

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE



4th June 2017



THE CHALLENGE OF PENTECOST TODAY

- * **rekindle the flame of faith**
- * **find new possibilities for your gifts**
- * **bless your community with love and hope**
- * **and Christ in you, will grace our time and place**

WELCOME

We trust and pray your time with us today will bring hope and inspiration for the week ahead.

Welcome Bishop Sarah ...

As we celebrate the presence and power of the Holy Spirit as well as celebrating the commitment of three of our "iYOUTH" members, **Murray, Caitlin and Brooke** who publicly declare their faith in Jesus, through Baptism and Confirmation on this Pentecost Sunday.



Archdeacon Sally writes:

Today we gather to celebrate the signs of God's love among us, as we receive Murray to be Baptised and Caitlin and Brooke who come for Confirmation.

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. It is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring the faith. The wider community of the local church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future.

Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with these new members of the Church. The service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptised walks in that light for the rest of their lives.

In Confirmation, we celebrate and make for ourselves those promises that were made on our behalf at our baptism. As you pray for the candidates, picture them with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying into the fullness of God's love.



PENTECOST COLLECT

Let us pray
Almighty God,
at the feast of Pentecost
you send your Holy Spirit to the disciples,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel
empower us with that same Spirit
to witness to your redeeming love
and draw all people to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

HOW GOOD IT WAS TO HAVE OUR STALL AND OUR PEOPLE AT THE STREET FESTIVAL LAST SUNDAY "SHARING THE GOOD LIFE!"

A special thank you to our coordinators, Margaret Brown and Carol Stone, and to all who participated in showing our colours in the local community. A number of people have remarked on the enthusiasm of Murray and William in distributing our leaflets for Messy Church and Play Place. The ministry of our Op shop was also widely publicised, the Marriage Course was highlighted, items sold and many books were given away. No wonder some have remarked that this event must be kept on our annual calendar!

DON'T FORGET: ALL SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES IN JUNE AT ST.BART'S ARE COMBINED AT 9am

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL ARCHDEACON SALLY ON SUNDAY 11TH JUNE

What a fantastic contribution Archdeacon Sally has made to our Parish in less than a year with us at 2 days per week! Resourcing the 10am service and LIFE Group Leaders; researching and reporting on Intergenerational Worship in the future; complimenting Archdeacon Greg's leadership. More about that next Sunday as we celebrate her time with us but knowing that Sally will be just down the cutting at Emmanuel Anglican College and leading a "Fresh Expression" of church which our Parish has adopted as another mission venture. Please bring a plate to share at our morning tea following the service.

PRAY FOR SYNOD MEMBERS

On the third weekend in June, Diana Eagles, Mark Stuckey and Archdeacon Greg will be representing our Parish at the annual Diocesan Synod in Grafton. Pray that coming together to confer and worship, our Diocesan life and ministry will be guided by the Spirit of God with wise and courageous decisions being made.

PARISH OFFICE ASSISTANTS NEEDED

No Experience Necessary, Can you give a few hours on Tuesdays or on the 4th Friday morning to work in the Parish Office with Fiona Barnes in providing an essential service for our Parish and the community?

Can you answer the phone, take notes, fold pamphlets, do errands and have a willingness to lend a hand with whatever is asked and to learn new things? Well that is all the essential skills necessary. Other skills, such as shredding, photocopying, laminating, and maybe some computer work can be learnt on the job.

Our Parish Office is a hive of activity and is the machine behind the scene that keeps the Parish operating smoothly. If you want to know more of what might be involved and how you can assist, please speak with Fiona.

Looking forward to hearing of many offers of assistance.
Susan Fitzpatrick - Rector's Warden

MU NEWS



After the branch meeting of The Anglican Mothers Union Australia on Monday, 15 May 2017 we joined with Ballina and Goolmangar branches for a lunch, arranged by Julia Adlington, at the Goonellabah Sports Club to celebrate Margaret Hardwick's membership of Mothers Union for 60 years.

Margaret has been a member of many branches over 60 years and for many years was a member of the Alstonville Branch. After her retirement to Lismore, Margaret became a member of the Goolmangar Branch. Julia Adlington, Northern Zone President, presented Margaret with an award and badge for this achievement.

At some of our meetings we have been looking at social issues and the last one was in April held in conjunction with Anzac Day. We looked at the Australian Flag, its changes and its symbolism. Pam Brown led us in a beautiful memorial prayer.

Our next meeting will be in the Ministry Centre in Meeting Room 1 on Monday, 19 June 2017 at 9.30 am. We would welcome visitors and friends who would care to join us.

Joyce Shepherd
Branch President.

8am CHOIR

The Choir will be in recess till August.

NAME BADGE

Do you have a name badge, if not please, fill in the communication form and drop it in the box. It would be great if everyone could have one to ensure our new Rector gets to know us all.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all of you. I raised a total of \$3402 for the world's Greatest Shave. Pretty good for a first effort. Iris Cowie.

