



Weekly Church Services

Batemans Bay

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

9.25am **No radio service today**

6.30pm Worship

Thursday: 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

Psalm 23 (Page 435)

Romans 5:3-14 (Page 917)

Mark 14:32-38 (Page 827)

Readings:

Monday: Psalm 43; Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday: Psalm 25:3-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday: Psalm 147:12-20; Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday: Psalm 95:6-11; Luke 11:14-23

Friday: Psalm 81:13-16; Mark 12:28-34

Saturday: Psalm 51:10-17; Luke 18:9-14

Sunday: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 6:10-20;
Mark 15:25-37

Lord our God, by your Holy Spirit write your commandments upon our hearts and grant us the wisdom and power of the cross, so that, cleansed from greed and selfishness, we may become a living temple of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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PHONE: 44725822 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 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:

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.

BBECET: Prayer meeting will be held on Monday 4th March at 5pm in the hall.

LADIES MORNING TEA: Monday 4th March, 10.30AM at Maloney's Beach Café.

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

BCA BOXES: Please bring in your boxes for Robin in March, by Friday the 22nd please.

LEAVE: Gayleane will be on leave from Saturday 9th March until Saturday 23rd March.

PARISH COUNCIL AGM: Sunday 17th March at 12pm in the church hall.

OCC LAUNCH: Sunday 17th March at both services.

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER: Many people contribute to Pastoral Care and Prayer throughout the parish, including our Nursing Home visiting and importantly our Church E-Prayers (email list). People also assist with praying for people after the 10am service. Elizabeth Dean graciously allows people to phone her with prayer requests which can then be passed on as necessary. If you would like to know more about this important ministry or to join with us in it, please let Gayleane know or speak to Doug.

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 and Jane Chapman, and Amanda Lloyd.

Bible Study: Read **Mark 14: 32-40 In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus shares with his friends that "[His] soul is overwhelmed to the point of death" – what are the barriers or obstacles you face when sharing honestly or openly with friends? Would anyone be willing to share about a time in which their soul felt 'overwhelmed'?**

Trust and wisdom are needed in choosing who to share deeply with, we are not seeking comfort, we are usually not seeking advice but we are seeking empathy and understanding. When life is in pain we want our close friends to just be with us - **and not fall asleep!!** I believe it is no accident that the three disciples chosen are the ones that will be key to leading the New Testament church, writing the gospels and leading the councils in Acts. I cannot recall a time when my soul was overwhelmed but I have certainly felt very oppressed at times and I have walked with people who have been overwhelmed. I am reminded that we all can fail to be a good friend under the duress of great stress. I need to remember sometimes not to self-isolate and close down with my challenges because isolating from human contact can also lead to isolating oneself from God.

What happens to your prayer life when you are feeling overwhelmed or upset? What do you notice that you do differently? What is it to pray but not my will but yours be done? My prayer life suffers – first it is reduced and I struggle to define and articulate my need – when I realise that I can't I may go through a time of disappointment and lament – it's not fair. Eventually I will reach a place of surrender and trust and will pray with groaning and in the Spirit. This always brings presence and often peace. The older I get the faster I am to move to praying in the Spirit. Praying in God's will is a sign of mature faith and trust in the goodness of God and that ultimately God is able to lead us to the best long term outcome. It is hard often to see any purpose and good in suffering – but looking back suffering is most often what forms our character and gives us our testimony to the deep deep love of God for us.

How might we as a group do more to invest in one another during struggles and trials? Are there practical steps that need to be taken to support one another more? Be sensitive, listen, listen, listen and speak less. Be quick to hear but slow to share – nothing distracts more in the midst of pain than the well-meaning comforter that wants to tell you in detail their story of similar pain – make your comforting words about hope and God.

Sunday 3 March – Lent 3

Traditional: Something Beautiful

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fii_B2Ru3Q&ab_channel=ExtendedLifeWorship

Contemporary: Yet Not I https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwc2d1Xt8gM&ab_channel=CityAlight

Reading: Mark 14: 32-40 ³² They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” ³³ He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. ³⁴ “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death,” he said to them. “Stay here and keep watch.” ³⁵ Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” ³⁷ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Simon,” he said to Peter, “are you asleep? Couldn’t you keep watch for one hour? ³⁸ Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ³⁹ Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. ⁴⁰ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

Thoughts. Even Jesus, had moments of deep anguish and profound need of comfort and support from his friends, and just like us he experienced friends who failed to be there when they were really needed. We have been both the person in need and the friend who failed so let us realise how challenging it is to be empathetic in such times and let us pray before we leap straight in. Jesus cries out – he knows that God is capable of taking the cup from him, he knows what the cup will cost and so does God but Jesus is willing to follow the will and call of God to the very end because he knows that the path that God has set, as hard as it is, is the path that leads to the most abundant outcome. Often the path ahead that God calls us to is neither clear of challenges nor visible into the long term – it is hard for us to have God’s perspective except with hindsight and see what purpose God might bring through our times of travail and suffering.

Prayers: God of all times and places, in Jesus Christ, who was lifted up on the cross, you opened for us the path to eternal life: grant that we, being born again of water and the Spirit, may joyfully serve you in newness of life and faithfully walk in your holy ways. This month we focus on the mission of Bush Church Aid and particularly of Simon and Angela Owen and their family in Cloncurry. We give thanks for the people of Cloncurry and Julia Creek and the cooperation between the Anglican and Uniting church in that area. Keep the church growing and we pray that people are drawn by the Holy Spirit to the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services.

Lord, help us to stand today. Temptations and trials abound. When life hurts, we get confused, dishonest, suspicious, and critical. We put on the belt of truth. When life hurts, our relationships suffer—especially our relationship with You. We put on the breastplate of righteousness. When life hurts, We either get really lazy or we make myself really busy. We put on the shoes of the gospel. When life hurts, We let down our guard and leave ourselves exposed. We take up the shield of faith. When life hurts, our thinking gets negative and I question everything. We put on the helmet of salvation. When life hurts, we are cowards. We take hold of the sword of the Word. Lord, it doesn’t feel very “finished” down here. We don’t feel very “finished”. See us kneeling; help us stand.

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: [Fill Thou My Life, O Lord My God \(Tune: Richmond - 6vv\) \[with lyrics for congregations\] \(youtube.com\)](#)

Contemporary: New Wine https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Q_UbUKYG8g&ab_channel=AA

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 **Mark 15: 33-37** and watch [Good Friday: Why? | The Prayer Course II - The Prayer Course II](#)
If you could ask God one “Why?” question, what would it be? On the cross Jesus asks God “Why have you forsaken me?” How does Jesus cry affect you? Have you ever felt abandoned or deserted by God when you needed him most?

Is it possible for a tragedy not to be God’s ‘fault’? Do we tend to blame God for things that are Satan’s doing?

Pray for one another. As you do so, you may find it helpful to remember God’s words to the apostle Paul: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor 12:9). Remember it is possible to trust even when we don’t understand”.

Prayer: Afresh I seek you, lead me—once more I pray— Even should it be against my will, thy way. Let me not feel you foreign any hour, Or shrink from thee as an estranged power. Through doubt, through faith, through bliss, through stark dismay, Through sunshine, wind, or snow, or fog, or shower, Draw me to you who art my only day.