



## Community News

07 APRIL 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



**Clocks go BACK an hour Sunday morning.**

### Weekly Church Services

**Batemans Bay**

**8.00am** Holy Communion

**10.00am** Holy Communion

**9.25am** 2 EARFM Broadcast

**6.30pm** Worship

**Thursday: 10am** Holy Communion

**Readings:**

Acts 4:32-37 (Page 887)

Psalm 133 (Page 501)

1 Corinthians 13:4-13 (Page 934)

John 20:19-31 (Page 883)

#### Readings:

**Monday:** Psalm 2:1-8; John 3:1-8

**Tuesday:** Psalm 93; John 3:7-15

**Wednesday:** Psalm 34:1-8; John 3:16-21

**Thursday:** Psalm 34:11-18; John 3:31-36

**Friday:** Psalm 27:1-5; John 6:1-15

**Saturday:** Psalm 33:17-21; John 6:16-21

**Sunday:** Psalm 4; 1 John 2:15-17, 3:1-6;  
Luke 24:36-48

'Peace be with you,' says the Lord. 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' *John 20:21*

Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us in despair but whose presence is overwhelming: breathe on us with your abundant life, that where we cannot see we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. **Amen.**

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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:

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**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.

**SUNDAY 14 APRIL:** There will be **no** 6.30pm evening service at church on Sunday 14 April.

**LEAVE:** Doug and Julie are on leave this Sunday (7 April) and also Monday 15 – Friday 19 April.

**FAY CARMODY MEMORIAL:** The service at Nelligen next week will be a memorial remembrance of Fay Carmody with her family, where a memorial photo will be placed next to her husband Kevin. After the communion service the memorial service will happen followed by a sausage sizzle.

**COASTERS AND CARDS FOR SALE:** In the office are coasters and cards featuring Belinda Parrish’s artwork. She will be donating 50% to church missions.



**BECET SUPPORTERS LUNCH:** On May 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon at Cross Central Church Surfside. Tickets are \$25 and available from Gayleane in the office, need to know numbers by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April please.

**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, Amanda Lloyd, Matais Harpley, Alisha & Jess.

**Bible Study:** No Study last week.

**Sunday 07 April – Breath of God**

**Traditional:** These Things Did Thomas Count as Real <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORIOqP9hVa4>

**Contemporary:** This Is Amazing Grace <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgsbaBlaoVc>

**Reading: John 20: 19-31.** <sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” Jesus Appears to Thomas <sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when

Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." <sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**Thoughts.** John tells us that his gospel is written so that we may believe in Jesus as the messiah and in doing so have life in Jesus name. John chooses to show Jesus commissioning his disciples by the action of breathing upon - directly imparting the Holy Spirit to them (rather than coming on the day of Pentecost as Luke portrays). This is not a significant issue in that the Holy Spirit had rested on prophets and teachers in the Old Testament (e.g. Elijah, Elisha) and Pentecost concerns the giving of the Spirit in general to the people – and its manifestation in the first "revival" like event. Jesus also gives the disciples verbally authority to forgive. This is effectively John's equivalent of Matthews Great Commission – if you recall Jesus healing the man let down through the roof he teaches there that he has the power to forgive sins (a power only vested in God) and in this act he is passing on his authority to us as disciples - note that our authority is limited to doing this in Jesus name but it marks us as set aside, different and indeed called to act as reconcilers in the world and our communities. The authority to forgive is intrinsically linked to the ministry of healing.. Not everybody who needs healing is sick because of a sin and we should never assume this as there is enough natural brokenness and contagion in this world to cause us to be sick e.g. the Flu virus. However, sometimes illness can be a physical manifestation of unforgiven sin or of our unforgiveness of others leading to bitterness. When forgiveness is received or in unforgiveness offered/ given then it can release healing and restoration of relationships and health.

**Prayers. 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**

Almighty God, you have conquered death through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant us by your grace to set our mind on things above, so that by your continual help our whole life may be transformed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in everlasting glory. Amen

Please take a moment to visualise who would usually sit next to you and behind and in front of you at church. Pray for them by name. Perhaps call them during the week to see how they are going. Pray for your neighbours. Pray for those known to you who are sick or in other distress. Give thanks that our God heals and call upon him to heal those you know are sick.

We commend to your care, merciful God, all who are in sorrow, sickness, discouragement or any other trouble. We particularly pray for those feeling isolated, anxious or depressed and those not confident to step out and back into our communities. Give them patience and a firm trust in your goodness. Help those who care for them, and bring us all into the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We conclude our Prayers saying: **Almighty God, you have given us grace to bring before you with one accord our common supplications, and you promise that when two or three are gathered together in your name you will grant them their requests; fulfil now, Lord, the desires and petitions of your servants, as may be most expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.**

**Traditional:** I Serve a Risen Saviour <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEcfRIAsBB8>

**Contemporary:** It Was Finished Upon That Cross

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUGQNYm44hk&ab\\_channel=CityAlight](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUGQNYm44hk&ab_channel=CityAlight)

**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 John 20: 19 -31. Thinking about the death and resurrection of Jesus – what mind state are the disciples in on that Sunday night and what are they afraid of?

What are Jesus first responses to their condition? What does this say to us when we are anxious and afraid?

What does the story tell us about resurrection bodies and why are Jesus visible scars important?

Why has John written his gospel?

How does Jesus equip and commission his disciples in John's gospel? What does this mean for us?

**Scriptures to get you through the tough times:**

“Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no danger because you are with me. Your rod and your staff – they protect me.” *Psalm 23:4*

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. *Deuteronomy 31:6*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? *Psalm 27:1*

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” *2 Timothy 1:7*

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. *Philippians 4:6*

“When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought joy to my soul.” *Psalm 94:19*

“Don't fear, because I am with you; don't be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will surely help you; I will hold you with my righteous strong hand.” *Isaiah 41:10*

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.” *2Thessalonians 3:16*