

Bribie Beacon

MARCH 2021

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

Anglican
Church
St Peter's Bribie Island

The season of Lent calls us to pause and recentre our lives. We are called to use the disciplines of prayer, repentance and fasting to grow closer to God and ensure that we are working together as disciples to expand the body of Christ. We need to ensure our prayer life is more than some ritual we follow, how we worship God daily should be drawing us into a closer and more intimate relationship with our creator and redeemer. Let us strive to commit ourselves to our daily prayers and communal worship in a way that deepens our faith and brings God the glory. As we grow in our relationship with God, we will identify areas of repentance, those things in our life that don't reveal the love and grace of God. When we recognise views and actions that are an impediment in our relationship with God or our neighbour, we need to repent of them, reorientate ourselves on a path that is aligned to the love and grace of God. Repentance is more than just saying sorry, it is about making change. Through this action we should be led into the action of fasting where we say no to self and yes to God. Fasting is about bringing God's justice into the world. While fasting does involve personal transformation, equally important is the transformation it brings into the lives of those around. Isaiah 58 tells us that fasting can include feeding the hungry, providing shelter, clothing people, caring and visiting people in need and hospitality in general. As the people of God, we need to ensure God's justice is evident in the world, including our community, church and personal lives. At Easter we celebrate how the death of Jesus is actually the revelation of God's love. So as we celebrate the love and grace of God, revealed through the death and resurrection of Jesus, let us use the disciplines of Lent to help all encounter the new life we experience at Easter. Fr Steven

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday - 7.30am & 9.30am

Wednesday - 10am

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

PARISH PRIEST / RECTOR

Rev Steven Schwarzrock

3408 3191

rector@stpetersbribie.org.au

CHURCHWARDENS

Kay Benson 3408 1058

Margaret Peterson 5497 6978

Greg Rollason 3408 1998

COVID WARDEN

Lynn Macbeth 5497 5268

PARISH OFFICE (Wed 9am to 12pm)

3408 3191

office@stpetersbribie.org.au

WEBSITE

www.stpetersbribie.org.au

ONLINE GIVING BY CREDIT CARD OR DEBIT CARD

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

PARISH NOTICES

Online Sunday Worship - A new online service is available each Sunday via Vimeo, FaceBook or our Webpage.

Parish Newsletter - 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.

Rector on Leave - Father Steven will commence a period of holiday leave from Saturday 13 March and will return on Wednesday 24 March. Rev Carolyn Payne will be taking services while Fr Steven is away.

Morning Tea - Morning Tea will be held in Coinda after both Sunday Services on the 7th and the 21st of March.

Parish Movie Night - St Peter's is hosting a showing of the movie NOMADLAND as a church fundraiser on Monday 8 March at the Bribie Cinema. Tickets cost \$20 and cover admission to the movie with either a choc top ice cream or a small popcorn. Tickets are available for purchase from Kay Benson 34081058, Margaret Peterson 54976978 or Greg Rollason 34081998.

Dinner Party Raffle - Tickets will soon be available for a Dinner Party Raffle. The prize is a three course meal plus wine and chocolates for 6 delivered to your door on either Friday 28th or Saturday 29th May. Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased from Kay Benson, Margaret Peterson and Frankie Park.

AMUA Christmas Cards and 2022 Diary Order Forms - These forms are available from the card stand in the Narthex. Please return to Brenda Allardyce or call her on 0418 197 488 with your order. Orders need to be in by Friday 26 March.

Prayer Service for Chaplains & RI Teachers - On Sunday 28 March at 5pm the Bribie Island Christian Leaders Network is holding a prayer service for the Chaplains and RI Teachers on Bribie Island at the Bribie Island Baptist Church (Cotterill Avenue). All are welcome. To register visit <https://bribiebaptist.churchcenter.com/registrations>

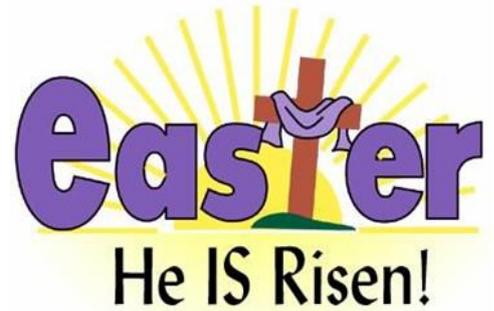
Seasons Loss and Grief Support - Due to the pandemic no groups were able to be conducted last year. As restrictions have eased at the moment, we feel we could look toward conducting a group from Monday, 10th May at 1.00 pm, then every Monday for 6 weeks – concluding on Monday, 14th June. Please consider whether this is an opportunity for you to explore grief in your life, or discuss it with a friend you feel could benefit from participation in the group. Please advise Margaret Peterson (5497 6978) or Lorice Keith (5497 6212) if you, or someone you know, might be interested.

