

It is fifteen years since those airplanes hit the World Trade Towers in New York. Fifteen years, and yet the image is seared into my mind of the buildings tumbling to the ground. For me, there was always a sense of incredulity how they were so neatly demolished. Normally, to demolish a building like that would take months of planning and of multiple detonation points to ensure that it falls straight down and doesn't topple over.

Anyhow, I am not discussing conspiracy theories today, but instead I want to consider the lost. Do you recall that 2780 people were lost that day?

They were office workers, police men, fire fighters, and most often forgotten, airline passengers en route to California.



The other lasting image for me is the one of families posting pictures of their loved ones on bulletin boards and lamp posts in their increasingly desperate search for them. How achingly sad and awful. Those families tried everything to find those people, and I can imagine that having to accept that they had died, and that for many there simply was no trace of them, must have been so, so terribly hard to live with.

Moving away from the heartbreak of 9/11, have you ever been at in a busy public when your child lets go of your hand for just one moment and is swallowed into the crowd? Your emotions can be extreme and you need to try hard to be calm enough to think straight, when every part of you wants to frantically run around shouting the child's name, as panic and fear begins to take over.

Do you remember the overwhelming relief, the moment of unsurpassed joy when you were reunited with your lost child?

Today, when you listen to the gospel from Luke telling the parable of the master who leaves 99 sheep in the field to return to find the one that had gone astray, I would ask you to physically tap into those emotions that we have experienced in our own life, of losing and rediscovering again.

Listen to the readings and connect deeply with them. Listen to the gospel and know that God will search everywhere and will celebrate extravagantly when he finds us, when we are lost. You might not think you are lost, but sometimes, some days, we are all to be found hiding in plain sight, not knowing how or where to step next. That's when we have lost sight of God, but I can assure you that he won't lose sight of you, no matter how long it takes to find you.

God bless you and those whom you care

Rev Elizabeth

Bellarine
Gateway
ANGLICAN PARISH



Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula

**Eleventh of September 2016
Seventeenth 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

1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

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/>

"I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Luke 15:10 ESV

Please pray for the healing of body, mind and spirit of:

Pat B, Cassie & family, Vi, Gwen, Pam, Meryl, Barb G, Russell, Rita, Hooper-Travers families, Jayde, Mr Di Cesare, Sandra.

If you have any more names, please let the pew sheet editor know **but only after** getting permission from the person involved.

Ministry Team

Vicar: Reverend Elizabeth Breakey	5250 1401 0404 165 096	vicar@bgap.church
Reverend Jack Humphrey	(on leave)	
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

Jeremiah 4.11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1.1-2, 12-19
Luke 15.1-10

Next Sunday

Jeremiah 8.18 - 9.1
Psalm 79.1-9
1 Timothy 2.1-10
Luke 16.1-13

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: Penny Stewart 14/9; Gordon Dendle, Gloria Lang 17/9;
Audrey Miles 18/9

Confirmation

The confirmation service has been postponed until the 11th of December. Although the change was requested by Bishop Philip, it actually works in our favour, allowing more time to prepare our confirmation candidates, Bohn and Julie. Please pray for them over these next few months.

Any parishioner interested in being confirmed, or know of someone who might be, please contact Rev. Elizabeth. Currently there are two candidate preparing for confirmation.



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.

Coming up & before it's too late!

- **Parish Council:** Wed 14/9 @ 1 PM Moller Room
- **Leopold UCAF 80th Birthday:** Entertainment by Peter Perez
Donation — Birthday stall — Gentlemen welcome.
Monday 19 September 1:30 PM, RSVP 9/9/16
Phyll 5250 1461
- **Discover Cornwall:** Guest speaker Neil Thomas, A bard of Cornwall
St Andrew's Corio, sumptuous afternoon tea
Mon., 3 Oct. at 1PM, \$10 RSVP/Enquiries Sandra 5275 1091
- **Lazarus Centre Lunch:** 7 October — see notice board.
- **Church Unite:** 16 October — see notice board.
- **All Saint's Day:** Combined Service, 30 October at St Paul's
- **Confirmation Service:** with Bishop Philip Huggins presiding.
Sunday 11 December 9:30 AM (NB. this is a combined service at St. B's).



Parish Council

The AGM is approaching, please consider representing your parish as a parish councillor, talk it over with friends and family, pray about it! Nomination forms will be appearing in a few weeks' time.

Trivia Quiz:

Last Week's Answer:

The two kingdoms were called Israel (North) and Judah (South)

This Week's Question:

After the death of Solomon, the Northern and Southern kingdoms were formed, what were the name of their capitals?

New Website

We are developing a new website, for a sneak peak go to

<http://wp.bgap.church>

ARCHBISHOP PHILIP FREIER



Conscience rules on marriage

09 Sep 2016

The Primate has written to Australia's Anglican bishops about the proposed same-sex marriage plebiscite. Here is the text of the letter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

The proposed plebiscite on same-sex marriage has been one of the more contentious topics in 2016. Individual Anglicans have adopted a variety of positions taken in good conscience based on their Christian understanding of the principles and issues, and this is right and proper.

Personally, I welcome the plebiscite, though with strong reservations that we must guard the tenor of the debate, and keep it positive. The Government promised a plebiscite in campaigning for the July election and, having been elected, they have the reasonable expectation of honouring this commitment. Further, those who oppose same-sex marriage will surely find it easier to accept it becoming approved in law if they have been given a vote. It is of course, far from certain at the present time that the measures will gain parliamentary approval.

If the plebiscite does happen it will be important that Christians – and others – vote according to their conscience and their view of what is best for society, and that the Government brings legislation to enact the will of the people. It is proper to expect that the Parliament should honour the results of the plebiscite.

Should the vote be in favour of same-sex marriage as suggested by the opinion polls, the Church must accept that this is now part of the landscape. We can still stand for and offer holy matrimony between a man and a woman as a sacred ordinance given by God, while accepting that the state has endorsed a wider view of marriage – as, indeed, the state has endorsed de facto relationships by legislating similar protections to those offered by marriage for people in such relationships.

The doctrine of the Book of Common Prayer remains unchanged, that marriage is between a man and a woman, under God, forsaking all others until death parts them. I do not believe that the Anglican Church in Australia is likely to revise its doctrine of marriage.

But that said, the Church also understands the desire of two people to express their commitment of love and self-sacrifice to each other, and that Christians have not always shown the respect or perspective they should. I am very concerned that the discussion does not become harsh or vilifying – on either side, for it is not only Christians who have sometimes failed on this score.

We understand that this is not a theoretical issue for many people, but one that directly impinges on their lives. We understand that sometimes gays, lesbians and others have felt judged and rejected, even ostracised, inside the Church and that we have to be much more pastorally sensitive in future.

Whether this is the threshold event that many in our church think or whether the widening of marriage happened many years ago and further widening is inevitable remains to be seen. What does matter is that we approach this question with prayer, confidence in the Church's teaching as well as kindness in our speech towards those with whom we disagree.

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus

Archbishop Philip Freier

