

south east  
bendigo

anglican parish

Monthly Bulletin  
December 2018  
January 2019



“We do not have a high priest unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet he did not sin.”

Hebrews 4:15

Contact us at:

14 Keck Street, Flora Hill  
Bendigo, Vic 3550  
(03) 5443 3482  
office@southeastbendigo.com  
www.southeastbendigo.com

**Greg's Thoughts**

- You're not from around here, are you?

Page 3

**Trev's Reflections**

- Creeds – do we just repeat them or do they engage our heart?

Page 4

**Rob's Column**

- Jesus – the best gift ever

Page 5

**Events**

- Breakfast for men
- Bishop Matt visiting
- Carol service
- Evening service
- Christmas service times
- Combined services
- Office times during holidays
- January sermon series
- Parish Fair

Pages 6-7

**Membership Matters**

- Vote 1 – free sausage sandwiches
- Parish Council News
- Annual General Meeting
- Where's Trev?
- Offerings
- Mission giving
- eGiving

Pages 8-10

**Children and Youth**

- News and events update

Page 11

**Ministry Team**

Rector, Senior Minister and Archdeacon of Bendigo	Greg Harris
Associate Minister	Trev Bell
Children and Youth Minister	Rob Edwards
Ordained Pioneer Minister	Eddie Barkla
Wardens	David Bruce, Gordon Hensley Joan Pape
Secretary to Parish Council	Kerryn Hensley
Treasurer	Rob Bath

**Holy Trinity Services**

<b>Sundays</b>	8am	Holy Communion
	9.15am	Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays; Morning Prayer 2nd and 4th Sundays; Praise, Prayer and Proclamation 5th Sundays
	11am	Family Church Lord's Supper usually 3rd Sunday
	5pm	Contemporary Service Lord's Supper usually 3rd Sunday
<b>Wednesdays</b>	10 am	Holy Communion except in January
<b>Fridays</b>	2pm	Seniors Afternoon last Friday of each month except January and December

Home Communion by arrangement with the Rector and occasional services at Bendigo Retirement Village, Elm Aged Living and Freedom Aged Care.

South East Bendigo is in a cluster arrangement with the Strathfieldsaye Community Church.

Priest in Charge Steve Weickhardt

**Contact information**

Holy Trinity 14 Keck Street Flora Hill VIC 3550  
Office hours: 9 am-12 pm Monday to Friday Phone: 5443 3482  
E: office@southeastbendigo.com W: southeastbendigo.com

The Anglican Diocese of Bendigo expects the highest standards of professional service from its clergy and lay people. The diocese is a full participant in the uniform professional standards scheme managed by an independent professional standards organisation, Kooyoora Ltd. A phone call to 1800 135 246 will mean that your complaint will be handled by the staff of Kooyoora Ltd. who operate professional standards for the Anglican Dioceses of Bendigo and Melbourne. This is an independent, objective process adopted by the Anglican Diocese of Bendigo in 2016.

# You're not from around here, are you?



Have you ever had someone say to you, “you’re not from around here, are you?” The intention behind such a statement is usually “you don’t understand us” or “you don’t really belong.” With that underlying premise such a statement can be quite hurtful let alone untrue.

Yet I was recently reflecting on how true this statement is in relation to Christmas. In particular I believe it is a statement that could be said of Jesus. Let me explain.

The simple message of Christmas is that Jesus, the Son of God, left his Father’s throne and came to earth. This is the ultimate example of “you are not from around here.” Yet that fact should be even more obvious when you take into account that the reason why Jesus is “not from around here” is because He created “here.”

Now that we have established Jesus is “not from around here,” the question we need to ask is “what lies behind that statement for each of us?” What is the

underlying intention in our words? Are we saying I don’t want anything to do with Jesus because he is not from around here? Are we implying that because he is not from around here that he doesn’t understand me or have anything to offer? Such thoughts are sadly missing the point.