Drink Containers - Collecting 10c refundable drink containers is a way the Parish raises funds. Please continue to collect your drink containers. They can be dropped off in the 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.

Maundy Thursday Eucharist - 6pm

Good Friday Service - 9.30am

**Easter Sunday Eucharist
7.30am & 9.30am**



Those in Need - Evelyn Elbourne, Royce Voss, Maureen Van Bruggen, Blake Kubler, Elva Woods, Vicki Pickering, Barbara Earner, Kaye Bush, Phillipa Booth, Aileen & Ralph Johnson, Valerie Bowser, Elizabeth Kubler, Krista-Liisa Pulkkinen.

*To add someone to the prayer list please email
office@stpetersbribie.org.au*

CELEBRATIONS

March Birthdays - Lyn Bellert (2nd), Vivienne Bourne (2nd), Maureen Gough (3rd), Brian Newell (3rd), Ventrice Williscroft (3rd), Joyce Sergeant (14th), Trish Watson (15th), David Wiseman (15th), Bob Cunningham (19th), Hester Pullos (21st), Lorraine McClear (22nd), Barry Robertson (22nd), Marilyn Cullen (23rd) and Jean Woodward (30th).

APPEALS AND COLLECTIONS

ABM Lenten Appeal - Each year St Peter's supports the ABM Lenten Appeal. Anglican Board of Mission (Australia) is our national mission agency and this year's appeals will support projects like Philippines Asset-Based Community Development Project; St John's Theological Seminary Zambia; and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants. To support the ABM Lenten Appeal please use a provided envelope or your own envelope labelled ABM, or make a Direct Deposit with ABM in the description.

MU Overseas Aid Project - Each year in conjunction with Mothering Sunday MU holds an appeal to support an overseas aid project. If you would like to support this appeal please place a donation in your own envelope labelled MU APPEAL, or make a Direct Deposit with MU APPEAL in the description.

Bush Ministry Fund & Bush Church Aid - March is Money Box Collection Month, so could you please bring your boxes in to be counted. Frankie Park is now looking after Bush Ministry Fund and Denise Fender continues with Bush Church Aid.



On behalf of the community of faith at St. Peter's and the flower arranger's group, we would like to give thanks to Loric Keith and Pam Cumming for the gift of their time and talents arranging flowers in the sanctuary over the many years. Grace and peace be with you. The Rev'd Marilyn Cullen.

ST PETER'S GROUPS

SINGING GROUP

For an hour each Monday, from 4pm to 5pm, join us in the church as practice the hymns for the coming Sunday, sing some old favourites and learn new songs.

(NO SINGING GROUP ON MONDAY 8 MARCH DUE TO MOVIE NIGHT)

BRIBIE ANGLICAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Bribie Anglican Cancer Support Group (BACS) is a group of people who have all experienced cancer in some form. It was formed by members of St. Peter's Anglican Church who wanted to reach out to and support others, irrespective of denomination or faith. Present members include church goers and non-church goers. BACS meets every Wednesday at 10.00am for coffee and chat at the RSL. All are welcome. For more information, phone Phyll on 3408 0901 or Denise on 3408 1598.

MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union is an international Christian charity that seeks to support families worldwide. In 81 countries, our members share one heartfelt vision – to bring about a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. Upcoming gatherings are ...

Tuesday 23 March - 9.30am - Wave of Prayer

Monday 24 May - 9.30am - Eucharist and Discussion on Future of Branch

PARISH COUNCIL 2021

Council Chair (Rector) - Steven Schwarzrock

Churchwarden - Kay Benson, Margaret Peterson, Greg Rollason

Parish Nominator - Kay Benson, Margaret Peterson, Greg Rollason

Synod Representative - Debbie Eustace, Lynn Macbeth

Parish Councillor - Lorraine James, Jenny Sullivan.

