



### Weekly Church Services

#### Batemans Bay

**8.00am** Holy Communion

**10.00am** Holy Communion

**2.30pm** No broadcast this week

**6.30pm** Worship

**Thursday: 10am** Holy Communion

#### Readings:

Acts 2:1-21 (Page 885)

Psalm 104:26-36 (Page 483)

Romans 8:22-27 (Page 919)

John 15:26-16:15 (Page 878)

#### Readings:

**Monday:** Psalm 19:7-10; Mark 9:14-29

**Tuesday:** Psalm 55:20-23; Mark 9:30-37

**Wednesday:** Psalm 49:1-4,10-12; Mark 9:38-40

**Thursday:** Psalm 49:17-21; Mark 9:41-50

**Friday:** Psalm 103:6-14; Mark 10:1-12

**Saturday:** Psalm 141; Mark 10:13-16

**Sunday:** Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17;

John 3:1-17

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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

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

#### PARISH CONTACTS:

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**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.

**DISASTER RECOVERY REQUEST:** In need of the following to add to resources in case of an emergency. After things to keep children busy but quiet, so need: coloured pencils; notepads; crayons, and colouring in/puzzle books. Please don't send textas as they dry out and are messy. If you wish to donate any of these items please leave them in the office and they will be passed on to Margaret Foster.

**WELFARE CUPBOARD:** Thank you to those that continue to give to our welfare cupboard. In need of the following please: tinned soups/stews; noodles; long life milk, cereal. We have enough pasta and rice.

**ROADWORKS:** There will be roadworks in Herarde Street for about three weeks while new pipes are being put in. The roads will be accessible, detour signs and traffic controllers will show the way, will be large vehicles and equipment, please use caution.

**BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS:** To Michelle Brooker who turns 60 this week.

**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, Ken Griffiths.

**Bible Study: Read Acts 2: 1-21. This is the key description of Pentecost; who are the "they" expecting the Holy Spirit? Why are they expecting him and why is he sent to them. Hint: see also end of Marks gospel.** The "they" are not named but includes at least those named in Acts 1: 13 – 14 and may have included some or all of the 120 mentioned in verse 15. What is clear was that they were not in the upper room but out in a public space, most likely near the temple as Luke 24:53 indicates it was one of their regular meeting places. They were expecting to receive the Holy Spirit, Jesus had foretold them that the Spirit would come (see John 16) and both Mark and Luke's gospels tell us that Jesus had given explicit instructions that they were to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to be clothed with power from on high (Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8). The Holy Spirit is sent to them to enable them to do what Jesus has called them to do – to be his witnesses to the whole of creation and to the ends of the earth. Marks Gospel describes some of the things the signs that will accompany their witness, Acts will have many more examples.

**How is the arrival of the Holy Spirit described in Acts 2. What did the disciples see and what does this signify/result in?** As tongues of fire that come collectively but separate to rest upon and above those who receive the gift of the Holy Spirit – clothed with power from on whole. The imagery is comparable to the Exodus image of the pillar of fire. The power of the Spirit manifests itself in each believer at Pentecost causing them to speak in other tongues – speech that enable those witnessing the event to understand in their own language what was happening and so be drawn into the Spirit.

**Why is the Holy Spirit essential to our faith? What is the nature of the miracle that is described in Act 2: 5 -12 ?** God is spirit (John 4:24). We worship God in Spirit and in truth and it is the Holy Spirit that is our seal of faith, our evidence of the truth of our acceptance by God as his children through our saving faith in Jesus as Christ. The Holy Spirit comforts us and assures us of God's love but the Holy Spirit also enables our faith response by revealing God's truth to us. As we read the scriptures it is the spirit that enables us to understand and respond and who equips us with power to witness and proclaim. The miracle of Pentecost is the saving proclamation of the gospel causing some 3000 to believe and be baptized that day (Acts 2:41)

because the Holy Spirit had revealed God's presence and power to them through the disciples speaking in their native languages and Peter's inspired explanation of Jesus to them. It is possible that the disciples all spoke in a spiritual tongue and the hearers were all given a gift of interpretation to hear what was said in their own language – but much more likely that the disciples actually spoke the message in the multiple languages listed.