THE PARISH IN PRAYER

Praise and Thanksgiving:

- for Caitlin and Brooke as they are confirmed and Murray as he is baptised.

We pray for our World:

- for freedom from terrorist attacks in our world.

We pray for our Parish Community:

- for Bishop Sarah and Ian as they visit our parish today.
- for preparations for SYNOD 2017.

We pray for those we support locally and overseas:

- The Hughes & Kidson families and the Mission in Japan and India.
- Sally Miller & Fresh Expression of Church at EAC.
- Our AREA High School chaplain, Bruce Fleming.

We pray for those in need:

- Celia Hillier, Noela Slade, Mark Grimm, Theo, Marg Dillon, Ernie, Damien Eagles, T. J. & family, Iris Outerbridge, Elizabeth Jackson

Privacy policy of the Diocese of Grafton does not permit the placement of names on prayer lists without expressed permission of persons concerned. Names listed in this bulletin therefore are only published on that basis.

FRESH EXPRESSION OF CHURCH AT EMMANUEL COLLEGE

Representatives of our Parish and the Ballina Parish have now met with the Principal of EAC and Archdeacons Sally and Gail and it was confirmed that Archdeacon Sally will commence the role of Team Leader of this mission venture on a part time basis. Please pray for her and the team as it comes together to facilitate this Fresh Expression.

DVD & DISCUSSION GROUP—TONIGHT

DVD Group meeting on the 4th June at 7.00pm in the meeting room. Topics: “How do I let God fight my battles?” and “Can I depend on God?” These two questions are very common, this teaching will give you the confidence to let God take control of everything in your life.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

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THE ANGLICAN OP SHOP

1 The Avenue, Alstonville, **Telephone:** 6628 8777

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday | 5th June | 10.00am - Life Group - Robin Delaney |
| Tuesday | 6th June | 1.30pm - Life Group - Carol Stone MR1 |
| Wednesday | 7th June | 8.00am - Morning Prayer 9.00am- Meditation 4.30pm - Life Group - Helen Nicholson |
| Thursday | 8th June | 9.30am - Play Place 2.00pm - Fellowship Afternoon Tea in Hall 7.30pm - Life Group - Fitzpatrick's |
| Friday | 9th June | 10.00am - Friday Service 6.00pm - Music Group |
| Sunday | 11th June | 9.00am - Combined Holy Communion and Farewell to Archdeacon Sally 5.00pm - Messy Extra |

Bible Readings:

4th June

Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23

11th June

2 Cor 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

**Next week's
Morning Tea:**

**Combined
9.00am**

Robin Delaney and Lynne Watt

Please turn off your mobile phone during worship.
Please note a hearing loop is installed on the right hand side of the church.
Toilets are located in the front of the Hall - the building next to the Church.
First Aid Kits are located in the Church & the Hall.

Dear people of Alstonville from Desiree

People are often curious about a new incumbent. In the countdown to my arrival in Alstonville, I thought I would share various aspects of who I am with you.

Who people are and what's important to them is often revealed in their chosen areas of research. To share some of who I am with you, I describe my master's thesis in this article, and my doctorate in the next week's piece.

In one word, my master's thesis is about the ... (do not switch off and become bored when you read the next word – please read to the end – promise me!)

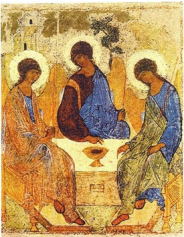
... Trinity! (Carry on reading now, you promised!)

I am in love with the Trinity!

The Trinity is the heart of my experience of faith, any mystical experience of God and the aim of my ministry as a priest.

In short, the Trinity is the Dance of the Divine; Three Persons loving each other so much that they become One. What makes God who God is, is this endless flow of loving and being loved: Source pouring out in love into Christ; Christ receiving that love and pouring love back into Source and the Holy Spirit as the Love Bond uniting Christ to Source and offering us a share in that loving unity.

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The most mind explosive, extravagantly generous act is that God opens-up God's inner love life and invites us to live inside that endless dance of love poured forth and love received. As 2 Peter 1v4 asks: "Do you not know that you are partakers of the Divine nature?"

Obviously, this Trinity thing can be a bit esoteric or doctrinal so to communicate my passion for the Trinity clearly, I used Rublev's Trinity Icon to describe the process in which we literally live inside God. The icon (picture) alongside depicts three angels that represent Jesus the Christ (centre), the Holy Spirit (right) and Source (left). A space is left opened in front so that you and I are can accept the gentle hand of invitation from the Spirit to sit at table with the Trinity and allow the endless pouring of love to flow in us and through us. The title of my thesis is "In the Gaze of God: aspects of a theology of Rublev's Trinity Icon.

Thank you for reading this excerpt about one aspect of who I am gleaned from my thesis on Trinity. In the next article, I hope to share more of who I am by writing briefly on my doctorate.