

Bellarine Gateway

ANGLICAN PARISH



Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula

**Fifteenth of October 2017
Nineteenth 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 we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Ephesians 2:10

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	(Grace Alone)	Next Sunday	(Bible Alone)
Titus 2:11–14		Hebrews 1:1–4	
Psalms 23		Psalms 19	
Ephesians 2:1–10		2 Timothy 3:14–17	
Matthew 22:1–14		Matthew 22:15–33	

Replacement October Readings (Reformation Celebration)

29/10/2017 *Christ Alone* Hebrews 9:1–15; Psalms 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.**

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays: V. Jenkins 21/10
Anniversary: Jack & Ruth Butterworth 22/10

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, Heather R, and Cassie and family.



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.

For your calendar

Annual Reports:

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, Waurin Ponds.

\$30 with supper included.

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

Notices

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

St Paul's: We have engaged an architect, Rhys Rappel, to create a masterplan concept design document for the future of St Paul's. It is hoped that we will have something concrete to show by the AGM in November.

Spring Fair & Pet Blessing: Thanks to all who participated in whatever way big or small. It was a great success and we raised \$1200.

Antarctica and Patagonia afternoon: Phyll Serpell would like to thank Des and Jill for their presentation, which was well attended and raised \$257:80. Also a special thanks to all the helpers on the day.

Father Jim AWOL: Father Jim will be away (actually with leave but that doesn't sound as exciting) from the 16th of October to the 21st of November. He will be visiting Malaysia, Netherlands, the UK, and Canada. We pray that he has a blessed time away and returns to us safely and well rested.

I Resign! Well, technically Alf is back from his hols so he'll be taking back the editorship reins of the magnificent journalistic masterpiece.

The Vicar's Vibe

Grace alone

We are continuing our series on key themes of the Reformation, and today the readings and the sermon are focused around the theme of we are saved by “Grace alone”. Last week, the theme was “Faith Alone”, and I found myself wondering just how different or even interchangeable these two phrases were.

For my sermon last week, I used the hands of Adam and God painted on the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo in 1512. It is curious how well we think we know a painting, and how a closer examination can reveal new surprises. This picture provides an illustration for both themes of us



being saved by Grace and Faith alone, in fact it shows that they could be two sides of the same coin – almost. In the painting, God is stretching out his hand in invitation, and Adam's is limp, perhaps tentative. God offers in his hand the gift of Grace, and it is by faith in Jesus Christ that Adam (here representing us all) will be able to open and stretch out his hand in acceptance. Adam holds no tools or good deeds that will qualify him for God's grace.

The reading from the gospel this morning adds shadows and definition to this image of God freely handing out a gift of forgiving grace. In the midst of the wedding party, celebrated by the random people that the King's guards found on the streets, a man is singled out as not wearing a wedding robe, and is unceremoniously ejected. The King comments that many are called, but few are chosen.

So what are the clothes that you put on? Not just, in fact especially not just when you come to church, but as you go through life? Without wearing a symbol such as a cross, can someone tell that you are a Christian by the way you live your life? For we are all offered God's Grace, a gift freely given with love, but not given away for nothing.

No, when Adam opens his hand and grasps God's proffered hand, he effectively shakes hands on agreeing to change his life. To look to Christ and his teaching, and to turn his back on selfish and petty ways of the world. This is our challenge, our daily challenge too. God desires you to be part of the wonderful feast, so don't give up – keep trying on that new way of life.

May God bless you and those for whom you pray.

Elizabeth