



Community News

24 March 2024

PALM SUNDAY 9am Service



Weekly Church Services

Batemans Bay

9.00am Holy Communion – One service

9.25am No Radio

6.30pm Worship & Communion

Thursday: 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

Psalm 31:9-18 (Page 439)

Isaiah 50:4-9 (Page 594)

Mark 15:1-39 (Page 828)

Combined church walk: meet at Clyde St Boat ramp at 10.30am to walk to Korner's park for 11.00am service, Sausage sizzle lunch for gold coin donation.

Readings:

Monday: Psalm 36:5-11; John 12:1-11

Tuesday: Psalm 71:1-14; John 12:20-36

Wednesday: Psalm 70; John 13:21-32

Thursday: Psalm 116:1-2, 11-18; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Friday: Psalm 40; Hebrews 9:11-28

Saturday: Psalm 31:1-8; Matthew 27:57-66

Sunday: Hymn to the Risen Christ; 1 Cor 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

EASTER SERVICES: All at Batemans Bay.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 10am Traditional Holy Communion with Good Friday readings

GOOD FRIDAY: 9am Prayer and Reflection

EASTER SUNDAY:

8am Traditional Holy Communion

10am Contemporary Holy Communion

6.30pm Worship and Prayer with Communion

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

CHURCH: The office is open Monday, 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/batemansbayangican/>

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.

PALM SUNDAY: **Sunday 24 March One service at 9am.**

This will include a parish farewell for Bob and Pauline Brook.

Bridge walk – meet 10.30am at Boat Ramp with service in Korner's Park from 11am with sausage sizzle.

EASTER SERVICES: All at Batemans Bay.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 10am Traditional Holy Communion with Good Friday readings

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EASTER SUNDAY: 8am Traditional Holy Communion
10am Contemporary Holy Communion 6.30pm
Worship and Prayer with Communion

FAREWELL BOB & PAULINE BROOK: Sunday 24 March will be our parish farewell to Bob & Pauline Brook.

BBECET PRAYER MEETING: Monday 1 April at 5pm in the church hall.

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 John 20: 19 -25

When will my prayers be answered? Think back on the last 4 weeks and reflect on the big prayers in life you have asked and how God has moved to answer them or if you are still waiting for an answer. **Has sharing your testimony in the group helped you to see these experiences of prayer in a larger Kingdom way or value? Have you found, or seen in the stories of others God bringing good out of our experiences? Where is your hope?** My hope remains firmly in Jesus, the one who is able and who understands. I knew when + Ian suggested this study that it would be challenging and even confronting to many, myself included. I have been moved to tears on occasion at not just what has been on the video but by the deep and honest sharing of other participants. This has helped us all to know one another better and to gain a deeper insight into God's working amongst us - healing our wounds and brokenness but leaving visible scars as a testimony. Our testimony has power to open the hard and sometimes bitter, disappointed hearts of others to the revelation of God's understanding and overwhelming love for them. It has been a tough journey this Lent but to those who have made the journey I would say thank you and I trust that for every memory shared and every challenge talked about you have seen a fresh glimpse of God in action in this world. I trust that you come to the Cross and the Empty tomb with a hunger to see the risen Lord and be refreshed by the Holy Spirit in this season.

What will convince Thomas that Jesus is actually risen from the dead? What is the power of scars? What is the gift of the risen Lord to his disciples, and to us? Everybody else got to see Jesus on that first night when Thomas was not there – he wants to see with his own eyes what he finds hard to believe. We all want to see for ourselves. The scars are visible proof that this person is the Jesus who died on the cross and Thomas wants to touch them. Scars come from wounds that have been healed – from brokenness that has been restored to function. Scars show change – we are never the same after suffering

or trauma but scars give hope as a visible and outward sign of what we pray is an inward and effective healing. Sometimes physical scars cover up a wound but we have buried and retained the pain and suffering – and it eats us up from within. Jesus wants to take your unanswered prayers and needs and turn the experience you have into something that has a purpose and power to speak to your future. God's gift of Jesus scars reminds us that even though we will have new bodies at the resurrection this life and what we have experienced and what we have been redeemed from still has enormous value to God and if we let him he will use the seeds that we have sown to grow his Kingdom here.

