

Weekly News

14 April 2019

The weekly newsletter for the South East Bendigo Anglican Parish

Reflection

It's for you and me

This last Sunday it was an absolute delight to see Karen Reid and Simba from Tatura be ordained as Deacon and Priest in God's church. The church building was suitably full of life, colour and celebration to mark such an occasion. I always find it inspiring to see people commissioned for Gods work and mission, this day was no exception. Congratulations Karen!

As we were proceeding through the service there was an important part of the liturgy that is an essential part of the life of a healthy church. This liturgy summarized, reminds us that it is every baptized believers' task to take up their ministry within the church. That's right it's for you and for me, everyone has a part to play in the mission and ministry of God's church. For some of us that knowledge is exciting, for others it is a scary and for others it may feel foreign.



I wanted to draw our attention to this aspect of church life, because we desperately need everyone in the church to find their place in the Christian ministry that God has for them. Everyone's role will be different to others, so comparing side ways to another person is not helpful, yet there is no doubt that God has a part for everyone to play. Have you considered your God given gifts and how you express them in the ministry and life of the church lately?

There is a parable that Jesus told that gives us some persuasive encouragement to use what we have been given by God for his glory. The parable of the talents is the one I am referring to is in Matthew 25:14-30, have a read of it. The gist of this parable is that we are expected to not

just hold the gifts, abilities and resources that God has given us, but also to use them.

I am greatly encouraged that different members of the church are using their gift among us in new ways, particularly at present there is enquiry about some different men's ministries and also Table tennis on Thursday evening. Both of these activities are designed to make good connections with people and we pray that others may come to know God through their interaction with his people at the church. But as I said before, everyone's ministry is different, my encouragement to you is to keep seeking what yours is and when it is discovered take active steps to undertake it.

God be with you
Trev Bell, Associate Minister

Bible readings

This Sunday Philippians 2:1-13 (p.1179) Luke 15:11-32 (p.1049) **Next Sunday** 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 (p.1156) Luke 18:9-14 (p.1052)

News

Welcome Bishop Matt

Welcome to Bishop Matt who is visiting the parish today. He will be receiving a number of people into the Anglican Church.

Easter service times

The Easter service times are available on the church website and also on the banner on the front of the church. In brief they are: Maundy Thursday at 7.30 pm, Good Friday at 9 am, and regular service times on Easter Sunday.

Church camp

The upcoming Church Camp is on May 30th – June 2nd. More details are available in the foyer or see Trev Bell or Robyn Geldart for more information.

Table tennis

On Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm there is the opportunity to be part of a table tennis group at church. Anyone is welcome and all skill levels are accommodated.

Small groups

After Easter we are looking to begin some new small groups or have people join existing groups that may be looking for new members. If you would like to

be a part of a small group then please fill out the 'expression of interest' forms in the foyer. The all you need to do is hand it to Karen Reid or to any of the other Ministry Team members.

Office Closure

Please be aware that the church office will be closed on the various public holidays in the coming week. That means the office is closed on Good Friday, Easter Monday and ANZAC Day.

Family church and cleaning rosters

We are in need of two more families/individuals to go onto the cleaning rosters and the Morning Tea or Set up roster, at family church if you are able to help out with this, even once a term it would share the

load further and would be very helpful. Talk to Rob if you are able to help.

Friday men's breakfast

On Friday the 26th of April from 7 am til 8:15 (or 8 if you need to go) there will be a Men's Breakfast in the church foyer. We will eat, chat, hear about upcoming men's events, read a short devotion and pray together. This is for all men who wish to attend. Gold coin donation. Please RSVP to Rob bath or Trev Bell

Hot cross buns

If you are attending this Friday's Good Friday service, could you please bring a packet of Hot Cross Buns to share. Feel free to bring some of the "Different flavours"! Our youth group will be preparing them so they will be ready at the end of the service.

Bendigo Winter Night Shelter

This is a combined churches initiative to provide food, shelter and dignity for those who are homeless during winter. If you would like to volunteer or require further information on this initiative, then head to www.bendigowinternightshelter.com.



ABM Lent appeal 2019

This year, the ABM Lent appeal is supporting three programs.

- St Johns Seminary in Zambia
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Fund

- Gender & Governance Initiative in Zambia

If you would like to contribute to one of these programs, please collect the appropriate ABM Lent appeal envelope from the foyer, insert your donation in the envelope and place it in the offertory bowl.