I put it to you that it is precisely because Jesus is not from around here but that He came here that we need to be paying attention. Ask yourself, why would the second person of the Trinity be willing to take on human flesh and be found as a baby born in ancient Israel? It can’t be because he wanted to tick it off his bucket list!

This is where the message of the angels in Luke is helpful. The archangel makes it very clear Jesus has come as Saviour, born this day in the city of David. He has come to “here” (earth) because of our need of a saviour.

Yet even more striking is because Jesus wasn’t from here but indeed came here – he is

now able to understand our situation. As it says in Hebrews 4:15:

**“We do not have a high priest unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet he did not sin.”**

That is why I think I can willingly and humbly say at Christmas, “Lord Jesus you are not from around here, but I am so glad you came here because you know what it is like to be ‘here’. And Lord Jesus because you came ‘here’ motivated by grace, I like the magi, will bow in worship and bring you my life, my praise, my all. Lord Jesus, you aren’t from around here, are you? And for that I exclaim, ‘Hallelujah!’”



*Greg Harris is the Rector and Senior Minister at Holy Trinity Bendigo*



# Jesus – the best gift ever



In many houses on Christmas day you will find presents. These presents are normally wrapped in bright Christmas wrapping paper, they have a gift tag attached to them and they sometimes have pretty ribbons or bows and they are placed under a Christmas Tree.

But what if amongst all these well wrapped presents was one package that was wrapped in plain brown paper tied up with string; and what if that package had your name on it?

Would that be the package you would choose to open first? I don't think so! After all, a gift is supposed to come in beautiful packaging, isn't it?

When Jesus was born all those years ago, he didn't come in a beautifully wrapped package.

God sent Jesus, His only Son, as His gift to us. His mother was a

young virgin; his earthly father was a poor carpenter; Jesus was born in a stable; placed in a manger and his first visitors were smelly shepherds!

Not a very pretty package, is it?

But do you know, that Jesus is the greatest gift the world has ever known.

The Bible tells us that when Mary found out that she had been chosen to be the one to deliver God's gift to the world, she was filled with joy. She sang a song glorifying God for choosing her. Luke 2:49 says:

**“The Mighty One has done great things for me”**

Well, the Mighty One has done great things for us too. He has shown us how much he loves us by sending his son Jesus who

died in our place so that we can have eternal life.

Jesus is the BEST gift that we can receive, but some people are so busy unwrapping the beautifully wrapped packages that this world offers that they have missed out on the greatest gift of all.

This Christmas may you find time to reflect on the Greatest gift that has been given to all of us – Jesus Christ!



*Rob Edwards is Children and Youth Minister at Holy Trinity*

## Breakfast for men



Breakfast for all men is being planned at Holy Trinity Saturday 8th December at 7.30 am. Talk to Rob Bath if you are seeking more information.

## Bishop Matt visiting



Bishop Matt will be coming for his first “official” visit to Holy Trinity next week. He will be preaching at all services.

## Carol service



Our annual Carol Service will be Sunday 16th December at 5 pm. Please bring a plate to share and get there early for a good seat. There will be an offering for TEAR Australia. This is one of the easiest times in the year that you can invite others to Church as we sing together.

## Evening service

There will be no evening service on Sunday 30th December.

Throughout January this service will continue as usual.

## Combined services

From Sunday 30th December and throughout January the 8am and 9.15am services will be combined into one service commencing at 9am.

Each of these services will be a Holy Communion service.



# Christmas Service Times

**Christmas Eve**  
6 pm Family Christmas Service - *for the whole family*  
11 pm Late Night Communion Service - *followed by drinks and nibbles*

**Christmas Day**  
9 am Communion Service with children's segment

## Office times during holidays

The church office will be closed from Monday 24th December to Friday 11th January.

The church phone will still be answered for pastoral needs and information during this break.

## January sermon series

For the last Sunday in December and throughout January we will have our regular Summer Sermon Series on the Psalms.

## Parish Fair

**Friday 22nd Feb from 5 pm**

It is now time for you to start thinking about how you can help. Keep an eye out in the new year for the sign up sheets for the various stalls.



