

Anglican Parish of St. Michael's, Spearwood.



# PEW NEWS



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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. We seek to be a church that loves God, our local community and each other, in the same loving way that Christ loves us. Please join us for a cup of tea after the service. 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.

*Rev. Debbie*



**Do your part to  
keep WA safe**

**St Michaels, Spearwood**



### **Baptism**

Please pray for the family of Ivy Rose Anderson. Ivy will be baptised during our morning service on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Mum's name is Caitlyn and Dad is Khyle.

I'm sure you will make them and their guests very welcome.



### **Good News**

Revd. Debbie will be employed as Full Time Priest in Charge later this year when her term at Hilton comes to an end. Date to be advised. This is good news as we will be able to undertake much more work in the parish and the community. The Diocese are making a generous grant of \$40,000.00 to the parish to help cover her stipend.

It is hoped that as the church grows over the next few years we will be able to cover the priests full time stipend as a parish, then we will be able to appoint our priest as Rector. Please pray for the growth and development of the parish. We have some wonderful things being planned and in due time these will be brought to the whole church.

### **Home Group Meeting**

There will be a meeting on 9th June at 7.00pm to choose some study material and discuss how the group will work.

If you are interested in coming along, please let Revd. Debbie know.

Why is it important to be in home group?

It gives us opportunities to challenge each other, explore new ideas, frame problems and solutions in different ways, practice effective reasoning, use better judgement- and decision-making, and improve problem-solving skills. In **small groups**, creativity can be especially contagious.

Here are 6 reasons to join a home group.

1. In a home group, you are noticed.
2. Home groups give you an extended family.
3. Home groups allow you to search and ask questions.
4. Home groups provide advice and support.
5. Home groups can improve your communication skills and critical thinking abilities.
6. Home groups can improve your attitude.



And ultimately, home groups help the church grow.



## The Parable of the Great Banquet

### Dear Church Family

One thing that we've probably missed over the past year is parties. Well, as the vaccine rollout continues we should be able to party again soon! Lots of Jesus' parables focus on parties, as they are a picture of the joy, hope and life of the kingdom of God. The parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14: 15-24) challenges us not to miss out on this.

In Jesus' day, when people accepted an *invitation* to a banquet, they were only told the actual time on the day: '*Come, for everything is now ready*' (17). Jesus' invites each one of us to share in the life of His kingdom.

However, the guests made *excuses* for not coming. At the time, this would have been extremely insulting to the host. They said: '*I have just bought a field; I must try out my new team of oxen; I have just got married*' (18-20). These are all good things in themselves, however they reveal their priorities were elsewhere.

We too can be pre-occupied with our own routines of work, family, retirement, holidays, friends, home, social media, that we forget God's priorities for our lives. Jesus calls for total commitment from His disciples. *What priority in my life is holding me back from accepting His invitation?*

How did the host *respond*? He ordered His servants to '*Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.*' (21). He invited the unexpected and unacceptable people to His banquet. Jesus makes the point that *God's kingdom is open to all!* Thinking about our family, friends, colleagues and neighbours, even if they're not like us or show little interest in God: *Are we willing to offer them God's invitation to share His love and life?*

Revd. Debbie

### **Ladies Morning Tea**

The next Ladies Morning Tea will be on Monday 28th June at Beach Point Café, 47 Perlente View, North Coogee at 10.00am.

Cost \$15 includes tea/coffee and your choice of cake/scone.

### **Busy B Notice July 17<sup>th</sup> 9.00am start!**

This will be the start of making preparations for our future. I am hoping that everyone will be able and willing to help out in some way, there are plenty of jobs to be done. We will be cleaning the Church, doing some light maintenance work and making some preparation for what's to come in the gardens. I hope that you can make it.

### **Bunnings BBQ**

Our next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser is on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Helping out is a great way of raising funds for the parish as well as making friends in the church. Colleen will be busy preparing a roster for the day and will make it available in the next few weeks.

