciation of the freedom he had in Australia, to travel, to choose one's lifestyle, but the bush was his way of coming to peace with himself and God.

A few weeks after Joe's peaceful death, I unexpectedly met Anna in a shopping centre. The first thing she said was, "You know I still have Joe's blanket, I really treasure it."

On The Road

By Steve Russell.

You may have heard of Theresa of Avila. She was an extraordinary woman, so extraordinary that she soon became known as 'Saint' Theresa.
She was travelling one day in a horse-drawn cart. It was a wild, wet, stormy kind of day, and Theresa was suddenly overtaken. Lightning flashed around her and thunder crashed loudly immediately overhead. Her horse took fright and bucked in its traces. The cart overturned, Theresa and everything in the cart was thrown into the mud. She was saturated and startled. Already in a bad mood, she cried out in anger and frustration 'Lord Jesus! Why do you treat me this way?'

Now she was one of those rare people who actually heard the voice of Jesus sometimes. What he said to her on this occasion was: 'Theresa, I treat all my friends this way.'
Unimpressed, she snapped back: 'Well, Lord, it's no wonder you don't have many!'
I'm sure Jesus laughed. He is far more humorous than most people seem to think.
The road is a hazardous place. Without money or friends, exposed to robbery, betrayal, conflict, insult, suspicion and rejection, illness and harsh weather, often not knowing where you shall sleep or if you shall eat, the road can shatter you. On the road you are especially vulnerable and exposed. All homeless people, pilgrims and refugees know this very well.
And yet the road is precisely where Jesus imagined his people would be. It was where he was, after all, and he told us that we should be prepared to share our Master's lot. Why should we expect better treatment than he received? He was certainly not joking about this!

'Look,' he said, 'I send you out like sheep among wolves. Be wary and cunning as snakes yet gentle as doves'. 'Be on your guard,' he says, but above all don't worry. God, who takes care even of sparrows, will surely take care of you. This, too, turns out to be true. When you are on the road, you learn far more about people, God and yourself than you will through any number of university degrees.

Yet, strangely, the road also turns out to be a place where you will find real joy. There is a special kind of freedom here, a more intense experience of life, a detachment from mere things and a deeper appreciation of the beauty and love that are still deeply embedded in this troubled and harsh world. Above all you will find, often in places where you least expect it, friends of God. You will know them, not because of what they say, but because of what they do. These are the people who receive you with love and compassion, those through whom the love of God flows even if they are not aware of it.

'To receive you is to receive me,' said Jesus. 'And to receive me is to receive the One who sent me. … If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones, because they are a disciple of mine, I tell you this: such a person will definitely not go unrewarded.'
What I am trying to say is this: In the midst of my strange journey I stayed for a short time amongst you and I found friends of Jesus there. You received and cared for me very beautifully and it is marvellous in my eyes. I thank my Father for you from the bottom of my heart, and I ask Him to bless you richly out of His immense generosity.

Perhaps Jesus has more friends than dear Theresa imagined; certainly some of them are to be found at St Peter's Bundoora.

(All quotations from Matthew 10. Why not read it?).

PRE-TEENS AND YOUTH GROUP

We held our Messy Church for April on the 23rd of April 2017 and the theme was "Forgiveness" based on the story of the the "Unforgiving Servant" recorded in Mathew's Gospel Chapter 18, 21-35. Different craft and cooking activity were performed based on the theme. Some highlights from our April Messy Church.

Barbeque at Bundoora Park and outing to Latrobe Mini Golf Centre

By Reena Thomas

Mary and Elizabeth

When Elizabeth, wife of Zechariah the priest from Judea was six months pregnant God sent Gabriel to Mary from Nazareth who was a virgin. The angel of the Lord said to her "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name Him Jesus." The angel also said that the Lord will make him a King as his ancestor David and his kingdom will have no end". But Mary was surprised at this gesture and she asked the angel how could this be possible as she was a virgin? Then the angel replied "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and God's power will rest upon you". So the child will be called the Son of God. The angel also mentioned that Elizabeth, Mary's relative who had no children is now six months pregnant even though she is very old. Then Mary humbled herself and said "I am the Lord's servant", "may it happen to me as you have said".

As soon as the angel left Mary she got ready and hurried off to the hill-country of Judea to visit Elizabeth, Zechariah's wife. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greetings the baby in her womb moved and Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit said "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child you will bear"! Elizabeth in excitement said "Why this great thing should happen to me that my Lord's mother comes to visit me?" Elizabeth was overjoyed with all that was happening around her that the baby in her womb jumped with gladness. Then Elizabeth said to Mary "how happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true".

Story taken from the Gospel of Luke

The Social Butterflies

Get-Together at the Vicarage

I'm really shy you see:
I guess I'll never be a "Social Butterfly"...

At Highlands Hotel, Craigieburn

Harvest Festival

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Peters Anglican Church Bundoora
In Partnership with Anglican Victoria:

Grocery Collect on the 1st Sunday of each month to Anglican Preston which will be distributed to the local community.

Toiletries, Socks, Jocks (new),
Mugs, Bath Towels,
Coats/Jackets & Blankets (winter only)
All taken to St. Marks Community Centre, Fitzroy and the Lazarus Centre, East Melbourne Homeless Services.

Donations will be left at the Church.
We also support Anglicare's Christmas Toy & Gift Appeal.

Bishop's Court Visit

Thursday 21st September Bishop's Court Visit.
$20 per person to be paid one week prior to the visit.
Minimum of 20 guests and maximum of 30.
Please inform Rev.Joby John by 1st Sunday of August 2017.

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