

## Our VALUES: Christ centredness, Prayerfulness, Welcoming and caring, Bible focussed, Fellowship

10AM service on 14<sup>th</sup> April to get the best of their experiences, please let Santa know ASAP.

### Archbishop's visit (16 June)

- Those who wish to be confirmed &/or received into the Anglican Church, please contact Santa ASAP.

### Donations for Dixon House & Asylum Seeker Resource Centre:

- Please place your donations in the baskets in the Narthex. Dixon House enquiries to Gwen Wilson.
- For Asylum Seekers, for April, vegetable oil is being accepted. Enquires to Susan McDermott.

### St John's News (May 2024)

- Please send your new articles to the parish office before 30 April.

## Rosters

	Today Sunday 31 Mar. Easter Sunday.	Next Sunday 7 April
Sides Person		8:30AM (HC)
		Roger McGrail
Reader		Rosemary Martin
Communion		Roger McGrail
	Combined 10 AM (HC) Livestreamed	10 AM (HC) Livestreamed
Sides Person	Susan McDermott	Jill Baker
Reader	Rosemary Martin	Glynis Rose
Prayer	Terry Nisbet	Terry Nisbet
Communion	R. Martin/A.Lyons	J.Baker/
PowerPoint	David Packianathan	David Packianathan
Video Tech	Anthony Lyons	Anthony Lyons
Morning tea	M.Bullen/G.Wilson	Glynis Rose
Counters	Roger McGrail Rosemary Martin	Roger McGrail Anthony Lyons

### On line services

At the time of today's live-streamed service, or after, please use the link below:  
<https://youtube.com/channel/UCwvuRjxqIX4njbrwZJBqNXQ/live>

### Readings\* for Sunday 7 April, Easter I

Acts 4:35-35; Psalm 118:19-29; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

**Sentence:** Peace be with you,' says the Lord. 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' John 20:21 (\*not all readings may be read on a Sunday morning)

### Ministers: All Parishioners

Vicar: The Revd. Santa Packianathan (away 4 April to 11 April)  
Locum Vicar: The Revd Philip Higgins (phiggins3190@gmail.com)  
Phone: 9557 2226 or 0466 880 092  
Office: Sun - Sat, except for Thursday  
Children & Families Minister: Vacant (TBA) 9557 2226  
Hon. Lay Minister - Healing/Prayer Chain Terry Nisbet 9557 2226  
Parish Musician: Vacant (TBA) 9557 2226  
Administrative Assistant: Anthony Lyons 9557 2226

Email: [bentleighanglican@bigpond.com](mailto:bentleighanglican@bigpond.com);

Office: Tue, Thu & Fri 9.30am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 4pm

Wardens: R Martin (& Secretary), D A'Beckett, S McDermott 9557 2226

Treasurer: D Fitzgerald 9557 2226



### Online Giving

St John's Anglican Church  
Bentleigh

BSB 083 337

Acc. No. 515 354 967



## Welcome to St. John's, Bentleigh

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### Combined Holy Communion Service at 10AM (Livestreamed)

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### Bible Readings:

Exodus 14:15-22;

Romans 6:3-11;

Mark 16:1-8

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### Hymns

See TV screens

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### Flowers arranged by Jill Baker

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Please take this  
pew sheet with you as you  
leave!

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St John's Anglican Church  
624 Centre Road,  
Bentleigh 3204  
Phone: 9557 2226

Website:

[www.stjohnsbentleigh.org.au](http://www.stjohnsbentleigh.org.au)

## 31 March 2024, Easter Sunday

### 'He is not here'

**Sentence:** But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised, he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him." Mark 16:6

### 'Leading the parish into growth' prayer:

**God of Mission**, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship & Power to our witness. Help our church of St. John's to grow in spiritual commitment to you, in numbers and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Prayer of the Day:

Brightness of God's glory, whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison: as you have shared our frailty in human flesh, help us to share your immortality in the Spirit; let no shadow of the grave terrify us, and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days, as the First and the Last, the Living One, our immortal Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

### Calendar:

- 1 April, 10AM-12PM, Craft, chat & cuppa.
  - 3 April, no mid-week service.
  - 7 Apr., Daylight saving ends (clocks BACK one hour).
  - 7 Apr., the Revd. Philip Higgins presiding/preaching at both services
- Future dates:**
- 09 Apr., Warden's meeting (TBC).
  - 14 Apr., Derek & Rosemary Snibson (CMS) visit.
  - 15 Apr., 11AM, Blue Cross visit.
  - 16 Apr., 4-6PM, Parish Council meeting.

*Thanks to Simon Sheridan who is our Locum Musician today*

As we gather in the presence of God, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the country on which St. John's is situated, the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

## OUR VISION: To be a centre of God's love and hope!

### A message of hope for Easter by the Archbishop of Melbourne, The Most Revd. Dr. Philip Freier

Increasingly, our contemporary society finds it hard to grasp the intangible, the spiritual, or even use the word 'mystery' without suggesting that it indicates a problem to be solved. Christians speak about 'mystery' in a different way. This ancient wisdom calls us to accept things that are inexplicable apart from the dimension of faith.

