

SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2020

EXODUS 14.19-31 PSALM 149 ROMANS 14.1-14, MATTHEW 18.21-35

PENTECOST 16

EXODUS 14.19 -31 PSALM 114 ROMANS 14.1-14, MATTHEW 18.21-35

SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY



Sentence: *If you, O lord, should note what we do wrong, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. Psalm 130.3-4*



Prayer of the Day: *O God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you: help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

ST PETER'S WYNNUM
PARISH INFORMATION

Vicar:

The Reverend Donna Petersen
0435 023 184
stpeterskingdomkeys@gmail.com

Parish Office:

3893 2492
9am to 12 noon
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
stpeterswynnum@bigpond.com

Postal Address:

PO Box 1097
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Churchwardens:

Ross Hodson 0409 414 747
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Flynn.christine@gmail.com
Wayne Elliot 0412 996 434
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www.stpeterswynnum.org
St Peter's Anglican Church
Wynnum

WELCOME

A special welcome to visitors and newcomers. You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments after the service.

If you are a baptised communicant member of any church, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us.

If you would like to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please "X" your arms across your chest and bow your head.

Anyone wishing to receive The ministry of Healing or Prayers, please come to the altar rail at the end of Communion.

You may be photographed or filmed at events and the Parish may use these images in any of our publications, website or social media. If you do not want your image used for this purpose, please speak to one of our friendly volunteers.'

ST PAUL'S MANLY
PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest:

The Reverend Daniel Hobbs
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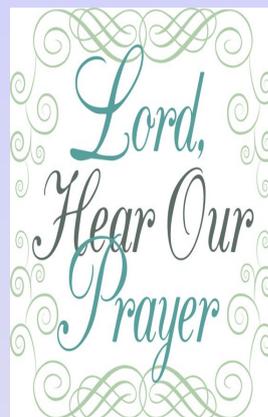
www.stpaulsmanly.org
St Paul's Anglican Church
Manly

PARISH PRAYER POINTS

Leading Our Church Into Growth: God of Mission who alone brings growth to your church, come Holy Spirit and give vision to our planning; wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray Daily for the Church, Local and International:

- Pray for the Anglican Church of South America and Argentina: Lay and Ordained
- Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia: †Chris McLeod
- The Parish of Zillmere: Lay and Ordained
- Retired clergy in the Diocese
- In our Cycle of Schools: St John's Anglican College, Forest Lake.
- St Peter's for sacristans, Rosslyn and Wendy



WYNNUM Pray for the Sick Garry, Vi, Kirsty, Steven, Eli, Courtney, Theo, Diana, Rosslyn, Ben, Neil, Thomas, Donna J, Robyn

Long Term Prayer List:

Norma, Dulcie, Ruth, C, Sophie, Andrew, Margaret B, Ron and Bronwyn, Nancy, Sharon C, Maurice, Neil and June, Janette, George, Tony F, Oriel, Nan, Nev, Carmel, Joanne P, Sally, Alice, Edna, John, Joyce, Lyne, Joan, Barry and Jane.

Please give thanks for the lives of the departed: Mavis Dunstan, Georgina Kerr, Frank Molyneux, Fred Mahoney, Edna Guyomar, Olive Colbert whose anniversaries occur at this time. (+) **May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.**

MANLY Pray for the Sick and those who need our prayers: Chris & Barb, Ellen, Helen, David, Nancy, Michael C, Gloria, Margaret, Anise, Graham, David & Rhonda, Andrew, Michael N, Ron, Gerald, Annie, Marie, Jack O, Barry, Eddie, Joan, Shirley G, Glen, Shirley & Gordon G, Ellen K, Shirley A. Yvonne C

Please give thanks for the lives of the departed: Hudson Cox, (+) **May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.**

Reminder for the following CAN YOU HELP?

Office working bee: Saturday 19th September from 10 am. Lunch to follow.

Fence Painting/Mulch Moving Day: Saturday 26th September from 7 or 8am. Many hands make light work.

In the Kitchen: Please make sure when you use any dishes etc in the kitchen that they are to be washed wiped AND put away.

SAILS@Bayside has recommenced their BBQ at Bunnings periodically. Please pray for the team that they are able to reestablish their team and work for the advancement of this vital ministry.

Mission to Seafarers is still physically closed to seafarer, but are still in need of prayer and donations for knitted goods.

The Vicar's Prattle

The Sky is falling, the sky is falling!

Now I'm sure most of you have heard, read, or know of the story of Chicken Little. A children's story about a little chicken, who believed the sky was falling because an acorn hit his head and he believed it was a piece of the sky falling down. He was so convinced the sky was falling that he told each new friend along the way of his beliefs. He believed them so whole heartedly that he was able to convince the others almost immediately without any real proof, that the world was going to end soon.

Here is another question for you; ever heard of herd mentality?