Treasurer - George Grant

Parish Council News

- Flowers in the Church - In consultation with the Ladies on the Flower Roster it has been decided to only have flowers in St Peter's on special occasions. If people would like to make donations in memory of others, it is suggested that they give donations to support expenses like votive candles.

NEED SOME EXTRA HELP AT HOME

Home Care and a helping hand is just a phone call away. Government subsidised home care is accessible through the My Age Care system. If you want more information about how you can access Personal Care and Home Helper services speak to your GP or phone Annette on 0432 740 848.

ST PETER'S PARTNERSHIPS

PANTRY HELP WITH BRIBIE ISLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

We are continuing to collect pantry items each week which we pass on to Bribie Island and District Neighbourhood Centre for distribution to those in need in our community. The following items are helpful - pasta, spaghetti sauce, other pasta sauces, rice, cooking oil, 2 minute noodles, cuppa soup, longlife milk, tea bags, coffee, sugar, jams, peanut butter, vegemite, cereals, fruit juices, muesli bars and tinned items like tuna, salmon, sardines, soups, meals, vegetables, spaghetti and baked beans. Items can be placed in the marked box in the narthex.

SUPPORTING RURAL MINISTRY WITH THE BUSH MINISTRY FUND

Bush Ministry Fund support ministry in the Western Region of the Anglican Church

Southern Queensland. The Western region is a huge area that begins with the significant cities of Ipswich and Toowoomba in the east, through to remote sheep and cattle stations in the west. Primary producers growing vegetables, grapes, olives, wheat, sorghum, barley, cotton, sheep, cattle and goats... in physical and economic environments that are challenging. Over the years, there has been a significant demographic shift away from rural and remote Australia to regional and metropolitan centres partly due to an increased mechanisation in agriculture and partly due to a decreased demand for primary produce – particularly wool. All this compounded by the ongoing challenges of prolonged drought, floods, feral dogs, cumulative debt, and unpredictable changes in Government policy.

Among the scattered communities of the Western Region, we have a significant range of contexts for ministry. Culturally diverse congregations in Ipswich and Toowoomba, team ministries with a number of skilled clergy in a single Parish; Parishes with part-time clergy; Parishes that are led by lay ministry teams; and Parishes that have combined to form Mission Areas. In 2020 the Bush Ministry Fund resourced six projects including ordained leadership provision in Maranoa-Warrego Anglican Mission Area (\$40,000); provision of a four-wheel drive vehicle for MWAMA minister (\$10,000); Newly Ordained Deacon who is serving in the MWMA (\$50,000); Ordained leadership provision in Leichardt-Chinchilla Anglican Mission Area (\$40,000); Children and Families Minister in Dalby (\$5,000); Clergy visit to the Quilpie-Diamantina area (\$8,000); Ordained leadership provision in Stanthorpe Parish (\$8,000). To support the Bush Ministry Fund please place your donation in an envelope labelled BMF or make a Direct Deposit with BMF in the description. You can also use a BMF money box, for more information speak to Frankie Park.

COOINDA HALL PARTNERS

Yoga for Health - Tuesday and Thursday @ 10am - Maggie Coombs - 0400 250 520

Tai Chi - Tuesday @ 6.30pm - Trevor Druery - 0431 134 872

Yoga - Thursday @ 6pm - Nick Eady - 0437 233 930

SUNDAY 7 MARCH - THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Readings - Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Sentence - God spoke these words and said, 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.' (*Exodus 20.1*)

