

St John's Anglican Church Bentleigh



A piece of the art show: Lighthouse - Griffiths Island Port Fairy, by Jill Turpin



PARISH NEWS

February - March 2021

St John's Building Appeal Prayer

Faithful God, you are steadfast and true.

Thank you for the faith and facilities
passed to us by previous generations at St John's.

Be with us all as we commit to
building our faith and service as a church,
and to building facilities to enable and encourage this growth
now and into the future,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



624 Centre Rd, Bentleigh 3204
bentleighanglican@bigpond.com
www.stjohnsbentleigh.org
www.facebook.com/st.johns.bentleigh
9557 2226
Vicar: The Revd Dr David Powys,
0491 723 174

Our Purpose:

'To be a centre of God's love and hope in Bentleigh'

Position Vacant:



Children and Families' Minister (1.5 days/wk)

St John's Anglican Church Benteigh is seeking
a stipended Children and Families Minister from February 2021.

The person appointed will need to be available to work on Sundays
and one other day during each week,

to have a natural rapport with children and young families, to be capable of
initiating new and imaginative programs, to have sound theological judgment,
and to meet all Child Safe requirements.

The aim of this appointment is to build children's ministry at St John's.

Applications to David Powys, Vicar, benteighvicar@bigpond.com,

Enquiries 0491 723 174



Benteigh Kids & Craft Market

Sat 27 Feb 2021 from 9.30am - 1pm

We plan to change the location of the market for this year, making more use of the outside area and the Narthex, so that the Market will be able to run whilst the hall is in use. This year will be one of adaption in any case, with parts of the building rendered inaccessible during the stage 3 works. The first few markets should not be impacted, starting on 27 February.

News from the Kids & Craft Market

Lorraine Jolly was one of our regular Market stall holders. Sadly she passed away October 2020. Lorraine was always friendly and knew all the other stall holders and helpers. She was happy and positive throughout her illness and treatment, she fought hard, but in the end, lost her battle with cancer.

A lot of the St John's *Orana* Ladies bought Lorraine's knitted baby jackets/cardigans for their Grandchildren and to donate to Dixon House.

On Lorraine's request her daughter donated all her knitting to St John's, to be sold and the money to go to the Church.

St John's would like to thank the Jolly family for their support and generous donation.

So at the next market in February 2021 please come and support the Market and buy a knitted baby jacket/cardigan from the St John's stall.

Shirley Nisbet Market coordinator

From The Vicar

Dear people of St John's,

Someone said to me yesterday that 2020 now seems like a blip. It was certainly a most unusual year, but we should be most thankful that even in Melbourne we were spared the suffering that COVID19 has brought to many countries, including ones with sophisticated health systems. As we embark upon a new year we shall need to remind ourselves that we are living **with COVID** (at least potentially) rather than **post COVID**. Ongoing caution and care will be needed until vaccinations bring this virus under control, across the planet. There will be ongoing implications for the way that we organize ourselves as a church, and the way that we do things. By way of example, I doubt that we shall see a return to drinking from the common cup at Holy Communion for a very long time, if ever again.



We shall need to find a happy balance between undue nervousness, which could bring mission and ministry paralysis, and a carelessness that would make us an easy target for infection in the event that someone unwittingly carrying the virus had contact with one of us.

At St John's in 2020 we found opportunities that were not anticipated. While much has been stopped and prevented in other areas, we were able to make great progress in terms of renewing our buildings. This has been so much the case that stages 1 and 2 of our building works are very near completed. Stage 3 is also progressing well, as is the Appeal to partially finance that stage. In case you have not seen the floor plan for the major part of stage 3, and its elevation, please see below. We are within 15% of achieving our \$130,000 goal for the Building Appeal. Please read the appeal chair's comments about supporting this achievement within the coming three months. The stage 3 plans are currently with the Glen Eira Planning Department, and once they grant approval, it will be 'full steam ahead' to having the plans finalized to let the contract, and then hopefully begin construction in April.

