



The ANGLICAN PARISH of
Leongatha

Sunday 1st November 2020- All Saints Day

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

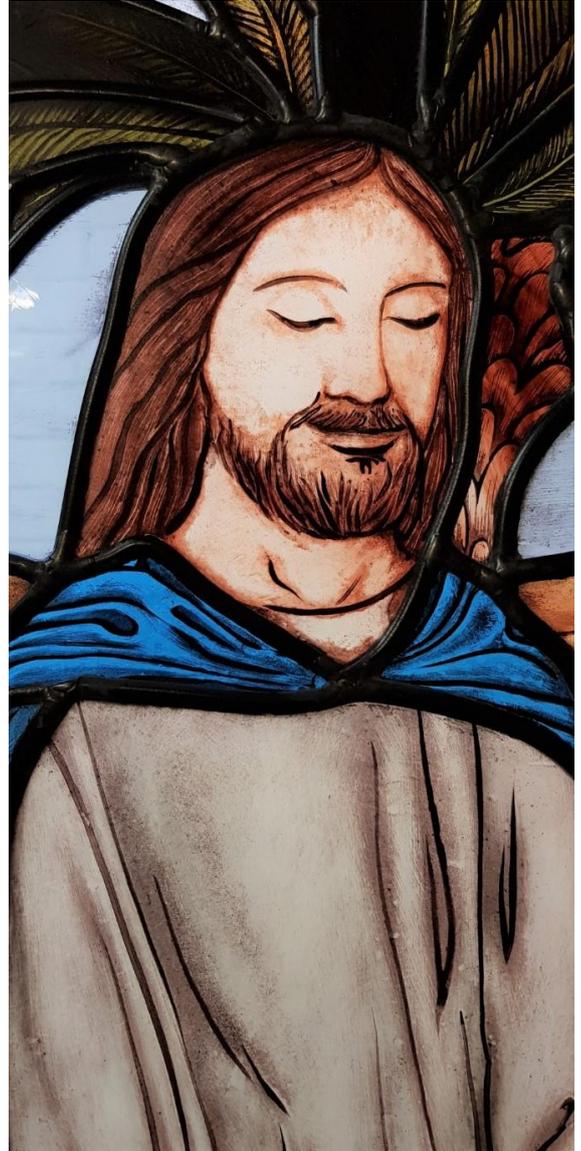
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:10

Prayer of the Week

God our Father, whose will it is to bring all things to order and unity in our Lord Jesus Christ: may all the peoples of the world, now divided and torn apart by sin, be brought together under his sovereign rule of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12



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 TIS

455- For all the Saints verses 1-3

448- Blest are the pure in heart

455- For all the Saints verses 4-6

455- For all the Saints verses 7-8

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

A Note from the Rector

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the Roman Christians he said that he longed to see them so that he could share spiritual gifts with them. (Romans 1:11)

There are some very special things that happen when God's people meet together. Spiritual gifts are shared in whatever shape or form that may be.

We are simply not the same when we are apart. The community of the church - the Body of Christ - is diminished in every way no matter how hard we try to maintain connection. How wonderful then for us to be able to worship together again. We are so blessed and thankful for the way the Lord has watched over us during these past months of restrictions. Now let us make our thankfulness known to all - to the Lord and to one another. Today our longing to see one another begins to be satisfied. God is good - share the blessings with each other, pray for those still unable to meet in other places. Remember those places still burdened by the presence of the virus. But above all give thanks and pray for one another. Who cares about our minor inconveniences and things being a bit different? Be thankful and bless God and each other.

Nominations for upcoming AGM

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

The Gippsland Anglican October

https://www.gippsanglican.org.au/assets/00TGA/2020/TGA_October_20FINA L.pdf

Hard copies of the September and October Gippsland Anglican are available in the Narthex after Church services.

Return to Public Worship

As of today Sunday 1st November, St Peter's is resuming public face to face worship services. 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

8am – Traditional Service of Holy Communion

10am – Holy Communion

11:30 - Holy Communion

Wednesday

11am – Holy Communion

12 noon – Holy Communion

Mainly Music

Dear St Peter's Families mainly music is our ministry program reaching out to families in the community with pre-school children. In pre-covid times, we had a very popular program, with 25 families enrolled, and attendance of around 30 children and 20 parents/carers each week. We are hoping to be able to hold a Christmas celebration and picnic before the end of the year, to re-connect with our families and celebrate the "graduation" of those going off to kinder or school next year. We will be giving each family a Christmas book, and each graduating child a children's Bible. If you would like to contribute, to tell our families they are loved and prayed for, we would love to receive your donations. The Christmas books cost \$4 each and the children's Bibles \$18.