**How does Peter explain the giving of the Holy Spirit and what does he say the Spirit will enable amongst disciples?** Peter explains the giving of the spirit by quoting the prophet Joel (Joel 2: 28 -32). Referring to Jesus Peter taught that the Holy Spirit would accompany them with miracles, signs and wonders. This would enable them to witness and proclaim with great effect.

**Have you heard a word that you understood as being prophetic? Have you heard a word of knowledge that revealed an otherwise hidden truth or event to you?** Yes, many times. Julie and I asked God if we were to respond to the Bishop's invitation to apply for this parish - as we prayed God gave a friend who knew nothing of our considerations a precise scripture from Isaiah that spoke directly to our call; and we responded. In another case, I was praying a prayer of commission and God gave me an image of chooks milling around in a farmyard and one of the chooks started to call the others in to order – when I prayed this over the women she immediately responded and was greatly encouraged and went on to lead a very successful Cursillo team.

### **Sunday 19 May – Pentecost**

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you,' says the Lord God; 'I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live.'

**Traditional:** [Spirit Song \(O Let The Son Of God Enfold You\) - Maranatha Singers - with lyrics \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Contemporary:** [Holy Spirit You are Welcome Here \[Lyric Video\] - Kim Walker-Smith \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Reading: Romans 8: 22-27.** We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.<sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.<sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. <sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

**Thoughts.** As we celebrate Pentecost we reflect on the understanding of the gift of the Holy Spirit as God's enduring gift of his presence to us – to comfort us and to equip us as his disciples and witnesses. Romans expresses much of how we feel at this time, a time of great uncertainty and even foreboding with the world. There has been no good news in Australia this week and the whole earth seems to cry out – it appears that it was the same in Paul's day as well and it easy for us become fixated on the size of the challenges ahead of us and forget that where God call and sends us he also gifts and equips us. Look instead to the Lord who calls you and sends you. God called his disciples at Pentecost to go from Jerusalem through Judea and Samaria to the ends of the earth, he even lists all the countries and peoples of the known Roman Mediterranean world, and that would have been overwhelming to the disciples – but God! The God who calls and sends gives to each one of us the Spirit to lead us, to empower us and to intercede for us. God understands our weakness and if we wait patiently with our hope in Christ then he will resource and enable us to proclaim his love and name to the very ends of the world, even to Moruya, Braidwood or Ulladulla and beyond.

**Prayers.** Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. By your Holy Spirit recreate the face of the earth. Instruct our hearts by your word and grant by the same Holy Spirit that we may be wise and fruitful in all that we do. Now, more than ever, we place our trust in Jesus Christ. God is not the author of confusion but of peace; and so we pray for the patient hope of those who wait for Christ to be fulfilled and for the Holy Spirit to sweep across our land. Protect the innocent caught up in war, enable them to move out of combat zones and restore them to their families. Within Australia and our community pray

that food, electricity and fuel prices will stabilise, that inflation will not eat up the resources of the poor and that provision will be made for those in a vulnerable position this winter. **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:** Filled with [Filled with the Spirit's power - LHS 773 - YouTube](#)

**Contemporary:** [Desert Song - Hillsong w/ lyrics \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Blessing** Christ our exalted king pour upon you his abundant gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory, 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: Trinity. Read 1 Corinthians 13:14 and Matthew 28: 19-20. How do these verses describe and identify the concept of God as Trinity?**

**These verses personify God as Trinity, what other ways do/ can we use in liturgy to identify the Trinity? Why might this be a useful description?**

**Read the Apostles Creed together:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen  
**What are the distinctives in terms of function within the Trinity?**

**How do you understand and experience the Trinitarian aspects of God within your faith? See 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11, Galatians 3: 26 -4: 7, 2 Thessalonians 2: 13 -17, 1 Peter 1:1-3.**

**REFLECTION:** This I Believe (The Creed) - [Hillsong Worship - This I Believe \(The Creed\) \(Lyrics\) \(youtube.com\)](#)