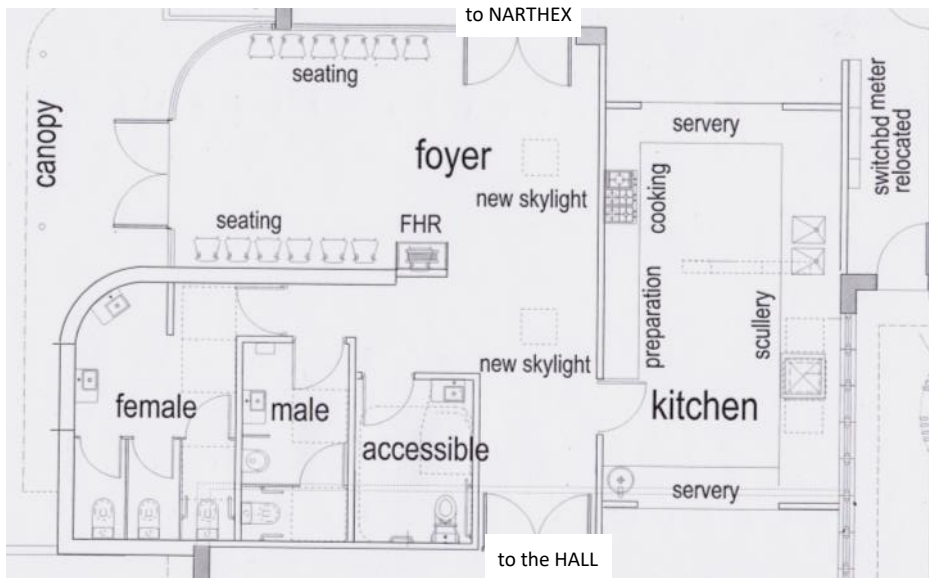
But hopefully 2021 will be about very much more than just buildings. With this in mind I commend to you our *Mission Action Plan* for 2021, and ask that you do all within your power to achieve it.

Perhaps the most important part of the plan is the first goal, which is to do with growth. Numbers of people have joined St John's during 2020, many from other parishes, including St Christopher's, so if we are all supporting the first goal, our attendance numbers should be rising, as we find the right balance between carelessness and reticence in resuming public worship.

May this year be for you one of particular encouragement and blessing in your walk with The Lord.

In Christian fellowship,

David



Holy Week

Holy Week in 2020 was really strange, coming at the start of the first Melbourne COVID lockdown. There was not one public worship service conducted at St John's in Holy Week last year, due to government restriction. The next Parish News (due at the end of March) will carry details of 2021 Holy Week services, which fall early this year. Palm Sunday will be on 28 March, and it is hoped that there will be a choir presentation that evening (preparations were well underway for such a service last year when the lockdown occurred). There will be additional services on Maundy Thursday at 7.30pm, and on Good Friday at 10am (short family devotional service) and from noon – 3pm (Three Hour Service including hymns, reflections, prayers and silences with people able to come and go as suits), and on Easter Day at dawn. Please watch for further details.

Lenten Studies

There will be a Lenten Study book available for use by individuals and groups during Lent. Please call the office for a copy or collect one/some from church. If you would like to join a special Lenten Study group to consider the material meeting in the Activity Hub over Lent, please leave a message at the office and we will contact you to discuss times.

Hymns Revival

During the 2020 lockdowns, across the globe, appreciation of music, and of singing in particular, has really taken off. Over the centuries most of the best tunes for singing have found their way into hymns, and most of these can be sung in harmony. Many people have learned to sing in the past, and know the sheer joy of singing together.

St John's, this year, starting in a cautious and 'masked fashion', is going to host a monthly *Hymns Revival* afternoon. All who enjoy singing, men and women, are invited to come together for an hour of musical joy, singing some of the finest and best loved hymns, in four-part harmony. Hymns proposed for each afternoon will be advised in advance, to help those wanting to run through their parts in preparation. To go on the email list for *Hymns Revival* please contact 9557 2226, or bentleighanglican@bigpond.com.

The first of our *Hymns Revival* sessions was held as this edition of Parish News was going out. The next two will be on 21 March and 25 April at the usual time of 2.30pm, with Lenten and loss themes respectively.

Sunday Afternoon Recitals & Concerts

The City of Glen Eira has granted us funds to run a recital and concert series this year, with artists booked for dates for April, 6 June and 10 October.

The first in the series will be just after Easter, featuring Calvin Bowman. Calvin is a soloist, accompanist and chamber musician, and organist and director of music at St Andrew's Brighton. He has been a piano soloist with major Australian orchestras and appears regularly with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra on the Melbourne Town Hall organ. The program he is offering at 2.30pm on Sunday 11 April is

Magnificent Miniatures in a Smaller Space

A variety of organ & piano pieces by Bach, Galuppi, Distler, Binge, Bowman and others

*St John's, cnr Tucker and Centre Rds Bentleigh
Tickets \$10 (\$7 conc, u18 free) at door*



[Photo Terry Lane]

St John's Services On Line

We developed skills during the lockdown that will have ongoing benefits, and they continue to develop. In a very short space of time we were forced to transition

('pivot' became a very popular word) from being entirely 'face to face' to being solely 'on line' in terms of our services. As the lockdown drew to a close, Parish Council determined that there would be continuing benefit in making our services available on line after the lockdown. We have invested in equipment to prevent the live recording of our weekly services intruding on the services themselves. Anthony Lyons is heading a team of parishioners who will take responsibility for live streaming and recording one of our two Sunday services each week. You can access the service as it occurs, or at any time afterwards, by going to <https://youtube.com/channel/UCwvuRjxqIX4njbrwZJBqNXQ/live> . An easy way of accessing the services would be to subscribe to the St John's Benteigh YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwvuRjxqIX4njbrwZJBqNXQ>.

