

### Reflection for Palm Sunday:



Whilst making palm crosses with a group of parishioners on Wednesday, I was asked by a passer-by what was Palm Sunday.

I said that it is the day when we remember Jesus entering Jerusalem. How we remember that his triumphal visit started so well and was so exciting before it all turned very bad, but it all worked out well in the end. It may have been a bit basic, but what would your 30 second take on Easter include?

Should I have mentioned what went wrong, that he was crucified, and then rose again? Possibly, but there wasn't time, so perhaps my answer to him will build on the images and impressions he sees over the next week or two, that is apart from the bloomin' Easter Bunny!

What for you are the most important aspects of the festival of Holy Week and Easter? I deeply appreciate engaging all the senses in our Easter festival, and for me, one of the pivotal moments is washing another's feet AND submitting myself to accepting someone else washing mine. That is when I really get to step in Jesus footsteps and experience something that time has not corrupted nor changed. It's all about love, through service and acceptance.

That continues over the weekend as priests and parishioners alike serve each other, creating backdrops to help us better understand, or sharing in the liturgy (which does mean the work of the people after all) through movement, actions, singing and reading.

Accepting that service, regardless of whether it is perfect, or not, is the second act of love.

Be brave, continue to take those steps out of your comfort zone and see what you might do next weekend. The roster sheets are available at each church. I can't wait to see what everyone will try their hand at!

God bless you and all for whom you pray.

*Elizabeth*

**Pew Sheet:** Material for inclusion in Pew Sheets should be given to Alf. by Wednesday evening..



## Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula

Welcome  
to  
Worship in Our Parish

March 25th 2018

**Palm Sunday**

**Service Times**

### Sundays

8:00 am St Mark's Leopold & St Paul's Whittington  
10:00 am St Mark's Leopold & St Barnabas' Newcomb

### Wednesday - 10:00 am

1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ St Barnabas'  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ St Mark's  
5th Wednesday @ St Paul's

### Morning Prayer @ St Barnabas'

Monday - Saturday 9:15 am

### Parish Identity

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

### Mission Statement

Our mission is to enable individuals to recognize 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.



## MINISTRY TEAM

**Vicar: Rev'd Elizabeth Breakey** 5250 1401; 0404 165 096  
Email: vicar@bgap.church

**Father Jim Minchin** 0427 056 654, frjbminchin@gmail.com

**Mr Wayne Stewart** 0414 503 300, wayne@bgap.church

**Mrs Wilma Farrell** 5244 5537 Pastoral Ministry

**Mrs Jan Long** 0414 823 132 Residential Care Ministry

**Parish web-site:** www.bgap.church

### Today's Readings

Zechariah 9.9-12a  
Ps 118.1-2,19-29  
Philipians 2.5-11  
Mark 11.1-11

### Next Week's Readings

Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

### 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 do. 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.*

**Known Happy Birthdays:** Judy Thompson 27th

**Known Happy Anniversaries:** Sandra & Noel Taylor 25th

(Please contact me if I miss any important dates so that I can up-date my records. Alf)



**Prayers for Healing:** Please pray for the healing of body, mind and spirit of the following people who are on our hearts: Ann, Jo, Audrey Miles, Barb, Barbara S, Pam, Heather R, Arthur, Enid Hughes, Cassie & family,

The Psalmist sets the scene for us as we begin Holy Week: 'I am a thing of horror to my friends: and those that see me in the street shrink from me. I am forgotten like one dead and out of mind: I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many: and fear is on every side; while they plot together against me: and scheme to take away my life'.

Pray that you may stay close to Jesus this week, and not resile from difficult or unpopular choices when you have to make them.



**Welcome** to our services today - Palm Sunday We hope you find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay after the services for a cup of tea/coffee, biscuit and fellowship.

