



## Lovers of the Place

Newsletter – Queenscliff Lonsdale Anglicans  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



*(by hand to those without email)*

Dear people of St George's and St James',



Today begins the Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity, so here are some principles which I believe should guide us as we think and act in matters “ecumenical”:

- We can be secure in our own denomination's traditions and can value its insights, but let us also be open to how God might be speaking to us through other Christians.
- Let us not be critical of other people's responses to God. God is bigger than the way we perceive God.
- When we differ with other Christians, the easy way out is the “You in your small corner and I in mine” approach.

Rather, let us stay together, bearing the cost of difference, diversity and dissent. Remember that the Cross is at the heart of our Faith.

- Mere tolerance and “peaceful coexistence” do not call us to dialogue. True ecumenism does.
- Ecumenism stubs its toe on the issue of authority. Where does authority in the church reside ? “In the bible” ? – if so, whose interpretation of the bible ? In particular forms of church structures? We need to grapple with this one !
- *In essentials, unity ... in things doubtful, liberty ... in all things , charity”*
- *Please feel free to contact me by phone or email if there is anything I can do for you whilst Peter is on leave. Tim Gibson ph: 0437 368 553 email: tgibson.1@bigpond.com*



During Peter’s holiday absence, Lindsay has offered to contribute one prayer each week to Lovers of the Place from a small eclectic collection of prayers and sayings, gathered when he was in his twenties. The following is a prayer used as part of a study series for Anglicans called ‘Forward in Depth’ in the 1970s (or 1980s?), sponsored by the former Archbishop of Melbourne Frank (later Sir Frank) Woods.



O you who are:  
The light of the minds that know you,  
The life of the souls that love you,  
and the strength of the thoughts that seek you;  
Help us:  
So to know you, that we may truly love you,  
So to love you, that we may fully serve you,  
whose service is perfect freedom.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

This is the English translation of a song of prayer and lament for Myanmar written in Karen language by Fr Moewin and sung with members of the St Stephens Karen Anglican Parish at the Prayer Vigil for Myanmar at St Pauls Cathedral earlier this month."

### **O lord, You Know**

**Verse 1:** When I close my eyes to pray,  
I see the torture to innocences.

**Verse 2:** My heart is full of hurting when I hear the crying.  
This suffering when it is going to end.

**Chorus:** Oh Lord, you know the crying out of my brothers and sisters.  
For peace and freedom they give their lives.  
Oh Lord, watch over, we truly desire hope from you.  
With your mercy send us peace to our world for the sufferers.

**Verse 3:** We come to you with one heart,  
Praying to receive the light of hope.

**Chorus:** Oh Lord, you know the crying out of my brothers and sisters.  
For peace and freedom they give their lives.  
Oh Lord, watch over, we truly desire hope from you.  
With your mercy send us peace to our world for the sufferers.  
For the sufferers  
For the poor  
For the displaced people.



### **The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (17.6-19)**

<sup>6</sup> 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup> But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup> I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth

### **OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

#### ***Prayer of the week***

O God, the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we pray you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us,  
and exalt us to the same place where our Saviour  
Christ has gone before;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### ***Nations and Peoples*** Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal ***The Church***

***Our Parish:*** Our Parish Council as they navigate  
their way through the repair of Gill Hall.

***Global:*** The Anglican Church of Korea

***Mission*** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
begins in the Southern Hemisphere; The Diocese of  
Newcastle – Bishop Peter; Stuart, the regional  
bishops, clergy and people; The Church of North India  
international Day of Living; Together in Peace;  
International Day of Light

To pray for mission each day go to: [Anglican Board of Mission](#):

**National:** The Diocese of North West Australia (Bp Gary Nelson, Clergy & People)

**Melbourne Diocese:** Mentone Grammar School (Mal Cater, Principal; Andrew Stewart, Michael Prabaharan, Chaplains); Church of the Ascension Springvale (Inpa Eliezer); Long Beach Anglican – Pastoral Service (Bp Paul Barker); St John’s Sorrento – Organ Dedication (Bp Paul Barker); St John’s West Brunswick – Baptism & Confirmation Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell)

**Oodthenong Episcopate:** Anglican Parish of Banyule – Pastoral Visit (Bp Kate Prowd). To pray for our Church each day go to [The Melbourne Anglican](#).

**Community** Vaccine Centre workers as they continue to vaccinate.

**Requests** Shane; Peter; Helen; Robert; Patricia; Julia; Barry; (& Anne); Philip; Greg; Ron; Alice; Betty; Carlie; Lucy; Parvin; Sisi; Pixie; Julie; Angela; Jennifer; Ben; Terry; Trish; Ros.

**Communion of Saints)**

**The Saints:** Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury (d. 988)

**Months Mind:** Ann Hollingworth 13.4.2021; Philip Newman - priest 12.4.2021  
Stanley Adam 16.06.1993; John Charles Barker 16.06.1994; Christopher Hurley 16.06.1994; Dorothy M. McCartney\* 16.06.1998; Marjorie Cullis Crump\* 16.06.2000; Ernest Baden Pinney 17.06.1980; Charles Thomas Meates 18.06.1977; Evelyn Dora Bick 18.06.1994; Sylvia Tomlinson 18.06.1995; Elizabeth Grace Hull 19.06.1969; Helen Kay Ponsford 19.06.2011; Dorothea Steele 20.06.1975; Theresa Janet Schuetz 20.06.2018; Verna May Plummer\* 21.06.2005; Pamela Dorothy (Pam) Amezdroz 21.06.2017; John Ballantyne Vernon 21.06.2019; Ambrose Malvern Ilton Monk 22.06.1981; Lesley Marion Walter 22.06.1990