If you are available to help for a couple of hours please put the date in your diary and sign up on the Roster as soon as its available.

We will also be looking for volunteers to help slice onions during the week before. Thank you.

### **Annual Leave**

Revd. Debbie and Wayne will be on leave from church until July 12<sup>th</sup>. The Sunday Services will be led by visiting Priests and I know you will make them very welcome.

**“I’m sorry but the holiday-relief Priest not tailoring their sermon to fit in with the parking restrictions isn’t a valid excuse.”**



## **The Spaces Between**

Most of us have been in situations where we are not in control, and we don't know how to feel or how to react to our situation. We need help.

The most valuable gift you can have at those times – is time itself. Time to be 'listened to'. Really listened to. But it is not easy to find someone who will 'actively listen' to you.

Think of the last time you were in the reverse position with a friend or a colleague, and they were talking to you. How easily do you recall what they actually said? Most of us are so busy getting our replies ready for when the person has finished speaking, that we don't clearly hear their punch line.

With God it is different. We can take everything to Him; all our worries and cares and failures and faults. And He listens.

He doesn't necessarily jump in with an instant, easy solution, but rather He promises to always guide us, if we ask Him, through life's challenges, and He promises to never leave us. He often speaks to us through his written word, the Bible.

This last year, when many of us have been communicating with others by phone or Zoom, we get nervous if it all goes quiet. We feel the need to 'nudge' the other person, to make sure they are still there. Silence is not a natural state for many of us – and yet it is in the quiet we can hear ourselves and God most clearly.

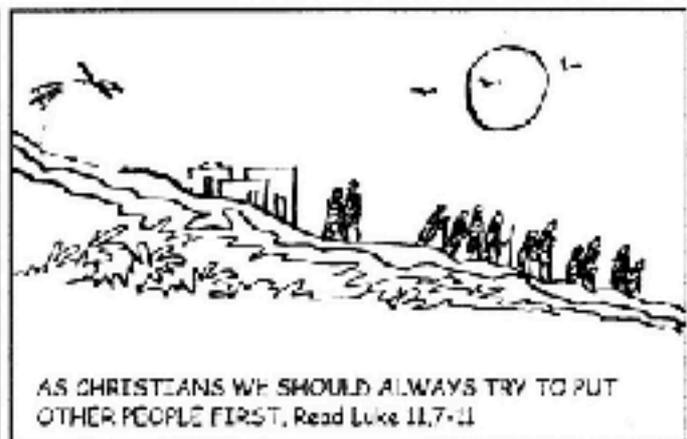
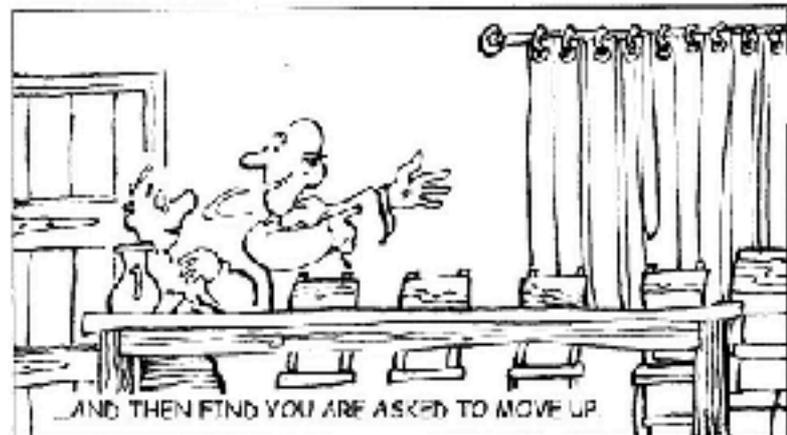
So, when we talk with God, our conversation should not be rushed and one-sided. We need to give space to our silence before Him, to wait and listen for Him to speak to us.

Next time you worship in church, listen to the silences: the spaces between the words, the music and the actions. Listen to all the prayers that are spoken.