Prayer of the day - Lord our God, by your Holy Spirit write your commandments upon our hearts and grant us the wisdom and power of the cross, so that, cleansed from greed and selfishness, we may become a living temple of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reflection - Just as the season of Lent helps Christians prepare for Easter, Jews travelled to Jerusalem early in order to purify themselves for Passover (John 11:55). John 2:13-22 follows Jesus' first sign in Cana, where he turned water into celebratory wine at his mother's request. Jesus travels to Jerusalem because of Passover and, like other pilgrims, he comes to the temple. John 2:13-15 provides rich detail of the scene. Merchants bustle among their animals, moneychangers busily exchange coins, and pilgrims peruse the stalls, bartering with the tradespeople and seeking priests to complete sacrificial rituals. Moneychangers exchanged denarii into half-shekels so pilgrims could pay the temple-tax, while animals were offered in sacrifices for ritual purity from daily life so they could participate fully in the Passover. Although certainly different, the scene in John 2 is not entirely unlike Christian preparations for Easter. Believers gathered in a holy place, remembering God's deliverance and seeking to honour God through rituals and repentance. Yet, rather than praising those gathered, Jesus goes into a rage. Creating his own whip, Jesus chases out the animals, sending the merchants after them. He pours out the coins and turns over tables, causing the once seated moneychangers to scatter. He commands the dove-sellers take these things out of here. Jesus effectively turns the temple court into a tumult of frightened animals and shouting merchants, while pilgrims and priests stand aghast. Why on earth would Jesus stop purification and why in such a dramatic way? The answers to these questions are hinted at in verse 16 and developed in the second half of our passage, verses 17-22. In verse 16, Jesus calls the temple a marketplace. Rather than a scene of spiritual preparation, Jesus instead sees a place focused on monetary exchange. Like Old Testament prophets, he challenges the temple economy, questioning whether it was focused more on wealth than prayer. We are invited to come together as a worshipping community, worship being a place to connect with God.

Questions for Scripture Reflection

1. The sky "pours forth speech" and "declares knowledge." What does the sky, and all nature, say to you? (Psalm 19:2)
2. What idols do you make or worship? In what ways do you bring those idols to God to receive grace? (Exodus 20:4)
3. Jesus calls the Temple a "marketplace." Why is he so angry? What can we learn from his anger? (John 2:16)

SUNDAY 14 MARCH - FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Readings - Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Sentence - The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (*John 3.14-15*)

Prayer of the day - Everlasting God in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you: give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness prevent us from doing it; that in your light we may see light, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Gospel Reflection – John 3:1-21 records a nighttime conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus, one of the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem, a Pharisee by association. Although the passage for this week does not begin until this conversation has moved from dialogue (verses 1-9) to monologue (verses 10-21), understanding the larger context of 3:14-21 is crucial for interpretation. As part of the larger story of Jesus' first trip to Jerusalem for a Passover festival, John 2:13-3:21 foreshadows Jesus' later controversies in the Gospel which lead to his final Passover in Jerusalem (John 12-20). In 2:13-3:21 Jesus challenges others to see in him God's unexpected means of deliverance. Jesus and Nicodemus have a far-ranging conversation in John 3, but the most important part for us begins in verse 10. At this point, Jesus takes over speaking and first ridicules Nicodemus' confusion with a derisive comment concerning his being the teacher of Israel (verse 10). What follows in verses 11-21 is an expansion on Jesus's comments in verses 1-9, where he contrasted heavenly and earthly births. In verse 11, Jesus continues with the binary, explaining that Nicodemus' incomprehension comes from his rejection of "our" testimony and the inaccessibility of heaven for anyone other than "the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man" (verse 13). If you feel a bit like Nicodemus at this point, wondering what exactly Jesus is talking about, you are not alone! The Gospel passage for today commences with Jesus comparing himself to the serpent Moses lifted up in the wilderness. Sent from God to the cosmos, Jesus' mission is to give life and light to the cosmos just as at the moment of creation when God uttered life through the Word. In order to receive this gift, however, humanity must acknowledge its need by looking to Jesus.

Questions for Scripture Reflection

1. If you view yourself as redeemed, and if you say so, what do you like to emphasize? To whom? (Psalm 107:2)
2. In Christ, how do being saved through faith and being created for good works harmonize together? (Ephesians 2:8, 9)
3. What does it mean to you to love light rather than darkness and to "come to the light" each day? (John 3:19-20)

SUNDAY 21 MARCH - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Readings - Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-14; John 12:20-33

Sentence - 'This is the covenant I will make with them,' says the Lord God: 'I will put my law in within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people.' (*Jeremiah 31.33*)