Prayer Church and mission

Parish

Pray that we will be a blessing to the communities into which God has planted us.

Give thanks for those who arrange the flowers and count the money each week.

Give thanks that new community groups want to use our facilities.

Pray for the men's and women's ministry to flourish.

Pray for those to be received into the Anglican Church this week by Bishop Matt.

Pray for the Easter service preparations and for God's Spirit to be moving the hearts of those who will attend.

Diocese

Ministry Development Officer – Heather Marten

Mission

Pray for the work of ABM and for generosity towards their Lenten Appeal.

Persecuted Church.

Myanmar

Buddhism is the dominant religion, and other minorities such as Muslims and Christians are pressured to leave the country. Most Christians are extremely poor. They are denied education and employment

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Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Please support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Fund

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants support missional activities led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. With guidance from the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSAC) ABM makes small grants available to projects which express the marks of mission and benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Your gift will support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican church in work that seeks to build flourishing communities of love, hope and justice.

"When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country." Statement from the Heart

Church bell rings at the Anglican Church of St Francis of Assisi at Sassa near Saragalla in the north of Cape York. © ABM/Melanie Degeert, 2018.

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Please support the ABM Gender & Governance Initiative in Zambia

ABM works with the Zambia Anglican Council Outreach Program (ZACOP) to end child marriage and to end the conditions of poverty and ignorance, and the low status of women that sustain it. ZACOP is educating people about the rights of women and children, helping them to claim these rights, and providing services to support victims of gender-based violence (GBV).

Please support the project and make a difference to the lives of women and children in Zambia by helping ABM's partner continue its programs in the Eastern Province.

Wiolet, aged 28, is a victim of domestic violence. With the support of two Village Counseling Centres, she found the courage to change her life around, and those of her children. She is now a coordinator at a Savings with Education group, sells her earnings and earnings she bought vegetable seeds and has developed a small business which supports her and her children. © ABM/Outreach Saveri, 2018.

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ANGELICAN BOARD OF MISSION
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Please support St John's Anglican Seminary

ABM has supported St John's Seminary for almost a decade now. It is the national seminary of the Anglican Church in Zambia, training ordinands and clergy from all five Anglican dioceses across Zambia. The training prepares them to minister in fast-growing urban and rural congregations of the Church.

The seminary, which receives a small monthly grant from the National Church, does not charge tuition fees, in order to enable students from poor dioceses to attend. However, this operating grant is not enough to cover the seminary's expenses. It is dependent on donor aid for staff salary support, maintenance, its internet facility, and books for both the library and students' use after the training.

In 2019, the seminary will introduce its own local diplomas and degree courses in Theology. Please give generously to support clergy training and formation in the Anglican Church in Zambia.

Seminary students who will complete their MAWJ Degree course in November 2019. © K. Y. Namata Mwanza, used with permission.

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opportunities, and may be excluded from communal resources such as water. In 2018 more than 60 churches were closed and 100 leaders detained. Pray that Christians will find contentment in Jesus and continue to be a witness to their families and communities.

World

Britain

Pray for a workable solution to the Brexit situation.

Sudan

Pray that clashes between security and protesters will not result in deaths and injury.

Nigeria

Pray that the doctors in this region will not look to emigrate to seek better pay and conditions, but rather stay in this country to provide care and also influence the country for good.

Venezuela

Pray for this nation which is on the brink of collapse and facing a humanitarian crisis and now may become a pawn in politics between USA and Russia.

Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi

Pray for these nations mourning and now facing food shortages and starvation after a deadly cyclone

National and local

Pray for all levels of government to lead with wisdom, integrity and fairness, for the good of



all. This week we focus on the federal level, and pray for the Prime Minister Scott Morrison and our local member Lisa Chesters, and all members of federal parliament.

Pray that our sporting fields will be a safe place for all people to enjoy without bullying or intimidating behaviour.

Pray for those who work in the aged care sector, that they will discharge their work with dignity, respect and care.



Pray for all people who are struggling financially, whether on the farm or in a city. May they find a workable solution to their need and have good mental health while under the financial strain.

Personal

Sick and in need

Kevin Furness, Marcia Taylor, Evelyn Wood, Keith Thompson, Eric & Muriel Jencke, and any others known to us.

Deceased

The Anglican Diocese of Bendigo is a participant in the uniform professional standards scheme managed by an independent professional standards organisation Kooyoora Ltd. If you have a complaint call to 1800 135 246

Contact us

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Office hours: 9 am-12 pm Monday to Friday