# Vote 1 – free sausage sandwiches

“There must be a catch, I don’t understand” was a common statement heard on the Saturday of the recent Victorian State Election at Holy Trinity South East Bendigo. These words were not uttered in response to actual election process but rather to a parish backed ‘election stunt.’

Holy Trinity, Flora Hill is a highly frequented polling station and the parish saw an opportunity to both bless and engage with the local community. This was the reasoning behind South East Bendigo’s election promise of ‘Free Sausage Sandwiches’ - a promise that was 100% rock solid with no strings or preference deals attached.

Our rector Greg commented that often the church has a reputation of putting their hand out and we wanted to turn that around. The idea of handing out free sandwiches rather than selling them sprang from one of those “what if we…” conversations.

Almost 700 sausage sandwiches were freely given away resulting in either a smile, a look of surprise and on many occasions an extended conversation.



1. Parish Volunteers – Norma, June, John and Doug (L to R)



2. Jacinta Allan getting a sandwich for the family



3 News crews and Jacinta Allan

# Parish Council News

## Building upgrades and repairs

The Parish Council has been working to complete necessary repairs and upgrades. The Council heard that the back sheds and BBQ area will start before Christmas and be completed in the new year.

The Council agreed to seek permission from the Diocese to replace and repair the steeple, eaves and fascias on the church which contain asbestos. The Diocese has agreed to use funds from the Burrows Trust and this work will begin after the Parish Fair 2019.

The council has also engaged in conversations about the hall floor and is seeking information on solar panels.

## Ministry Team

The Council discussed the negotiations that are occurring between the Rector and the Diocese in relation to the Ministry Team make up for 2019. Further details will be available in the near future.

## Parish Fair

The Council held an extraordinary meeting in recent months to discuss the 2019 Parish Fair. Decisions were made about the date and the stalls. It was agreed that although the Garage Sale has been very profitable in recent years it is becoming more difficult to maintain. The difficulties include having enough help in the days leading up to the fair and acquiring good material for the sale. Furthermore much that is offered for sale is left over and is a cost on the parish to remove.

It was agreed that other stalls and entertainment would be sought to replace what may be lost through not having the garage sale. It was also agreed that there was further potential in some of the other stalls that could be explored.

## Finances

The offertories are down slightly on what is budgeted however all expenses have been met.

The 2019 budget will be presented to the December meeting for adoption.

# Annual General Meeting

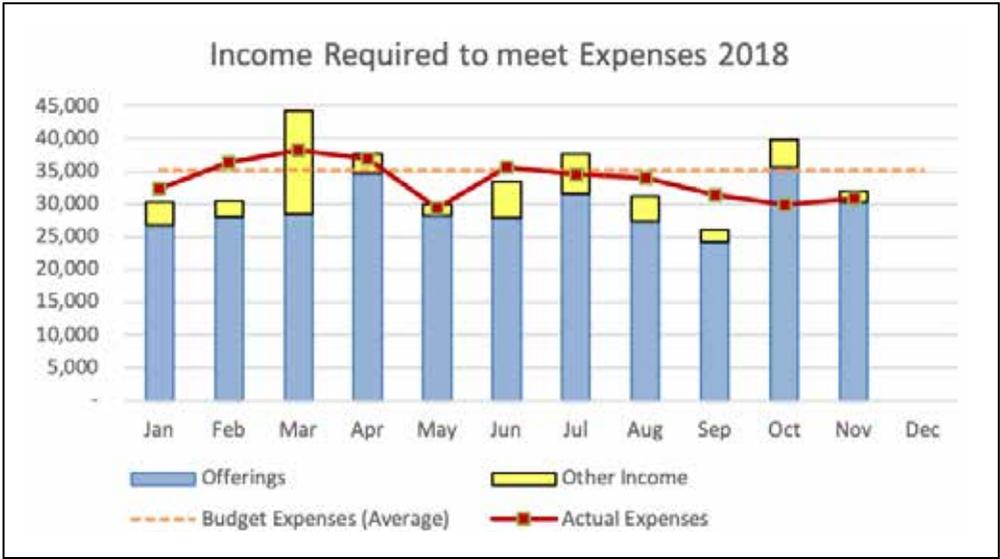
The next AGM will be 3rd March 2019 at 1 pm. AGM Reports will be available in mid February

# Where's Trev?



Trev Bell is on a camel! The other person is Brendan McDonald who is the minister at Eaglehawk & Maiden Gully. Trev is in Israel for study for his final Master's Unit.

