



### Weekly Church Services

#### Batemans Bay

**8.00am** Holy Communion

**10.00am** Prayer and Praise

**2.30pm** 2 EARFM Broadcast

**6.30pm** Worship

**Thursday: 10am** Holy Communion

#### Readings:

Psalm 1 (Page 424)

James 4:1-17 (Page 982)

Mark 9:30-37 (Page 821)

#### Readings:

**Monday:** Psalm 15; Luke 8:16-18

**Tuesday:** Psalm 119:33-40; Luke 8:19-21

**Wednesday:** Psalm 119:97-104; Luke 9:1-6

**Thursday:** Psalm 90:1-6; Luke 9:7-9

**Friday:** Psalm 144:1-4; Luke 9:18-22

**Saturday:** Psalm 90:13-17; Luke 9:43-45

**Sunday:** Psalm 124; James 5:12-20;

Mark 9:38-50

God and Father of all, you have taught us through your Son that the last shall be first, and have made a little child the measure of your Kingdom: give us the wisdom from above, so that we may understand that in your sight the one who serves is the greatest of all. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

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#### DIRECT DEPOSIT:

**Anglican Investment & Development Fund. BSB: 702389 Account: 05202562 Ref: AnglicanBBay2562**

**CHURCH:** The office is open Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 1pm, and Friday 9am to 3pm.

#### PARISH CONTACTS:

**RECTOR:** Doug Newman 0428907200 [drnewman1956@gmail.com](mailto:drnewman1956@gmail.com)

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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.

**BISHOPS VISIT:** Bishop Mark will visit the parish on **Sunday 29 September**. There will be a combined service at **9am** followed by an early lunch at the Catalina club in the Café area. If you would like to come to the lunch please let the office know for booking numbers.

**WEDDING:** Congratulations Jordan Backo (Hazel Morgans great grandson) & Kailey Parr married 20 September and blessings to their families.

**BSECET TRIVIA AFTERNOON:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October at Olive Tree (Southlands) Church at 2pm. Tickets will be available from Gayleane in the Office.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Congratulations to Rae Henderson for her 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday this week.

**WWW.GOD:** Wednesday **Weekly Worship** each Wednesday in church from 5.00pm – 6.30pm. All welcome to explore God's creative call to worship. For more contact Belinda 0434102480.

**PARISH CAR:** The Parish car is turning 150,000 Km and we are changing it over for a new car which should arrive in the next few weeks.

**HOPE 25.** Hope 25 is an outreach initiative project being undertaken by all 23 Diocese of the Anglican Church in Australia and encourages each parish to plan and conduct activities between Easter and Pentecost 2025 to attract people from outside the parish to come and hear the gospel. We will be looking at several initiatives for this in 2025.

**COMBINED CHURCHES SERVICE 29 SEPTEMBER:** The Sunday night service on the 29<sup>th</sup> is the Combined Churches service and this will be at Cross Central at 6.30pm. It will focus on our combined churches youth.

**BSECET: A date for your diaries:** Trivia Afternoon Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October at Olive Tree Church (Southlands) at 2pm. Start studying now, we still have plenty of room for improvement. It is always a good fun afternoon (even if you come last), and supports a good cause. Tickets will be available from Gayleane in the Office.

**LEAVE:** Doug and Julie are on Long Service Leave for October. Rev. Ann is locum.

**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, 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, Dennis & Lyn Hughes, Harold.

**Bible Study Answers: James 4: 1 -17.** This chapter continues the idea of speaking but elevates us from interpersonal relationships to reflect on the cosmic struggle of the world in which we live. **James uses a**

**metaphor of marriage for our relationship with God; what does he mean by friendship with the world and why might this be a root cause of fighting and war?** James uses the example of marriage to talk of our relationship with God because marriage is intended to be an exclusive and permanent covenant relationship between the two parties and this is what God intends of his relationship with each of us who profess his name. However, James is aware, that just as marriages in this world are not perfect, so we often fail to maintain that exclusivity in our relationship with God and we are constantly drawn into the world around it and its value system. This causes us internal conflict but also leads us in violence and war as we are envious of what others have and seek preferment out of wrong motivation and selfish ambition. We seek to have what the world offers as good even when this is not what God would have for us - and so James calls us adulterers – double minded. He says that we cannot be friends with the world (i.e. behave as the world sees as normal) and also be friends with God – we must choose. James has a view of the world as being a place where status is obtained or underpinned with power and that power is ultimately expressed as violence (war). Strength is the measure of success and this must always lead to conflict as an individual or nations strength waxes and wanes. By comparison God calls us to live differently, to live for others.