Easter is one of those mysteries. It is the celebration of the gracious gift of God to a struggling humanity. A celebration that there is hope beyond human failing and life beyond death. It is one that we risk reducing to a long weekend, chocolate eggs and an Easter bunny or now Easter bilby. These are not bad, we all happily indulge in some chocolate at this time of year, but they neither take us to the mystery of faith or the historical events that are retold at this time.

The Bible gives us gripping accounts of the circumstances that led to Jesus Christ's arrest, the charges against him, the cruel treatment he received and the painful humiliation of being forced to carry the means of his forthcoming death, a heavy wooden cross, to his place of execution. This place, called Golgotha (the place of the skull) was evocative of abandonment and death. Jesus nailed to this same cross was left to endure a lingering death, the cruel end to any who opposed the rule of the Roman Emperor. As he was dying, he was mocked by the crowd, perhaps it included some of the same people who had hailed him in honour just the week before as he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Even these, who called for his crucifixion and mocked him as he hung dying, he forgave.

Jesus' prayer as his death approached was for the good of even his persecutors, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." This is not an easy story to hear! Yet it is a story of events long ago that Christians receive as a revelation of the mystery of God's love prevailing no matter what else happened. Every Easter, as Christians come together in Churches across the world, this story of Jesus death is read on the day known as Good Friday. In Melbourne we walk a 'Way of the Cross' though the streets of the Central Business District, remembering the events of Jesus' last hours and praying for the contemporary challenges of the world as we go.

It was women who found the empty tomb on the day we call Easter Day. Mary and a few others had gone early to the tomb with embalming spices they had prepared for Jesus' body. They are the ones who carried the news back to the disciples that Jesus had risen from the tomb, that he was alive and had spoken to them. Appearing to his disciples in a locked room, they saw the holes in his hands where the nails of crucifixion had pierced him and the wounds to his body.

The Easter story is one for all of us. Jesus sacrificed his life for humanity. For those of us who struggle to see our own worth, God sees it. God gave us his son to die for each of us because of his love for us: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes in him shall have everlasting life."



## Our Mission: To love God, love people, grow disciples of Christ!

May you be encouraged this Easter season and know that you are seen and loved.

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### Thank you to:

- Revd. Adrian Lane (BCA) for preaching in the Palm Sunday services.
- Terry Nisbet for leading the Holy Week prayers (Holy Monday/Tuesday).
- Barry Buirski from Celebrate Messiah Australia for leading us through the presentation 'Messiah in the Passover.'
- Everyone who contributed to a very meaningful Good Friday service and fellowship in the Narthex.
- Everyone who brought food to share in the pot-luck lunch/ fellowship after today's combined Easter service.

### Prayers: church & the world

- The Church in the Province of the West Indies, Religious Orders serving within the Anglican Church of Australia, Evangelism in the Diocese, Inner West Church Kensington, Christ Church Whittlesea w. St Peter's Kinglake, St Andrew's Somerville, St Paul's Cathedral, St Matthew's Cheltenham & for all parishes awaiting new ministers.
- For our link missionaries—Derek & Rosemary Snibson who are in Melbourne. Please pray for the raising up of more individuals and families to serve in different ways in the Northern Territory (NT).
- Praise and thank God for the persons being sent by God to this parish as parish musician and children/families minister.
- **Please pray for:**
  - Ukraine/Russia, Yemen, Syria, Libya,

Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Israeli/Gaza/Palestine, Sudan & other areas.

- Healing on Gladys, Phil, +Gerald & Lyn, Lena, Paul, Claire, Ben, Russell, Jo, Ken, Graham, Carol, Jim, Rebecca, Clarice, David, Alison, John, Marlene, Marvis, Audrey, C & J & family, Justin, Verna, Manal & family, Allan & Judy, Seelan, Annette, Gwen Sampson & all we remember.
- All affected by the Baltimore Bridge collapse.
- God's peace & comfort on all who mourn everywhere.

### Santa is away after Easter

- Santa will be away from 4 April to 11 April. The Revd. Philip Higgins will be the locum during this period.

### First Aid training in St John's

- First Aid is a useful, life saving skill to have for any situation.
- Community First Responders is a group which provides first aid training.
- To have them take a session at St John's, we will need a class of 25 persons committed to come. The cost is \$50 per person. Training includes, CPR, use of EpiPen, basic first-aid and stroke care.
- Please register your interest on the noticeboard beside the TV screen in the entrance foyer.

### Snibsons visit to the parish

- Derek & Rosemary Snibson will visit the parish on 14 April. They will be telling us of their missional experiences in the NT.
- The session at the 8.30AM service will be brief because of limited time. If you would prefer a combined