

# Bellarine Gateway

ANGLICAN PARISH



Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula

## Seventeenth of September 2017 Fifteenth 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.*

*Peter asked "...how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"  
Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.*

*Matthew 18:21-22 NRSV*

# 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

Exodus 14.19-31  
Psalm 114  
Romans 14.1-14  
Matthew 18.21-35

### Next Sunday

Exodus 16.2-15  
Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45  
Philippians 1 (Philippians 1:21-30)  
Matthew 20.1-16

## Birthdays etc

Happy Birthday Gordon Dendle!

## 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., Cassie and family.

## Sola gratia — Grace alone

Grace alone (*sola gratia* in Latin), means that salvation is entirely from God's act of free grace, dispensed by the Holy Spirit according to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ alone.

The believer is accepted by Grace alone, without any regard for the merit of his or her works — for no one deserves salvation.



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

### Bush Church Aid boxes

Please return all boxes by Sunday 15th October, so that the money can be blessed on Sunday 22nd October. Boxes can be left at St Mark's, or given to the clergy at St Paul's or St Barnabas' to bring to St Mark's the next week.

Alternatively boxes can be dropped in to Eril Holmes at home, or contact Eril (erilholmes@gmail.com or 0409 501 151) to make some other arrangement.

### Offertory Envelopes

Boxes of offertory envelopes are available in each centre today, please take one if you have chosen this method of making your monetary offering.

### St Francis Pet Blessing & Spring Fair

Volunteer sheets are now available in all centres looking for helpers for the day. Can you spare 1.5 hours manning a stall, burning sausages etc? Maybe you can help by providing some stock required for the stalls?

This is a golden opportunity to show off to the wider community our parish spirit and should be viewed as mission.

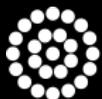
### RUOK?

The 14th of September was RUOK? day. If you or someone you know has issues with depression please contact Lifeline on 131 114, alternatively any of these specific services:

Grief Line, 1300 845 745,

Mens Line Australia, 1300 78 99 78,

Gambling HelpLine, 1800 858 858,



**Lifeline**

**Saving  
Lives**

**131114**

Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.



**RU OK? DAY™**  
14 September 2017

We live in an environment that is closing in on itself. We live in a space where we need campaigns to remind us that we can have meaning, love and understanding in our lives, that all is not lost.

Today is *National Come Back to Church Day*, when parishioners are supposed to make a special effort to bring friends and family to church. But aren't we supposed to do that all the time?? What stops us, I wonder?

We live in a time of bewildering choice; for every item of grocery, there must be at least three options to consider, so that by the time we have filled a trolley with shopping, we can be in a dazed state of decision overload! The choices continue in life, don't they? In this parish, there are at least 6 Christian denominations represented, providing a choice of worshipping style and theological message. Then there are lifestyle choices: do I get out of bed and go to church, do I spend precious moments of relaxation with my family, or do I stay home recovering from another bruising week at work? So many choices.

When we invite a person to come to church, to worship with us, to be welcomed into our community, we need to be aware that we are one of many, many choices that person has open to them. – and who are we to say which is the right choice for each of us? Perhaps we get ourselves right with God by walking the dog or having quiet time, or perhaps it is having a chance for prayer – we are all different, but often find it hard to express what is on our hearts.

That's what *R U OK* day is all about. Making space for a conversation deeper than footie and weather; Are you okay? More than that, it is about being prepared to hear the answer "no", "no, I am not okay." For where do we go, who do we turn to when life threatens to drown us? In our promise to love ourselves as our neighbours, **WE** need to be confident that we can turn to each other, and sometimes say that life is hard, perhaps share a prayer, and know that we are loved by each other regardless, even despite, our weaknesses and failings. We often can't **FIX** the problem, but recognising it and pointing to those who can, might just save a life.

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

*Elizabeth*