Streaming our service has impacted the pattern of our services. In addition, St John's is in the midst of a three month trial of slightly changed service times. This experiment will run until Easter. For details, see below.

Service times for February and March

For a three month period from the New Year the weekly St John's services are as follow

- **8.30am** *Holy Communion* every Sunday except the third in the month (which will be *Morning Prayer*, live streamed).
- **10am** *Holy Communion* 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month, 2nd and 4th Sundays *Praise Prayer and Proclamation* (all but 3rd Sunday live streamed).
- **Wednesdays 10.30am** *Holy Communion*.

Art Sale

Stephanie Hogg was winner of the Art Sale door prize. Here she is with the prize already hung on her wall. Thanks to all those who supported the sale in terms of donations and purchases. The results were pleasing in every respect – showing our hall to the wider community, fellowship, fostering creativity, and raising funds for the Building Appeal. The High Tea was an excellent complementary activity, and was of a remarkable standard.



The High Tea event at the art show and sale

Mission Action Plan 2021

We had an excellent *Mission Action Plan* for 2020 and 2021 which was just 'catching the wind' as COVID hit. That plan has been revised, and we now have a revised plan for this year. This was released a couple of weeks ago. Four of the goals have co-ordinators and planning to implement these goals is already underway. Here is the plan:

ST JOHN'S BENTLEIGH

MISSION ACTION PLAN, JANUARY – NOVEMBER 2021

As we gratefully emerge from the restrictions of 2020 with their impact on our Mission Action Plan for Nov 2019 to Nov 2021, we commit ourselves to these adjusted goals for the remainder of this period, in anticipation of a new MAP in 2022.



1. TO GROW ST JOHN'S (GROWTH)

by such initiatives as ...

- Reinvigorating the existing worship services
- More frequent attendance by members as we all emerge from lockdown
- Average Sunday attendance of 60 by June and 75 by November
- Fellowship meals as and when possible
- Assisting with transport to services
- and also as we pursue the following goals



2. TO BUILD THE VISIBILITY OF ST JOHN'S WITHIN OUR

EXPANDED PARISH AREA (VISIBILITY)

by such initiatives as ...

- Live-streaming a church service each week
- Particular focus on Bentleigh East
- Letterbox drops
- Improved exterior signage and public presence
- Maintaining an active and vibrant website
- Virtual church tours
- Increased interaction with users of the halls

3. TO CREATE A VIBRANT SPACE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE NARTHEX (ACTIVITY SPACE)

by such initiatives as ...

- Special interest groups (gardening, sewing, scrapbooking, computers, pets)
- English Conversation groups
- Secondary tutoring
- Christian enquiry and education groups
- Community garden plot
- Book group
- Bible study courses
- Music tutoring



Maths & English tutoring in the Narthex , term 1 - 2020



4. TO DEVELOP MUSIC AS A WAY INTO FAITH AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP (MUSIC PATHWAY)

by such initiatives as

- Fostering participation by individual musicians and groups of musicians within services
- Organising concerts / recitals
- Promoting choir involvement from the community



5. TO REINVIGORATE OUR MINISTRY TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (CHILDREN)

by such initiatives as

- Appointing a part-time Children and Families' Minister
- Offering a children's program for part of the later Sunday morning service
- Monthly Messy Church
- Increase number of Kids Hope mentors
- Parish picnics with particular focus on activities for children
- Holiday one-day events for children

Activities Centre

Our third MAP21 goal is 'To create a vibrant space for community engagement in the Narthex', and Roger McGrail is co-ordinating the working group for this goal. He is keen to hear from all willing to organize and offer activities, on the part of St John's, in this space. Generally these will be offered without charge (save to cover the cost of materials), and it is hoped to develop a program which will be displayed outside and available on the website. As a start, Maths and English tutoring for secondary (and possibly near secondary) students will begin this first school term on Thursdays from 3.30 - 5pm, and there is a 'Drop in for a Cuppa' time at 11am each Wednesday (following the midweek service, but open to all). See pictures on the previous page.

Building Appeal Update - February 2021



I love having fun....it comes in different forms for us all and I am so thrilled that we are able to now have some **fun** together in our **fun**draising for the Building Appeal.