*An asterisk\* signifies those whose ashes are interred in the St James’ Memorial Garden  
A hash sign # signifies those whose ashes are interred in the St George’s Memorial Garden*

## Climate Action is our Faith in Action.

We are God's children and our relationship with God's creation is something the Church is thinking a lot about these days. As one would expect, there is diversity of opinion on this as there is on many important issues. A recent article in The Guardian explores some of that diversity. To read the article click here : [CLIK HERE](#)



### COVID-19 UPDATE –

Thank-you to all those who are bringing their phones and “QR checking in”. This saves the volunteer on duty from having to enter your details manually, as is now required. Archbishop Phillip Freier has urged all Anglicans to get vaccinated immediately for the benefit of themselves and the community



### What’s in a Word

A **novena** (from Latin: *novem*, "nine") is an ancient tradition of devotional praying in Christianity, consisting of private or public prayers repeated for nine successive days or weeks. The nine days between the Feast of the Ascension and Pentecost, when the disciples gathered in the upper room and devote themselves to prayer, is often considered to be the first novena.

In some Christian communities, such as in Africa, Latin America and the Philippines, novena traditions are popular and include devotional rituals such as congregational prayers, statue decoration, hymn singing with music, as well as community fiesta events over beverages, refreshments or processions.<sup>1</sup> Individuals may express love and honor by kneeling, burning candles or placing flowers before the person represented by a statue.

Novenas are most often prayed by members of the Roman Catholic Church, but also by Anglicans, Eastern Orthodox Christians, and Lutherans. In addition, novenas have also been used in an ecumenical Christian context, such as those promulgated by Premier Christian Radio in an effort to pray for church renewal.



**May is Domestic Violence Prevention Month**, with its aim being, to raise community awareness of the social and personal impacts of domestic and family violence and the support available to those affected. Below is an excerpt from Bishop Kate's weekly Newsletter highlighting the importance of raising awareness

And so, there have been stories in the paper and distressing television programmes about the tragic reality that, as I've learnt, every two minutes in Australia police are responding to a call relating to domestic violence. Sadly, it's no surprise then that October is Sexual Violence Awareness Month, and in November there is the White Ribbon Campaign, and for 16 days from the end of November to December there is 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. Of course, we know that March 8th is International Women's Day. That "every 2 minutes..." statistic is extraordinary; almost impossible to fathom. As I sat in my safe space enjoying the cosiness of my peaceful lounge room watching an SBS programme "See What You Made Me Do", I had to admit to myself how much I take my own safety for granted. But I shouldn't, and many indeed can't.

It's not as if we've not heard these stories before. Our own PVAW dept regularly offers us opportunities to increase our awareness and engage in professional development and education about this issue. But somehow this week, reading more stories with their alarming statistics jumping off the page, and watching women talk about their fears and hearing of their terror living with their perpetrators, and their desperation to keep themselves, and their children safe and the daily risk and vulnerability this places them under - somehow, it sank in.

There are so many issues in our community at any one time that demand our support and interest and response as Christians. So many causes to champion. So many needs to respond to. It can feel overwhelming - and that's because it is overwhelming - no wonder we often don't know where to focus our attention, our ministry, our call to serve. As we might continue to read the stories and see the footage this Domestic Violence Prevention Month of May, unbearable though it is, I urge you, don't look away! Don't think it's somebody else's problem to deal with, or another parish's project to pursue. Don't tell yourselves: "we supported that last year; we've done our bit".

Certainly, don't think that this is only an issue for women to gain knowledge about. Statistically, we can be assured that there will be women and children in our congregations, our schools, our social circles who are those statistics. And we need to reach out to them before they become just that: statistics.

So, the question might be: What should we do?

Precisely the question that Peter and the other disciples faced on that Pentecost day - after Jesus's death - (Acts 2) when they were huddled in fear in the upper room, shell-shocked and bereaved by J's death - and unexpectedly, in the midst of their fear and uncertainty, they were overwhelmingly empowered with the HS- and so powerful was this experience that those who were there and heard them, were themselves overwhelmed by the impact of God's transforming love. And in response to their being filled with the HS, ready for mission, they asked themselves: What should we do?

From little things big things grow...The questions the disciples posed remain our question today and every day as we face the ongoing global, national, and local concerns and uncertainties: What should we do? On May 15th, PVAW is hosting a forum on zoom. I hope you will think seriously about engaging with this. A number of our ADOM parishes are champions for PVAW, which is wonderful. Many of us think that we already know what we need to know and so more of the same is unnecessary— Perhaps I thought a little like that too until this week and I heard blaring out like a siren from my telly that brutal national statistic.

Violence against women is often so very disguised. It can look benign, and we need to pray that "the eyes of our hearts will be enlightened" (Ephes 1:18).

**Confidential information, counselling and support service is available by calling 1800 RESPECT or 1800 737732 or visiting website. [1800respect.org.au](http://1800respect.org.au).**

The parish is a member of the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change ([ARRCC](http://ARRCC))



Parish members participate in the local community movement, Queenscliffe Climate Action ([QCA](http://QCA))  
*We acknowledge with gratitude that we worship on the traditional lands of the Wathaurong people of the Kulin nation and we acknowledge and pay our respects to their elders past and present*

#### CONTACT US

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