Cross & Keys February/March 2021 - Newsletter of Saint Peter's Church



Holy Week Service Times 2021 Saint Peter's Anglican Church



Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday: 28th March - 1st April

Palm Sunday:

8.30am Palm Procession & Holy Eucharist

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday:

8am Holy Eucharist

7pm Holy Week Reflection & Compline

Maundy Thursday:

7pm Eucharist of the Last Supper

& Stripping of the Altar

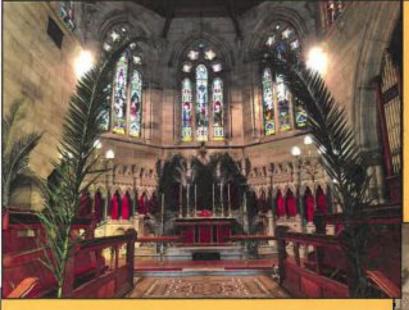


Easter Vigil: 3rd April

7pm Lighting of the New Fire,

Re-affirmation of Baptismal

Vows and the First Eucharist of Easter



Easter Day: 4th April

6am Ecumenical Dawn Service

at Stockade Hill

8.30am Easter Day Holy Eucharist

with re-affirmation of

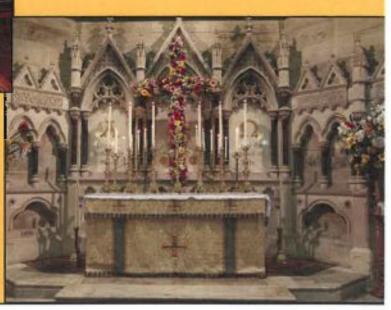
Baptismal Vows at St Peter's

Good Friday: 2nd April

8.30am Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday

and Veneration of the Cross

7pm Tenebrae Service



The Anglican Parish of East Maitland Saint Peter's Church 49 William Street East Maitland

Serving the Communities of Ashtonfield, East Maitland, Four Mile Creek, Louth Park, Metford, Pitnacree, Tenambit and the Hunter Region



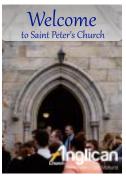
Parish Office & Parish Information The Parish Office is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 3 pm (note change of times). The Office is the first point of contact for all parish enquiries and bookings. If the office is unattended please leave a message. Contact details and information about our regular activities can be found in our *Welcome Guide* available at the back of church, on the parish website, or through the Parish Office.

Pastoral Care Please advise the Parish Office of any pastoral needs and especially if someone is in hospital. If you need the assistance of a priest at any time please contact the Parish Office. After hours the office telephone will provide a mobile phone number for a member of staff who can assist you, or you can leave a message.

Baptisms and Weddings Information about baptisms (christenings) is available on our parish website. Information about holding a wedding at Saint Peter's is available in our Wedding Guide and on our website. The best way to make an enquiry about baptisms or weddings is through our websites.

<u>Site Hire</u> The Parish Hall is available for hire for one-off or regular community and commercial events.

<u>School & Retirement Living</u> We commend to you our Anglican College at Fletcher and our Retirement Village in Tenambit.









Parish Office:

Open: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday - 9am-3pm
Telephone: (02) 4934 5303
E-mail: office@eastmaitlandanglican.org
Website: www.eastmaitlandanglican.org
Mailing: PO Box 662 East Maitland NSW 2323

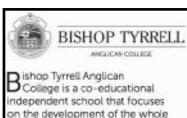
Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland

Saint Peter's Columbarium

The mortal remains of many of our friends and loved ones rest in the columbarium niches and memorial garden.

We invite all members of our local community to consider our columbarium as the final resting place for their cremated remains, where family members and descendants can visit.

For further details about purchasing a columbarium niche please speak to Maryka in the Parish Office.



environment.

Enrolments are now open.

To find out more visit our website www.btac.nsw.edu.au or contact ou

child within a caring, Christian

Registrar on 02 4979 8488.





Scott's Spot

Welcome to our first Cross & Keys for 2021! In a change from previous years we are moving from a monthly edition of Cross and Keys and anticipate that we will be publishing Cross and Keys every two months.

