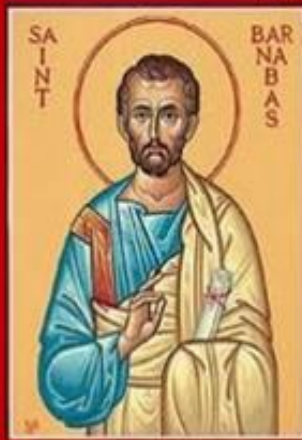




Community News
11 June 2023
Feast of Saint Barnabas

Saint Barnabas, Apostle

Feast: June 11



Prayer

God our Father, You filled Saint Barnabas with faith and the Holy Spirit and sent him to convert the nations. Help us to proclaim the Gospel by word and deed.

Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of your faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the well-being of your Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Church Services

Sunday: Nelligen

8am Holy Communion
Batemans Bay

8am Holy Communion

9.25am 2 EAR FM

10am Holy Communion

6.30pm Soaking & Intercession

Readings:

Psalm 98 (Page 480)

Acts 11:22-30, 13:1-3 (Page 895)

Matthew 10:7-13 (Page 791)

Readings

Monday: Psalm 34:1-10; Matthew 5:1-12

Tuesday: Psalm 119:129-136; Matthew 5:13-16

Wednesday: Psalm 99:6-9; Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday: Psalm 85:8-13; Matthew 5:20-26

Friday: Psalm 116:11-18; Matthew 5:27-32

Saturday: Psalm 103:6-14; Matthew 5:33-37

Sunday: Psalm 116:1-2,11-18 ; Romans 5:1-11;
 Matthew 9:35-10:23

Generous God, whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us that it is more blessed to give than to receive: help us by the example of your apostle Barnabas, a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, to be generous in our judgements and unselfish in our service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

EMAIL: anglicanbbay@gmail.com

PHONE: 44725822 (Thursday and Friday) or contact Doug on 0428 907200.

DIRECT DEPOSIT: Anglican Investment & Development Fund. BSB: 702 389 Account: 05202562 Ref: AnglicanBBay2562

CHURCH: The church office is open Thursday mornings 9am-12pm and Fridays 9am-3pm.

PARISH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Doug Newman 0428 907200 dnewman1956@gmail.com

CHAIR: Dennis Hughes 0410 915409

WARDENS: John Ulph 0411242588 Liz Maidla 44781128 Tony Henderson 0422099889

OFFICE: Gayleane Overy 0411091125

WEBSITE: <https://www.anglicanchurchbbay.org.au/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/batemansbayanglican/>

ANGLICAN NEWS:

2023: A year to Stand! Please extend this newsletter to someone to encourage them.

HOUSEKEEPING: Books are available for worship – to avoid multiple people handling them they will remain in the back of the pews. The Common Cup is available for our Communion Worship. **Intinction is not allowed** and we continue to offer individual cups for those who do not wish to use the Common Cup.

Masks: There is no requirement to wear a mask to attend church but you are invited to wear a mask to reduce community risk.

Hand Sanitizing: COVID and Flu remain active – please sanitize your hands and be mindful of each other's space.

PENTECOST RETREAT PODCAST: <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/anglican-renewal>

PASTORAL PRAYER WORKSHOP: A workshop on praying pastorally for people during church services, pastoral visits e.g. hospitals and Nursing Homes and in home groups or other social settings will be held on Saturday 24 June from 1-4pm at church. This is intended to encourage, equip and to release attendees in this important ministry. Bishop Ian and Jill Lambert will be teaching. The workshop will include practical hands-on experience in praying for others. All are welcome. Please register with Gayleane in the office so that we know how much material to copy.

PRAYERS AND PRAISE:

- Continued prayers for those who are unwell or going through personal situations. We give thanks for answered prayers with health and personal situations.

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER: For support ring Elizabeth Dean 44724330.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS: Please take time to read our prayer list and ask God for one or two people on it to pray for, not necessarily people you know: Phillipa Shepherd, Veronica Newson, Judy Charman, Dora Coma, Michael Kovacs, Harry Lewis, Ian Oliver, Wendy and Chris Berger, Jay Stewart, Helen Plumb, Marina Vander-Burgh, Keith Sutherland, Iain Ritchie, Rodney Hay, Susan Dean, Robin Hay, Noreen Ralston-Birchall, Ian Overy, Rebecca Coughran, Bob Day, Rachel Harding, Tony Hughes, Jason King, Annette Stewart, Jess Hughes, Judy Stewart, Tommy King, Jonathon and Leticia, Bronwyn Lithgow, Lisa Brookes, Chris Black, Ruby Brown, Jane Wilkinson, Susan Bateman, Rev Mary Clarke.

Bible Study Answers: Matthew Chapter 28 verses 16-20. **Who gives us the authority i.e. their name to go? What gives us the power as we go? How is God always with us?** The Trinity is – our reference to God as One God but yet three in one – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We go in the name of all three to proclaim Jesus. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to go and the ability to minister in God's name. God is always with us by the Holy Spirit which is continually poured out on us.

What in Jesus words about the Trinitarian nature of God would have been particularly challenging to a Jewish audience (i.e. one taught and rooted in the Old Testament and the Law)? Hint – Deuteronomy 6: 4-9 and 11: 13- 21. We consider Matthew to be written to a Jewish audience because of the significant number of Old Testament quotes and references to contemporary Jewish practices which Matthew uses but does not need to explain or exegete to his audience i.e. they are taken as assumed knowledge. Therefore, we would expect Matthew's audience to have held strongly to the Shema Yisrael prayer – The Lord our god, the Lord is one. Worship the Lord your God and Him alone. For Matthew, a Jew and Jesus, also a Jew, to proclaim God was more than one (especially without the well-developed doctrine of Trinity to explain three in one) was to Jewish belief heresy.

