



Little Acorns



February – April 2022

The Quarterly Newsletter of
Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, Woodville

The importance of repentance

In the last issue of Little Acorns I talked about the preparation and reflection of the Advent season which culminates in the wonder and mystery of Christmas. Now we are close to the start of Lent, another important time of preparation that climaxes with the profound joy of Easter.

Lent always feels more sombre than Advent, since we have the suffering of the crucifixion and tomb, before the triumphant resurrection. That sombre tone starts on Ash Wednesday with its ashes and call to repentance. Repentance sounds and seems like such an old-fashioned concept to the modern world. It is treated as a cliché of sackcloth, wailing and long faces. But actually it is an important and powerful part of how we should live as Christians.

To repent is not about wailing and debasing ourselves. It is about sitting down and consciously reflecting on our behaviours and patterns of thought. It is about holding ourselves up to the full light of day, up to the light of God, and asking if this action or pattern is right or moral, how does it affect our relationships with God, others, and ourselves. Repentance is not something that is done and over. Nor does it have to be everything at once, we can tackle our actions or thoughts one or two at a time.

Our Christian journey is a lifelong process, with seasons that can act as a prompt for particular reflection, prayer, or other actions. We are all, always learning how to better live out the Gospel calling to be God's hands and feet in the world, caring for all people and all creation.

The truly great thing is that we do not go through this alone. We have each other as a community of faith, but we have a Lord who is there with us in such a deeply profound way. Christianity has a unique message, of a God made flesh who has experienced the very depths of the human condition, and who can carry us through

the dark times of our lives. The resurrection of our Lord is a deep and beautiful mystery. The suffering and ultimate triumph of the full Easter story is a testimony to God's infinite patience and love. As the days draw in with the start of autumn, what better time to pause and contemplate this infinitely precious gift so freely offered to us all. Wishing you all a reflective Lent and a blessed Easter.

Arohanui, Rosie



Farewell to Mary Reuben

It is with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to another of our parish's special members. Mary Reuben has moved up to Kerikeri. While it's great that Mary will be closer to family, she will be sorely missed in Woodville. Mary was an active member of St James and the wider community, and has touched the lives and hearts of many. Our love and prayers go with Mary.



In Memoriam

The last few months have seen the deaths of a number of Woodville folk. We remember:

- ⊕ Ross Lockyer
- ⊕ Beth Harding
- ⊕ David Osborne
- ⊕ Don Veale
- ⊕ Craig Mabey

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends of the departed.



Young at Heart, Older Folks' Social Afternoons

2pm on the fourth Monday of each month

Holy Trinity Hall, Fox Street

Please contact Rosie McMillan if you'd like help with transportation.



Purple Poppy Day Service

There is a Purple Poppy Day service at
10am Thursday 24 February 2022 in Fountaine Square.

Purple Poppy Day was introduced in 2006 to commemorate the animals that served, and continue to serve, during wartime. Animals have often been the forgotten casualties of war, for example approximately eight million horses and donkeys (that were critical for hauling supplies and artillery) died during the First World War. Dogs and carrier pigeons have been among the other animals involved in war efforts, with many earning medals for acts saving the lives of soldiers and civilians.



Ash Wednesday Service

We will mark the start of Lent at the joint
Holy Trinity – St Columbkille's Ash Wednesday service at
7.30pm on 2 March 2022 in Holy Trinity



AMB Lenten Appeal

During Lent there'll be a 'bring and buy' table at the back of Holy Trinity to raise money for the Anglican Missions Board's annual Lenten Appeal. Please bring in produce, preserves or crafts to sell, as well as buy.

Each year the Board has different projects it is raising money for, focused on supporting vulnerable, disabled, and malnourished children in partner countries.

The three projects for 2022 are:

1. The Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation - Uganda

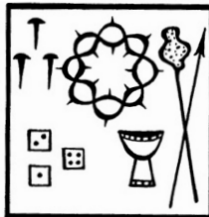
In Uganda, 57% of all children do not have access to health care or medicines when they are sick and only 15% of children with disabilities receive education through special or inclusive schools. The Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation works to address these issues. In 2020 alone, RSNF supported 394 children with disabilities, funding surgeries, providing transportation, meals, welfare packages, school supplies, uniforms, and vocational training for children with special needs.

