**PARISH NEWS**

**EPIPHANY 3, 21st JANUARY, 2018**

***The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;***

***repent, and believe in the gospel. Mark 1:15***

***LAST CHANCE TO-DAY- IF YOU ARE ATTENDING***

***THE INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF THE***

***RIGHT REVEREND DR. PETER STUART AS THE 14TH***

***BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE (BY COACH)*** on Friday, 2nd

February at 7pm in Christ Church Cathedral, we need to know ***NOW*** as

we require at least 20 people to make coach hire viable.

**SUMMER PROGRAM, 2018 –**

The program January thru to the end of April is now available,

make sure you have a copy, the bible readings for each week, info on

growth groups, vital groups, focus groups, service times and lots more!

**SOMETHING SPECIAL CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP –**

Monday thru to Friday 9am-12noon. No Saturday trading.

Open on Sundays after both 8am service and 9.30am service.

**LENTEN STUDY BOOKLETS –**

We can recommend two Lenten Study booklets this year suitable for

personal use and in growth groups.

“The Shadows on the Cross” by Michael Raiter helps us to understand

the death of the Messiah from the Old Testament. Michael is the Director of

the Centre for Biblical Preaching and has spoken in Forster at combined

church functions in 2015 and 2016. Cost $11.

“The Glory of the Cross” by Tim Chester is based on readings from the

Gospel of John. Tim is pastor at Grace Church, Boroughbridge, UK and wrote

one of the Advent studies booklets, which was well received at the end of

2017. Cost $13.

Orders will be taken **today** and next Sunday so the books will be

available for the start of Lent. Phillip Castle 0422 036 656

**As we worship our God we include in our prayers this week:**

**In Our Parish:**

Lay Liturgical Assistants and Readers.

Continue to pray our special prayer for a Families Minister.

Please continue to pray for people with ongoing needs in your prayers each

day, **Keith Bell, Louise, Keith Roach, Dianne Hardin, Leonie Bell, Pam**

**Fibbens, George Hodgson, Paul Raymond Ferris, Maureen Armstrong, Jenny,**

**Andrew Mazaraki.**

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, Frank Williams.**

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:**

Bishop Peter &amp; Nicki &amp; their family

Diocesan Director of Vocations.

**Parishes, Schools and agencies:**

Gloucester, Harrington-Coopernook, Taree.

**SUPPORT TO DEFENCE FORCE ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY –**

Air Force Archdeacon – Kevin Russell

The Chief of the Air Force – Air Marshall Leo Davis.

**BCA –** Reaching Australia for Christ since 1919 –

Mr Anthony Andreazza – Theological Student –Ridley College.

**OUR PARISH VISION –**

“We will connect meaningfully with our community in order to

inspire hope and transformed lives through faith in Jesus.”

**CULTURE AND CHRIST –**

Resumes this Monday, 22nd at 10am and every Monday with our

Priest in Local Mission – Rev. Helen Quinn at St. Nicholas’ church,

Tuncurry. Haven’t been before? What’s it all about? Come along and

join in.

**SAMARITANS –**

Now **BACK TO BASICS** till the end of January, so whatever you

consider “basic” – that’s what people will need during January. As the

“rellies” enjoy their stay and return to their homes, let’s have a close look through our cupboards and see what we can send to the Samaritans while the

“use by date” is still a long way ahead.

**5.30pm SATURDAY SERVICE AT ST. ALBAN’S –**

This service will not be available during the holiday season.

**MISSION OUTREACH FOR JANUARY – ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION**

**(ABM).** Informative brochures in all churches.

**CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY – CMS – Liz Burns –**

Liz will be visiting the parish, as she has many times, from

Sunday 18th February till Friday 23rd February.

In the email confirming her deputation it reads “she is looking

forward to catching up with everyone there. This promises to be a

great time as she shares the news of her work in Tanzania and

celebrates your partnership with her in that ministry.

There is quite a bit of planning to be done and I imagine Judy

will be involved with that now that she has returned from holidays.

**CMS** will be our mission focus for February – there are CMS

brochures in all churches or you can check out the info at

[eburns@cms.org.au](mailto:eburns@cms.org.au).

**MEN’S DINNER –**

Tuesday, 6th February, 6pm for 6.30pm. $12.00 each, plus

drinks. Our guest speaker for this dinner is Mr. Graham Barclay, a well-

known resident of the Great Lakes – he has a great story to share. Lists

in the churches or phone the parish office 5543 7683.

Clive, 0412 653 061.

**JANUARY** is drawing to a close – in February many of the vital groups

that have taken a well-earned break over January for family time, etc.

will be re-commencing. These groups are listed in the Summer Program

for your info.

**BOOKCHAT –**

Starting back on Saturday, 3 rd February. We are reading a biography

of our own choice, some great bios in our bookshop –“ Mr. Eternity” just to

mention one – come along and join in. 10.30am at St. Alban’s hall. ‘phone

Judy if you would like more info.

**A NOTE ON JONAH FROM ”THE MESSAGE” –** part of the intro

“One reason that the Jonah story is so enduringly important for

nurturing the life of faith in us is that Jonah is not a hero too high and mighty

for us to identify with – he doesn’t do anything great.

Instead of being held up as an ideal to admire, we find Jonah as a

companion in our ineptness. Here is someone on our level. Even when Jonah

does it right (like preaching, finally, in Nineveh) he does it wrong (by getting

angry with God).

But the whole time, God is working within and around Jonah’s very

ineptness and accomplishing his purposes in him. Most of us need a biblical

friend or two like Jonah.”

**UNDERSTAND THE LIMITATIONS OF OTHERS –**

You keep listening to those who seem to reject you. But they never

speak about *you*. They speak about their own limitations. They confess their

poverty in the face of your needs and desires. They simply ask for your

compassion. They do not say that you are bad, ugly, or despicable. They say

only that you are asking for something they cannot give and that they need to

get some distance from you to survive emotionally. The sadness is that you

perceive their necessary withdrawal as a rejection of you instead of as a call

to return home and discover there your true belovedness.

From “The Inner Voice of Love” by Henri J.M.Nouwen

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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

revmarkharris@icloud.com

**Priests in Local Mission**  Rev’d Bill Green 0488 570 028

Rev’d 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.com](mailto:bookshop@forsteranglican.com)5543 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