

# Bellarine Gateway

ANGLICAN PARISH



*Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula*

## Eighth of October 2017 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### Sunday

8:00 AM

St Mark's Leopold

St Paul's Whittington

10:00 AM

St Mark's Leopold

St Barnabas' Newcomb

### Monday - Saturday

9:15 AM

St Barnabas'

Morning Prayer

### Wednesday

10:00 AM

St Barnabas'

St Mark's

St Paul's

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

5th Wednesday.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to enable individuals to recognise and carry out their ministries as Christians. Through this, we strive to become a model company of faithful people who both honour their varied traditions and actively share in building the family of Christ.

<http://www.bgap.church/>

*BGAP: A community that loves God and everyone else.*

*For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*

*Romans 1:17 NIV*

# Ministry Team

Vicar: Reverend Elizabeth Breakey	5250 1401 0404 165 096	vicar@bgap.church
Father Jim Minchin	0427 056 654	frjbminchin@gmail.com
Mrs Jan Long	0414 823 132	Residential care ministry
Mrs Wilma Farrell	5244 5537	Pastoral ministry
Dr Wayne Stewart	0414 503 300	wayne@bgap.church

## Readings

**Today** (Faith Alone)

Romans 3:9-26

Psalms 14

Romans 1:16-17; 5:1-9

Matthew 21:33-46

**Next Sunday** (Grace Alone)

Titus 2:11-14

Psalms 106.1-6, 20-24

Ephesians 2:1-10

Matthew 22.1-14

**Replacement October Readings** (Reformation Celebration)

22/10/2017 *Bible Alone*

Hebrews 1:1-4; Psalm 19;  
2 Timothy 3:14-17; Matthew 22.15-33

29/10/2017 *Christ Alone*

Hebrews 9:1-15; Psalm 90.1-6, 13-17;  
1 Tim 2:1-6 & Heb 4:14-16; Matt 22.34-46

## Parish Prayer

Lord you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Guide us in our worship and life together: transform us into whatever you would have us be. Help us to be deeply connected with the world around us and strengthen us to proclaim the good news in word and deed in this community, for the glory and for the growth of your kingdom. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

## Prayer List

Please pray for the healing of body, mind, and spirit of the following people who are on our hearts: Pam, Meryl, Barb, Barbara S., Arthur, and Cassie and family.

## Soli Deo gloria (Glory to God alone)

Glory to God alone (*Soli Deo gloria* in Latin), means that everything that is done is for God's glory to the exclusion of mankind's self-glorification and pride.

Christians are to be motivated and inspired by God's glory and not their own.



Welcome to our services this morning. It is hoped you find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay for a cuppa and fellowship.

### Notices

**BCA boxes:** please return Sun. 15th Oct, to be blessed the next week.

### **Annual Reports:**

15 Oct. Treasurer's reports and books to G. Dendle for auditing

22 Oct. All reports and treasurer's statements to A. Eagle  
for preparation of Book of Reports

**Remembering the Reformation,** Tues. 10, 17 & 24 Oct; 7:00 PM

A 3 week course covering the reformation is being held at the Reformed Theological College, 125 Pigdons Road, Waurnd Ponds.

\$30 with supper included.

**Leprosy Around the World.** Tues 10th Oct., 2.30pm at Waurnd Ponds' Community Church, 48 Waurndvale Road, Belmont. Donations to *Defeat Leprosy around the World*. Enquiries to: Barry Edwards, 5241 7073.

**Parish Council:** Wed, 11th Oct. at 7:30pm, Moller Room.

**Antarctica and Patagonia:** Wed, 11th Oct. at 1pm, St. Mark's Hall  
Jill and Des Graham will show us two different worlds.

Donation entry, afternoon tea included, there will also be a stall.

Proceeds to School Chaplaincy. RSVP: Phyll: 5250 1461, by 4th Oct.

**Leopold Seniors 45th Birthday:** 11th Oct, 11:00 for 11:30,

Italian Social Club, RSVP 4 Oct to Marjorie (03) 5252 1514

**Music at the Basilica — Venice:** 29 Oct 3 PM, 136 Yarra St

Featuring music you might hear at the Basilica San Marco in Venice.

Adult/Senior \$35, concession \$30, children free [www.auschoir.org](http://www.auschoir.org)

### Church Calendars

Church Calendars for 2018 can now be ordered, there is a form available in each centre. Price \$15 per calendar.

### The Vicar's Vibe

Thank you to Pdraig O'Tuma and his Spirituality of Conflict website for this week's reflection.

These past weeks we have been reading Matthew, and considering the act of forgiveness. How perhaps 7 times 70 is an appropriate amount of times to forgive. In our less than perfect lives, there may have been moments with conflicts with others when we have come to believe that the other cannot change. Are there moments when we have taken advantage of another's trust in us?

Some might say in this morning's parable that the landowner trusts the tenants to a fault. He gives them chance after chance to change their minds even when they have clearly shown that they are not to be trusted. The benefit of the doubt is given to them in hopes that they may change. Because the landowner does this, he is showing us that he believes that they can change. The landowner is actually so convinced that they could change their actions and become trustworthy, that he sacrifices much. He gives up his very own son, in the hopes that there may be a change in the hearts of the tenants.

The previous parable was about repenting and a change of mind, but Jesus does not talk about the consequences of the disobedience. This parable goes further to say that there have been many generous chances for a change of mind in the hearts of the tenants, but now there will be a consequence for their stubbornness. In this society we have a tendency to say that we shouldn't be a 'doormat'. We shouldn't let others run over us. How does this story shed light on this idea? In the end Jesus says of those who are unconvinced by this merciful and generous act, 'the kingdom will be taken away from you and given to someone who will produce.' So there comes an end to it where trust is retracted and the kingdom will be taken from those it was entrusted to.

How can this shed light on trust in others, and how Jesus thinks of forgiveness? There is clearly a lot of mercy on the part of the landowner, but what does Jesus think of how far this forgiveness goes with his audience (the chief priest and elders)? In our own life, where are the lines that we draw with giving the benefit of the doubt? And how do we respond when that trust is broken initially? Is the immediate reaction to send judgment on the other, or is the posture one that allows room for the other to change? If we hold others to be unchangeable, then how can we believe that we ourselves can change as well?

What is Jesus telling the religious leaders about ownership of the kingdom of God in this story? It is interesting that Jesus doesn't come to an end with the story. He never tells us what the landowner actually does. What he does tell us is that the kingdom will be taken away from some, and given to an unassuming others. The tenants did not surrender the fruit to the landowner. they assumed it was theirs to do with whatever they wanted. They chose to take control, rather than release control. For us too there might be areas in our lives where God has given us a responsibility to steward, but we have chosen to take possession as if they were our own; areas where we have not not released the fruits of the Kingdom but kept them for ourselves.

May God continue to bless you and all those for whom you pray.

*Elizabeth*