# Offerings



# Mission giving

We banked almost \$330 for the work of BCA in Sunraysia South with Dale Barclay – along with two car and trailers’ worth of donations for the op shop. And we banked almost \$1,000 for Bible League “Bibles for the Persecuted.”

*November figures preliminary at 27 November*

2018 YTD	
Offerings	323,129.50
Other Income	50,144.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>373,274.26</b>
Budget Expenses (Average)	387,344.83
<b>Actual Expenses</b>	<b>369,940.96</b>
Actual Surplus / Loss	3,333.30
Compare to Budget Expenses	-14,070.57



# eGiving

If you would like to make your regular contributions to our parish through direct debit bank transfer there are eGiving brochures in the church foyer that provide information on how to do that. Electronic Giving Cards are available in the foyer for you to place in the plate during the time when offerings are taken.

**Parish bank account details:**

Name: Anglican Parish South East Bendigo  
 BSB: 633-000 Account Number: 120780267



# CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Youth - THRIVE.

## Year 7-12's

During the School term, **.thrive.** meets for **socials activities** with a 'God Spot' on the first and third Friday nights at Holy Trinity from 7:30-9:30pm unless told otherwise.

### 7th Dec - Christmas Dinner Breakup

~ Come and celebrate the **GREAT** year we have had at Youth!

~ We will share a **YUMMY** dinner and look at some of the **highlight s** from **2018!**

**6pm-8:30**

**Cost \$2**

Contact Rob Edwards for more info.....on 0438 061 076 or [rob@southeastbendigo.com](mailto:rob@southeastbendigo.com)



## family church **SEEKERS**

SEEKERS is the children's segment during family church, where we seek to see what the Bible says and how it applies to our lives!

During December, we will look at passages that lead up to Jesus birth

**Sun 2nd Dec - Zacharias Can't Talk**  
*Luke 1:5-64*

**Sun 9th Dec - John the Baptist Prepares the Way.**  
*Luke 3:1-6*

**Sun 16th Dec - God Chooses Mary and Joseph**

*Matt 1:18-25 & Luke 1:26-77*

**Sun 23rd Dec - Jesus is Born**  
*Luke 2:1-20*

**Sun 30th Dec - Holiday Program**

# Thank you to everyone who has

helped at **BREAKFAST CLUB** at Bendigo South East College (BSE) each

Friday morning, rain hail or shine during 2018!

Thank you to SUPA IGA Strath Village for donating bread, cheese, milk, Milo, cordial and cups each week!

Rob :)





# south east bendigo

anglican parish

*Committed to Jesus - Committed to Each Other -  
Committed to our Community*

*This Bulletin is  
kindly sponsored by...*

## **INTERSPORT BICKNELLS**

46 Williamson Street  
Bendigo  
5443 4299

## **VANSTANS PHARMACY**

cnr Hammer  
& Neale Streets  
Flora Hill  
5443 3238

## **GLENN TAYLOR**

Accountant & Tax Agent

**5444 5777**

Personal & Business  
Income Tax Returns  
Financial Statements  
BAS & Self Managed Super  
Funds



## **HOMESTEAD MOTOR INN & APARTMENTS**

cnr High & Alder Streets  
Golden Square  
**5447 7455**  
David & Glenys Stewart

**Jason 0403 230 839**  
jason@clearviewantennas.com.au  
Digital antennas  
TV, data & phone points,  
wiring for TV, home theatre