Read 2 Corinthians 1: 3-11. It can sometimes take months, years or even decades for fruit to come out of our suffering. Are there stories in our community's history of how challenges and trials have now produced fruit? Or are there opportunities for us to turn our current challenges into long-term fruit? How might our experiences encourage and comfort others? This is a powerful scripture that gives deep insight into God and Christ's work on the cross – in our affliction we have received consolation – and we are expected out of that which we have received to bring consolation to others. Of course there are stories in our lives and community of fruit that has come after a season of trial. Our current challenges are also an opportunity – to pray that God will raise up new generations out of the faithful witness of our ministry – have an open heart to see what God might do as we go through this very distinct change of seasons and generations. God re-purposes our experiences to provide encouragement for those who come after us. As the gospel song says we step in the footsteps of those who go before .. but likewise, over our shoulders, others are stepping in our footsteps on the path of the Kingdom.

How does God see our brokenness and how might that change our prayers? If we make our unanswered prayer and non-negotiable cry for satisfaction on our own terms and in the way that seems best to us i.e. complete and miraculous healing (or why not even to ask for the resurrection of a loved one?) then we place our life and our faith on hold. We go nowhere and may end up disappointed and blaming God for the circumstances of life that flow from living in a broken and failed world. If we accept that our big prayer may not be answered quickly then we can pray for what we need within our time of trial and struggle, the presence of God that we feel comfort, the peace of God that we not be anxious, the strength for what we have to do today. These prayers change us! In the shared journey with God we get insight into God's nature and love, we get revelation of his Kingdom and we may find purpose coming out of our pain.

For reflection: Something beautiful

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_FTdgFe1ew&ab_channel=GaitherVEVO

Sunday 25 March – Palm Sunday

Traditional: Jesus Lover of my soul [ABERYSTWYTH-JESU, LOVER OF MY SOUL \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_FTdgFe1ew&ab_channel=GaitherVEVO)

Contemporary: [Cornerstone - Cornerstone - Hillsong Live 2012 - \(HD\) \(With Lyrics\) \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_FTdgFe1ew&ab_channel=GaitherVEVO)

Reading: Mark 11: 1 – 11. As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ²saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'" ⁴They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" ¹⁰"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹¹Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Thoughts. They welcomed Jesus and they worshipped him as King, as son of David; but they did not know Him! They saw in him only what they wanted to – the one who heals, the one who teaches, the one who gives us free food!! Some also saw him as the one who would take their side, who would stand up to the Romans and

bring them to power so that they could exact justice. They were surprised by the donkey they had expected a white horse and a triumphant procession. How little they knew of who Jesus really was – but really are we any better. Don't we limit Jesus to what we have experienced of him or what we expect him to do for us and for ours? Do we really pray your kingdom come and actually want to be in a position where we are required to love our neighbour or even just to love ourselves? In Mark 13: 39 a hated Roman, the man who has supervised the crucifixion of Jesus will be the first human being in Mark's Gospel to declare the full and true identity of Jesus.. Surely this man was the Son of God!! Jesus enters into Jerusalem, come to be king and to rule over her but not to please us but rather as a sign of his father's great love for us to die for us that we might live. Hosanna to the King!

Song: How Deep the Father's Love [How deep the Father's love Fernando Ortega \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwDp1v1v1v1)

Prayers. Almighty and everlasting God, of your tender love towards us you sent your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all should follow the example of his great humility: mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection. We pray for peace for all those who are suffering ill health, anxiety, and finding life hard to cope with. We pray that the churches of Batemans Bay may be refreshed and renewed by God's everlasting love and Holy Spirit this Easter. 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. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit in this Easter season.

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: Ride on, [Ride On ! Ride On In Majesty - King's College, Cambridge. \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwDp1v1v1v1)

Contemporary: Amazing Love [Amazing Love - Graham Kendrick \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwDp1v1v1v1)

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: Bible Study in recess for Easter recommencing 6 April.