As we go to print for this edition we have just begun our lenten journey towards Easter. You will remember that it was during Lent last year we went into lock down and the life of our worshipping community as well as many others changed significantly for most of last year. I am hopeful that this year we will be able to observe Lent together in its entirety and then join together to celebrate the



resurrection on Easter Day. All of this will be done somewhat differently than in years past and yet still things will be familiar to us all.

You will notice some changes around the church building during Lent, with purple being the prominent liturgical colour, crosses being veiled and flowers and some candles being removed. All of this is designed to assist us in our devotional practices and worship. In essence we live in a slightly more austere way to help us remember the penitential nature of Lent. When all these things are returned to the church at Easter there's a chance that we will appreciate them even more having missed them for a while. Simplicity to help us appreciate the abundance that is the reality for most of us.

This Lent can I encourage you to pay special attention to your own prayer and devotional life. Lent also affords us all the opportunity to be more deeply mindful of the needs of others. May you know God's richest blessing this Lent.

Your Priest and brother in Christ, Scott.

Preparing for Ash Wednesday

The Palm Crosses from Palm Sunday last year were burned in readiness ready for Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 17th February. Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the placing of repentance ashes on the heads of participants with the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Changes in the Eucharist in Lent

During Lent the liturgy at the weekend Eucharists seeks to draw us into a spirit of reflection and repentance. We omit the Gloria and in its place say the Trisagion, 'Holy God, Holy and Strong, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us'. We also omit the Alleluias prior to the Gospel.

We do not use the usual expressions of joy in worship in order to prepare ourselves for the greater joy that is to come in the Easter season.

We are also invited to sit and reflect in silence at the beginning of each service and following the distribution of Holy Communion.

The seasonal colour in the church is purple, to signify repentance. The Church is kept plain with the removal of flowers and some of the ornaments in the sanctuary adding to the solemn atmosphere.

Continuing our Lenten Journey

During February and March we continue our Lenten journey towards Holy Week and Easter.

Please join us for one of our Lenten programmes:

Some Suggestions for our Lenten Journey

Mondays

Join Rev'd Wendy Brack in the Parish Hall at 10am or

2 pm every Monday during Lent.

Tuesdays

Join John Butler and the Man Talk group at 7.30 pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month).

Wednesdays

Come to the Eucharist in the church at 8am.

Thursdays

Join Rev'd Scott Dulley in the Parish Hall at 7pm every Thursday evening during Lent.

Fridays

Join Yvonne Bell in the Parish Hall at 10am every Friday during Lent.

Join Rev'd Scott Dulley at 12noon every Friday during Lent to pray the Stations of the Cross.

Lent Opportunities

Give: Remember those in need by making a special donation of food each week to Saint Peter's Emergency Relief through the baskets at the back of church;

Pray: Participate in one of our mid-week worship opportunities such as Stations of the Cross, or the mid-week Eucharist; and choose a regular time each day to pray at home using either your usual form of prayer.

Act: Commit to do an act kindness each day in Lent – 40 acts of kindness, goodness and generosity build a transforming effect in the world.

Prepare: Pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at 12 noon when we reflect on Jesus' final journey to the Cross;

Transform: Join any of the groups reflecting on the "Lent Study" booklet – all are open to attend and would welcome new people; or join with a few friends and form a group of your own.

Registers

Holy Baptism

During February baptisms are scheduled for **Ella Marie Scutt and Harvey Lewis Street.** No Baptisms are scheduled for the period of Lent. Baptisms take place on Sundays at 1pm.

Holy Matrimony

Please pray for those who have been married recently or who are preparing to be married in coming weeks, amongst them **Mark Berry and Kirsty Wand on 6th March.**

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of all those who have died recently, including **Ronald Bates, Colleen Whaler, Maxwell Wilson, and Doreen Taylor.** May they rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory.

Parish Diary February - March 2021

Special Events in February Please join us and invite your friends!

Thursday 18th February

Lenten Studies - 7pm (and every Thursday during Lent)

Friday 19th February

Lenten Studies - 10am (and every Friday during Lent)

Friday 19th February

Stations of the Cross - 12 noon (and every Friday during Lent)

Monday 22nd February

Lenten Studies - 10am Lenten Studies - 2pm (and every Monday during Lent)

Special Events in March

Please join us and invite your friends!