Chicken Little was so convinced of his own beliefs that almost immediately his friends began saying the same thing. This is how herd mentality works; conviction without any real evidence. This fatalistic, self-fulfilling prophecy attitude to life is not new, just as fear mongering or mass scare tactics or hysteria is not new. Point in question, the toilet paper debacle of 2020. One person sees that someone is buying a lot of toilet paper, they then think that this person must know something they don't, so they go and grab toilet paper too even though they don't need it. Two others now see the two people with trollies full of toilet paper and they too grab some. Now you've got four people walking around a supermarket with too much toilet paper. By the end of the week that shop is sold out and another shop too because of word of mouth. Obviously, there must be some truth in the shortage of toilet paper which is coming. And people believe even in the face of contrary evidence what everyone else is doing. Then the media get involved and more people are convinced of the conspiracy of toilet paper running out, even though the media's words are contrary to this, the over saturation of the story in every form of media means that even with normal rational thought processes and knowing it to be a lie, we find ourselves starting to believe the masses; surely they can't all be wrong? Then voila, mass hysteria, panic buying and fear mongering has ensued.

The problem of course, with this mentality is, that those perpetuating the falsities of either the sky falling, or fear mongering or scare tactics, is that often they don't actually see a problem with it. Regardless the result is the same. In the case of the media and COVID-19 and the Coronavirus, fear is working quite well, even in the face of evidence to the contrary. The media is doing a very good job of keeping fear levels high in the community even whilst apparently telling their version of the truth.

Now I am not suggesting that this world pandemic is not real or course its real. I am not saying that we should absolutely not be as cautious as we are; I'm not stupid. All I am saying is; perhaps we need some perspective. To be discerning of the 'truths' we are told and subsequently believe. Without discernment, how do we negate the truths of a simple acorn on the breeze striking an innocent, accidentally, with our over active imaginations of the sky falling?

Now why am I telling you all this? Well because, I'd like you to engage that rational side of your brain for a minute and do a few things to help yourselves break the cycle. In the story of Chicken Little, a fox tries to trick Chicken and his friends into a cave so he could eat them all.

The enormity of the real threat as opposed to the perceived threat, finally breaks the spell and they realise they are all in real danger. Common sense prevails and they get themselves out of trouble in time. We are the same, in the face of real danger, COVID, perhaps some of our perceived fears need to be examined. We can do this by asking questions of ourselves and our context.

Who are you? More to the point, whose are you? What do you believe and confess, speak, and worship? Are we not people of the Logos; the Word made flesh? Are we not people of faith? Do we believe our worship? Do we trust that when we consume the tasteless wafers in church, that Christ is truly present for us in some way? That by consuming this substance, we do in fact, in some way take in Christ? Do we not sing of God's infinite Grace and truth in our lives? Do we not in fact believe that the sky is NOT actually falling?

Sometimes we need a reminder that fear is the enemy. In the face of real danger, not perceived, fear is extremely healthy and will keep you alive. But perceived fear is insidious, pervasive, silent, and sneaky. Fear is that seed of doubt. Fear keeps us compliant and quiet, stops us asking questions for clarity. Fear is the enemy and the opposite of faith. In biblical terms, fear is the evil one. We need to be really careful, lest we become Chicken Little and falling into the pit is not as bad as being the ones responsible for others falling. If we believe the stuff we [spruik](#) loudly and with conviction about what we believe, others might also. We risk taking others along with us. In all honesty its what Christianity relies on to keep followers following. But the difference here is life. In Jesus there is life and life in abundance. God never asks us to leave our brain at the door and come and worship blindly.

We are not asked to blindly follow or have blind faith and if you've ever been a part of a worshipping community that does ask you to do this, you will know how destructive it can be. Jesus never uses fear to persuade or force anyone to follow. He gives you a rational explanation and then free will; choice. Jesus invites, welcomes and receives. God gives us the facts about the way, truth and the life, whilst fear keeps us shackled to lies and locked into ways where we are trapped in the pit.

So my point is: where are you? Are you 'trapped by fear' or 'freed by faith'? Is there life, love, grace, charity, acceptance, and truth in your relationship with God and church? Or is there fear, resignation, apathy, pain, or lies at the heart of your relationship with God and church? Perhaps, during this time of flux, rapid change, uncertainty, propaganda and intense fear, is a good time to ask these questions.

Is the sky falling for you, or are you listening to those who believe it is? Or are you rooted in God's truth instead of fear? Perhaps look to the Logos; the word made flesh, Jesus, *'the way, the truth and the life'*.

Have a great week

Shalom
Donna+

Sails at Bayside

a ministry of the Anglican parishes of Wynnum, Manly, Waterloo Bay, and East Red-
land

WEEKLY PARISH UPDATE –Sunday 13th September 2020

BUNNINGS BBQs: A BIG WEEK!

Bunnings asked us at shortish notice to run the **BBQ on Sunday 13th** (today), and an amazing crew of 10 volunteered to do it! Two people offered to help with the **grant application**, and a draft has already been done.

Our first BCC Active Parks **Sailing & Kayaking** under Covid restrictions worked well last Saturday, with 29 participants spread across 2 sessions having fun on the water. A few participants and team members even had a glimpse of a Dugong!



EVENTS & DATE CLAIMERS:

Sat 3 Oct – BCC Active Parks Sailing & Kayaking – Wynnum (bookings open – waiting list)

Sun 11 Oct – Annual Thanksgiving Service – 5pm (on-line event)

Contact us by emailing **sailsatbayside@gmail.com** or phoning **3137 0000**.

PRAYER:

Give God thanks for the great weather for last weekend's event.
Give God thanks for love and dedication shown by our volunteers.

Email: **sailsatbayside@gmail.com**,
phone: **3137 0000**,
website: **sailsatbayside.com.au**

