**PARISH NEWS**

 **9th April 2017**

 **SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**PALM SUNDAY**

*At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* Philippians 2.10–11

**EASTER SERVICES**

Maundy Thursday: 9.30am at St. Nicholas Tuncurry.

Good Friday: St. Albans Forster 8.30am---St. Johns Dyers Crossing 10.30am.

Easter Sunday: 6.00am Dawn Service at The Tanks, Forster.

6.00am St. James Bungwahl 8.00am St. Albans Forster

9.30am St. Albans Forster (Contemporary)

9.30am St. Nicholas Tuncurry 11.30am St. Pauls Nabiac

Would everyone please bring a stemmed flower to place on the cross on Easter Sunday.

**THANK YOU FROM BILL**

A big thank you to all the Parish community for their prayers, cards, the many phone calls of concern for me over the past weeks, and to Jill as she has been there for me all the time. Hope I haven’t been too bad a patient.

It has been wonderful how the community has been so concerned, but I can now say that I am almost back to normal thanks to you and God’s blessing and on the work of the specialist and GP.

I am still to take things a bit easy on my knee, and have been advised not to lift anything too heavy for a while yet.

I have begun to take some services and by May I should be back doing all the visits etc. I usually do.

Jill and I thank you once again for your concern and love.

May God bless you all, Bill and Jill Green.

**In Our Prayers:**

**Our Parish:**

* Healthcare professionals and patients
* Please continue to pray for people with ongoing needs in your prayers each day.

*If you would like to add someone to the Parish Prayer list, be sure to obtain permission from the person concerned and then contact the Parish Office.*

**Our Diocese:**

* Bishop Greg and Assistant Bishop Peter
* Parishes of Toukley-Budgewoi and Woy Woy
* Samaritans
* Cursillo
* Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn

**The World:**

* The Peace of Jerusalem
* Liz Burns (CMS Tanzania)

We commend to God’s keeping those who have recently died and we pray for those who mourn their passing. We remember with thanks those whom we have loved whose anniversary occurs at this time: **Joan Hill.**

**COURTHOUSE ROSTER**

19th April Suellen Belton & Diane Kellehear

3rd May Heather Dwyer & Nerelle Duff

**MISSION FOR APRIL – ABM**

Please give as generously as you can this month to the Anglican Board of Mission.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

**Parish Priest:** The Reverend Mark Harris 6555 4200

 revmarkharris@icloud.com

**Priest in Local Mission** The Reverend Bill Green 6555 4200

**Parish Office:** St. Alban’s Anglican Church: 6555 4200

 info@forsteranglican.com

**Parish Secretary** Phillip Castle 0422 036 656

**Op Shop:** Head St Car park 6555 4267 Enquiries: 6555 4200

**Book Shop** bookshop@forsteranglican.com6555 4272

**Parish Website:** www.forsteranglican.com

**Items for Parish News:**

Email: PN@forsteranglican.com or phone Janet 6554 5981 or parish office 6555 4200 by 12noon Wednesday.

**Our Bank Details:** BSB**:** **705 077** Account: **00040071**

Acc Name: **Anglican Parish of Forster/Tuncurry**

**PARISH BARBECUE TODAY**

****The monthly Parish Barbecue is today, Sunday 9th April 2017 at St. Alban’s Forster. A couple of months ago we had great fun playing Pictionary after the Barbecue. Come and bring your meat to be cooked by our resident chef, or bring something else to eat. Mainly you are welcome to join in the friendship.

**HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED**

Our Something Special Bookshop ***desperately*** needs volunteers to cover the absences of regulars. If you can assist, please notify Deborah Laurie (0402359780)  or Judy Hall (0400890728).

**SAMARITANS FOOD**

For April, small tins of baked beans or spaghetti, quick meals. Perhaps any half price specials you notice!

**ELECTION OF NEW BISHOP**

The Bishop's Incumbency Board met last Wednesday with Bishop Peter. As you are aware, Bishop Greg Thompson has stepped down as Bishop in our Diocese.

Board Members, including myself, have spent the past three years processing and discussing a more respectful alternative for choosing a Bishop. Three proposals have been put to Synod with the final being written at the moment. The proposal will be available to be voted on by members at a special Synod on May 27th. The time frame is approximately 150 days and we hope to vote on the election of our next Bishop at the end of November. The interim Bishop's Incumbency Board and the new incoming Board (27th May)  have tight deadlines to achieve this.  Please keep this process and our new Bishop in your prayers, as s/he is a Bishop for both the Clergy and the Laity.

Belinda Clancy, Synod Parish Representative, Bishop's Incumbency Board Member and Bishop's Lay Synod Secretary.

**SEAFOOD DINNER - ADVANCE NOTICE!**

The traditional Seafood Dinner will be on Saturday, 6th May, 6.30 for 7.00pm at Krambach Hall. Menu as follows

Entrée: Prawns, Crab and Oysters

Main: Barbecued Fish & Salads

Sweets: Fresh Fruit Salad and Ice Cream

Tea and Coffee

Cost $30 per person. Raffles and Lucky Door Prizes

Bookings are essential – Tables of 8 (before Tuesday, 2nd May). Contact Aileen 6559-1541, Moya 6559-1265, or Helen 6550-2383. Please bring glasses and drinks!

Non Seafood Diners, please notify us when booking, as other arrangements can be made.

**PALM SUNDAY RALLY, APRIL 9, 11AM-1PM**

(Organised by Great Lakes Rural Australians For Refugees)

The Rally will start at the Forster Ocean Baths at 11am then walk across the bridge and meet at John Wright Park amphitheatre for short speeches and publicity.

**MINI LUNCH**

Next Mini Lunch is on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at St. Alban’s Hall Forster at 11.30am for 12noon. Cost $7ph.

**BEING ‘A WELCOMING CHURCH’**

“Of those people who join a church and then become inactive, about 70% drop out in their first year. However, if a newcomer makes it through his or her first year, the chances of them staying with the church are much better.

Research and first-hand experience have shown that one of the most important factors in keeping people active in a parish is to welcome them”. The key to welcoming newcomers is for everyone to be aware of this and to participate where they can.

**“Some suggestions for welcomers:**

* Preparation – pray beforehand that God’s love will shine through you to reach out to others, and for sensitivity and wisdom.
* Wear your name badge. Name tags are important to help newcomers make friends more easily.
* Give everyone a warm welcome.
* Be aware of people with disabilities and give assistance if needed.
* Share the greeting of peace with them.”

*Adapted from Focus, Brisbane and Anglican Encounter July 1999*

