



The ANGLICAN PARISH of
Leongatha

July 4th 2021 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



PARISH VISION

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

A YEAR OF FULFILLING POTENTIAL

On Vision Sunday the Rector designated 2021 to be a Year of fulfilling your Holy Spirit shape and potential.

Sentence

Of Jesus many said, 'What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands!' Mark 6.2

Prayer of the Week

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding:

pour into our hearts such love toward you, that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastoral Care

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

Associate Priest- Belinda Seabrook
0438 622 721 ministryleongatha@gmail.com

Weekly Services of Holy Communion – St Peter’s Leongatha

Sunday

Holy Communion - 8am, 10:30am

Wednesday

Holy Communion - 11am followed by a Community Lunch

Service of Holy Communion- St David’s Meeniyan

Friday 7:30pm – 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month

Service of Holy Communion -St Andrew’s Tarwin lower

2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month 10:30am

There is **no need to pre-register or “book in”** for a service. It is still a government requirement however that we keep, for a temporary period of time, the name and a contact number of every person that attends a service. This can be provided at the door on the day you attend.

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’.

Readings – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Nehemiah 1:10-2:10

Psalms 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

Hymns

102 Praise to the living God

689 Lord hear my praying

112 Through all the changing scenes of life

560 (i) All my hope on God is founded

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS- MINISTRY UPDATE

Tea and Coffee Roster – St Peter’s

Currently the refreshments team are looking for more volunteers to help after the 10:30am services. If you can help please contact Pam 0448 140 814

GEMS Meeting 7th July 2021

The inter-church men's Christian fellowship group GEMS (God's Ecumenical Men Servants) will meet at the Salvation Army Centre, Leongatha on **Wednesday 7th July at 7.30 pm**. Mr. Lindsay Murphy will speak about his experiences while in East Timor.

Covid Update

Recent government announcements have allowed face to face ministry to return at St Peter's, as well as the outcentres. **Masks are currently required indoors so please bring one along when you attend**. Due to relaxing of restrictions we are now back to our **2 regular services, 8am and 10:30am at St Peter's Leongatha**. There is no need to prebook your attendance at a service, please just come as normal. If you have any questions, please be in touch with a staff member. At the moment households are only able to receive **15 visitors** a day, this allows most homegroups to resume meeting normally.

Kids and Youth Band

Expressions of interest are encouraged as planning has started on a St Peter's Kids and Youth band! Hooray! If you would like more information please contact Leanne Langkopf on 0410007979

Stay Informed- Are you on the mailing list?

Please keep reading your emails and newsletters to keep up to date with the changing and evolving Covid-19 situation in the state, as well as, the Leongatha Community. If you know of anyone who would appreciate being on our email mailing list, please encourage them to forward their contact to 0438 622721 or ministryleongatha@gmail.com

Recording of 10:30 Sunday Service

Each Sunday our 10:30 service is recorded to upload onto the St Peter's Youtube Channel. Each week this is watched by approximately 50+ people connected with the Parish. If there is something that is deeply personal you do not wish to be shared online, for example a personal testimony, please inform Doug Kelly or a member of staff on the day of recording so that the final clip can be edited before published online.

Readings for Next Week Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Nehemiah 2:1-10 Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:1-14 Mark 6:14-29

LET US PRAY

My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."
2Corinthians 12:9

- Give the Lord praise and thanks for all he has done for us. Praise him for the splendour of his creation.
- Thank him for the blessing of family and friends.
- Praise him for the country in which we live and pray for our government.
- Pray for the Bishop of Gippsland, for our Rector, Graham and for Belinda. Pray for their health and protection, for wisdom and energy. Pray that the Lord would give each of them good health, joy and laughter. Pray for Bishop Richard as he goes away with his family this coming week and for Graham as he stands in as Vicar General.
- Pray for the North Western states in Canada as they cope with surging temperatures and fires. Pray for the families who have lost homes and family members. Particularly remember the town of Lytton which burnt to the ground this week.
- Continue to pray for the people of Miami as they search the rubble looking for bodies under the collapsed building.



GRAHAM GEMS

4th July 2021

An impotent Jesus? Surely not! Yet that is the vivid picture set before us in Mark 6. There are situations and contexts – circumstances which render Jesus, the incarnate creator of the universe, virtually powerless. “Jesus could not do any miracles there except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. And he was amazed at their lack of faith.” (6:5-6) Something astonishing is recorded here which is far more

than simply ‘familiarity breeds contempt.’ This incident reaches the core of the battle between the kingdom of God and that of Satan and reveals the way that such division is perpetually revealed whenever Jesus is clearly portrayed. There can be no powerful revelation of the good news of Jesus without the weaker attack of Satan. Satan always exploits those who are weaker or vulnerable in futile attempts to derail the saving ministry of Jesus.

The beginning of this incident reveals Jesus welcomed home as a person of some significance. A billy-no-mates and an incompetent person would not be invited to teach in the synagogue. Jesus begins as someone highly respected until he shares a dazzling revelation of how effectively the Holy Spirit can speak through him. What was glorious possibility for some people who were amazed released astonishing rejection in others. Anderson, the author, writes that this passage is crucially place such that we “may perceive the shadow of the cross already falling on Jesus’ ministry.” Those who reject Jesus see the miracles, perhaps some even experienced them, and sit under the teaching but use the evidence of the miracles themselves to reject Jesus. What madness is this? Quite simply the madness that has assailed the work of God ever since. The work of the kingdom of God advances in the context of faith – faith that doesn’t burden the individual with sufficiency or otherwise but mustard seeds in individuals working in unity together which creates the context of expectancy. For every movement of the Holy Spirit since Jesus there continues to be an almost equal number of cynics who cannot believe that God really works through simple, ordinary people. I was recently blessed to watch a Healing Service which had been entrusted to the children to pray for adult’s healing. Hundreds of children were praying for many more hundreds of adults including some who have significant healing ministries. It was wonderful to watch but it gave pause for thought....who might be the Jesus among us who we would reject when they pray and move powerfully in the things of God?

So Jesus moves on – there is no point his staying around. The memory of ministering among familiar people saddens his spirit. Yet when all is apparently lost the Holy Spirit leads Jesus to the point where the effect of his ministry multiplies exponentially. The efforts of those who would rubbish and discredit the ministry is swept aside unexpectedly and imaginatively. The Holy Spirit is creative where Satan can only mimic what is already happening. Jesus calls the twelve apostles around them and sends them out to broaden the scope of his ministry. These people are completely beyond their competence and knowledge. If anyone is going to receive miraculous ministry, it has to be through the Holy Spirit. If anybody is going to be impressed by their teaching, it has to be through their Holy Spirit. Where one bunch of people chooses not to be impressed by the ministry among them and rejects it, Jesus is far from finished. Out of this apparent rejection emerges more good than it is possible to record. Twelfefold multiplication of the ministry. Imagine what the people familiar with Jesus thought! Perhaps, ‘we tried to silence Jesus but he is everywhere we turn.’ Jesus may well have echoed the words of Joseph after his brothers sold him into slavery and he eventually became the provider and guardian of the nation. Meeting his brothers Joseph said, “You intended to harm me, but

God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Ironically the rejection by some people meant that many others were saved. Something was released.

It takes a lot to amaze Jesus. He is recorded twice as being amazed. Once by the faith of the Roman centurion, not even numbered among the people of Israel. The centurion recognised that the authority of Jesus was sufficient to heal his servant at a distance. Jesus was very positively amazed at the enormity of his faith. Once in this incident where Jesus is negatively amazed at the lack of faith from his own people. When Jesus looks at you, how is he amazed?

Sermon Notes: