

# Bellarine Gateway

ANGLICAN PARISH



*Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula*

Ninth of September 2018

16th Sunday after Pentecost — Ordinary Sunday 23

## Sunday

8:00 AM

St Mark's Leopold

St Paul's Whittington

10:00 AM

St Mark's Leopold

St Barnabas' Newcomb

## Monday - Saturday

9:00 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.

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

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

*So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.*

***James 2.12***

# Ministry Team

Vicar: Reverend Elizabeth Breakey	5250 1401 0404 165 096	vicar@bgap.church
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Mrs Wilma Farrell	5244 5537	Pastoral ministry
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## Readings

### Today

Proverbs 22.1–2, 8–9, 22–23

Psalms 125

James 2.1–10, 14–17

Mark 7.24–37

### Next Sunday

Proverbs 1.20–33

Psalms 19

James 2.18–26

Mark 8.27–38

## 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: Don, Matthew R, Trudy, Joel, Colin, Ray & Harrison family; Pat, Val & John, Des M, Ann, Jack & Ria Humphrey, Barbara S, Pam, Barb, Cassie & family.

*(We would like to keep this list current so we need to know how your loved ones are faring. Please let us know. If you have any names, please let the editor know but only after obtaining permission from the person involved.)*

## Breaking Down Barriers

Today's gospel reading teaches us an important lesson about the crossing of national and religious boundaries to help those in need. The difference between the perspectives of Jesus and this woman is very clear.

Too often reasons have been given of an allegedly Christian kind to justify the building of barriers between groups and nations, the rejection of refugees, and even the fighting of wars and wholesale killings.

Against this the Christian church must see itself as committed to breaking down barriers which prolong human need or prevent the needy from being helped.



.Welcome to our services this morning. We trust you will find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay for a cuppa and fellowship.

## **Notices**

### **Combined Service**

Our next combined service is coming up. It's at St Barnabas', 30th September at 9.30, there will be no other services on that day.

### **Fashion Parade**

Move aside Milan, push off Paris, London's for losers! Where? New York? No, the fashion capitol is now Newcomb! At St Barnabas' Friday 2nd Nov at 7pm. It's an ideal time to buy a race day frock or suit!

### **Police Check for Volunteers update**

Thank you to the twenty people who popped into Pearly Gates Op Shop in the last two weeks to complete their Police Checks. That is a huge leap forward in our campaign to comply with church and government law regarding community volunteer checks. I particularly enjoyed the quick 10 minute chats while we inputted the data.

If you are a church warden, lay minister, parish council member, pastoral visitor to homes or nursing homes, a church Welcomer, op shop co-ordinator or church member op shop volunteer, or a rostered server of eucharist, and you have yet to apply for a police check then please drop in to Pearly Gates on Thursday 13 Sept, or Heaven Cent Monday to Wednesday 1.30 to 2.30 next week.

Just bring your driving licence, Australian passport / birth certificate, Medicare card, pension card or bank card as proof of ID.

Aha! I hear you cry, I had a police check organised by the magnificent Rev John Minotti! I am sorry, but as I have now been ministering in the parish for 3 years and 2 months, your police check is now considered to be out of date.

### **New Geelong Archdeacon**

The Reverend Jill McCoy is the new Archdeacon of Geelong. Rev McCoy will be collated in St Paul's Cathedral on 11 October at the Evensong service. All are welcome to attend to support Jill in this important event.

### **Breaking Down Barriers (*continued*)**

You don't have to agree with another person's theology, nationhood, life style, nor outlook to meet their needs. We are commanded (the second great commandment) to show the love of God to all our neighbours, as we would ourselves would like to be loved and recognised as children of God.

## The Vicar's Vibe - Welcome to Astoria Café, New York.

The sky was heavy with another summer evening thunderstorm as I wandered down the street. I was hungry. There in front of me was a small crowd hanging around what looked like a corner milk bar. It smelt so tantalising - of freshly bbq'd fish. – that would do me nicely! “Just go in there” they said and nodded at the small glass door. In I went. Inside was a buzz of tables, eaters, waiters and that amazing seafood aroma. My mouth began to water, this would be good... I stopped a waiter, laden with plates of food “Have you got a table for one” I asked. And I really didn't expect his answer “No!” he snapped. Confused and a little embarrassed I went back out, shrugging my shoulders at the raised inquiring eyebrows of the small crowd.

I couldn't forget that place, there was just something about the smell and the look of enjoyment on the diners' faces that I wanted a piece of. So, the next evening I dashed through more rain to reach that fish café. Who knew it rained so much in New York in the summer?

This time, I asked the waiting folk outside – “how does this place work?” They said to go in, right to the back and you'll see. “Okay”, I thought. “Here goes nothing”, and dived into that tiny space of ten tables, and made my way to the back, where a vast selection of fish and seafood was displayed in a large chill. There I found more confused new customers all asking each other “what do we do?”. Someone in the know heard them, “you just pick up a fish with those bags, pay for it and eat. Simple!” So much confusion in that crowded fishy space. Where were the bags? Where to pay?

The crowd slowly became a queue, all talking and laughing with strangers as they bonded over this new adventure. Reaching the till, I was asked what sides I wanted. Sides? Casting around quickly, I copied what others were eating “Rice and salad, please” I gave my name and before I knew it, I was outside in the hot steamy street waiting. I wasn't sure what would happen next, but when I was called, there was a drama – where was my fellow diners? NO ONE dined there alone! I was seated at the end of a big group, but despite having a vast amount of food, and my trying to be friendly while I waited for my modest meal to arrive, they did not offer me a single morsel from their abundance.

The Hispanic waiters kept rushing past, keeping up an intermittent conversation with me until I was laughing and enjoying my night out. The bewilderment, the lack of hospitality was all forgotten when I finally ate my delicious piece of fish cooked simply over a grill. I'll be back for more and this time, I'll be one of the old hands too.

It gave me a new perspective on people visiting church for the first time. What can we do to better help and welcome them navigate those invisible stumbling blocks and hidden options?

The Lord be with you and those for whom you pray.

*Elizabeth*