** PARISH NEWS**

 **30th July 2017**

 **EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Romans 8.38–39

**FIFTH SUNDAY COMBINED SERVICE – TODAY**

This Sunday, **30th July**, is our Combined Parish Service. There will only be one service in the parish this weekend at **St Alban’s Church, Forster, 9.30am.** This is our opportunity to worship together as a parish.

**JULY 30: ANGLICAN WOMEN’S SUNDAY**

On this day parishes are asked to remember and give thanks for the ministry of women.

Anglican Women’s Sunday is held on the last Sunday in July each year. This year it falls on Sunday 30th July.

Its purpose is to celebrate ALL Anglican women across the Diocese and the good work they do on behalf of your parish, the community and the organisations to which they may belong.

Our theme for the next 12 months is “We will face tomorrow in the Spirit’s power” (from the Elizabeth J Smith hymn, ‘God gives us a future’).

[The Anglican Women Spring Celebration - Manning Deanery - will be held on Monday 4th September, 2017 at St Nicholas’ Church, Tuncurry.]

**In Our Prayers:**

We acknowledge the Worimi people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand.

**Our Parish:**

* Our 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:**

* Assistant Bishop Peter Stuart and Nicki
* Diocesan Missions Committee
* The Meeting of the Primates
* The Outback Fund
* Retired Bishops living in the Diocese

**The World:**

* The Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania, USA
* Liz Burns (CMS Tanzania)

We commend to God’s keeping those who have recently died and we pray for those who mourn their passing: **Lilian Gogerly.** We remember with thanks those whom we have loved whose anniversary occurs at this time: **Doris Pearl Lamborn, George Henry Griffis, Christopher McGovern** and **William Belton.**

**COURTHOUSE ROSTER**

9th August Heather Dwyer and Nerelle Duff

23rd August Mavis Humphries & Margaret Connell

**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.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: **000400710**

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

**CLAIMING THE DATE!**

A Safe Ministry Refresher Course at St Alban’s will be held on Saturday 16th September from 9am-12noon. Registration forms have been placed in each of the churches. Cost for the event is $25.

**ANGLICAN MEN'S DINNER**

The next Men’s Dinner will be on Tuesday 1st August 2017 - 6 for 6.30pm at St Alban's Hall Forster.

$12pp Two course dinner. Drinks available.

Speaker: Glenn Handford-General Manager Midcoast Council

Subject: Amalgamations & the new Forster Civic Precinct

Lists at back of Forster & Tuncurry Churches or phone Clive Davies 0412 653061.

**A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR A FAMILIES MINISTER**

Loving and Generous God,

We bring before you all who minister in your name in this parish and we pray for the need for a families’ minister. Please give wisdom and guidance on the raising of finance to support this outreach. May we approach this with the generosity of Spirit you show to us. Give to those who will be tasked with this selection, courage, guidance, sensitivity and discernment in the implementation of this ministry initiative. We ask these things through your Son our Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**BOOKSHOP BIRTHDAY**

The Bookshop will be celebrating its first birthday at the end of August. During the year it has provided a service to people of all denominations across the area through the sale of Bibles, Christian books, gifts and cards. As part of a week-long celebration the shop will be opening on Saturday August 26th with an invitation to other churches and the Great Lakes community to join in. We will have stock on discount, a sausage sizzle and we hope to sell jams, preserves and maybe crafts, morning tea and second-hand Christian books. Hopefully there will be enthusiasm about the day, not only from the regular bookshop volunteers, but from many in the congregation as we are publicising it in the other churches and throughout the general community. We would appreciate volunteers to help on the day and if you cannot do that please plan a visit.

**CONSECRATION OF ST ALBAN’S**

The 30th Anniversary of the consecration of St Alban’s will take place in late October (to be celebrated on the weekend of 28th-29th October, 2017.

Those interested in assisting in planning for this occasion need to give their names to either Judy or Clive at the parish office. In particular an event coordinator is needed. Please prayerfully consider nominating for this role.

At our Parish Council meeting last Tuesday we began discussions on how we might celebrate this occasion. Ideas included a Thanksgiving service, a special dinner and guest speaker, a mini-fete/trading tables/selling postcards/memorabilia, and of course a display of photos, documents and other memorabilia.

One of the urgent things needed in preparation for the event/occasion is a list of names and addresses for those that we should invite. Again, please provide these to Judy or Clive in the office.

**THANKS FROM MARGARET**

Margaret Burrows would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and good wishes over the last few weeks.

**SAMARITANS SUPPLIES**

July – Toiletries such as soap, shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste, shower gels. Have a look around your own bathroom for some extra ideas and don’t forget the little people.

**FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

The next meeting of the Wednesday Friendship Group is on 2nd August. Everyone is welcome to a morning tea at St Nicholas’ Tuncurry at 10.00am.

Moida Coleman, Beryl Allen

**STROLLERS**

We will meet for a stroll tomorrow (the “5th” Monday). Bring a friend and meet us at St Alban’s car park at 9.30am. Morning tea provided.

Helen Barber 0419-996-594

ABM PEW REFLECTIONS – Sunday 30 July 2017

* *Genesis 29. 15-28; Psalm 105.1-11 or Psalm 128*
*Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.44-58*

Each and every Christian baptised into the Body of Christ shares with Jesus in his kingly, priestly and prophetic nature, called to live out the divine life we share in communion with him.

The prophetic office therefore is not left only to our bishops and priests! Just as Jesus preached in his hometown, so too are we called to share in this ministry, breathing words of prophetic wisdom into our own communities. Jesus shares with his Church the privileged role of calling out injustice, challenging sin and the powers of evil where we see it in ourselves and in our community, and suffering persecution for Truth.

* Pray that your life and the life of your parish may be transformed by the gift of sharing in the prophetic office of Christ.
* Give thanks for the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

Text: Jesse Poole
Saint Peter’s, East Maitland, Diocese of Newcastle
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