



The ANGLICAN PARISH of  
*Leongatha*

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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### 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

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other. 1 Thessalonians 5:9, 11



### Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, whose sovereign purpose none can make void: give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, knowing that your kingdom shall come and your will be done, to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Readings

Judges 4:1-10

Psalm 123

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

## **Pastoral Care**

For pastoral care needs please contact Rector of Leongatha- Graham Knott  
0490 045 581 [rectorleongatha@gmail.com](mailto:rectorleongatha@gmail.com)

Assistant Curate and Response Coordinator- Belinda Seabrook  
0438 622 721 [ministryleongatha@gmail.com](mailto:ministryleongatha@gmail.com)

## **8am Hymns**

1. Immortal invisible (TIS 143)
2. From heaven you came (TIS 256)
3. Take my life (TIS 599)
4. Love divine (TIS 217)

## **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.

## Nominations for upcoming AGM

Nominations for the upcoming AGM close Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 9pm. Please email or hand completed forms to Belinda or Graham, or place in the box in the Narthex after church.

## Working Bee Number 2!

After the 11am service on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November there will be a second working bee in the op shop garden. Bring your gloves and your clippers!

## The Gippsland Anglican November

[https://www.gippsanglican.org.au/assets/00TGA/2020/TGA\\_Nov\\_20\\_FINAL.pdf](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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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 <sup>th</sup> September	Close books and prepare financial returns
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Books and financial papers to parish office (Graham Knott) by 1pm for audit
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	All reports posted to PO Box 271 Leongatha or emailed to <a href="mailto:ministryleongatha@gmail.com">ministryleongatha@gmail.com</a> by 1pm (for collation)
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Nominations open 9am
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	AGM meeting booklet available
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Nominations close 9pm
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	<b>Parish Annual General Meeting 4pm</b>

Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	St Peter's Leongatha AGM (directly after Parish AGM)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	St Andrew's Dumbalk and St David's Meeniyan AGM (time to be advised)
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	St Andrew's Tarwin Lower AGM 11:30am (After 10:30am Service)

## LET US PRAY

### A Modern Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

- Pray for countries of the World as they go through further political unrest, natural disasters and rising COVID cases.
- Pray for our society that as we move around with more freedom we will continue to use those safe practices we have learned. We pray for those returning to work or looking for work and for all those living with uncertainty and confusion.
- Pray for those who are grieving for those whom they have lost, for dreams not realised and hopes dashed. May Jesus be their strength and a firm hope for the days ahead.

### Prayer Chain

For prayer chain requests please contact Maryann Ashton on 0438 644 315

### Readings for next week 22<sup>nd</sup> November Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalms 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46



## GRAHAM'S GEMS

### 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020

"Oh my goodness! Have I turned into an emotional junkie?" I was thinking that it would be really nice for some people, well a few people, maybe just one person to say, 'Well done, Graham' and how that would make my day. Perhaps because it's a bit dull and coolish as I write this. The sun has gone to bed today and I need something to make me feel better. I'm never at my best when the sun is behind the clouds. Perhaps it is because I got out of bed on the wrong side this morning. Did I decide in

myself that this is going to be a bad day before I started? Maybe it's because I try to encourage other people and would like a little encouragement back sometimes. Perhaps it's because nobody – well very few I remember – said, 'Well done' to me when I was a child. The one which stands out to me was a school swimming coach. He was a person with extremely high standards and no matter how hard we tried, it didn't seem to be enough. Save that we always seemed to achieve more than was expected when the races mattered. Then he would say, 'Well done' to the team and search us out as individuals during the events and say, 'Well done.' The next day he was back to being a slave driver. Or perhaps it's because I'm an abject failure. What if I haven't done anything worthy of praise or affirmation? Yeeearch!!!

Twice in Matthew 25 Jesus is represented as saying, "well done" to people after they have been faithful with all that was entrusted to them. In both cases the people are entrusted with more. This, it seems to me, is a good application of 'well done.' The positive affirmation opens me to new possibility, perhaps to achieve more than I had previously thought. I can see fresh horizons and believe that I can reach them. The negative 'what ifs' begin to diminish as I interpret possibility differently. 'Well done', therefore, enables me to solve problems that I may have thought insurmountable previously. Seeing myself in a positive way makes a huge difference. Perhaps this is what made the difference for Jesus. During Jesus' baptism God audibly spoke, saying, "'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'" (Matthew 3:17) Mmmm. Our "well dones" are usually based on something very tangible and measurable. We're told that Jesus grew up "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and people" (Luke 2:52). However we have no records of Jesus scoring great kingdom goals before

his baptism. So does a divine 'Well done' describe a future as well as a past achievement – about potential and heart rather than achievement?

Regardless of that did the awareness of his heavenly Father's affirmation prepare Jesus for the ordeal of dying on the Cross and for forsakenness and separation from the one who had affirmed him?

Intriguingly Google seemed to display numbers of articles explaining why, in the authors' view, parents should stop saying, 'Good job', or 'Well done.' Our children are apparently emotionally shrunken by the unthinking, over-use of these words. Instead we are generally encouraged to do three things with our children. The first is to say nothing and allow our children to evaluate their own achievements. That's exactly what my (and many of your) parents did. It didn't work. It turned us into driven people working harder and harder for simple approval. The second strategy is to 'say what we see.' Examples could be, 'I see you tied your shoelaces for the first time, I see you gained a doctorate at university, I see you had a baby....' Apparently this adds a sense of identity to the other person and affirms them because we have noticed. Another suggested strategy is to 'talk less – ask more.' Examples could be, 'What was the part you enjoyed most about tying your own shoelaces, gaining a doctorate or having a baby?' If you are in the maternity ward when you ask the last question, be prepared to run fast because you might just have something thrown at you! There is, it seems to me, a problem when we keep trying to put mature adult heads onto children. Any child, in my view, thrives on three things happening concurrently: 'Good job', a look of delight on a parent's face, and a hug and far more children are diminished because they have never or rarely received such things.

We are all dearly loved children of our heavenly Father. Whilst part of God's character is about necessary discipline the greater part is affirming, encouraging and uplifting. God longs for us to hear many times, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Even more Holy Spirit longs for us to hear God saying, "You are my child, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Hearing that voice will revolutionize your life. And having heard that voice speak 'well done' or 'good job' to as many of your sisters and brothers in Christ as Holy Spirit leads you. God's children of all ages are built up by your encouragement.