### For your diary:

Today

Lenten studies at St Barnabas' @ 2 pm

Palm Sunday March, Melbourne (details insert)

Wednesday 28th

Parish Fellowship meets @ 1.30 am (details below)

Thursday 29th

Maundy Thursday, St Mark's @ 7.00 pm

Friday 30th

Good Friday, St Mark's @ 9.30 am

Sunday April 1st

Stations of the Cross, Geelong @ 10.45 am (details insert)

Easter Dawn Service & breakfast, St Paul's @ 6.00 am

Easter Day, St Mark's @ 9.30 am

Easter Day, St Barnabas' @ 10.00 am

Saturday April 7th

Men's Breakfast, Leopold U.C. @ 7.30 am

**Parish Fellowship:** The next meeting of the Fellowship will be on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> @ 1.30 pm at Val White's home; 4 Tamala Avenue, Marshall; a Dutch auction will be held; Afternoon tea; All welcome; Any queries contact Wilma 5244 5537.



(Apologies for the poor quality of the photos. Maybe I need a new printer. Alf.)

## Messages:

\* Thank you to the coffee drinking cross makers who this week made several hundred palm crosses for St Albans and St Andrews Uniting, BGAP, the Gateway Church prayer group and anyone who asked for some as they walked past.

\* Please remember that there is a group of parishioners going to the Palm Sunday March in Melbourne to support Refugees and Asylum Seekers. We are joining the Diocese group first outside St Paul's Cathedral. We will be catching the 12.06 train from South Geelong. Feel free to step out of your comfort zone and come along on the journey.

\* The Lenten Journey also continues this Sunday at 2pm in St Barnabas for those who would prefer to stay in Geelong. Rev'd Ann will take the group, which, following from her thoughtful exploration last week on baggage to take on the pilgrimage, should be a treat.

\* Lots of people have pulled together to decorate the churches for Palm Sunday. **Thank you** to decorators, transporters and donors alike.

\* We need to get an idea of numbers for the Maundy Thursday worship meal, so please add your name to the lists at each church, and also indicate whether you can make some soup or bring bread, please.

\* Fr Jim, assisted by Rev'd Elizabeth, has created a thought provoking Good Friday service at St Mark's, with space for reflection, prayer, music and a chance to hear again the gut wrenching account of Christ's torture and death; starting at 9am and departing in silence .

\* The collection for Good Friday will be split between the Geelong University Hospital Children's Ward and the ABM appeal for Jerusalem. ABM envelopes will be available across the Easter weekend.

\* On Good Friday, the now traditional Stations of the Cross march will take place in Geelong CBD, starting outside St Mary's Basilica at 10.45am. Doreen Malone and Rev'd Elizabeth will be reading/praying at one of the stations. You are invited to join in this very public but appropriate display of faith in the city along with many other churches and denominations

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\* More readers and decorators are needed for the Easter weekend services. Please consider lending a hand as you are able. Yet again, the sign up rosters are in each church.

\* Next Sunday, I am delighted that I shall be able to preach/preside at all three church services on Easter Day. This is due to staggered start times, and to the generous flexibility of Fr Jim and Bishop Peter.

\* On feast days such as Easter, it always adds to the sense of festivity when there are plenty of people in the church to worship together. This year, we have the challenge of two churches open in the parish for our "main" Easter Day service, so we cannot rely on filling one with the whole parish. I urge you to invite friends and family, even strangers - perhaps especially strangers, to join us in worship this Easter.

\* Please bring some flowers with you to the Easter Service that you can then place on the cross. Similarly, bringing bells and flags to the Easter Vigil, which starts at 6am sharp at St Paul's, would be very useful. I wonder if we can wake the neighbourhood to the joyous news that Christ is Risen?!

\* You are welcome to share in a celebration breakfast after the dawn service, before heading to St Mark's or St Barnabas' to greet your fellows with "Christ is Risen!", "He is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

**Men's Breakfast:** The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 7th at Leopold Uniting Church @ 7.30 am; Guest speaker: Rev'd Bob (Rev'd Bob Thomas, the UC's new minister) - *'Discovering ourselves as Gods Gardeners'*; Donation \$3; All welcome; Any queries contact Alf 5250 2082.