2. Anglican Church of Melanesia WASH- Solomon Islands

Around 45% of the population in the Solomon Islands practises open defecation, because they lack basic sanitation facilities (latrines and toilets), polluting water sources that leads to disease. The Anglican Church in the Solomon Islands is working to build toilets in rural and isolated communities and to provide better education designed to keep communities healthy and safe.

3. Children's health improvement and awareness - Episcopal Diocese of Egypt

Malnutrition, anaemia and intestinal infestations are among some preventable illnesses severely affecting children's health in Egypt. In Egypt 93% of children in care aged 1-14 have experienced some form of physical punishment. Additionally, 70% of females aged 15-49 have been victims of Female Genitalia Mutilation (FGM). The Anglican Diocese of Egypt is working to address this by offering more medical tests for children and providing medication and nutritious meals for those who are found to be ill. The Church also works to educate parents on disease prevention, nutrition, domestic violence, abuse and FGM.



Holy Week Services

Sunday, 10 April, 9.30am

Palm Sunday Eucharist at Holy Trinity

Thursday, 14 April, 7.30pm

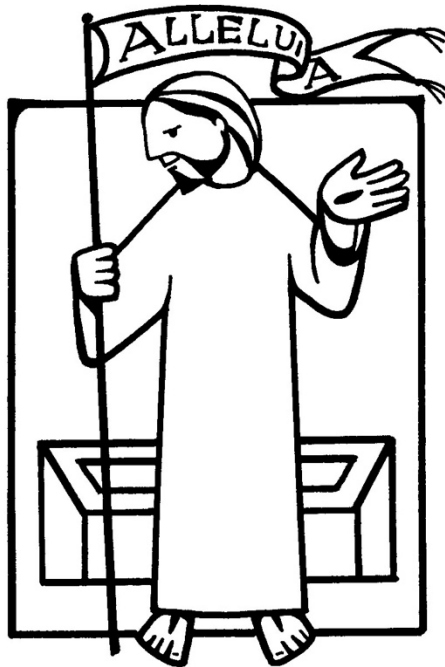
Maunder Thursday Eucharist at Holy Trinity

Friday, 15 April, 2.00pm

Way of the Cross service at Holy Trinity

Sunday, 17 April, 9.30am

Easter Eucharist at Holy Trinity



Easterings

Every hour of every day there are crucifixions,
the Christ on trial in someone, somewhere,
judged in fear, condemned in ignorance,
mocked and beaten, imprisoned, killed,
while we watch at the foot of the cross
or from three cock crows away, and ask,
“God, God, why have you forsaken them?”

The world is full of Good Fridays and Golgothas.
In the small arena of our lives,
there appears to be the same defeat of goodness
and it's difficult to wear a bright smile
when the heart hangs heavy in a darkness
full of thorns and nails and swords.
Unable to see beyond dyings, we cry,
“God, God, why have you forsaken us?”

The something happens. Easter Sunday happens.
This movement within, this turning, breaking,
this trembling shift through an old fault line.
A cosmic birth happens, darkness to light,
God dancing on pierced feet to make celebration
of all our dyings, even the little ones,
so that we can see, this side of the tomb,
that there are no endings, only transformations,
as we grow towards the source of our being.

In that moment of knowing, we see all of life
wrapped up in the wholeness of Easter,
and in awe we silently pray,
“God, God, you have never forsaken us.”

