**PARISH NEWS**

**EPIPHANY 4, 28th JANUARY, 2018**

***Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. Matthew 9:35***

**IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK –**

Monday, 29th – Walking Group, meet at St. Alban’s car park 9.30am

Monday, 29th - Culture and Christ, St. Nicholas, 10am

Friday, 2nd Feb – Service at Estia, Forster, 10.30am

Saturday, 3rd – Bookchat – St. Alban’s 10.30am

Sunday, 4th – Monthly BBQ, St. Alban’s, 12 noon

**SUNDAY, 4th FEBRUARY –**

 **GIDEONS** will be giving a five minute info spot at the 8am service at Forster and also at the 9.30am service at Tuncurry. There will be a retiring offertory for anybody who would like to support them.

Since 1899 the Gideons have donated free bibles to hotels, motels, schools, prisons, nursing homes and many other places.

**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!

**ROMANS 12:19-21**

 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

**In Our Parish:**

Parish Op Shop

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, Betty Walsh & Rev. Bill Green.**

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 –

**Keith Dee.**

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 & Nicki

Diocesan Director of Formation

**Parishes, Schools and agencies:**

Anglican Care, CEY ministries

**SUPPORT TO DEFENCE FORCE ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY –**

Vocations and Training – Pray for those studying at theological colleges for future ministry as Defence Force chaplains – Stephen Gibbins - Moore College, Peter Taylor -Ridley Theological College, Angela Stanfield -UTC, Tim Mannix-St.Mark’s.

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

Lightning Ridge, Rev’d David & Mrs Joanne Piper, Daniel (2010), Luke (2012) Matthew (2016)

**OUR PARISH VISION –**

“We will connect meaningfully with our community in order to

inspire hope and transformed lives through faith in Jesus.”

**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.

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

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

**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 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, 3rd 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.

**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.

**Last day to order these booklets.** Phillip Castle 0422 036 656

**BUNNINGS BBQ’s – (To assist Toddler Time)**

 Great news – we have been given two Saturday dates – 7th April, and 12th May – this gives us time to “organize” and not scramble as we did last BBQ.

 There is a need for a list of people who are interested in this community outreach program. There are quite a few things to organize, none too complicated, some quite easy. Please phone the office 5543 7683 and talk to Judy or Clive – it will also be somewhat cooler by then.

 It would be great if parishioners from ALL the churches offer to volunteer for this outreach.

**GROWTH GROUPS –**

 These groups are listed in our Summer Program – are you involved? If you would like to part of one of these groups – or start your own – speak to Rev. Mark and he will discuss which group would best suit you.

**JONAH – MERCY FOR AN EVIL EMPIRE –**

 Jonah obviously wanted God to destroy the people of Nineveh, not forgive them. Nineveh was the capital of Assyria’s “evil empire”, which had done horrible things to Jonah’s people. Perhaps members of his own family had been killed or raped by Assyrian soldiers. God’s expressions of mercy to this cruel nation made Jonah so angry that he wanted to die.

 God broke through Jonah’s hard heart by using a vine to show how much he cares about all nations he has created. Jonah had to be taught that hatred and racism destroy, but love and forgiveness give life.

**EPHESIANS 4:26-27**

 “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

**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.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