Friday 5th March

World Day of Prayer - 10am

Sunday 28th March

Palm Sunday - 8.30am - Combined Service

Special Events in April

Please join us and invite your friends!

Thursday 1st April - Maundy Thursday Friday 2nd April - Good Friday Saturday 3rd April - Holy Saturday Sunday 4th April - Easter Day

Saturday 17th April - Visioning Workshop

17th Feb	Ash Wednesday - Start of Lent
18th	7pm Lenten Study

(and then every Thursday during Lent)

19th 10am Lenten Study

(and then every Friday during Lent)

19th 12 noon Stations of the Cross

(and then every Friday during Lent)

22nd 10am Lenten Studies

(and then every Monday during Lent)

22nd 2pm Lenten Studies

(and then every Monday during Lent)

23rd 10.00am Kinship Group (formerly GAPS)

(and then 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month)

2nd Mar 2pm: Craft Group

(and then 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month)

2nd 4pm: Pastoral Care Team Meeting

2nd 7.30pm: Man Talk

and then 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month)

3rd 7.00pm Parish Council Meeting

ith 10am World Day of Prayer

6th Diocesan Synod

8th 6pm: Commissioning of Rev'd Sarah Dulley

10th 7.00pm Resource Team Meeting

15th 10am: Mothers' Union Fellowship

Meeting at Judy Redden's

21st 12 noon Annual General Meeting

(to be confirmed)



Parish Office Opening Hours

From 1st March 2021 the Parish Office opening hours have changed. The new Opening Hours are as follows:

Tuesday 9am - 3pm Thursday 9am - 3pm Friday 9am - 3pm

Outside of these hours messages can be left on the Parish Office phone (4934 5303) and will be responded to as promptly as possible during opening hours.

Parishioner in Profile - Leta Johnstone

- A lifetime of Welfare Work

Leta Johnstone was born in Lansdowne in 1928 where she went to Primary School and then to High school in Taree. At the age of 15 Leta developed a bone disease of both legs. The next four years were spent living with her aunt in Sydney so that she could attend Lewisham Hospital where she had surgery on many occasions and treatment as an outpatient. On her return to Lansdowne she attended St Joseph's Convent at Taree and studied Business Principles which enabled her to be employed doing secretarial duties.

Leta met Tom Johnstone when he was serving his final year as Curate at the Parish of Taree. In 1955 Tom was transferred to the Parish of Charlestown and after seeking permission from the Bishop they were married later that year. At the interview with the Bishop Leta clearly remembers his words to her "you will not have outside work my girl, but you will work behind your man". During the ensuing years they were appointed to a number of parishes – 1957 to Newcastle Cathedral; 1960 to Home Missions;



1967 to Taree; and in 1981 to Gresford. During all these placements Leta worked tirelessly to raise money and became involved in many aspects of welfare work.

In 1960 whilst at the Cathedral the Bishop asked Tom and Leta to commence Home Missions. This was a huge undertaking but once again due to dedicated commitment and hard work it was successful. What Tom and Leta began all those years ago provided the groundwork for the Samaritan's Foundation that we know today.

Whilst at Gresford Leta was seeking a way to diversify her fundraising efforts. The Hall of Fame had just opened and the idea to run a bus trip was born. 47 people went on this trip and was the start of many more to come. The tours were conducted in all Australian states and in New Zealand, with Leta taking on a huge workload as Organiser, Travel Agent, Travel Guide, and general "go to/fix it" person. She built up a loyal following that spread the word and trips became well known, very popular, and a great fundraising enterprise. In 2014 after many years of hard work Leta decided it was time to retire and to hang up her travel hat.

Tom retired in 1993 and they relocated to Metford where they became members of Saint Peter's Church. After Tom's death in 2001 Leta joined Samaritans Emergency Relief team as a volunteer and continues to support Saint Peter's Church.

"Well Done Good and Faithful Servant" Matthew 25:21

Visit our Website: www.eastmaitlandanglican.org

Latest News and Events + Information about the Life of our Parish

Gardening Team delighted with the new Mower

For all those who have been challenged by the speed that their lawns at home have grown over the past few weeks, spare a thought for the team at Saint Peter's who are tasked with looking after the vast expanse of lawns in the parish grounds. The Lawn Mowing team has worked diligently, both with push along mowers and ride on mowers to keep the lawns looking immaculate - and we thank them sincerely for their hard work.



