

# Bribie Beacon

Sunday 30 August 2020   
St Peter's Bribie Island

**St Peter's Anglican Church  
Banya Street Bribie Island**

## PARISH NOTICES

**Online Sunday Worship** - A new online service is available each Sunday via [Vimeo](#), [FaceBook](#) or our [Webpage](#). Also, each Sunday at 9.30am you can also join us via [Zoom](#) for a live stream of our services at St Peter's.

**2021 Lectionary** - Shortly we will be ordering the 2021 Lectionary. If you would like a copy please email the office by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September to order. Cost is \$15. Payment can be made to the parish account with Lectionary and your name in the reference. Alternatively a clearly marked envelope with correct money can be placed in the box in the narthex.

**Australian Anglican Church Calendar 2021** - These calendars which support the work of the Anglican Church in Australia may now be ordered. Cost is \$15 per calendar. Please email the office by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September with your order. Payment can be made to the parish account with Calendar and your name in the reference. Alternatively a clearly marked envelope with correct money can be placed in the box in the narthex.

**Donation Tap Point** - This is a contactless payment device allowing people an alternate way to give using debit or credit cards at church. This facility is targeted at visitors, but can also be used by parishioners who may wish to give a bit extra. To use the device just tap your card and the set amount displayed on the screen will be deducted from your card.

## WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday - 7.30am & 9.30am  
Wednesday - 10am

## PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

### PARISH PRIEST / RECTOR

Rev Steven Schwarzrock  
3408 3191  
[rector@stpetersbribie.org.au](mailto:rector@stpetersbribie.org.au)

### CHURCHWARDENS

Kay Benson 3408 1058  
Margaret Peterson 5497 6978  
Greg Rollason 3408 1998

### COVID WARDEN

Lynn Macbeth 5497 5268

### WEBSITE

[www.stpetersbribie.org.au](http://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

# **SUNDAY 30 AUGUST - ORDINARY SUNDAY 22**

Readings - Exodus 3.1-15; Psalm 105.1-6, 23-26; Romans 12.9-21; Matthew 16.21-28.

Sentence - If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him. (*Matthew 16.24-25*)

Prayer of the day - O God, whose Son has shown the way of the cross to be the way of life: transform and renew our minds that we may not be conformed to this world but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Saviour; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

*Isaiah 40:28-31*

## **PRAYER POINTS**

**Those in Need** - Des Everett, Jean Woodward, Valerie Bowser, Phyl Adams, Bretton Bartlett, Greg Collis, Ian Hillard, Elizabeth Kubler, David Lower, Krista-Liisa Pulkkinen.

*To add someone to the prayer list please email [office@stpetersbribie.org.au](mailto:office@stpetersbribie.org.au)*

**Birthdays this week** - Beverley Fegan-Grimmer (3 September).



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

As Matthew's narrative unfolds, the solid rock on which the church will stand malforms into a stumbling block that threatens to obstruct Jesus' mission. In last Sunday's Gospel passage while they walked in the region of Caesarea Philippi, Peter and the disciples pondered Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?" Not limiting himself to the options offered by "others," Peter proclaimed his answer: Jesus is the Messiah, the son of the living God. Peter got it right. But in the next instant, Peter gets it wrong. Wrong enough, Jesus suggests, for him to be in league with Satan. When Jesus reveals about the death-dealing events about to unfold in Jerusalem Peter protests. "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you!" Jesus' response is swift and to the point: "Get behind me, Satan!" Even in translation, the similarity to Jesus' command to the devil in the wilderness is clear: "Away with you, Satan!" (Matthew 4:10). Could it be that Peter's fervent wish, that God would prevent the horrors about to be visited upon Jesus, is something like the Tempter's offerings in the wilderness? Satan dared Jesus to use his authority as Son of God for his own purposes instead of serving God's mission in the world. He tempted Jesus to set his mind on human things rather than on the things of God (see also Jesus' words to Peter, Matthew 16:23). Jesus refused. Instead of hoarding bread made from stones to relieve his own empty stomach, he fed the hungry multitudes (Matthew 14:17-21; 15:33-38). Instead of claiming the privileges of Sonship to call on God's angels for his own benefit, he used his privilege to save, heal, and restore the lives of sick and marginalised persons. Instead of grasping after worldly varieties of power and authority, he opened the kingdom of the heavens to all who would follow after him in the way of righteousness. Jesus refused to fall into the Tempter's trap and be diverted from God's mission. He showed the falsehood of the world's measures of authority. Along the way, he revealed what it looks like to serve in the ways of God. At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus' response to Peter echoes his wilderness repudiation of the devil. He refuses to avoid the journey that lies ahead, despite the fact that pointless suffering. It is necessary for him to go to Jerusalem. Why? Because, "on the third day he will be raised" (Matthew 16:21). Worth noting is a distinction between Jesus' commands to Satan and to Peter. In Matthew 4:10, Jesus expels Satan from his presence: Go [away]! But to Peter, Jesus adds words that remind him of his place as a disciple: Go behind me. In Matthew, the words "behind me" signify discipleship. The proper place for a disciple is behind Jesus, in the place of a follower. For example, Jesus' call to Simon Peter and the others: "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people" (Matthew 4:19). In a discourse about discipleship: "Whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38). In this week's passage: "If any want to