If you would like to include a Christmas message to a family, write it in an email to Heather Scott at scottheather1953@gmail.com and we will write it onto a card to go with the book.

To donate the cost of a book for a **mainly music** family this Christmas, make an EFT deposit to 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'.

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)

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is a structured half hour service that includes Old and New testament Bible readings, a time for reflection and discussion of the Scriptures and a time to pray together. Morning Prayer is offered Monday to Friday at 9am via Zoom. It is easy to join and a special way to meet and worship together in the current lock down.

If you are interested please contact Belinda or Maryann Ashton – maryannashton423@gmail.com

HELP WITH TECHNOLOGY

St Peter's Church is currently connecting via, home phone, mobile phone, email, website, Facebook, YouTube and Zoom. If you need some help with technology please be in touch, we would be happy to help you.

Readings for next week 8th November

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
1 Thessalonians 4:9-18

Psalms 78:1-7
Matthew 25:1-13

LET US PRAY

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary, praise him in his mighty heavens. Psalm 150:1

- Praise the Lord for the beauty of creation.
- Praise the Lord for his love and faithfulness.
- Praise the Lord for his overwhelming goodness.
- Praise the Lord for enabling a return to meeting together to worship.
- Give thanks for our Government both Federal and State. Give thanks that hard decisions have been made to fight the ongoing virus.
- Give thanks for our health.
- Pray for those who we may know who are suffering from any illness or disease.
- Pray for those who care for them.
- Pray for those who grieve the loss of loved ones.
- Pray for the people of France particularly Nice as they grieve for those killed recently.
- Pray for the country of the United States as they go through the last days leading to the Election.
- Pray for the United Kingdom and the countries around the World where numbers of people contracting Covid are rising every day.

Prayer Chain

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



GRAHAM'S GEMS

1st November 2020

When I was growing up my father gave me an adventure book about the saints of old. I loved reading stories of those who set sail in small boats not knowing where they were going but prompted by the love of God. I loved imagining, in my young mind, what it was like to leave a cultured European city like Rome and end up amongst uneducated, warlike people who the book described as savages. Bede, Augustine, Patrick, Aidan, Alban, Julius, Aaron and so the list goes on. Fascinating names such

as Elias the Hermit or Peter, Paul, Andrew and Denise. Whoever was called Denise seventeen hundred years ago? A very, very brave young woman if you read her story.

The trouble was that I grew up thinking that saints were those who lived heroically, died tragically and always left behind them stories which would excite young boys hundreds and hundreds of years later. To be a saint was to be someone very, very special in 'world next' after a person died. Very few of the saints were seen as heroes in their day. In fact the stories of stonings, beheadings, crucifixions and any number of murderous penalties leap out from the pages of their stories. Though often popular with the crowds, the majority of saints seem to have been hugely unpopular with the governing authorities of most nations. To be a saint and to be a martyr seemed to be fairly closely connected. Whoever and whatever a saint was and is; it didn't feel much like me.

As with so much of life the answer lies in football! When I was a boy at school I could kick a footy around with the rest of them, mark, pass the ball and score the odd goal (it was usually 'odd' – I scored far more points). To say I was a footy player was true but I knew from a very young age that I would not be out there with Richmond. There are footy players and footy players just as there are saints and saints. The description of a saint in the Book of Revelation is 'a person who has washed their robes white in the blood of the lamb.' Those who seek the Lord with all their heart receive the Lord as he promised. (Jeremiah 29:12) All who love and follow Jesus are therefore saints. Most people reading this are saints.

Once we are saints the challenge is to discover our particular purpose and calling. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

(Jeremiah 29:11) Discovering and living out that plan was what fired the imaginations, hearts and attitudes of those adventurous saints of long ago. They began as ordinary saints like you and me and then they discovered a voice urging them to something fresh in the service of the kingdom. None of them would have thought they were anything but ordinary Christians taking the next step following Jesus. The difference is that they had discovered their purpose. Many contemporary Christians struggle with full assurance of their identity in Christ and consequently many never move forward into their Jesus shaped purpose.

All Saints Day (1 November) also encourages us to remember thankfully all those who have encouraged our faith in Jesus and are now at rest in the Lord. The day reminds us that we are not alone but there is a long history of people who have boldly and bravely followed Jesus and sustained their faith in him through good and hard times. Having celebrated the exploits of the great saints of God in Hebrews 11 the writer confidently begins Hebrews 12; “since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Whoever and wherever you are,

you are not alone. There are many more than you know who are urging and encouraging you forward. All Saints Day is a wonderful day of encouragement and reminder to us that Jesus never abandons those who are his.

