

## Community News 11 February 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



## **Weekly Church Services**

Nelligen: 8.00am Holy Communion

**Batemans Bay** 

**8.00am** Holy Communion **10.00am** Holy Communion

9.25am 2 EAR FM - None today

6.30pm Soaking

Wednesday: 10am Ash Wednesday Thursday: 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

Psalm 30 (Page 439)

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (Page 931)

Mark 1:40-45 (Page 813)

Readings:

Monday: Psalm 119:65-72; Mark 8:11-13 Tuesday: Psalm 94:12-19; Mark 8:14-21 Wednesday: Psalm 51:1-17; Matthew 6:1-21

Thursday: Psalm 1; Luke 9:22-25

Friday: Psalm 51:15-19; Matthew 9:14-15 Saturday: Psalm 86:1-7; Luke 5:27-32 Sunday: Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22;

Mark 1:9-15

Everliving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, healed the lepers and brought good news to the despised and outcast: grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control, that in serving others in their need we may strive for the imperishable wreath that you bestow on all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one

God, now and for ever. Amen.

EMAIL: anglicanbbay@gmail.com

PHONE: 44725822 or contact Doug on 0428 907200.

DIRECT DEPOSIT: Anglican Investment & Development Fund. BSB: 702389 Account: 05202562 Ref: Anglican BBay2562

CHURCH: The church office is open Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9am-1pm and Fridays 9am-3pm.

PARISH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Doug Newman 0428 907200 drnewman1956@gmail.com

CHAIR: Dennis Hughes 0410915409

**WARDENS: John Ulph** 0411242588 **Liz Maidla** 44781128 **Tony Henderson** 0422099889

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

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

ANGLICAN NEWS: <a href="https://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/">https://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/</a>

**2024:** Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**HOUSEKEEPING**: Books are available for worship —they remain in the back of the pews. The Common Cup is available for our Communion Worship. We offer individual cups for those who do not wish to use the Common Cup. COVID and Flu—please sanitize your hands and be mindful of each other's space.

**LEAVE:** Doug and Julie will be on leave from 10<sup>th</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> February.

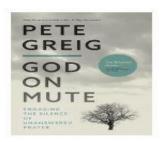
**BBECET:** The Annual meeting on Monday 5 February heard that SRE is continuing in all our schools in 2024 with three new assistants and one new teacher to be trained in Term 1. Chaplaincy continues at Batemans Bay and Mogo Primary schools and a chaplaincy position has been approved at Batemans Bay High — this should be filled in Term 2 so please pray for the recruitment of God's person for this position. The Board members for 2024 will be: John & Yvonne Hoggan, Mick May, Michelle Schiefferly, Bill Laudenbach and Rev. Doug Newman.

**GLEAN**: with the Lenten Study happening during February and March, Glean will be in recess until April.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Holy Communion service will be at 10am on Wednesday 14 February.

**LENTEN STUDY:** The study will commence the week of 19 February. If would like to do this study please put your name on the clipboard in the office or email <a href="mailto:anglicanbbay@gmail.com">anglicanbbay@gmail.com</a>. Places are available on:

Dav	Time & Place	Leader
Monday	7pm, Church Hall	Dennis Hughes/ Rev Tom Slockee
Tuesdav	4.30pm. Church Hall	lan and Jill Lambert
Wednesday	6.30pm. Church Hall	Dennis Hughes/ Doug Newman
Thursday	11.30am. Church Hall	Doug and Julie Newman
Thursday	6.30pm John and Yvonne Hoggans Surfside	Doug and Julie Newman



Parish Lenten Study. The book, "God On Mute: Engaging the Silence of Unanswered Prayer" by Pete Greig, on which the study is based is a great read, you do not need a copy to be a part of the weekly Study Groups. I encourage Leaders to have a copy. It is expensive (\$35+), but also contains a 40 Day devotional at the back.

**WORLD PRAYER DAY**: "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love" Ephesians 4:1-3. 1st March at the Uniting Church at 10am.

**REQUEST**: Lorraine Petzl (from 10am congregation) is looking for anyone who has some spare ¼ inch ribbon? She puts them on small teddy bears that she makes for OCC boxes. Please drop off to the church office and we will pass onto Lorraine.

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

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, Dora Coma, Harry Lewis, Wendy and Chris Berger, Jay Stewart, Helen Plumb, Marina Vander-Burgh, Keith Sutherland, Iain Ritchie, Rodney Hay, Susan Dean, Robin Hay, Rebecca Coughran, Bob Day, Annette Stewart, Judy Stewart, Tommy King, Jonathon and Leticia, Lisa Brookes, Chris Black, Ruby Brown, Jane Wilkinson, Susan Bateman, Richard Austin, Eric Strachan, John Wilkinson, Marjorie Duns, Ken Ormston, Katrina Nicolls, Kerry-Lee Smith, Judy Charman, Jane & Amanda Lloyd.

Bible Study: Read 1 Corinthians 9: 8 - 27. What does Paul see his commission and responsibility as? What is the most significant barrier to sharing the good news that Paul is talking about (19 -23)? What is his strategy for overcoming these barriers? Paul sees his responsibility is to proclaim the gospel in ways that cut through the cultural and social barriers to hearing the word of God and responding to it but without compromising the gospel message. Paul does not reduct the gospel to make it inoffensive to each audience but rather he lives his life in such a way that his person and personality is not a barrier to the gospel being heard and received. He adapts himself not the word of God. Paul sees one of the most significant barriers to hearing the gospel as being the incapacity of the hearers to connect with the speaker because of racial and cultural differences between them. His strategy to overcome this is to exhibit empathy by making himself like the audience – become all things to all people so that some might respond to the gospel.