Look at your surroundings and reflect that they have absorbed thousands of prayers – and holy silence – down the many years of their existence.

Look out the window and see the vastness of the sky above you – and let your prayers join with those that have gone before you. May the knowledge that you are not alone encourage and strengthen you.

*Jo White*





## On getting to church at a social distance

The Rectory  
St James the Least of All

*My dear Nephew Darren*

Since your parishioners mostly live in an area of half a square mile, where their only concern in getting to church is whether to take the underpass, or to risk a dash across the ring road, you may have little understanding of the problems our folk have in travelling our long country lanes to church, especially as we are keeping our social distance from each other.

Several parishioners have decided that they can't possibly share cars even with their own spouses, as in their 15-room homes they have successfully (and in some cases, happily) avoided each other for months. So the lane outside the church has filled up each week with Mercedes nudging Audis, and Land Rovers easing in between Bentleys.

Others arrive on horseback. But they are careless about leaving their horses to graze in the churchyard, and I have had to remind them twice that flowers in memorial vases are not fodder. The horses do help to keep the grass down, but unfortunately our verger now objects to standing outside during Mattins, holding the reins of half a dozen horses. He says it is not part of his job description, which only confirms my view that there is entirely too much fuss these days about having job descriptions at all.

Major Crompton's devotion to his new sit-on lawnmower has inspired him to travel to church on it. Since he is unable to uncouple the mowing apparatus, the tarmac on his two-mile drive is acquiring interesting patterns. His drive at two miles per hour along narrow lanes means he arrives leading a procession of cars with drivers given the opportunity to exercise the Christian virtue of patience.

Mrs Pendleton, on the other hand, leads a small but select group from the Mothers' Union who are all keen cyclists. They all arrive on a whoosh of fresh air, their hair in total disarray, but with pink cheeks glowing with health. Nobody in church minds sitting near them, as anyone who can manage to peddle an old three-gear bicycle up the hill to our church is most unlikely to be sickening for anything.

Finally, of course, the majority arrive on foot, having negotiated fields, stiles and assorted cattle on the way. The countryside may well praise God, but one does wish they wouldn't bring quite so much of it into church.

Your loving uncle,

*Eustace*

**Great religious truths**

During these serious and troubled times, people of all faiths should remember these four great religious truths:

Muslims do not recognise Jews as God’s Chosen People.

Jews do not recognise Jesus as the Messiah.

Protestants do not recognise the Pope as the leader of the Christian world.

Methodists do not recognise each other in the pub.

**Readings**

**This Week:** 2 Corinthians 4. 13-5.1, Psalm 138, Mark 3.20-35  
**13th June:** 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17, Psalm 20, Mark 4: 26-34  
**20th June:** 2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Psalm 9:9-20, Mark 4:35-41  
**27th June:** 2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Psalm 130, Mark 5:21-43  
**4th July:** 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Psalm 48, Mark 6:1-13  
**11th July:** Ephesians 1:1-14, Psalm 24, Mark 6:14-29

**ROSTERS**

Date	Welcome	Readers	Prayer	Cleaning	LA/LPM	Flowers	M/Tea	Media	Music Communion
6th June	Maxine June	Bernard Priest	Maxine	Bridgid	Lorraine			Wayne Corey	Kelcey
13th June	Maxine June	Eugene Priest	June	Isaleli Tuipuloto	Colleen	Maxine	Len	Ciana Corey	
20th June	Maxine June	Kelcey Priest	Bern	Langoia Lasike	Maree			Ciana Corey	Kelcey
27th June	Maxine June	Maree Priest	Diana	Bridgid	Maxine	Colleen	Len	Ciana Corey	
4th July	Maxine June	Maria Priest	Maxine	Isaleli Tuipuloto	Lorraine			Ciana Corey	Kelcey
11th July	Maxine June	Victoria Priest	June	Langoia Lasike	Colleen	Maxine		Wayne Ciana	

**Contact Details**  
**Priest:** Revd Debbie May  
**Mobile:** 0473 368 268  
**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




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