*Joy Cowley
Psalms Down-Under*



ANZAC Day Events

Monday 25 April

- 6.30am Dawn Parade in Fontaine Square – to be confirmed
- 10.00am Civic Service in Fontaine Square
- 2.00pm Young at Heart ANZAC afternoon tea in the Holy Trinity Hall

Christmas Events

The senior citizens lunch on Monday 20 December saw some 50 people sit down to a meal of ham off the bone, potatoes, peas and salad, followed by a choice of pavlova and fruit salad, or Christmas pudding and custard. Ralph Mountfort hit the piano to get the crowd singing carols at different times during the lunch. Lynne Budden also beautifully performed Christmas songs. A big thank you to Ralph, Lynne and everyone that cooked and served the lunch.



Stand Up and Sing, the community choir, filled Holy Trinity with professionally sung carols from 8pm on Christmas Eve. Following the conclusion of the singing, port (or orange juice for the younger attendees) and individually wrapped Christmas mince pies were served to everyone, a time of fellowship before the Christmas Eve Eucharist started at 9pm.



It's always lovely seeing the large congregation on this special evening, which concludes with a time of contemplation when the church is lit only by candles. The brickwork of the building is softened by the golden light, and as music plays people hold loved ones before God in silent prayer.



The Christmas morning Eucharist is a smaller, more intimate service that is nonetheless every bit as special as Christmas Eve. In both evening and morning there is a beautiful sense of Emmanuel, God with us!



Woodville Food Bank

Woodville's Food Bank continues to provide food parcels to those in need. A big thank you to everyone who supports this vital community service! If you're able, please feel free to bring a can or packet of foodstuffs along anytime to a service – there is a collection basket at the rear of the church.

Pastoral Visits

As disciples we are constantly called to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please let Rosie McMillan know if you would like a visit, or you're aware of someone who would appreciate a visit.



Events

February 2022

- Thursday 24th 10.00am Purple Poppy Day Service in Fountaine Square
- Monday 28th 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall

March 2022

- Friday 4th TBC World Day of Prayer Service, details to be advertised separately once confirmed
- Thursday 10th 2.00pm Anglican Women's Group meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
- Monday 28th 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall

April 2022

- Monday 25th 6.30am ANZAC Day Dawn Parade in Fountaine Square
- 10.00am ANZAC Day Civic Service in Fountaine Square
- 2.00pm Young at Heart ANZAC Day afternoon tea in the Holy Trinity Hall



Church Services

February 2022

Sunday 6 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 13 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 20 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 27 th	9.30am	Eucharist

March 2021

Wednesday 2 nd	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service at Holy Trinity
Sunday 6 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 13 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 20 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 27 th	9.30am	Morning Worship, followed by the Parish AGM

April 2021

Sunday 3 rd	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 10 th	9.30am	Palm Sunday Eucharist
Thursday 14 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist
Friday 15 th	2.00pm	Good Friday Way of the Cross Service
Sunday 17 th	9.30am	Easter Day Eucharist
Sunday 24 th	9.30am	Morning Worship



Advance Notice for June

Please keep your diary clear on the afternoon of Saturday the 4th of June, when there will be a special Platinum High Tea, starting with a concert by Stand Up and Sing, to mark the Queen's 70th Jubilee. You might want to start digging out your favourite pudding recipe – attendees will be asked to bring their recipes along to be compiled into a special Platinum Pudding Recipe Book to help mark the event!

COVID-19 Reminder

Under the COVID-19 red traffic light setting, current at the time this magazine was published, services and events can continue to operate with masking, signing in, and keeping attendees under 100.

We are able to have the eucharist on Sundays, but with only the bread. In addition, we are not using the altar rail but the priest stands at the bottom of the sanctuary steps and parishioners line up to receive the bread one at a time.

In the Church and Hall, we have the government-issued tracking scanner codes and a book for those who do not have mobile phones.

**Unite
against
COVID-19**

Key contacts

Parish website: www.htwoodville.org

Role	Person	Telephone
Local Priest	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Parish Wardens	J Wiri	06 376 4838
	R Squires	06 376 5076
Vestry Chair	V Tomlinson	022 643 9419
Parish Treasurer	J Wiri	06 376 4838
Parish Secretary	R Squires	06 376 5076
Anglican Women's Group	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Foodbank Coordinator	J Worboys	06 376 4023