



SUNDAY 9th JULY 2017
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A warm welcome to St Michael's Spearwood. Children are especially welcome. We do hope that you will find the worship uplifting and that your relationship with Jesus Christ is enriched through it.

If you have any questions about what we do here or about the Christian Faith in general I would be happy to make time to discuss them or any other issues with you.

Gluten free wafers are available for Communion, if you require these please speak to the service leader.

Revd Debbie

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of his brothers and sisters we do also for him: give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us; yet lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ST EDWARDS AND ST MICHAELS LPM /LA TRAINING

A TRAINING MORNING WILL BE HELD AT ST EDWARDS, COLLICK STREET, HILTON ON SATURDAY 15TH JULY STARTING PROMPTLY AT 9.30AM AND FINISHING BY 11.30AM.

All current LPM's and LA's will be required to attend this meeting where among other things we will cover the current procedure for helping set up and administer the communion, the receiving of the offertory and the reading of scriptures during services.

It would be appreciated if all LA's and LPM's could attend on this day so that we can hold a commissioning service soon, however if you are unable to attend please speak to Rev Debbie to arrange another convenient time.

If you are not currently a Liturgical assistant or a Lay Pastoral Minister but are interested in attending this training please speak to Rev. Debbie in the first instance. Thank you

Growing in discipleship

We may hear people talking of 'growing in faith' or 'growing as Christians' and wonder what on earth they mean. Do they mean becoming super-confident preachers or study group leaders? And how does this growth happen?

There is actually no mystery about growth, if we think about what goes on in the garden. Given the right combination of light, warmth and moisture, a garden shrub will flourish. And while these are essential for plant growth, different species will need them in different combinations in order to develop as they should. In the same way, we can grow as Christians, providing the conditions are right – and that depends on who we are as individuals.

Once we have been 'planted' in the soil of faith, we can start to grow spiritually. The basic requirements for such growth are prayer, gathering for worship and fellowship with other believers, and getting to know the Bible.

Some will find all of these a delight, while others will find that they struggle with each one of them. For most of us, one will come more naturally than the others, and that can be our

starting-point for growth. As we gain strength, we will in time develop good roots, holding us secure in what we believe and why, and also strong and supple shoots that not only reach up towards God but out towards others.

At the same time, we should remember that, just as there is a rhythm to the seasons of the natural year, so there are seasons of growth but also seasons of dormancy in our lives as Christians. Realising that we are going through such a 'quiet season' ourselves should not be a cause of alarm but for patient waiting on God. Dormancy is essential as a time of gathering strength and building reserves in order then to develop even further, higher and stronger.

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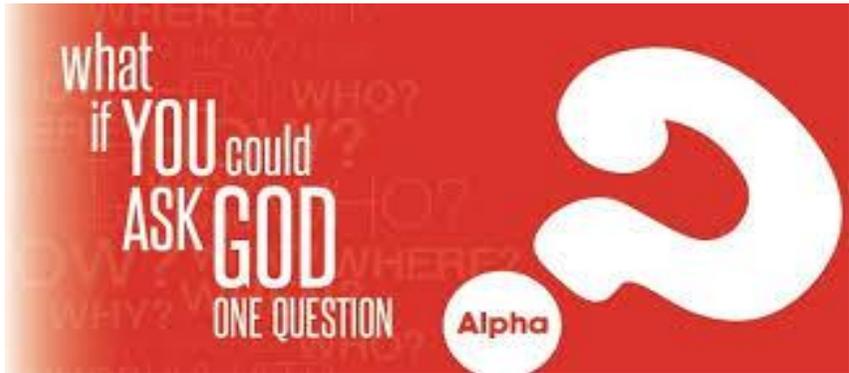
Our hope is that we can encourage as many of our church family as possible to participate and to bring along non-church people.

Ladies Bible Study

Monday 17th July at 10:00am at the home of Ann Punch, 6 Plum Place, Spearwood. Phone no. 9418 4551. All Welcome.

Jumble Sale Items needed - Are you a hoarder?

A recent study has found that two thirds of us hold on to everyday household items that we never use. We carefully stash away our spare DVDs, CDs, toasters, music equipment, clothes and computer games. The research indicates that 12 per cent of us feel unsure of how actually to best get rid of our unwanted possessions, or how much they are worth. If you feel that now is the time for a good de-clutter bring along what you no longer need to St Edwards for the future Jumble Sales. Turn unwanted items into cash for the mission and ministry of the church! Ecclesiastes observes: "there is a time to keep and a time to throw away" (3:6b)..... happy is the person who can discern when the time has come for a clear-out!



There is still time.....

If you have been undecided about whether you should attend an Alpha Course, ask yourself “what have you got to loose”? They give you a meal, you get to know a few friendly people a bit better and you get to think about some interesting issues and if you decide it’s not for you don’t have to come back. It is also a great opportunity to serve the church as help is required with catering and hospitality.

This Weeks Readings: 9th July
 Genesis 24:34-38,42-49,58-67 Psalm 45: 10-17 Romans 7:14-25
 Matthew 11:15-19, 25-30
Next Weeks Readings: 16th July Genesis 25: 19-34, Psalm 119:105-112,
 Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Date	Welcome	Reader	Prayer	LA/LMP	Sacristan	M/Tea	Cleaning	Flower
9th July	Karl	Ann Maria	June	Colleen Audrey	Colleen	Len		Colleen
16th July	Len	Bernard Leonie	Lorraine	Lorraine Leonie	Lorraine	Brigid	Tongan Church	Tongan Church

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