Why was the Old Testament singularity of God (God the Lord our God is one) important to defining the Jewish faith and what was a consequence of defining themselves over and against (i.e. as not the same) as the other ancient peoples of Canaan? Hint Deuteronomy 7. The Old Testament call to the people of God is to worship God and to have no other Gods before him - in particular they were not to worship created things e.g. Sun, Moon, Fertility gods represented by visible idols but to worship the

unseen but all powerful God who dwelt in the temple beyond the curtain. They were to live apart from the other tribes and not to intermarry with them. Whereas the tribes of Canaan built idols the Jews built altars and eventually all worship became centralized on the Temple.

Apart from challenging the singularity of God, how might our passage challenge the strongly rooted Jewish culture and religious belief of Matthews time? It called disciples to go out of Jewish community and intentionally go to the gentile nations and to bring them into faith in God through proclamation and baptism. We see this play out in Acts with the debate over circumcision and the food laws. Going out to the nations implied that it was possible to worship together equally and that worship was no longer dependent on being able to come to Jerusalem to the temple – God could be worshipped anywhere and by anyone who believed. The sacrificial system established in the Old Testament and centered on the Temple was now defunct.

Apart from our passage today can you see any other passages in the New Testament that point to a trinitarian understanding of God? There are at least twenty-three Bible verses that infer the Trinity in the New Testament. A familiar verse comes from 2 Corinthians 13:14. “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.” See also 1 Corinthians 12:4–5, Ephesians 4:4–6, 1 Peter 1:2, Revelation 1:4–6 ; Luke 3:22; John 14:26, John 15:26; Acts 1:4, Ephesians 1:17, Hebrews 9:14 and 1 Peter 1:2.

Sunday 12 June – Reflecting on a saintly life.

At Pentecost we were all encouraged to reflect on the gift/s of the Holy Spirit that we have each received from the Holy Spirit and to understand that for our gifts to grow we need to exercise them. We may quite reasonably consider that we are not able to emulate the apostles Paul, Peter or John but Barnabas is an early Christian who lives a life that we can and should emulate. Barnabas is a good man, generous with his gifts and full of the Holy Spirit. He encourages, supports, equips and helps others to know Christ and to achieve their potential as disciples. Tertullian in about 200 AD attributes the authorship of the Book of Hebrews to Barnabas and this is consistent with what we know of him but by no means agreed amongst modern scholars.

Traditional: King of Glory <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iki7CiC7v0U>

Contemporary: Here I Am <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXg2ztge8f0>

Read. Acts 11:19 -26. ¹⁹ Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. ²⁰ Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The Lord’s hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. ²² News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. ²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So, for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

Thoughts: We first meet Barnabas in Acts 4:36, early in the life of the new church and where he is identified as a Levite (Jew) from Cyprus. Barnabas has just sold a field that he owns and donates the money to the church. Barnabas is an encourager and generous, he gives what he can to nurture the new emerging church. As a Levite he would have had solid teaching of the Jewish faith. In the early church he receives the Holy Spirit, and he lives a faith led holy life and contributes to the large number who comes to the Lord. It is Barnabas who goes to Tarsus after Saul has had his Damascus road conversion and who brings Saul into the Christian church at Antioch (located in south-central Turkey) and ministers with him as the lead minister (listed first in the text). From this we might deduce that Barnabas had an important role in equipping Paul for his ministry. In Acts 13, after this time in Antioch the church sends Barnabas and Paul on a mission to evangelise what is now Turkey. This starts with

Barnabas in charge but during this mission Paul emerges as a natural apostle and his calling becomes apparent. Does Barnabas resent this- no! We see Barnabas take the supporting and encouraging role for Paul, Barnabas continues to enable Paul as Paul's ministry grows. We all need encouragement by others it puts skin on our eternal hope. We are also all called to be encouragers – to live a life of godly and holy witness to the goodness of God that encourages and enables others to grow in their faith into their full potential as Christians.

Prayers: O God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, the strength of the thoughts that seek you: help us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whose service is perfect freedom. Father give us the courage and open heartedness to encourage others to grow in their faith and to persist in the face of hard times. Be present to and comfort those that are lonely, weak and tempted, be present to and encourage those who are anxious, afraid or depressed and heal those who are broken in body and mind. Father we thank you for all who serve and care for us, particularly our medical, emergency, ambulance, and police forces and for our schools, teachers, Scripture teachers, chaplains and students. Keep them safe in all they do and give them patience, resilience and grace for each day.

May the war in Ukraine cease, boundaries be restored and those caught up in it find a real experience of God's presence and provision preserving life and spirit amongst them.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Traditional: How Great Thou Art <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYTKYpnRnAQ>

Contemporary: How Great Thou Art <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-hvl1nbS80>

Blessing: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the blessing of God the father, God the son and God the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you now and forever **Shalom**

Bible Study: Reflecting on Barnabas - how do you encourage others to grow and persevere in their discipleship? Share.

Read Romans 5: 1-11. What does Paul mean by the term justification? What do we gain through justification?

It is easy to understand rejoicing in the hope of the glory of God but what do you feel and think about Paul's encouragement to rejoice in (during) suffering?

What does suffering do for our Christian character and why was that important to the Roman church; why might it be important for us?

How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in times of suffering?

In verses 9 – 10 Paul introduces the concept of reconciliation. This is similar to, but different from justification can you use these two verses to explore what reconciliation is?