**EPIPHANY 2 – SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

**20TH JANUARY, 2019.**

***Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. John 2.11***

***OUR PARISH VISION:***

***Connecting meaningfully. Inspiring hope and transformed lives. Through faith in Jesus***

**THIS THURSDAY, 24TH JANUARY at 6.00pm**

Bishop Peter Stuart will be with us for the ordination to the priesthood of our Families Minister, Rev. James Brooks at St. Alban’s Church, Forster. James’ wife, Sophie will be with us along with their children, Daniel, Janella, Kara, Elijah and Toby.

As we gather together and overflow the church, let’s give thanks and praise to our God.

After the service we will have a cuppa (or a glass of cold water!) and a bite to eat. Coralie and I (Lyn) have thought thru ideas on food and I have a list of suggestions, so seek me out Sunday morning to help with the catering and setting up, thanks.

Note: *FINGER FOOD ONLY, NO FOOD THAT REQUIRES HEATING, thanks!*

**REV’D MARK & TRISH**

Mark and Trish will be travelling to Israel with Judy Hall, Patricia and Binny Dastidar, leaving 29th January and returning 12th February. We pray that they will all have an amazing journey as they walk where Jesus walked.

**PRAYER GRID**

The grid consists of a group of approximately 20 dedicated church members who accept prayer requests for those in need. Doug Dowling is the contact person, you can talk to him at the 8.30am service or phone 0400 172 502. As always approval from recipient is required.

**OUR MISSION FOCUS FOR JANUARY IS THE BIBLE SOCIETY.**

Prayer points for this week**:**

**Australia – Publishing and Digital:** With some exciting manuscripts coming up, pray that we can select the right ones, and publish work that encourages Christians to follow Christ.

**Rwanda:** Pray for those who are infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Pray that the medicine needed would be available and that healing and belonging would be found in God.

**MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS WITH ONGOING NEEDS**

Ella Engel, Jenny Lawson, Maureen Armstrong, George Hodgson, Louise, Keith Roach, Michelle, Max Kennedy, Nadia Maybury, Lyn Thompson, Marion & Peter Roberts, Isabel McBride, Russell Parry, Helen Barber, Barbara Bramble, Diana.

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 Noel Hannabus and Frank Williams.

**MEN’S DINNER**

The first meeting will be on Tuesday, 5th February. Allan Sheppard will be sharing his knowledge of Darwin and the surrounding areas. Keith Bastian and his helpers will be catering for the group. $15.00 each, plus drinks. An informal way to introduce friends to our activities.

**THURSDAY MORNING AT ST. ALBAN’S**

On Thursday of each week a traditional communion service is held. The service commences at 9.30am, followed by morning tea.

**READINGS: 27th JANUARY**

Neh.8:1-3,5-6,8-10, Psalm 19,1 Cor.12:12-31, Luke 4:14-21

**FOOD HAMPER FOR THE BROOKS FAMILY**

There is still ample time to welcome the Brooks family with your gift of food or household items. A few parishioners are giving gift vouchers. Each morning there is a volunteer in the office or the bookshop so it’s easy to access the “Donations” boxes.

**MORE QUESTIONS TO ASK AT THE START OF A NEW YEAR**

What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?

What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?

What skill do you most want to learn or improve this year?

**BOOKSHOP CHANGEOVER**

Last Wednesday was monthly changeover day at Koorong, Port Macquarie. Take a moment to look through new books on the shelves, plus DVDs, CDs, cards for every occasion, bookmarks. Beautiful giftware a great way to encourage friends as they explore their knowledge and love of God and give Him their heart.

**JAMES 2:2-9**

**God doesn’t play favorites**

When we warm up to rich or attractive people and turn our backs on the poor, we are rejecting God. He hates discrimination, whether it be on the basis of race, gender, age, appearance or social status. He sees each of us as his son or daughter, uniquely made in his image. Our dignity and self worth come from being valued members of his family.

One of the first things people lose when becoming poor or disabled is a sense of value. Often they think that God does not love them or that their situation is the result of sin. Some even believe that they are under a curse. Yet James remind us that God has chosen the poor “to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom” James 2:5.

Every member is important in the life of the church. That’s why it is vital that we – as God’s family – affirm and value ***all*** of our brothers and sisters*. From NIV Christian Growth Study Bible*

**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, TUNCURRY**

Allan Pearse Funerals is using the building for funerals on a casual basis.

This will generate income for the parish.

**PARISH GIVING** (part of last weeks’ note from Phillip Castle, Parish Councillor and delivered by July Hall)

With the appointment of Rev James Brooks as a families’ minister, we thank those who have been donating for this ministry over the past year and thank those who pledged to give when the appointment was made. James will be paid from donations that have been made or promised, savings made over the past couple of years, and from financial reserves. You may like to donate particularly to support the families minister, lessening the need to dip into our reserve. Special envelopes are available for this purpose.

**EFT** (Electronic Funds Transfer)

A few questions re our bank details: BSB 705077 Account 000400710.

Account name: Anglican Parish of Forster/Tuncurry

**SAMARITANS DONATIONS**

Items to add to school lunches especially the ”first timers”. So many varieties to choose from these days or something for mum, coffee, tea, long life milk, biscuits, tissues.

**WALKING INTO CHURCH**

What do you think about when you walk into church? Are you praying as you walk into church? What do you think *God* is thinking about as you walk into church? (6 steps)

**Senior Minister/Rector**: Rev’d Mark Harris 0425 265 547

 revmarkharris@icloud.com

**Priest in Local Mission:** Rev 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

**Fb:** Anglican Parish of Forster-Tuncurry.

**Items for Parish News:** Lyn Davies 0491 136 455 or Parish Office 5543 7683 by noon Wed, Thanks.

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