



SUNDAY 30th JULY 2017
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A warm welcome to St Michael's this morning. 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:

O God, the fount of wisdom, you have revealed to us in Christ the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price:
grant us your Spirit's gift of discernment, that, in the midst of the things of this world, we may learn to value the priceless worth of your kingdom, and be ready to renounce all else for the sake of the precious gift you offer.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ALPHA

Our first session of Alpha was held last Tuesday. The next one will be on Tuesday 1st August at 6.00pm at 27 Cincotta Loop, Beeliar. Please let Revd. Debbie know if you would like to come if you missed the first one, and if you have any special dietary requirements to assist with catering. Thank you.

Is your faith a bit shaky? Here's how to grow it...

From time to time we may come across people who say to us 'I wish I had your faith'. We may know deep down, however, that our own faith is rather shaky, not to say downright weak. So the challenge is: how can we build up our own faith to be a solid basis for how we live our lives?

We can grow as Christian disciples in a number of ways – prayer, attending church, and especially fellowship with other believers. But what about reading the Bible? Bible reading can become one of those things we know is good for us, but we can't quite get round to. We may feel we don't have enough time; we don't know where to begin; and when we do actually pick up a Bible, we can't make head or tail of it!

If we think of it another way, though, Bible reading is not a chore like weeding the garden, but essential for spiritual health and well-being, rather like a well-balanced meal. If we're really busy, it may seem too much bother to stop for a decent meal. Or we may be tempted to grab something on the run, which ends up giving us indigestion. Like reading the Bible, eating well is an essential part of keeping healthy and we neglect it at our peril.

What practical steps can we take to do something about this? First of all, we should admit to ourselves that reading the Bible may well be more than simply a matter of opening the book and reading it. Some parts of Scripture are very accessible to most people while others are far removed from our world and our personal experience.

Secondly, we can make use of the wide range of Bible reading aids available. Study Bibles, commentaries, daily notes and other resources all teach us about the Bible and help us apply it to our lives. As we continue to read the Bible, whether alone or in the company of others, so the Spirit works within us to instruct our hearts, inform our minds and strengthen our faith. And as we become more and more familiar with God's written Word, almost imperceptibly we find the presence of the living Word transforming our walk of discipleship.

What on earth are you doing? And – why?

Have you ever wondered if there is something special that you are meant to be doing with your life? Something that will make your time on earth really count for something?

It would be tragic to look back over your life and realise that nothing you ever did had much significance. Suppose your whole life got used up basically just 'passing the time'? Depressing thought. But – there is good news: it doesn't need to be like that.

The Bible assures us that God has given us our lives, and has plans for each one of us. He has given you abilities which he wants you to use. No matter how old or young you are, if you turn to him, he promises to direct your paths. What a wonderful thing: that the eternal God loves you so much he has personal plans for you!

NOTICES:

Ladies Bible Study

Monday 31st July at 10:00am at the home of Ann Punch, 6 Plum Place, Spearwood. Phone no. 9418 4551. All Welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Ladies Bible Study: Monday 31st July at 10:00am

Garden Day: Saturday 19th August at 9:00am **HILTON**

Singing Group: Every Thursday night @ 6:00pm during school term at St Edwards. Contact: Kirsty on 0423549090 or

kirst_hulka@hotmail.com **HILTON**

St Michael's Prayers and Thanksgivings

If you would like prayers to be published here, please give them to Revd. Debbie or E-mail them to spearwoodchurch@gmail.com. Please ensure that all parties involved are happy for the information to be made public.

Priests Day Off

Revd. Debbie's usual rest day is Friday. If a matter is urgent and falls on this day please contact one of the wardens. Thank you.

This Weeks Readings: 30th July

Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 105:1-11, Romans 8:26-39,
Matthew 13:44-58

Next Weeks Readings: 6th August

Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7,16, Romans 9:1-8, Matthew 14:13-21

Date	Welcome	Reader	Prayer	LA/LMP	Sacristan	M/Tea	Cleaning	Flower
30th July	Merv	Ann Bernard	Bernard	Colleen June	Colleen	Merv Sylvia	Malcolm Leonie	Malcolm Leonie
6th Aug	Len	June Leonie	June	Lorraine Len	Lorraine	Maxine		Audrey Paton

Priest: Revd Debbie May

Mobile: 0473 368 268

Email:

revd.debbie@gmail.com

Parish Wardens:

June Caunt

Maxine Smith 0417 992 798

**15 Mell Road Spearwood 6163
9434 5854**

**Anglican Parish of Spearwood
BSB 706-001**

Account Number 30003095



PERHAPS SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER
WAS NOT THE BEST WAY TO
LAUNCH THE CHURCH WEBSITE