

## The Vicar's Vibe

This week, I wanted to explore the huge impact that Psalm 23 has had on people for thousands of years. There are lines contained within it that are so well known, but at the same time, I wonder how many know that they are quoting the bible when they say them?

Eugene Patterson's "The Message" gives us a contemporary take on the psalm....

*GOD, my shepherd! I don't need a thing.*

*You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from. True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction.*

**(Psalms 23:1-3 MESSAGE)**

As a passage that gives us bravery and comfort in times of unimaginable stress, it is hard to go past psalm 23. I wondered how it might link into our remembrance of ANZAC ay later this week, and I found an account of the time after the death of Private Luke Worsley in Afghanistan in 2007, and I believe that something similar may have been repeated many times at ANZAC cove itself.

"His mates did everything they could for him and then some. Before Luke was to be taken off the battlefield by chopper, he was placed in one of the armoured vehicles. Everyone from the Company had the opportunity to go in, pay their respects and say goodbye, which they all did. The author of the account remembered that he held Luke's hand and said a prayer Psalm 23:4 (*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me*). I also told him that one day we will all be reunited [...] and that he would not be forgotten."

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemy.*

**Psalm 23:5**

Your enemy doesn't have to be another person -- it can be illness, fear of change, or an attitude of lack. But even in the midst of your fears, there's a table right in front of you that's overflowing with the joys and abundance of life.

*You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely only goodness, mercy, and unfailing love shall follow me all the days of my life, And through the length of days I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

**Psalm 23:5-6**

We can all become aware of our divine nature, living with God each day, and once we do, we can affirm these truths as real because we've experienced them.

God bless you and all for whom you pray.

*Elizabeth*



Twenty Second of April 2018 — Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Sunday

8:00 AM

St Mark's Leopold

St Paul's Whittington

10:00 AM

St Mark's Leopold

St Barnabas' Newcomb

**NEXT WEEK ONLY — COMBINED SERVICE ST MARK'S 9:30AM**

### Monday - Saturday

9:15 AM

St Barnabas'

Morning Prayer

*on hold temporarily*

### Wednesday

10:00 AM

St Barnabas'

St Mark's

St Paul's

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

5th Wednesday.

**NEXT WEEK ONLY — NO 10AM SERVICE**

*For details see inside — ANZAC Service*

### 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.**

*The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.*

**Psalms 23:1 NRSV**

## Ministry Team

Vicar: Reverend Elizabeth Breakey	5250 1401 0404 165 096	vicar@bgap.church
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## Readings

### Today

Acts 4.5–12  
Psalm 23  
1 John 3.16–24  
John 10.11–18

### Next Sunday

Acts 8.26–40  
Psalm 22.26–32  
1 John 4.7–21  
John 15.1–8

## Changed Readings for 13 May 2018 - Easter 7 & Ascension.

Acts 1.1-11, Psalm 93, Ephesians 1.15-23, John 17.6-19

## 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: Ann, Jo, Audrey Miles, Barb, Barbara S, Pam, Heather R, Arthur, Enid Hughes, Cassie & family.

## Parish Council Vacancy

There is a casual vacancy on the Parish Council, please prayerfully consider joining the council. Ideally, we would like a St Mark's parishioner, as there is a shortage of representation from St Mark's.



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

### **Readers and Communion assistants**

Rev. Elizabeth would like to hold a brief meeting to encourage folk to consider signing up as Sunday Readers or as Communion Assistants .. If you wish to know more about the current procedures, the meeting will be at 12noon at St Barnabas' church on Sunday 22nd April.

### **ANZAC Day Memorial Service**

This will be held at the Leopold War Memorial, 8:00AM. The Memorial is in Melaluka Road, just past the sports grounds.

**Church Safe Combined Service.** 29/04/2018 @ 9:30 AM @ St Mark's Have you ever stopped to think that you might be the only Christian amongst your families and friendship groups? That's quite sobering, and we have a chance to be apostles, messengers of God's love to them. But how do we do this without freaking them out? How do we reflect God's saving love in our words and deeds? This is what we are praying, singing and talking about at next week's Combined Service. Right now, we don't have a significant number of families worshipping with us each week, but only God knows how and when this will change – so we need to be ready. The Diocese has asked us to take our social responsibilities to children and the vulnerable seriously, and we shall.

Come to the Combined Service at St Marks, 9.30 on 29 April and explore how we can become more loving and confident apostles of Christ both in the world and inside church.

If you could bring a small plate of morning tea, that would be good too.

If you need a lift, please ask, as this service is really important for the future of our parish, and your presence will be needed and valued.

### **Parish Council**

Notes from the recent meeting (19/4 @ 10AM @ St B'):

- Money is getting tight — we are investigating the possibility of reducing our diocesan assessment to an affordable level.
- Despite that the renovations at St B' are still planned to start in May
- Red brekky for Pentecost has been moved to St Mark's as we're uncertain about hall availability on the 20th of May.
- The Blessing of the Pets service will be repeated on Sunday 7/10/2018
- The Fashion Show will be repeated on Friday 2/11/2018
- The *Diocesan Parish Renewal Programme* has commenced and a mission focussed team is being assembled for our first meeting in May.