Prayer of the day - O God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope: renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Genesis Reflection - As we near Holy Week, we arrive in Jerusalem with Jesus in the Gospel of John. The crowd who meets Jesus is an extension of those who travelled to Lazarus' house in Bethany to find him before Passover (John 12:9-11). Pilgrims travelled to the temple before Passover to purify themselves in order to participate in the festival (John 11:55). When they instead go to Jesus, they reflect the theme running throughout the Gospel that Jesus is the location of God's glory and presence. When Jesus finally arrives in Jerusalem in verse 12, he continues attracting a large crowd and, therefore, causes the Jerusalem leaders to fear a Roman retribution (John 11:47-53). In John 12:19, the Pharisees say in exasperation, "Look! The whole world went to him!" For John, Jesus' mission is indeed this in-gathering of the world, but it will come about only through his death and resurrection. John 12:20-36 is Jesus' final public teaching in the Gospel, and it is delivered to a group of both Jews and Gentiles. In fact, the arrival of the Greeks who wish to see Jesus in verse 20 seem to prompt Jesus' comment that his hour has come in John 12:23. First-century synagogues welcomed gentiles, so it is not surprising to find Gentiles in Jerusalem for Passover as well. Rather than going out, however, Jesus gathers others to himself (John 12:31-32). The larger context and Old Testament imagery used in John suggests our passage reflects the nations coming to the Jerusalem temple to worship found in many prophetic works, including Isaiah 56, which describes the arrival of foreigners, diaspora Israelites, and eunuchs to worship at the "holy mountain" (56:3-8). In true Johannine fashion, however, the Gentiles in John 12 are drawn to Jesus rather than the temple. It is not enough just to come to Jesus or "want to see" him; we must have our ears unclogged and our vision corrected by the trauma that is Jesus's crucifixion and resurrection. As Jesus explains, we cannot avoid darkness and death, but instead, must trust that God will bring about life. We may not be able to avoid the darkness, but we can cling to Jesus' promise that he will light our paths toward life.

Questions for Scripture Reflection

1. Jeremiah speaks of a day when everyone will know God. What does it mean to you to "know the Lord"? (Jeremiah 31:34)
2. In what ways have you "learned obedience" through what you have suffered? Resisted learning? (Hebrews 5:8)
3. What do you think Jesus means by "love their life" and "hate their life in this world"? (John 12:25)

SUNDAY 28 MARCH –SUNDAY OF THE PASSION (PALM SUNDAY)

Readings - Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-18; Philippians 2.5-11; Mark 14.1 - 15.27

Sentence - At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Philippians 2.10-11*)

Prayer of the day - Everlasting God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son to take our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross: in your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reflection – Jesus endures the violent and humiliating mechanisms of Roman power. Mark tells this story with an emphasis on both divine providence and human agency. Mark conveys God’s providence chiefly through allusion to Jewish scripture, showing a special affinity for the Psalms. Jesus’ silence before his accusers echoes Psalm 38:13-14, the dividing of Jesus’ clothes echoes Psalm 22:18, the mockery of onlookers at the crucifixion echoes Psalm 22:6-8, and Jesus’ cry of abandonment quotes directly from Psalm 22:1. Preceding Mark 15 are other references to scriptural fulfillment, as well as Jesus’ own repeated predictions of his passion and resurrection. Taken together, these details give the impression that Good Friday falls within God’s overarching providence. Notice that this is different from saying that everything is “scripted,” as if God were moving chess pieces in a sordid plot to sacrifice the son. Rather, Mark weaves various moments of scriptural “fulfillment” into his narrative to convey divine faithfulness, divine faithfulness in continuity with God’s ancient covenant with Israel. We see the depths of this divine faithfulness most clearly in Jesus’ commitment to his mission, which is the restoration of humans and communities to every level of wholeness. Jesus refuses to dial down this ministry to spare his own life, or even to soften the backlash, facing hostility in full confidence that God brings life from death. It is the God of the Psalter, the God of Israel, acting through Jesus on our behalf. Yet Mark also gives us an emphasis on human agency, an emphasis so prevalent that it is easy to overlook its significance. More than anything, Mark simply wants us to see the human capacity both for coming to Jesus and for killing him. On the one hand, mostly in the first half of the narrative, we see crowds of people repeatedly drawn to his ministry. He heals the infirm and welcomes sinners, bringing human wholeness without regard for approved methods and timing. On the other hand, Jesus’ indifference to approval provokes the ire of those claiming the authority to approve and condemn.

Questions for Scripture Reflection

1. Have you ever set your face like flint toward something? In what ways did God help you? (Isaiah 50:7)
2. What helps you see each day as a gift made by God? What helps you rejoice in the gift of each day? (Psalm 118:24)
3. Does it matter if the same people who cried “Hosanna” later shouted “crucify him?” (Mark 11:9)