

Parish Visioning Day

Want to be part of a fun and relaxed process to discern where God's calling our parish in mission over the next one or two years? Between 8:30am and 12:30pm on Saturday 20th April in the parish hall, experienced group facilitator Rev'd Tim Booth from the Parishes and Other Mission Agencies Commission (and Deacon at St Michael's New Farm) will facilitate a simple Planning Day to assist us creatively discuss some next steps for the parish. Using group discussion methodologies like World Café and Open Space, Tim will provide a welcoming and safe space for all parishioners to suggest, discuss and listen to potential projects that our parish can get its teeth into over the next two years. The Planning Day project suggestions will then go to parish council.

In prayerful, reflective preparation for the Day, these are the questions we'll consider:

- 1. In the past 5 years, what do we look like **when we're at our best** as a parish? What has worked well in our church community in recent years?
- 2. What are our **hopes** for the parish in the **next one-two years**, with regards to: **what we might do** and **how we resource** these activities?

We encourage you to come on the Day, because your voice is important!

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday - 7.30am & 9.30am Wednesday - 10am

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

The Reverend Gary Tognola 3408 3191

CHURCHWARDENS

Margaret Peterson 5497 6978 Greg Rollason 3408 1998 Di Thatcher 0409 846 471

PARISH OFFICE

(Wed & Fri - 9am to 12pm) 3408 3191

bribieisland@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

WEBSITE

www.stpetersbribie.org.au

ONLINE GIVING BY CREDIT CARD OR DEBIT CARD

https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/? BillerCode=1730050

ONLINE GIVING BY DIRECT DEPOSIT

Ac Name - Bribie Island Parish BSB - 704-901

Account Number - 00000040

POSTAL ADDRESS

PO Box 1087 Bongaree 4507

LOCATION

10-12 Banya Street Bongaree

PARISH NOTICES

<u>Neighbourhood Centre</u> – Food delivered to B.I.D.N.C. for February totalled 26.3kg and 38.1kg for March. Thank you to all who gave. Greg Rollason.

<u>Compliancy Month</u> – April is Compliancy Month. Child Protection Training for all Blue Card Holders needs to be completed this month. A fire drill will also be held.

<u>MAP Visioning Day</u> – Mission Action Plan Visioning Day will be held on Saturday 20th April from 8.30am to 12.30pm. The day will be facilitated by Rev Tim Booth, Ministry Development Officer from the Diocese. Lunch is included. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. To assist with catering, please place names on the list in the narthex.

<u>AMUA Quiet Day</u> - We trust you have all had a Happy and Holy Easter. On Monday April 22nd at 10 am at St. Peter's Church, Rev. Marilyn Cullen will be guiding us on a Reflective journey into The Sacred Presence. What can we offer each other that is more precious than our presence?.....Our time?..... our care?..... our attention? All parishioners and friends are very welcome to join members in reflection, quiet time and morning tea. Please note AMUA Christmas Cards and Diary orders are now closed.

<u>Common Communion Cup</u> - Anyone who has concerns or medical conditions with the common communion cup are encouraged to maintain the practice of communion in one kind (the bread only). For those taking communion in one kind be assured that Christ is fully present, and nothing is lacking taking communion in one kind only. The practice of intinction (dipping the bread in the cup) is not allowed. Communicants are welcome to either stand or kneel while at the altar rail.

<u>Health and Safety Notice</u> – If you feel you may be contagious with cold and flu symptoms, please refrain from attending church activities. All parishioners are encouraged to maintain good hygiene practices and respect others personal space.

<u>Milestones</u> - It is our tradition at St Peter's to note people's birthdays in weekly and monthly publications, including special celebrations like 80th and 90th birthdays. If you would prefer not to have your special celebrations and birthdays noted in these notifications, please let the office know.

<u>Rosters</u> - Interested in joining our worship team as an AV operator, reader or intercessor? Please speak to Margaret Peterson (5497 6978).

<u>Drink Containers</u> - Collecting 10c refundable drink containers is a way the Parish raises funds. Please continue to collect your drink containers including glass wine and spirit bottles (150ml up to 3L). They can be dropped off in church hallway. You can also take your containers directly to the collection centre at 21 Armitage Street and give them the Parish's scheme id, so the funds come to the Parish. St Peter's scheme id is C10177475.

<u>Parish Newsletter</u> - The Beacon will now be a monthly publication released towards the beginning of each month. If you have a notice you wish published in the Beacon please email it to the office by the last Sunday of the month prior.

