**PARISH NEWS**

**30th April 2017**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

*Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.* Acts 2: 38–39

**FIFTH SUNDAY COMBINED SERVICE - TODAY**

Today, Sunday, 30th April, is our Combined Parish Service. There is only one service in the parish this weekend at **St Nicholas’ Church, Tuncurry, 9.30am.**

**DRAFT PARISH DIRECTORY**

Draft copies of 2017 Parish Directory will be in all centres this weekend.

Please check that your details are correct and that you are in the directory if you would like to be.

Please also write your mobile phone number if you have one on the draft copy. Also if your mobile is in the directory and you don’t want it to be please cross it out.

If all this is confusing phone the Parish Office 6555 4200 Monday to Thursday between 9.00 and 12.00noon and speak to Clive or Judy.

**BCA BOXES**

The March opening of the BCA Boxes resulted in an amount of $699.80 being remitted to the Bush Church Aid Society. Thanking you on their behalf - Suellen - Box Secretary

Our May Mission will be Church Missionary Society (CMS)

**In Our Prayers:**

**Our Parish:**

* Parish leaders
* 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
* Diocesan Missions Committee
* Trustees of Church Property
* The Outback Fund
* Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation
* Retired Bishops living in the Diocese

**The World:**

* The Church in Nandyal (South India)
* 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: **John Noel Ollivier** and **Leslie Robert Campbell**.

**COURTHOUSE ROSTER**

3rd May Heather Dwyer & Nerelle Duff

17th May Mavis Humphries & Margaret Connell

**SAMARITANS FOOD**

For May – Soups – tinned or packet.

**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** Judy Hall 0400 890 728

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

**Book Shop** [bookshop@forsteranglican.com](mailto:bookshop@forsteranglican.com)6555 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: **000400710**

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

**SEAFOOD DINNER**

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

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

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

**NB:** There were not enough people interested in travelling by bus to make it a viable proposition. Efforts will be made to car pool.

**PARISH NAME BADGES**

A reminder about Parish Name Badges they can be supplied at a cost of $10 and $12 for the new metalic magnetic clip. To order please contact Suellen 6554 8264 or the Parish Office 65554200.

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Rectors are able to appoint up to three additional members to Parish Council within 21 days of the AGM. With this in mind, Mark contacted John Sanderson (St Nicholas) within the given time frame and invited him to join our team. John has graciously accepted and we welcome him into this position.

Judy Hall, Parish Council Secretary

**Some more steps in becoming a ‘welcoming church’**

Look out for people you do not know and introduce yourself . .“Hello, I’m . .

* Have I met you before?”
* Introduce them to the sidesperson.
* Ask the visitor where they would like to sit.  Visitors and newcomers do not necessarily like to be told to “sit anywhere”, because they may know that the regulars have accustomed seats.  Being left without guidance may make them feel uncomfortable.
* After the service, a welcoming person could be near the celebrant to ensure the easy handling of newcomers at the door and that visitors are introduced to others and invited to morning tea.
* Invite them to come again.

Be careful not to “swamp” new people, as this can turn them off. Newcomers could opt to have their names noted and mentioned by the person leading the service.  The congregation will usually turn to them and smile or perhaps shake hands if close by.

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

Thank you to those parishioners who wear their name badges.

**GOOD READS AT FROM OUR BOOKSHOP!**

Dementia: Pathways to Hope *Louise Morse* ($14.99)

As we age, more and more of us come into contact with dementia. Whether it be a spouse, a friend or someone on our visitor’s list, at some stage we all will be affected by the impact of this condition. In this book,

Louise Moore, gives us tools not only on how to cope, but takes us through some of the signs and treatments, as well as focussing on the power of our Christian beliefs in giving us hope with the strength and love to cope. I loved this poem from the book:

“As I lose an identity in the world around me,

Which is so anxious to define me by what I do and say, rather than who I am,

I can seek an identity by simply being me, a person created in the image of God.

My spiritual self is reflected in the divine and given meaning as a transcendent being...

As I travel towards the dissolution of myself, my personality, my very ‘essence’,

My relationship with God needs increasing support from you,

My other in the body of Christ.

Don’t abandon me at any stage, for the Holy Spirit connects us...

I need you to minister to me, to sing with me...

You play a vital role in relating to the soul within me, connecting at this eternal level.

Sing alongside me, touch me, pray with me, and reassure me with your presence,

And through you, of Christ’s presence.

I need you to be the Christ-light for me,

To affirm my identity and walk alongside me.”

Sensible Shoes: A story about the Spiritual Journey *Sharon Garlough Brown* ($22.99)

I truly loved reading this first book in the trilogy. It was recommended to me by Deborah Laurie and I simply couldn’t put it down.

The narrative takes you along the journey of four fictional characters – a young married university student, a middle aged widow who has recently suffered the loss of her elderly controlling mother, a wife trapped in an unhappy marriage with two teenage boys and a burnt out minister on sabbatical. The four meet on a spiritual retreat and learn new tools for unpacking the bible and learning to pray in different and challenging ways. The various spiritual exercises are outlined in detail and are ones with which I am already experimenting. Each of the characters are believable and very, very human – ones that you could readily meet on any street corner.

This is a book that is constantly living with me.

Caregiver Therapy (an Elf Book) *Julie Interrante & Victoria O’Connor* ($12)

This is just one of a series of little, easy-to-read books that provides useful strategies and reminders on how to keep your sanity whilst caring for others. It invites you to deepen and enrich your caregiving experience-opening your heart to others and opening your spirit to lessons of love and trust.

Other books in the series include: *Anger Therapy*, *Get Well Therapy* and *Worry Therapy*

The Scarlet Thread Francine Rivers ($19.99)

Have you ever found an old journal? They’re fascinating things – full of stories, imaginings, memories and hopes.

In this powerful story two women –one modern and one a pioneer – ‘meet’ through a tattered journal as they contend with God, husbands and even themselves. It is the story of lost control and gained redemption and hope – a most challenging journey.

A Pocket Book of Prayers for Women ($4.99)

Sometimes, at odd moments, you have/take the time for prayer. This little book has small prayers on Confession & Repentence, Spiritual Growth, Service & Ministry, Petition and Supplication, Home & Family, Facing Difficulties, Praise and Thanksgiving. In each of them, I found the opportunity to meditate on the word and worship with penitence and thanksgiving.

We have a great range of new stock in our Something Special Christian Bookshop – including some lovely giftware. Why not take the time to grow your faith or that of others by sampling some of our wares?