



The ANGLICAN PARISH of
Leongatha

Sunday 22nd November 2020- Christ the King

PARISH VISION

Preparing the way for the love of Jesus Christ to reach all people.

A YEAR OF MISSION

On Vision Sunday the Rector designated 2020 to be a Year of Mission.

Sentence

O shout to the Lord in triumph all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his face with songs of joy. Psalm 100:1

Prayer of the Week

Stir up, we pray you, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46



Pastoral Care

For pastoral care needs please contact Rector of Leongatha- Graham Knott
0490 045 581 rectorleongatha@gmail.com

Assistant Curate and Response Coordinator- Belinda Seabrook
0438 622 721 ministryleongatha@gmail.com

8am Hymns

1. At the name of Jesus (TIS 231)
2. The King of Love my Shepherd is (TIS 145)
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say (TIS 585)
4. When I needed a Neighbour (TIS 629)

Financial Stewardship

Leongatha Anglican Church

Electronic banking details **BSB Number** 083 735 **Account Number** 515883623.

Cheques may be posted to PO Box 271, Leongatha, Vic 3953. Payable to 'Leongatha Anglican Church Parish Council Parish Account'.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS- MINISTRY UPDATE

Leongatha Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Parish of Leongatha will take place during Sunday Evening Prayer on the Sunday 22nd November beginning at 4.00pm. There are two ways to take part in the meeting. We are permitted to have two groups of ten in church. In the short-term we would encourage those who do not have an internet availability to register for this by being in touch with Belinda Seabrook (0438622721) before Friday 20 November. We will initially reserve ten for such people. We are willing to receive face to face bookings for the other ten however please bear in mind that you may need to be flexible and change from one mode to another.

There will be a Zoom meeting taking place concurrently for which there is no limit on numbers. The link for this is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85022202767?pwd=OVFxUzZicXU4K2hvbGlrXJ0TkV5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 850 2220 2767

Passcode: 970968

However you are able to attend we would encourage as many parishioners as possible to be present.

The Annual General Meeting of the centre of St Peters, Leongatha will follow straight after the conclusion of the Parish AGM with the same ways of attending.

We look forward to seeing you. If you are unable to attend please register your apology to Belinda or Graham.

Belinda Seabrook

Belinda is being ordained priest in the Church of God next Saturday morning at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale. This is a very special moment in the life of our parish as it has been many, many years since we have shared the development of a home grown stipendiary priest. The requirements for ordination are now higher than they have ever been in the Anglican Church of Australia. We look for those who have a deep and genuine sense of calling which will sustain them, expect them to complete rigorous psychological assessment and attend a three day residential selection conference after which not all candidates are recommended for ordination. We also have high academic and vocational expectations. In addition to the sacrificial ministry which Belinda has shared with us particularly during this most challenging of years, Belinda has continued her academic studies achieving a double distinction in the final semester of 2020. We offer Belinda all our prayers, love, and special congratulations as she takes this next step in ministry. Unfortunately not all of us are able to attend due to limited numbers. The Service will be available on livestream for people to watch. Belinda will celebrate Holy Communion for the first time next Sunday, Advent Sunday - a special time to mark a new beginning as we gather together.

Rod Burney

We are desperately sad to announce the sudden death of Rod Burney who died following a road accident near Fulham on Tuesday morning. Rod is the husband of Archdeacon Brenda Burney, rector Bairnsdale. Rod and Brenda have been part of the Diocese of Gippsland all their lives and are known and loved by many in our Diocese. Please pray for Brenda, the family and the parish of Bairnsdale. We will let you know about the funeral details when they are available. Due to limited numbers permitted at the funeral we may well plan to view the Livestream together in church if that is able to be arranged.

Working Bee Number 3!

A third working bee has been organized for Wednesday 25th November 9am-11am In the Op Shop gardens. Please bring your gloves and your clippers! Contact Brigid Kennedy on 0404 912370 for more details.

Annual Meeting Annual meeting for the centre of Meeniyan-Dumbalk takes place in Meeniyan on 4th December immediately following Holy Communion.

The Gippsland Anglican November

https://www.gippsanglican.org.au/assets/00TGA/2020/TGA_Nov_20_FINAL.pdf

Hard copies Anglican are available in the Narthex after Church services.

