



Community News

2nd JUNE 2024

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Weekly Church Services

Batemans Bay

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

2.30pm 107.5 2EARFM

6.30pm Worship

Thursday: 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

Psalm 139:1-6 (Page 503)

2Corinthians 4:5-12 (Page 939)

Mark 2:23-3:6 (Page 814)

Readings:

Monday: Psalm 91:9-16; Mark 12:1-12

Tuesday: Psalm 90:13-17; Mark 12:13-17

Wednesday: Psalm 123; Mark 12:18-27

Thursday: Psalm 25:8-15; Mark 12:28-34

Friday: Psalm 119:161-168; Mark 12:35-37

Saturday: Psalm 71:17-24; Mark 12:38-44

Sunday: Psalm 138; 2Corinthians 4:13-5:5;

Mark 3:20-35

Lord God of the nations, you have revealed your will to all people and promised us your saving help: help us to hear and do what you command, that the darkness may be overcome by the power of your light; 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: 702 389 Account: 05202562 Ref: AnglicanBBay2562

CHURCH: The 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

OFFICE: Gayleane Overy 0411091125

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

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/batemansbayangican/>

ANGLICAN NEWS: <https://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/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.

LADIES MORNING TEA: Monday 3rd June at Maloney’s Beach Café, at 10.30am.

BECET PRAYER MEETING: Monday 3rd June at 5 pm in the Anglican Church hall.

PRAYER POINTS:

- \$1540 was raised at the Supporters Lunch in May, we give thanks for that.
- An opportunity has been given to provide a Chaplain/Student Welfare Worker for Bay High. Pray for the right person for this important role.

GLEAN: Recommences this Wednesday 5 June 1.30pm in the Hall.

GOOD MENTAL HEALTH ART CLASSES FOR WOMEN: Thursdays, 6th June to 29th August 12.30pm to 2.30pm in the Anglican Church Hall. Contact Ruth Halverston for information.

CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY: Are you interested in joining a new Bible Study looking at the Chosen Series? It will be on the first and third Thursday nights of each month, starting on 6th June. Call Doug on 0428907200 if interested.

BOOMERANG SALE: Saturday 8th June, 9am to 1pm. Go and bag yourself a bargain or two. There will be a stall for Operation Christmas Child fundraising as well, anyone who would like to donate cakes, jams, etc would be most appreciated. If you can’t take them out to Boomerang on the day please drop them off to the office and Evelyn will collect them on Friday 7th.

BAY THEATRE PLAYERS PRODUCTION: From 26th June to 7th July Bay Players are presenting the production War Crimes. It tells the powerful story of a group of young women who have fallen through the gaping cracks of society, fighting for respect, railing against authority and struggling to form an identity. This production isn’t for people under 16 as it contains some confronting subject matter and uses strong language. Anjelica Ward is in the production so please all go and purchase a ticket to support her and the amazing young cast. Tickets are available at trybooking.

KAIROS OUTSIDE: Bringing hope to women impacted by the imprisonment of a family member or friend, 20th to 22nd June at Koloona Conference Centre in Nowra. There are places available. Contact Chris Andison for further information.

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, Lyn Hughes, Harold.

Bible Study: Read 2 Corinthians 4: 5-12. What has God directed that Paul bases his call to the Corinthians on in this passage? Why and how has God made his light to shine in us? We are to preach Christ, his atoning, redeeming, saving death and his call to become and to live as a new creation in him. To Paul this is more important than to even expound and repeat Jesus teachings that we find in the gospels – Paul is pointing to the core difference that Jesus makes in human life i.e. restored relationship with God and the consequential carriage of God’s spirit within us. We are not when we preach and proclaim to do it in our own strength and abilities but in surrender to God and under the direction of the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit that God uses to shine forth from us – God has done this so that his light shining in the darkness can continue to be seen by humanity; and seen in a manner to which they can hope to experience.

Think of the image of carrying God's light in jars of clay – how might this apply to your life and circumstances? When Paul writes verse 8 & 9 with his four “but” statements he is reflecting on his testimony and experience - he has experienced all of these things: pressure, persecution, despair and physical violence. As he was experiencing these things at first he did not know what would happen and whether he would survive them – they stretched and tested his hope and faith to its limits “but” God intervened in each circumstance to vindicate, lift up, encourage and protect Paul. In these times Paul was highly conscious of his physical frailty, indeed he remarks that despite his earnest prayers God did not heal him but allowed him a thorn in the side to keep him humble. We all carry the saving power of God within us and his authority to speak as Jesus did into the darkness of this world - but we are also physically limited and living in bodies that are slowly and inevitably wasting away unto ultimately death. As we age our frailty becomes more evident and more cracks (mostly resulting from accumulating past traumas) appears in our lives – we are less physically able to resolve and fix the problems of our lives, families, community and world - but paradoxically we are often more capable of bringing God's light and wisdom to bear through prayer, care and encouragement on the generations yet being raised up. Our task is to prayerfully pass on the baton to the next runners in the relay race – and to do this with grace!

