

Reflection for Easter Day:

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

What glorious joyful news to start the pew reflection with!

This last week, I had the good fortune of camping close to the beach near Marlo, East Gippsland, and then cooking myself breakfast on the beach at dawn.

The phrase about the darkest hour being before the dawn came to mind as I stumbled my way along the dark bush path, feeling that my small torch wasn't quite up to the job. I thought about the Marys, quietly making their way in that predawn darkness to the stone in front of the tomb where Jesus had been hurriedly placed just before sunset, just before the beginning of the Passover Sabbath.

Just as the Marys were surprised to find the tomb already open, I emerged out of the dark trees onto the beach to find the sky illuminated with the start of a fiery sunrise. The sentence in our Eucharist Great Thanksgiving came to me –“And the new day dawned”. That same magnificent sight can be seen every day, reminding us again and again, of hope re-awakened and of God's love for us. Such a love, that through the death of Jesus, our sins are forgiven, we are made right with God, and we are free. Free to follow God's plan to bring about a new Kingdom of God right here on Earth, right here in Geelong! When do we start? Today! What do we have to do? We must take seriously our responsibilities to love God with all our being, and to love our neighbour as ourselves. To love each other as God loves us.

Are you up for the challenge, after our 40 days of Lenten risk taking and changing our destructive patterns? Are you ready to change the world, one act of love at a time? For that is what God desires of us. Start today, and make a new day truly dawn in your heart!

Happy Easter indeed!

Easter blessings to 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*

April 1st 2018

Easter Sunday



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, frijminchin@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

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

Next Week's Readings

Acts 4:32-37
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1 – 2.2
John 20:19-31

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.



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.

Known Happy Birthdays: Ken White 2nd, Rosemary Hooper 3rd,
Known Happy Anniversaries: Clare & Don O'Hara 4th,

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

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.

The re-Awakening of Hope



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

For your diary:

Saturday April 7th Men's Breakfast, Leopold U.C. @ 7.30 am
Saturday April 14th St Paul's La Trobe Tce Garden Party (details below)

Thank you: A sincere **Thank you** to all the parishioners who have helped in many ways to prepare for the Holy Week and Easter services. It is appreciated. Many hands make light work!!

Garden Party: St Paul's (La Trobe Terrace) Annual Garden Party; Saturday 14th April 2.00 - 5.00 pm in the church grounds; Entry by donation of \$5.00 (children free) includes a delicious afternoon tea; Plant and Book stalls; wandering minstrels whilst enjoying your lovely afternoon tea; Children's activities will be available. Please join us for this afternoon of fellowship. For more information please call Ruth on 0423 023 263.

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



Dear God,

How many angels are there in heaven? Do people become angels when they die, or are angels different to people? Do people go to heaven as souls or as angels?

Does everyone go to heaven, or only good people? Do you mind when people don't believe in you? I don't think my father believes in you, but I know you are real.

I hope I will be able to go to heaven too.

Best

Tania.

(From Children's Letters to God)