PARISH PRAYER POINTS

- **Those celebrating Birthdays** April Birthdays Priscilla Hancox (1st), Diane Carr (3rd), Lizzie Cooke (4th), Ellen Newby (6th), Marie Hauser (8th), Bev Birt (10th), Betty Clark (11th), Bev Stafford (15th), Di Thatcher (17th), John Campbell (20th), Catherine Campbell (24th), Norma Fowler (24th), Liz Little (25th), Bev Nehmer (25th), Kathryn Wilson (27th).
- **Special Birthdays** Congratulations to Catherine Campbell who celebrates her 90th birthday on Wednesday 24th April.
- **Those in Need** Greg, Elva Woods, John Kerr, Vivienne Bourne, Margaret & Brian Thompson, Linda Peterson.
- Continuing Prayer List Kaye Bush, Phillipa Booth, Nicholas, Blake & Elizabeth Kubler.
- Prayer for Anglicare Australia God of Life-Giving Creation, You call us to act justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with you. We pray for the member organisations of Anglicare Australia working across this vast and ancient land. Enable us as we strive to meet human need through loving service and to build communities of resilience, hope and justice. Encourage us to work in mutual partnership to effect positive change. Empower the people we serve to reach their full potential, especially those who experience disadvantage and injustice. Guide us in our advocacy for social justice and strengthen our determination to respond with compassion. Remind us to care for ourselves and each other as we face the challenges of our work, and as we seek reconciliation, healing and community transformation. All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our servant leader and friend. Amen.
- **School Chaplaincy** Julie Godfrey (Bribie High School) and Sean Godfrey (Bribie Island State School).
- **Prayer Chain** St Peter's operates a Prayer Chain ministry. If there is someone or something you would like to have placed on the Prayer Chain, please email bribieisland@anglicanchurchsq.org.au or contact the Parish Office.
- **Weekly and Continuing Prayer Lists** To add someone to the prayer list please email bribieisland@anglicanchurchsq.org.au



Our AMUA Branch provides for the use of members of the Parish "Care Bags" and "Prayer Shawls". These are available in the narthex for all parishioners to take and offer to people they know who may be in need of support and care.



SUNDAY 7 APRIL 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings - Acts 4.32-37; Psalm 133; 1 John 1.1-2.2; John 20.19-31

<u>Sentence</u> – 'Peace be with you,' says the Lord. 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' (John 20.21)

<u>Prayer of the day</u> – Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us in despair but whose presence is overwhelming: breathe on us with your abundant life, that where we cannot see we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. **Amen**.

Scripture Reflection -

Reflection on Acts 4:32-37

The backdrop for this short passage in Acts explores what a post-resurrection mission of the church in "Jerusalem, in all Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth" looks like (Acts 1:8). The community in Jerusalem faced severe challenges as the church does today. There would have been opposition from temple authorities, who arrested and interrogated the apostles (4:1-22). Today, we are suffering from the strain of earning a living under challenging circumstances. It was no different in Palestine, where they were undoubtedly under difficult economic conditions. ¹

This small passage from Acts highlights something meaningful for the reader and us. It is asking us to think about church and what our mission looks like in our local and world contexts ('mission in any age') ²

Acts 4:32-35, along with 2:42-47 and 6:1-7, provides insight into how the church responded to this economic challenge by describing its practice of sharing possessions so that "there was not a needy person among them" Acts (4:34). The placement of these three texts with Acts of the Apostles suggests that the Church's mission "in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" is rooted in and grows out of the fundamental imperative to care for one another. ³

A great need of the church's worldwide mission effort is to recapture this unity in grace and witness. What is essential for Gospel witnesses today as disciples of Christ is to work at functional unity and strive to re-establish relationships that may have gone sour from not resolving indifference. We must engage in meaningful dialogue that reaffirms our oneness as the body of Christ. ⁴

As a congregation of post-resurrection, we are called to demonstrate unity amid diversity and generosity, which recognises, observes and acts to alleviate poverty, just as those first-century followers of Jesus shared as they cared for one another with God's gifts. ⁵

- 1. How can we better use the gifts that God has bestowed on us?
- 2. How can we strengthen our relationship with God and with each other?

^{1.} Samuel E. Balentine - (FOTW); 2. Alan G. Padgett - (FOTW); 3. Samuel E. Balentine - (FOTW); 4. Alan G, Padgett - (FOTW); 5. George Bryant Wirth - (FOTW)

SUNDAY 14 APRIL 2024 – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings – Acts 3.12-20; Psalm 4; 1 John 2.15-17; 3.1-6; Luke 24.36b-48.

<u>Sentence</u> – Turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord. (Acts 3.19-20)

<u>Prayer of the day</u> – Lord of life, by submitting to death, you conquered the grave; by being lifted upon the cross, you draw all peoples to you; by being raised from the dead, you restore to humanity all that was lost through sin: be with us in your risen power, that in word and deed we may proclaim the marvellous mystery of death and resurrection. For all praise is yours, now and throughout eternity. **Amen.**

Scripture Reflection -

Reflection on 1 John 3:1-7

Nearly everyone around Jesus misunderstood him, and as Christians, we must learn to expect the same. In this passage, John is uncompromising. He insists we are the children of God and that the world around us may not know how to understand us. ¹

God bestows upon us free will. John is suggesting that we are faced with a choice.