However, the old ride on mower was showing its age and having to be repeatedly repaired, parts replaced, etc, leading to a decision by the Parish Council that the time had come to buy a new ride on mower. This was ordered before Christmas and there was great delight when the new machine arrived on site - see the photo on the front cover. The Parish is now the proud owner of a Grillo FD280 that will take on the task ahead of it. Team members have been trained in its use and the various safety precautions they are required to take, and are keen to take to the wheel! Never has there been more enthusiasm for cutting grass.

We thank the mowing team for their hard work and look forward to admiring the lawns and the result of their efforts.

Christmas Hamper Donations

In the lead up to Christmas each year we are always delighted and grateful to receive donations of goods to go into the Christmas Hampers that are given out to those in need in our local area. In 2020 we gave out over 60 (???) hampers full of Christmas goodies that were well received and went a good way to ensuring that families could enjoy the traditional Christmas fare of Ham, Chips and Nuts, Christmas Pudding, Mince Pies, Christmas Crackers, etc.

The generosity of parishioners was evident in the level of donations that were received, together with financial support from Rotary Club of Maitland Sunrise, and a donation of Christmas Cakes from the Lions Club of East Maitland.



We were pleased to get a visit from representatives of Maitland Pipes and Drums who had collected goodies from their members to help support the Saint Peter's Christmas Appeal.

Christmas can be a difficult time for many families and the generosity shown at Saint Peter's has helped many families enjoy a traditional Christmas celebration.

If you are a user of Facebook please like and share our Facebook Pages:

- East Maitland Anglican
- Petrus Community
- St Peter's Playgroup East Maitland
- Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland

We are finding that Facebook is a very useful way to keep people informed about activities at Saint Peter's and has had a good response from young families interested in coming along to join Music Time and Playgroup.



Parish Governance

2021 has seen the reintroduction of a monthly Resourcing Team meeting that will manage the buildings and finances of the Parish and make recommendations to the Parish Council that will meet three-monthly. The first meeting of the Resource Team in 2021 was held on 10th February where the draft 2021 budget was discussed in detail.







Church Wardens - Anne Page, Geoff Seccombe and Kevin Short

Lay Synod Representatives

The Synod will meet for two sessions in 2021. The first session will commence on Saturday 6th March 2021 from 8.30am - 6.00pm at the Newcastle Exhibition and Convention Centre.

The second session will commence with the Synod Eucharist on Friday 29th October 2021 at 6.00pm at Christ Church Cathedral and continue on Saturday 30th October from 8.30am – 6.00pm at the Newcastle Exhibition and Convention Centre.

A Special General Meeting of the Parish was held on Sunday 13th December 2020 at 9.30am in St Peter's Church for the election of Lay Synod Representatives for this parish. At this meeting Kerry Bruce, Anne Page and Kevin Short were elected to represent Saint Peter's Church at the 2021 Synod.

Covid-19 Guidelines

At the time of writing we can advise that there is no longer a need to register prior to attending services. On arrival at church you are asked to scan the QR code if you have a smartphone, and if this is not possible the Welcomer at the door will record your name and contact number directly onto an online registration system.



Face masks are still recommended when attending worship. Please also note that hymn singing is not allowed in church.

Everyone is asked to sanitise hands on arrival and to comply with safe distancing requirements and to sit 1.5m apart, as indicated by the green "tick" on seats.

Thank you for your continued observance of the Covid-19 guidelines - this is keeping us all safe.

Kinship Care (formerly known as GAPS)

Although 2020 was a disappointing year due to Covid-19 our Annual Camp at Soldiers Point was highly successful. The weather was excellent and Grandparents and Grandchildren had a well deserved break. Each family had their own cabin and while they couldn't all be together at any one time, they met in small groups over the weekend.

On the Saturday, Santa (Peter Mullins) arrived with his two helpers (Marilyn Seccombe and Bev Steggles) bearing gifts for all. Many thanks to all those who so generously supported our group throughout the year and therefore made the camp and gifts possible - St Peter's East Maitland parishioners, Rotary Club of Maitland Sunrise, Lions Club of East Maitland, Maitland Coin Club, the Hunter River Hotel and a number of individuals.

