

Anglican Parishes of St. Michael's, Spearwood & St. Edward's, Hilton.



# PEW NEWS



## Third Sunday After Epiphany

### *Bountiful God,*

through your Son you have called us to repent  
of our sin,

to believe the good news,

and to celebrate the coming of your kingdom:

teach us, like Christ's first apostles,

to hear the call to discipleship,

and, forsaking old ways,

to proclaim the gospel of new life to a broken  
world;

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

And Jesus said to them,  
"Follow me and I will  
make you fish for  
people." And  
immediately they left  
their nets and followed  
him.

**Mark 1:17-18**

### **This Week Readings**

1 Corinthians 7.29-31, Psalm 62.5-12, Mark 1.14-20

### **Next Week**

1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Psalm 111, Mark 1:21-28

## Is it even possible to make a new start?

The Christian faith teaches that a new start is endlessly possible. It is provided by a personal encounter with the risen and living Jesus Christ. He offers us the opportunity and the resources to make a new start, despite all our circumstances or failings.



The Bible records many encouraging examples of people who were able to start again after encountering Jesus. These include a woman caught in adultery who was facing execution by an outraged community, a hated tax collector named Zacchaeus who had been collaborating with the enemy, and Peter, the close friend of Jesus who publicly disowned him.

God's provision of a new start liberates people from the powerful hold that guilt, fear and memories of failure can have over a human. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus have made a way for humans to find God's forgiveness. A Christian is someone who has accepted God's forgiveness and now has the freedom to reject the old habits of bitterness, anger or revenge, like disposing of a 'shabby old coat'. Many Christians experience this as such a new beginning that they describe it as feeling like a different kind of life.



Forgiveness, however, is not the same as perfection. Although many Christians can look back to a specific time at which they made a decision to make a new start as a follower of the way of Jesus Christ, living up to a new way of being is an ongoing struggle. There is a frequent need to revisit and remember the new start. Church services almost always include a

point at which worshippers are encouraged to think about recent failures, confess them, and ask for the mercy of God in absolute certainty that He will forgive.

The Bible describes God's promises of mercy as 'new every morning'. It is in the gracious nature of God that mistakes and failures are not a stick to be beaten with, but an opportunity to change into something better.

*Revd. Debbie*

## CHURCHSAFE TRAINING

**All those in leadership roles; including:** Church Council members, Liturgical Assistants, LPM's, Treasurer, Warden, Welcomers, are required to attend this training followed by a refresher every three years.

Further details can be found at

<http://spearwoodchurch.org/churchsafe-training/>



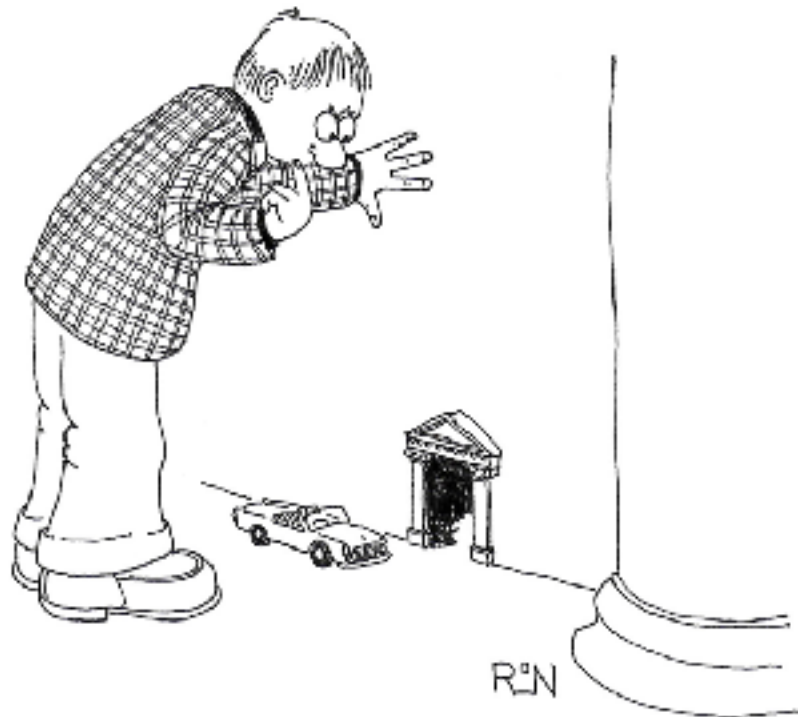
This is a unique  
national prayer service  
led by Aboriginal  
Christian Leaders

**Monday**  
**25 January**  
**4.30pm**

Simulcast nationally on  
ACCTV, on Radio and  
streamed online at  
[commongrace.org.au](http://commongrace.org.au)

Find a local place to participate with others, get an order of service booklet  
and commit to tuning in, at [www.commongrace.org.au/tunein](http://www.commongrace.org.au/tunein)

...and yet the Church Mice still put it about that they are poor.



**SPEARWOOD Rosters**

Date	Welcome	Readers	Prayer	Cleaning	LA/LPM	Flowers	M/Tea	Media
24th Jan	Maxine June	Eugene Priest	Lorraine	Langoia Lasike	Lorraine			Wayne Clana
31st Jan	Maxine June	June L Priest	Diana	Bridgid	Lorraine	Maxine		Wayne Cory

**Contact Details**

**Priest:** Revd Debbie May

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**Email:** revd.debbie@gmail.com

**Address:** 15 Mell Rd Spearwood WA 6163

**Parish Wardens:**

June Caunt: 9434 2745

Maxine Smith: 0417 992 798

BSB 706-001 Account No. 30003095

**HILTON**

**Contact Details**

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**BSB 706-001 Account No. 30003545**

**Parish Warden**

Terry Milligan 9336 5027

**Notices for inclusion next week to waynevmay@gmail.com by Tuesday**



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