We have enjoyed some carols, (in a Covid safe way)and the special effort for the incredible hamper raised over \$1000. The Art Show High Tea made \$640 and sales of art from the show may raise \$4,000 - this is a work in progress.

Our fundraising total is sitting at a whopping \$110,000...

Just take a moment to be amazed at this figure.

While we can enjoy these activities and celebrate their successes, we need to acknowledge that 95% of our goal has been achieved through direct giving and ultimately , this will be what guarantees the success of our appeal and the target of \$130,000 by Easter.

Looking ahead, we are busily planning our Trivia Night and also a Talent Catalogue. Please chat to one of the appeal committee members if you would like to help with either of these events or if you would like some more information,

In the meantime, please continue to hold our appeal in your prayers.

Heather Saba - Building Appeal Committee Chair.



More pictures from the Art Show



The artist (David Powys) in action



Parishioners, friends of St John's and wider community enjoying the art show

ST JOHN'S CLOSE - UNIT 6 AVAILABLE

COMPLETELY RENOVATED THROUGHOUT
BRAND NEW KITCHEN, LAUNDRY & BATHROOM

2 double bedrooms, lock up garage with auto door, air conditioned, gas space heater, fire sprinklers, security doors, dish washer, solar panels.

Total Price \$565,000 (no stamp duty)

Service Fee \$92.30 per week (\$80 for pensioners)

No more lump sums for fences, painting, re-blocking, carpets, HWS etc. No lawns to mow, trees to prune, maintenance concerns - our manager attends to these.

CALL 9557 2226 OR TOM 0424 431 552 for full particulars



Regular Worship Services:

Sunday morning services are at 8.30am and 10.00am
(see details on page 5)

Link to recorded services: [St John's YouTube channel](#)

Wednesday Holy Communion Service 10.30am

Online Giving: St John's Anglican Church Bentleigh

BSB 083 337 Acc. No. 51 5 354 967

Vicar - The Revd Dr David Powys 0491 723 174

Children & Families' Minister - (vacant)

Parish Musician - Alex Scutt

Administration Assistant -

Cindy Utari - 9557 2226

Tue, Thurs, Fri

9.30am-12pm, 12:30pm - 4:00pm

Saturday 27 February 2021

7.15 pm - 9.30 pm

QUIZ NIGHT



Quiz Master

Alexander Scutt - 2020
SBS Mastermind Contender

A limited supper will be provided according to COVID-19 restrictions, but we encourage you to bring your own snacks and drinks.

LIMIT OF 15 TABLES (Six people each)

COST (*payable in advance or on the night*)

Individuals -	\$20
Team of six - one table	\$120
Family team of six (<i>adults and children</i>) - one table	\$100

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL *from Monday 1 February 2021*

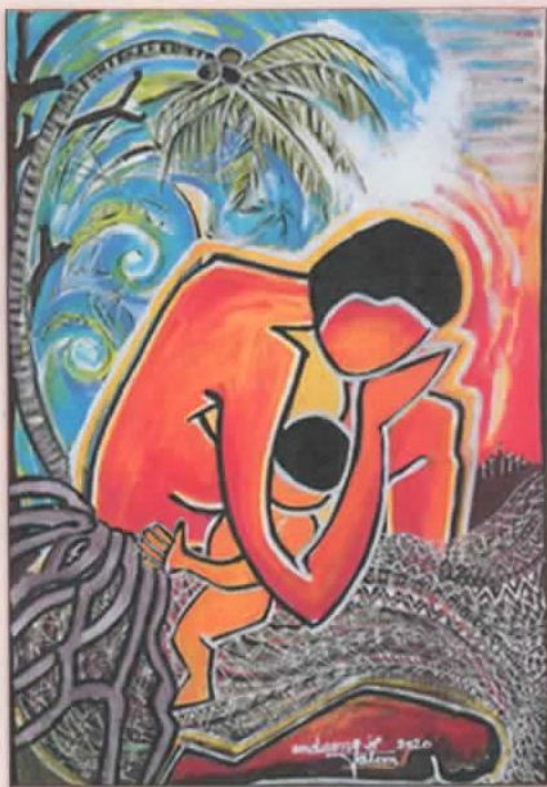
<https://www.trybooking.com/BOKXL>

or contact the parish office 9557 2226
bentleighanglican@bigpond.com

A fundraiser for the St John's Building Appeal Stage Three

Pray for Vanuatu

World Day of Prayer Service 2021



Frid. 5th March 2021. 10.30 a.m.

**St. Paul's Catholic Church
122 Jasper Road, Bentleigh**

Special Guest Artists.