What does Paul say is the church's responsibility with respect to his ministry to them? These are his rights under Jewish/ Old Testament teaching but what does Paul choose to do with respect to these rights? Those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel i.e. the worker is worthy of their wages. Paul acknowledges that he is compelled (by the Holy Spirit) to preach – he would do it whether he is paid or financially supported to do it or not. Looking back on my time as an associate non-stipendiary priest I am very sympathetic to this observation – if God calls then in some ways the called person must place their primary trust in God to provide for them to answer that call. Going forward in the emerging season for Western expressions of Christianity I anticipate we will see a significant move towards "tent making" i.e. bi-vocational ministries even in denominations like the Anglican church as being normal for future ministry. Paul chooses to set aside these rights and place his focus on God's eternal reward as the greatest prize to be attained.

How does Paul say disciples should live that they might receive an imperishable wreath? Live self-disciplined spiritual life, train yourself for the task and work intentionally for the gospel and commit your person to serve God so that others might hear the good news and live. Paul talks of making his needs (body) as a slave to his calling – this should not be understood as making himself as a slave in relation to other people. He always preaches and teaches and writes from a position of utter confidence in the gospel.

## **Sunday 11 February** Prepare Your Hearts

**Traditional**: Before the Throne of God Above <u>Before The Throne Of God Above - Sovereign Grace</u> (youtube.com)

**Contemporary**: Garments of Praise Garments of Praise by Robin Mark (Lyrics) (youtube.com)

Reading: Psalm 30. I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. <sup>2</sup> LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. <sup>3</sup> You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit. <sup>4</sup> Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. <sup>5</sup> For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. <sup>6</sup> When I felt secure, I said, "I will never be shaken." <sup>7</sup> LORD, when you favoured me, you made my royal mountain stand firm; but when you hid your face, I was dismayed. <sup>8</sup> To you, LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy: <sup>9</sup> "What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness? <sup>10</sup> Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me; LORD, be my help." <sup>11</sup> You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, <sup>12</sup> that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. LORD my God, I will praise you forever.

**Thoughts.** As we prepare for Lent next week we are reminded of our overwhelming need for God and his abiding presence. It is God and God alone that can lift us up, redeem us and heal us. We acknowledge this and praise God for his grace and provision. God gives us praise and gladness for heaviness and sadness. We are reminded that life is not going to always progress well – it ebbs and it flows, it has ups and down, but in the midst of life God is present and his promise is that he will turn our loss into joy. Enter into this season with the expectation of meeting God and if you have the courage to engage in our unanswered prayer study and go deeper with God then I pray and I trust that you will be richly rewarded with a fresh revelation of God's love for you and equipped with a testimony to share for the remainder of your life.

Prayers: Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who

are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. God of all mercy, whose Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set us free to praise you in Christ Jesus our Lord; we pray that You order the affairs of nations and be manifest in all places of conflict. We pray for the leaders of our nation, and of all nations, give to them the wisdom of Solomon and the courage of David for these days. Gracious God give to Your church and its leaders a patience in this time of challenge and take our focus from things internal to things external - to the communities in which you have placed each church so that they may find new, effective and power filled ways of bringing the good news of Christ to a world in this new season. Give to your people a renewed boldness to speak of what we know but to do so with gentleness, respect and humility.

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

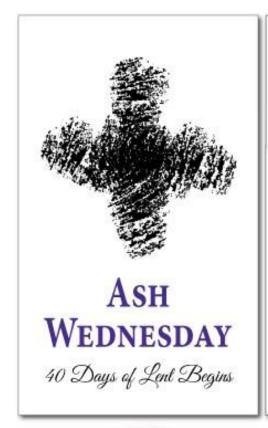
**Traditional**: We Have a Gospel to Proclaim We Have a Gospel to Proclaim (Tune: Germany - 6vv) [with lyrics for congregations] (youtube.com)

**Contemporary**: Yet Not I CityAlight ~ Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me (Lyrics) (youtube.com)

**Blessing**: Jesus Christ our saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Shalom** 

Bible Study: Read Psalm 51 reflectively using Lectio Divina in preparation for Lent. The first person reads aloud slowly, people respond with just a phrase or verse that God highlights to them BUT NO comment. Read the psalm quietly to yourself and pray for revelation. After about 3 minutes a second person reads the psalm and again people respond with just the verse or phrase they receive. When all or most have shared their word the leader might comment on the general themes discerned and asks others to share their insights and understanding as raised by the passage. At the end; pause, reflect on verses 51: 10 -12, and pray together. Please commend our parish Lent studies commencing next week in your prayers.

**Song**: Create In Me A Clean Heart <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vD847UcRbL4&ab\_channel=GIANNI1846">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vD847UcRbL4&ab\_channel=GIANNI1846</a>



An Ash Wednesday Prayer

Clmighty and Merciful God, Ash Wednesday marks the first day of the holy season, Lent. I ask that it be a time for reflection of myself and a time of renewal for my faith.

During these forty days, let me be aware of the needs of others and of our church. By self-examination, prayer and fasting, allow me to repent for the sins that I have committed and regret any sign of contempt that I have shown towards those who differ from me.

Let these weeks leading up to Good Friday and the glory of Your Resurrection show me how much You suffered for me and how much You love me. Grant that these ashes, remind me of my own mortality and the realization that only through You can I receive everlasting life.

In Your Name I pray

amen.