Either we enjoy the love of the world and the respect of our contemporaries, or we let the love of God claim our lives. ²

Knowing that we are loved by such love and confessing to it, we agree to be made different, to let ourselves enter a process of transformation that uproots us from our natural identity and reconfigures the fundamental definitions of our lives.

John tells us that the love of God makes us nothing less than children of God, even though we may not always act or think that way. It is so easy in today's world culture of individualism that we can become disconnected from what it means to be a community that is centred on being Spirit-led and God-focused. In an age that seeks security through violence, we, a community that has faith in the resurrected Christ through grace, need to seek solidarity to bring about forgiveness and peace. ³

- 1. How can we, as a community, be more observant of others?
- 2. How can we seek to understand others and wrestle with differences?
- 3. As we are all God's children and made in His image, how can we better focus our mission on being Spirit-led and God-focused?

^{1.} Ronald Cole-Tuner – (FOTW); 2. Ronald Cole-Tuner – (FOTW); 3. Ronald Cole-Tuner – (FOTW)

SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2024 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings - Acts 4.5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3.16-24; John 10.11-18.

<u>Sentence</u> – 'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'I know my own and my own know me.' (John 10.14)

<u>Prayer of the day</u> – Jesus, good shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold: feed us and we shall be satisfied, heal us and we shall be whole, and lead us that we may be with you, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Scripture Reflection

Reflection John 10:11-18

The good shepherd is one of Jesus's most familiar images. It encourages unity ethically and missionally. The good shepherd and the sheep who know his voice are integrally related; there is mutual recognition and mutual belonging. ¹

16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

John 10:16 NRSV

Who are "other" for us? The other is on the margins of our horizons. They recognise Christ's voice just as we are called to recognise it. Jesus' voice calls us to unite and be with each other in a unified community. As part of that community, we are called to examine our attitudes, practices, and behaviours to keep us safe for the concerns of all the sheep, regardless of whether they are close or far off. ²

As a community, are we listening to Jesus' voice? Are we allowing ourselves to hear the voice, to trust in it, or are we being distracted and lured from the path? We need to pause, take stock, and turn to the sound of his voice to bring us back to where he promised he would never let us go.³

- 1. What do verses 11-13 show us about how we need to treat the people under us or that God has given to our care?
- 2. Do you think there are any "hired hands" working in the church these days?
- 3. How deep is Jesus' knowledge of us? What kind of knowledge is it (there are different kinds of knowledge)?

 $^{1. \} Stephen \ A. \ Cooper-(FOTW); \ 2. \ Stephen \ A. \ Cooper-(FOTW); \ 3. \ Nancy \ R. \ Blakely-(FOTW)$

SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2024 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings - Acts 8.26-40; Psalm 22:26-32; 1 John 4.7-21; John 15.1-8.

<u>Sentence</u> – In this is love, not we loved God but that God loved us. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. (1 John 4.10-11)

<u>Prayer of the day</u> – O God, form the minds of your faithful people, that we may love what you command and desire what you promise, so that, amid the many changes of this world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Scripture Reflection -

Reflection 1 John 4:7-21

The centrality of love is a theme that permeates all of 1 John, coming to its highest point of power and simplicity in the little phrase "God is love" (4:8 and 4:16)

God's love is perfect, while ours is always flawed. Even so, we should not fear or be held back by our inadequacies. John tells us to act lovingly, even if imperfectly. The love and the perfection come from God, whose perfect love casts out fear. ¹

We are called to love, but this doesn't always translate to liking. If we are honest with ourselves, we cannot admit we are perfect in love yet. We aspire to the unconditional love that God has for us. Therefore, we cannot expect to claim to love God while refusing to love the sister or brother in front of us. ²

37 Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." 38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Matthew 22:36-40 NRSV

These two commands are tied together. We must obey them both; it is only possible to obey the first by obeying the second. Our love for others should follow the same pattern as God loves us. It is easy for us to love those who love us in return. We are asked as a community to embrace the command to love the one who is unloving, angry, and hurtful. ³

- 1. When we give the greeting of peace during the service on Sunday, can we be honest with ourselves and say that we have made efforts to forgive ourselves and others and to share love?
- 2. Is that something we need to reflect on?
- 3. Does what we say reflect in our actions?

^{1.} Ronald Cole-Turner– (FOTW); 2. Ronald Cole-Turner– (FOTW); 3. Ronald Cole-Turner– (FOTW)