Return to Public Worship

On 1st of November public face to face ministry resumed at St Peter's Leongatha. At this time, we are offering 5 weekly services of up to 20 people, additional Sunday services will be arranged if services fill to ensure everyone has the opportunity to worship and that no one is turned away. Current service times are below. To register for a service please email ministryleongatha@gmail.com or text or call 0438 622721

Sunday

Holy Communion - 8am, 10am, 11:30am & 1pm

Wednesday

Holy Communion - 11am

2020 Annual General Meeting Timeline

Wednesday 30 th September	Close books and prepare financial returns
Sunday 25 th October	Books and financial papers to parish office (Graham Knott) by 1pm for audit
Sunday 25 th October	All reports posted to PO Box 271 Leongatha or emailed to ministryleongatha@gmail.com by 1pm (for collation)
Sunday 25 th October	Nominations open 9am
Sunday 8 th November	AGM meeting booklet available
Sunday 15 th November	Nominations close 9pm
Sunday 22 nd November	Parish Annual General Meeting 4pm
Sunday 22 nd November	St Peter's Leongatha AGM (directly after Parish AGM)
Friday 4 th December	St Andrew's Dumbalk and St David's Meeniyan AGM (time to be advised)
Sunday 13 th December	St Andrew's Tarwin Lower AGM 11:30am (After 10:30am Service)

LET US PRAY

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

- Praise God for his creative power, that he knows the times and seasons the beginning and the end. That nothing is too difficult for him and that He is trustworthy.

- Praise God for His faithfulness.
- Pray for the Governments around the World. Pray for justice and fairness that peoples may live in safety.
- Pray for countries affected by storms, flood, landslides. Pray for our own country as the Bushfire season has begun and in some places there have already been fires to be dealt with.
- Pray for those places where the Corona Virus is out of control. Pray for health workers who are already exhausted.
- Pray for those on the front line of law and order.
- Pray for those who have lost loved ones in recent times. May the Lord comfort those who mourn and be their strength in the days ahead.
- Pray for those who are sick, those in constant pain, those who are confused, those suffering mental illness or trauma.
- May the Lord bless and keep our dear ones in every place where they are.

Readings for next week 29th November

First Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122

Romans 13:9-14 (15-21)

Matthew 24:36-44



GRAHAM'S GEMS

22nd November 2020

You can learn a lot about people by sharing Morning Prayer on Zoom. One of our number used to keep 25 goats! The story is that they started with four and that one was unexpectedly a male so the four multiplied rapidly to 25! The person owned 7.5 acres of which one acre was blackberries and the goats cleared the lot – no chemicals used there just the natural goat eating machine. Apparently the person's sons named all the goats after the girls they didn't like at school! They produced

cashmere wool which was donated to weavers. So who says that goats don't do good things or achieve remarkable things? That person echoed something I have always felt namely that the goats in The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25:31-46) get a raw deal. Goats have lots to recommend them. They provide milk, cheese, yoghurt and meat. Goats thrive on relationships with each other and with people they know. They are

also naturally inquisitive and curious always looking to discover what is going on. Goats are surprisingly gentle yet they remain independent. They are able to climb, jump, crawl, get over or under things. Goats are great escapologists. In fact it's been said that if a goat stays in your paddock it's because they want to! So goats have an amazing variety of uses and qualities which make them rather special animals and far more than the undiscerning consumers of garbage which is the way they are portrayed. It, therefore, seems a bit unfair that they are compared so unfavourably with sheep in the parable. Unless, of course, you're a one eyed sheep supporter! The reality is that both species have qualities to recommend them and potential issues. In those days Middle Eastern sheep and goats were mixed in the one flock and were not initially easy for an outsider to distinguish. Yet there were obviously clear differences. So why are all goats deemed to be bad and all sheep deemed good? You would expect there to be some good and bad sheep, some good and bad goats. Perhaps Jesus doesn't want us to focus on sheep and goats at all. Perhaps the parable is designed to show us that we often focus on the wrong things and miss the point. The point is that both sheep and goats were completely unaware of what their hearts led them to do or not do. Both sheep and goats are portrayed as being surprised by what Christ the King says to them. Both sheep and goats are complexly unaware of whether they are doing good things or omitting to do so. That's interesting. Many Christians I know freely bless their fellow Christians but they are aware of that. They may be humble in the giving but generally they know. The blessing then lies in doing the good things simply because we have a heart of compassion. This brings me closer to wondering whether Jesus had the thought of compassion in his heart whenever he thought of sheep. In Matthew 9:36 Jesus, "When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." The gospels continue to be rich in imagery regarding Jesus describing himself as the Good Shepherd and the qualities of sheep who know and follow him. In Matthew 9 the sheep are the recipients of care – in Matthew 25 the sheep are the unknowing sharers of care in this final section immediately prior to the events of the crucifixion. Perhaps this is the point – the transition of having received the good news of Jesus is that we share unknowingly in his ministry. The sheep are no longer 'harassed and helpless.' Their calling is now to care for others who are. It remains a challenging parable simply because every good action from which we feel good is shown to be of little or no worth when Christ the King comes. Our goodness is to emerge from a transformed heart which no longer notices the good. The challenge is to ask God to make us aware of the brother or sister in Christ who we are simply overlooking. We will be judged for such unknowing neglect.

SERMON Notes: