**PARISH NEWS**

**PENTECOST 23, 12th November**

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Matthew 24:42, 44.

**Welcome to church today as we continue to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.**

“Ideas That Changed the World” – The Four Key Gospel Truths and People of the Reformation - to-day we will learn from the 3rd DVD **“Bible Alone” – William Tyndale.**

**In the Parish this Week:**

**Tuesday, 14th –**Parish Council, 4pm, St. Alban’s

**Wednesday, 15th –** Anglican Service at Kularoo Gardens, 2pm.

**PRIESTING OF HELEN QUINN –**This will take place at the Newcastle Cathedral at 10am on Saturday, 9th December. Names of parishioners wanting to attend need to be placed on boards at the back of each church. Judy.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES –**

**St. Alban’s** Christmas Eve, 6.30 Christmas Carols, 11pm Communion, Christmas Day 9am – blended.

**St. Nicholas’** Christmas Day 9.30am – Communion Service.

**St. Paul’s** Christmas Eve, 7pm – Communion Service.

**MEN’S DINNER** – Tuesday, 5th December. The speaker is Greg Beattie and his topic is – Amateur Archaeology. 6pm for 6.30pm $12 ph. Lists at the back of churches or phone 0412 653 061. Thanks, Clive.

**COMBINED CHURCHES DINNER –** Friday, 8th December, $15.ph at Forster Bowling Club – further details to come – and yet another list at Forster and Tuncurry, country parishioners please phone the office. Thanks.

**MISSION OUTREACH FOR NOVEMBER –** The Bible Society.

**As we worship and adore our God we include in our prayers this week –**

**In Our Parish:**

Our Indigenous sisters and brothers.

Newcomers to our Parish.

Please continue to pray for people with ongoing needs in your prayers each day**: Pam Fibbens, George Hodgson, James, Paul Raymond Ferris, Alan Winston, Keith Bell**

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 – **Kenneth McGovern, George William Lamborn.**

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.

**In Our Diocese:**

Assistant Bishop Peter Stuart and Nicki

Archdeacon for Ministry Support

Administration Assistants

**Parishes, Schools and agencies of the Diocese:**

Manning Valley Anglican College, Southlakes, Swansea.

**The Wider Community:**

The unemployed and under-employed.

**OUR VISION**

“We will connect meaningfully with our community in order to inspire hope and transformed lives through faith in Jesus.”

**INTERCESSORY PRAYER WRITERS –**

We will be doing up the roster for next year in the coming weeks and would like to know the names of anyone who would be willing to write the prayers. There are guidelines and I will organize to have copies of these and also a list at the back of each church centre. Judy.

**THREE NOMINEES FOR THE DIOCESAN BISHOP ELECTION SYNOD –**

The Synod is to be held on November 24th /25th.

Archdeacon Arthur Copeman, a senior Archdeacon of Newcastle.

Bishop John Stead, Bishop of Willochra (SA).

Bishop Peter Stuart, Bishop Administrator of Newcastle.

A two-thirds majority of the Synod is required to be elected Bishop. It is hoped that a new Bishop will be installed in late February.

Please hold in your prayers at this time:

* Each nominee and for their families;
* Those responsible for organising the Synod, that it might be a place of prayerful discernment and Godly conversation.
* The members of the Synod as they prepare to undertake this important work on behalf of us all.

Suggested prayer for daily use –

**Prayer for Synod –**

Almighty and everliving God, give wisdom and understanding to the members of the Synod of this Diocese.

Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. May we perceive what is right; have courage to pursue it and grace to accomplish it. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**BOOK CHAT –**

A lovely group of six ladies explored their thoughts on Melody Carson’s, “The Christmas Angel Project” last Saturday. We chatted not only about what we thought about the book, but also what we wanted out of the club.

 Besides enjoying gentle fellowship, the group indicated they were looking to meet new people and develop friendships as well as explore a variety of material from our Something Special Bookshop.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, 2nd December commencing at 10.30am. On this day we have each agreed to choose one of the children’s books from our shop and do a very informal presentation on it.

**BOOK CHAT ….**cont

Why not come along and join us over a cuppa and cake? You’d be very welcome. Judy.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS IN BOOKSHOP –**

Individual cards $1 each, 3 for $2. Packs ranging from $3 for 8, $12 for 18. “Our Mob” cards $13 for 10. Phillip.

**SAMARITANS** - for **NOVEMBER** we are asking for donations of Christmas foods and “essentials”. Gifts for the whole family, especially the children, would be appreciated.

**GOD’S LOVE –**

Perhaps you did not know it, but you are a very special person in the sight of God. God fully understands the trials of your life. He knows full well the hurts that you have had. Your life is very precious to Him, and every hurt of yours is of concern to Him.

God’s love and care for you are so real and strong that He sent His only Son into this broken world to share your deepest hurts and restore your soul.

What more could He have done to show how much He cares?

Perhaps He has permitted some of the hurts to enter your life so that you will turn to Him and learn just how much He loves you.

Is your life open to His love?

From the booklet “Who Cares When I Hurt?”

1 John 3:16, John 15:13, Romans 5:8, John 3:16, 1 John 3:1

**CONTACT DETAILS**

**Senior Minister/Rector** Revd Mark Harris 0425 265 547

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**Deacon** Revd Helen Quinn 0427 592 723

**Parish Office:** St. Alban’s Anglican Church: 5543 7683

 info@forsteranglican.com

**Parish Secretary** Judy Hall 0400 890 728

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

**Book Shop** bookshop@forsteranglican.com5543 7683

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

**Items for Parish News:** Phone Lyn 0491 136 455 email:clivelyn46@gmail.com

or parish office 5543 7683 by noon Wednesday. Thanks.

Our bank details: BSB 705077 Account 000400710

Account name: Anglican Parish of Forster/Tuncurry