**What does it mean to be a friend of God instead? What does it require of our minds?** To be a friend of God requires us to resolve our internal conflicts through trust in God and his provision/ abundance that we might tame our desires and ambitions, calm our hearts, stop praying for our own pleasures to be satisfied rather than for God's glory and grace to be revealed in us. We are not to be married to God but having a long term on again off again affair with the world! It requires us to be singularly minded – to resist the impulses, thoughts and ideas that come from the evil one and to seek to think and reflect godliness.

**What is the double promise (enjoinder) in this passage? How does the tongue help us resist the devil, what else is required? Hint: 1 Peter 5: 8-9. Ephesians 6: 11-18. What brings us near to God?** The double promise is that if we resist the devil he will flee (he has no choice as he cannot remain in the presence of God's Holy Spirit) and that as we draw nearer to God he draws nearer to us. Intimacy with God changes our nature and gives us confidence and capacity to see (identify) the strategies of the devil and to therefore resist them. Resistance may require us to speak them out so that our conscious mind reminds our hearts that God has this. I like to say "piss off Bruce" when I get particular old and well worn attacks – Bruce helps me to personify the event and direct my words and thoughts. Bruce leaves when he is called out. Remember that as children of God we are given authority by God to call upon his name and to proclaim his name.

I speak Jesus [Here Be Lions & Darlene Zschech - I Speak Jesus \(lyrics\) \(youtube.com\)](#)

## **Sunday 22 September**

The last shall be first and the first shall be last and the servant of all.

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, <sup>2</sup>but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. <sup>3</sup>That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.

**Traditional:** [Celtic Worship - Come Thou Fount \(Lyrics\) \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Contemporary:** [Living Hope Phil Wickham Worship Video with lyrics \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Reading James 4: 1-10** What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? <sup>2</sup>You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. <sup>3</sup>When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup>You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? <sup>6</sup>But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favour to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Come near to God and he will come

near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup> Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

**Confession:** We admit that we struggle to be humble, to wash our hands and purify our hearts and thoughts. Silence is kept while we bring our souls before God. Jesus, we are sorry for when and where we have failed to acknowledge you as our Lord and Saviour and for all that we have said and done that does not honour God in our lives and in our community. Hear our cry and redeem us we ask. Father, we thank you that you hear our cry and that through Christ and the cross you set our sins far from us and remember them no more. **We thank you Father, that you hear our cries and see our hearts and that you are always bringing us back to you. Give us humble hearts and restore unto us the joy of our salvation. Our hope is in Jesus.**

**Thoughts:** Lord, still our tongues when we instinctively start to speak critically of others. Our default and that of the world is to seek our own benefit first and that brings us into conflict with one another – the world teaches us this way of pride and self-sufficiency but God calls us to be humble and to trust in his justice. Let us not be spreaders of gossip and slander but sharers of God's enduring love and word. Remind us that life is fleeting and that our Father in heaven is the sole one able to judge others with righteousness. Give us wisdom to live in this land and at this appointed time without fear or anxiety trusting in the call and presence of the Christ who saves us and equips us to serve him here on earth.

**Prayers:** Continue to pray for High School and College year 12 students and their teachers and parents as they focus on end of year exams. Pray that those elected in the NSW Local Government elections will lead us with integrity and for the common good of our community. Pray for Bishop Mark and Monica as they travel to be with us for the 29<sup>th</sup> and give thanks for their ministry in our Diocese, God grant them peace, rest and strength for all they are called to do. Many amongst us are sick and in need of God's healing touch, just look at our long-term prayer list. James 5 calls us to pray for the sick with confidence. We thank you God for the healings received last week and continue to pray that you might heal each one of us. Be also with those we know and love who need at this time the comfort of knowing you love them and the courage for the days ahead, order their days, restore unto them the joy of their salvation, renew a right spirit within them and assure them of our love and God's ceaseless care for them. Continue to pray for the places of conflict around the world including Jos in Nigeria, Ukraine and Russia, Isreal and the Middle East. Pray that Christ's redeeming presence may be evident in this present darkness and that God draw these peoples out of conflict and into peace.

**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:** [Make Me a Channel of Your Peace \[with lyrics for congregations\] \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Contemporary:** [Build Your Kingdom Here - Rend Collective Experiment \(youtube.com\)](#)

**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 Shalom**

**Bible Study: Read James 5: 1 -20. Remembering the context of the early Jerusalem church that James is writing in and that he has been condemning the "rich" throughout his letter who do you think he means by the "rich"? What is the job (pre-occupation) of these rich? How do they kill Jesus?**

**How does James direct his congregation to live in response to the provocation/ presence of the rich? How should we speak?**

**Why is our patience important and how is this reflected in the church history and by the Old Testament stories?**

**In the face of ever present suffering, sickness and sin what are we to do? Please read our long term prayer list (on page 2) and pray through it name by name - you do not need to know the person to pray for them. Wait briefly after each person's name is read and ask God what to pray? What happens?**