be my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me” (Matthew 16:24). Peter is the recipient of blessing (Matthew 16:17), but now, he is putting his own thoughts ahead of the ways of God, which makes him a stumbling block, a hindrance to Jesus’ mission. Nevertheless, Jesus does not break relationship with him. Instead, he reminds Peter of the proper place for a follower. This is not the first time Peter falters, nor will it be the last. To be sure, Peter is the first to follow Jesus when called (Matthew 4:18-19) and he gets top billing whenever disciples’ names are listed in Matthew. He is an eager student, unafraid to ask for an interpretation after Jesus tells yet another enigmatic parable (Matthew 15:15). Nonetheless, Jesus calls him out for his “little faith” when fear gets the best of him as he steps out of a boat into stormy waters. Peter-the-Rock sinks like a stone (Matthew 14:28-33). Later, Peter bravely vows to stick with Jesus no matter what happens, boasting that even the threat of death could never cause him to deny his Lord (Matthew 26:33, 35). He fails miserably in fulfilling both promises, staying far away when Jesus is arrested (26:58) and denying him repeatedly while Jesus faces trial and torture. He is nowhere to be found at the crucifixion, while the power of government-sanctioned violence is inflicted upon the Messiah. The soaring height of Peter’s commitment is matched by the depth of his failure to follow. Nevertheless, the promise that frames Matthew’s Gospel still stands. The One who is called “God with us” (Matthew 1:23), promising to be “with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20), is already and always going ahead of his followers, the first one to face the worst that the world can do. This is what makes it possible for those who want “to become my followers” to take up their own cross and follow (Matthew 16:24). Jesus puts his life on the line ahead of all who follow him. Whether to the forsaken places of the wilderness or the centers of human might and authority, Jesus is there. What does it look like to trust God in this context? How might the Messiah’s presence enable today’s disciples to follow “behind Jesus,” even when the prospects are frightening or the personal costs are high? What might they do for the sake of the world if they trusted in the promise of the One who goes ahead of them?

### Reflection Question

If you said to God, "Here I am," what would that mean to you and what would you bring to the encounter? (Exodus 3:4)

In polarized times, what does it look like, if at all possible, to live peaceably with all? (Romans 12: 18)

What crosses has God asked you to take up over your lifespan so far, and what has been the impact? (Matthew 16:24)

## **ATTENDING WORSHIP AT ST PETER'S IN PERSON**

**Protecting Vulnerable People** - Government advice for vulnerable people is that you should stay at home and avoid contact with others. Vulnerable people are defined as people 70 years and older, people 65 years and older with a chronic medical condition and people with a compromised immune system.

**Capacity** - As per government guidelines on physical distancing attendance at St Peter's is limited to 50 people per service. If capacity limit was reached at a service, alternate seating will be made available outside.

**Registering for Worship** - Pre-registering for worship is not currently required.

**Physical Distancing** - People should practice physical distancing at a minimum of 1.5 metres at all times. No physical greetings or exchanges such as handshakes or hugs. Sit separately (unless from same household) and per approved seating plan.

**Hygiene** - Hands should be cleaned with hand sanitiser upon entering church, before receiving communion or after contact with any surfaces. People who feel unwell or have cold or flu like symptoms should not attend.

**Record of Attendance** - A record of each attendee's name, address and phone number will be kept by the Rector as per government requirements.

**Cleaning** - The church will be cleaned in line with Safe Work Australia standards.

**COVID Warden** - For more information on our COVID safety plan please speak to Lynn Macbeth (COVID Warden) or a Churchwarden.

## **ATTENDING WORSHIP AT ST PETER'S IN PERSON**

**Online Worship** - Every Sunday morning a new service is uploaded. To watch online worship from St Peter's please follow this link [vimeo.com/user110905450](https://vimeo.com/user110905450). The link is also available from our website and FaceBook page.

**Live Online Worship using ZOOM** - The Wednesday (10am) and Sunday (9.30am) Eucharist will be streamed via ZOOM. Join earlier if you would like to have a chat. To join us follow the Zoom instructions below. To join download and open the ZOOM app and select "Join Meeting" and enter the meeting id **3408319100** and the password is **34083191**. When prompted select join with computer / internet audio. You can also phone in from your home phone by dialling **02 8015 6011**. The meeting id is **3408319100**. Please phone Fr Steven on 3408 3191 if you need assistance.