**PARISH NEWS**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**31st MARCH 2019**

*God has reconciled us to himself through Christ, and given us the ministry of reconciliation*. 2 Corinthians 5.18

*While he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.* Luke 15.21

**ADVANCE NOTICE – BOOK THE DATE!**

*The Wednesday Friendship Group*

*invites you to*

**“THE BIGGEST MORNING TEA”**



Saturday, 4th May 2019 from 10.00am

at St Alban’s Church Hall

Please come and bring a friend (or two)

All proceeds to Cancer Research

Enquiries - Helen Barber 0419 996 594

**MEN’S DINNER**

The next Men’s Dinner is being held on Tuesday, 2nd April at St. Alban’s Hall, 6.00pm for 6.30pm, $15 each plus drinks. The presentation will be “ A Missionary in PNG” by David Foster. Lists at all churches, or phone the office.

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

Ella Engel, Jenny Lawson, George Hodgson, Keith Roach, Michelle, Nadia Maybury, Lyn Thompson, Marion & Peter Roberts, Isabel McBride, Margaret Burrows.

We remember with thanks those whom we have loved whose anniversary occurs at this time – Ben Ferris.

**THE OP SHOP (AGAIN)**

Several of our precious volunteers have had to resign from the Op Shop staff and we have an urgent need for someone who could regularly help us on Thursday afternoons and/or Saturday mornings. We may have to reduce our opening hours if we can’t find anyone. Why not give working in the Op Shop a try? Meet our local regulars and visitors from all over the world – it’s interesting and provides a valuable ministry. Speak to Heather 6557-5454 or Janet 6554 5981 if you could help.

**SEDER MEAL**

Thursday 18th April, there will be a Passover Meal on the eve of Good Friday. Mark the date - further details to come. There is a need for a coordinator for this shared meal, to organise people beforehand setting up, help with the meal and then a group of parishioners to assist with the clean up. See Clive please.

**ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION – PEW REFLECTIONS**

* Joshua 5.2-12; Psalm 32;
2 Corinthians 5.16-21; Luke 5.11-32

There are probably few stories that Jesus tells in the New Testament that are as moving and significant to all of us as that of the Prodigal Son. No tale illustrates God’s love and forgiveness in such tender ways. I often try to place myself in the place of the prodigal son on his journey home and to feel what he must have felt, a spiritual exercise that can bring me to some grief, then imagining the joy not only of the welcome home but the reconciliation that came with it. This Lenten season we remember that we are walking that same road home to the father where we are welcomed and forgiven through Christ.

* Pray for reconciliation with those who we have wronged and who have wronged us; and pray that we might be as quick to show mercy and love as the father from the parable.
* Give thanks for the Provinces of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and Sudan. Pray for peace between and within both countries.

Text: The Rev Will Johnston,
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**BCA BOXES**

Don’t forget, March is BCA box opening month. Please return boxes to Suellen for counting.

**PARISH NEWS**

Janet Lawrence will be producing the PN for the next two weeks, Sundays 7th & 14th April.

**Situation Vacant!** Is there anyone who would be willing to take on typing the Parish News each week? We feel the PN needs some new ideas and a general refresher.

**SAMARITANS DONATIONS**

For the month of March we are suggesting toiletries, all sorts of gear that you use in the bathroom – for the whole family – from babies to adults.

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

 revmarkharris@icloud.com

**Family’s Minister:** Rev’d James Brooks 0411 335 087

 jamesknac@gmail.com

**Priest in Local Mission:** Rev Helen Quinn 0427 592 723

 rqu783662@bigpond.com

**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 5543 7683

**Parish Website:** www.forsteranglican.com

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

**Items for Parish News:** Janet Lawrence 6554 5981, 0448 502 684 or Parish Office 5543 7683 by noon Wed, Thanks.

**Opportunity To Give**

**For direct credit offertories:**

BSB: 705077 Account: 000400710

Account name: Anglican Parish of Forster/Tuncurry