How do you (or not) relate to Paul's description of what it is to carry Jesus with you? What enables the world to see this light shining? I understand that my life and witness has no intrinsic eternal value other than in how I reflect my faith and love of God by how I live. I live because Christ died for me, and the revelation of his death as a gift of grace that I experience by what we call faith has substantially transformed who I am and my nature (still a work in progress!!). I am not the person I was born as and each trial, challenge, trauma and triumph (each crack and redeemed flaw) that I have accumulated is being tailored by God as a portal for others to see what the power of God can do in a life. The Holy Spirit is the light that shines out of these cracks and into the darkness.

Sunday 2 June – In Jars of Clay

For we are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Traditional: Just as I am https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rmCN-w_Gk

Contemporary: I Come Broken

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrNfaqZa8PI&list=RDwrNfaqZa8PI&start_radio=1

Reading: 2 Corinthians 4: 5-12. Paul says: ⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. ⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. ¹² So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

Thoughts. “But”!! It is the butts of life that remind us of God's presence with us. Paul experienced life and faith threatening trials and challenges – and he did not know that he would survive them or how God would demonstrate his love and presence through them while he was enduring the time of trial - the result is a crack that reveals the power of God working in us - and gives a glimpse of the glory of God in the darkness. Paul writes with confidence of the God who has led him through the challenges of life to this point – and his word to the Corinthians (and by proxy to us) is that God, by his Holy Spirit will do the same for you if you place your faith and trust in his son Jesus Christ as your Lord. We, personally, as a local community, as a church, as a state and as a nation are experiencing a time of significant physical, emotional, economic and cultural turmoil – we might reasonably consider ourselves collectively as hard pressed, perplexed, desperate and at risk of persecution for our

faith and cultural beliefs. Certainly, the many of the cultural assumptions and norms of the Builder and Baby Boomer generations that emanated from culturally held Christian principles have been denigrated, torn down and even inverted – leading to confusion and despair. The collapse of social belief in the capability of science to save humanity from itself has released a reawakened spiritual age – an age where dark spirits long suppressed again challenge the light of God. Our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12). We fight this battle by prayer and by the word of our testimony - remember it is not the frailty of our bodies that counts but the strength of our faith and our ability to speak truth and leak Christ's light into the world in which we live.

Prayers. Father, help us to keep the death and new life of Jesus at the very centre of our lives and all our decisions. Help us to pray first and then in response to God's prompting to act with love and compassion. Let us not be overwhelmed by the suffering and brokenness that you reveal to us in this world but rather let us pray with conviction and offer hope to all whom we see in need. Let us not be drawn into the hate that is sweeping our nation.

Almighty God; intervene in the hearts of those who make for war. May the war in Ukraine and conflict in Gaza be brought to a conclusive end soon. Peace without you is not possible so raise up your people to prayer. Generous and gracious giver to your people watch over your family in Batemans Bay; the Roman Catholic; Uniting; Baptist; Presbyterian; Cross Central; City Church; Southland; Salvation Army; Greek Orthodox; Boomerang Meeting Place (Yarning at 3pm on Sundays) and the Anglican church in Batemans Bay and Nelligen. Provide for each church's needs and reveal to them your glory this year.

We pray also for those active in the mission of God; for Bush Church Aid and the Owen family serving in Cloncurry and for Mission Aviation Fellowship serving in northern Australia, PNG and the Pacific Islands. Come Holy Spirit, come oh come and fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us a consuming fire of your great love. Flow forth from here like a mighty river flooding across this nation and bring it to new life in Christ.

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: Come Thou Fount <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdT-Gr9hb2E>

Contemporary: Living Hope <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rc5wtRjgaI8>

Blessing The peace of God which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord, 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: Read 2 Corinthians 4: 13 – 18. Why does Paul speak? Why do we testify/speak?

Do not lose heart! Reflect personally on verses 16 -18. What does it mean to be renewed day by day and what helps you to do this?

What do you see as opportunities for faith to grow and where do you see God working.

FIRST THEY CAME By Martin Niemöller German Lutheran Priest

First they came for the Communists and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist.
Then they came for the Socialists and I did not speak out because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the trade unionists and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist.
Then they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out for me. (from Amnesty International)