

Reflection for Pentecost

Can you imagine the scene that first Pentecost Day? Men tumbling out of that door leading to the Upper Room, gabbling and speaking a mind boggling array of languages? Crazy! Chaos! Unacceptable disarray to the social fabric!

For each person who disapproved, there was another who heard the message of God's Good News in a way that they personally could understand. It was the end of the breakdown in human communications, and the start of a new era. One where God would take the risk, and tell the world in so many different ways, that each of us has value and is worth forgiving, worth loving.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth as Jesus describes it, led some people watching to think that the disciples were mad, or drunk, or both. But think of it in another way – what about if the Holy Spirit set those disciples free? Free to take a risk, to speak out the truth, even when it caused folk to judge them.

Upon reflection, I realise that I have made a spectacle of myself many times in the name of Jesus, have you? Letting that Spirit of truth fill and support us as we take the risk of throwing off the confines of how society thinks “nice” people should act takes a deep breath and a lot of courage some days. The perception of risk changes as we realise that what once seemed risky was not, that no harm befell us, and that perhaps we can step it up a notch. It seems ludicrous now, but publicly wearing a cross for me as a young person and making a silent statement of my faith was a HUGE step. I wonder what risks you took that now seem quite minor?

Recognising that we are filled with the Holy Spirit, who can translate God's love for us and the world into words and deeds that we can share, what risks, what steps of faith are you willing to decide to take? On this the Church's birthday, it seems like a good day to start!

One thing that is for certain, God, our Triune God, Father Son and Holy Spirit is with us in all of this. Healing, supporting, speaking truth into the world and guiding us to do the same.

I trust that this Day of Pentecost will bring its own version of a clean and healing fire into your heart. That you will be empowered to take a risk to meet God in your world.

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*

May 20th 2018

Pentecost Sunday

Normal 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

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 on leave

Mr Wayne Stewart Child Safety Officer, 0414 503 300, wayne@bgap.church

Mrs Wilma Farrell 5244 5537 Pastoral Ministry

Parish web-site: www.bgap.church

Today's Readings

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:26-36
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

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 Anniversary: EriBarbara & Bob Gilchrist 23rd
(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: Adrian, Sue & family, Alan, Brian, Graeme, Des M, Peter, Ann, Barb, Barbara S, Pam, Arthur, Cassie & family,

Colour cartridges: If anyone can make use of 5 colour cartridges to suit a Canon Pixma 72 series printer, contact Graham Barker, 52 50 6598.

There is no escaping the reading from Acts today, but if placed later there is space for the fantastic reading from Ezekiel, the valley of dry bones. The hope present there is the hope presented elsewhere: that which is dry and dead can have new life, wherever the Spirit touches.
Pray and give thanks for all that breathes life into you.



Mission

Men's Breakfast:

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday June 2nd at Leopold Uniting Church; 7.30 am. Guest speaker is Shirley Grace, who will talk about growing chicory on Phillip Island. Donation \$3. Any queries, or suggestions for future speakers, contact Alf 5250 2082.

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

For your diary:

Today	Hymn Singing @ Christ Church Geelong @ 2 pm
Today	Beacon event at Wesley Church , 7 pm
Wednesday 23rd	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea @ Leopold U.C.
Wednesday May 30th	Red Cross film night @ St Mary's, 7.30 pm
Saturday June 2nd	Men's Breakfast @ Leopold UC
Sunday June 3rd	Rev. Andrew Love Book launch @ St Andrews UC, 10 am



Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Leopold Uniting Church, Wednesday 23rd May commencing at 10:15am. Your donation will help Cancer Council Victoria support those suffering from cancer.

Volunteer week:

National Volunteer Week is from 21 May to 25 May. This is a great opportunity to thank the volunteers who help in our parish in so many ways. This year, let's make a particular effort to thank the Pearly Gates and Heaven Cent Op Shop volunteers. It is extremely hard to gather all the Op Shop volunteers in one place or even on one day, so sometime during the week 21 May to 25 May, it would be lovely if you could recognise their efforts with something that could be added to their morning tea. I started off suggesting a few packets of Tim Tams, but others had muffins and slices in mind! Many little packages of recognition would be just lovely as the week progresses. Please feel free to drop them off at either Heaven Cent, Watson Road shopping strip, Newcomb, or Pearly Gates, Dorothy St shopping strip, Leopold. You might even find a bargain while you are there!

Thank you to all who helped with the Red Breakfast - setting up; cooking; serving; tidying up. It was appreciated.

Renovation Work at St Barnabas':

The old floor has been sanded in readiness for new flooring to be installed. Part of the replacement process will be to treat and polish the floor. The project manager has very clearly requested that during that week, NO ONE is to walk, sneak, run, tiptoe or "just dash" across the floor.

No go zone!!!

Parish Council Report:

1. St Barnabas' Hall update: painting is finished; new floor installation is ongoing; heating will be installed on 5th June; further maintenance going to schedule.
2. Dunny drive for bathroom fittings approved by Parish Council – target is \$2,000.
3. Conversations regards St Mark's car park have started with Leopold Primary School. The Parish Council supports Rev'd Elizabeth in her efforts to talk to Leopold Primary School about how we provide a safe and shared resource of car parking space for about 30 minutes at the start and close of each school day. We are talking about how to source finance through community grants for the improvement of the car park. This is an expression of our ministry of hospitality to the community.
4. St Marks' sound system - second quote is underway.
5. The implementation of the parish designed Church Safe posters was discussed.
6. We are still praying for a treasurer to be inspired to join Parish Council for 2019 to enable Gordon Dendle to have his well deserved and overdue year of sabbatical.
7. Similarly, we are praying that another member of parish will fill the casual vacancy that was created when Jan Long retired from Parish Council. This might be the same person.

Dunny Drive: The costs of renovating St Barnabas have been met within the budget for this year, and we are inviting parishioners to contribute towards updating the bathroom fittings, aka the Dunnies, in St Barnabas' that were not part of the original project costings. It is quite clear that the current toilet fittings will look very old fashioned and worn out once the toilet walls, partitions and ceilings have been updated. So, we are inviting parishioners to contribute, as they feel able, to bringing the toilets up to date. Parish Council anticipate that close to \$2000 will be needed to purchase and fit 3 toilets, 2 basins and a new urinal.

Some parishioners may wish to pay their donation directly into BGAP's bank account.: BSB 033 009 A/c #537753.

Identify the payment as St B's (and your initials if you wish)

Red Cross Film night at St Mary's Hall, Yarra Street, Wednesday May 30th, 7.30 pm, featuring the comedy '*Going in Style*', starring Morgan Freeman and Michael Caine. Tickets @ \$12.50 from Phyll 5250 1461 Supper provided. All proceeds to disaster relief in Myanmar.