We are truly blessed to belong to such a caring community.

Bev Steggles, Co-ordinator



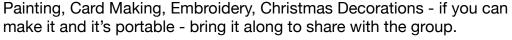
Craft Group

There was a great turnout of Craft Group participants when The Craft Group reconvened at the beginning of February. The group will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Parish Hall and would be

delighted to welcome anyone interested in taking part.



You are welcome to bring along any craft work that you are involved with. Over past years this has involved



For further details please contact Chris Butler, ph 0456 699319.

Pink Pigs

Since there was no Mission Lunch in 2020 due to COVID restrictions we are overdue to have the Mission Pigs brought back to the barn (Parish Office) for emptying. If you could drop your Mission Pig to the Parish Office in the next few weeks that would be a wonderful way to support our Mission Giving Target.

The Parish Office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am - 3pm





Op Shop Update from Jane Hall

We have hit the ground running in 2021! Our Op Shop reopened on 21st January 2021 and there were many happy customers to greet us when our doors opened.

As per our Covid Safe Plan we now require each person to check in through the Service NSW QR code located near the hand sanitiser on our entry table at the top of the ramp. However if this is not possible for you to do, see one of our

friendly Op Shop Volunteers and they can "concierge" you in on the Service NSW app. We want to keep you safe!

There are some exciting things coming to the Op Shop this year and we are hoping that Covid will allow us to see these plans through. So far so good!

We presently have many summer clearance specials each week where our prices are ridiculous! So call in and see us. Our lovely team of volunteers are only too happy to help you!.

As soon as we are able, subject to Covid Safe Approval, our new look changerooms will be reopening for your convenience.

If you are interested in joining our wonderful team of Volunteers, we are open Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 3pm and Saturdays from 9am – 1pm. We would love to see you. For just 3 hours a week, a fortnight, or a month, we are grateful for whatever time you can spare. If you are interested ring me, Jane, on 0421 550615 or call in and see us!.

Keep updated with our weekly specials on Facebook. There is something for everyone!

We are sad to advise that one of our Op Shop "originals" is retiring from the Op Shop team. Lyn Bellamy has been an amazing support and spent many hours volunteering at the Op Shop since it began. We wish Lyn well – she will be dearly missed.

We are so grateful for our wonderful group of Op Shop Volunteers for their commitment, support and most importantly their valuable gift of time that makes our Op Shop so great.

Take care All.

Visioning Workshop Saturday 17th April 2021, 9am - 1pm

All members of the Saint Peter's community are invited to take part in a "Visioning Workshop" on Saturday 17th April 2021, commencing at 9am. The purpose of this workshop is to collectively discuss the future direction of Saint Peter's Church, with everyone invited to have a say, offer an opinion, and agree on the priorities for the next 12-18 months.



It is important that as many people as possible attend this workshop - please make a note in your diary and plan to be there. Registrations will be taken closer to the date, but we hope that you will be as excited as we are to discuss the future direction of Saint Peter's and to set in place the planning process to make this possible. More information is available from Fr Scott



Saint Peter's Columbarium, East Maitland

A Sacred Space of Faith, Hope & Love





The historic Church of Saint Peter's stands at the heart of East Maitland surrounded by gardens that form a constant oasis of beauty and tranquility. Our memorial gardens are open for prayer and reflection at all times.

The mortal remains of many of our friends and loved ones rest in the columbarium niches and memorial garden. We invite all members of our local community to consider our columbarium or garden as the final resting place for their cremated remains, where family members and descendants will be able to come and visit in this sacred space that we will continue to care for in perpetuity.

We also offer a unique opportunity for stained glass windows to be permanently installed as memorials within our heritage Church building, and for memorial flowers to be placed in the Church on the anniversary of the death of a loved one or on other special days, with the assurance of our prayers for those who have died and for all who mourn.

If you would like to organise a Columbarium Niche or a space in the Memorial Garden

Contact the Parish Office either by phone (02) 4934 5303 or email office@eastmaitlandanglican.org to discuss your requirements.

The cost of a Columbarium Niche is \$1,500 – this is a one-off, non refundable payment that is made at the time of booking the niche. Alternatively the cost of placement of ashes in the Memorial Garden is \$350.

In order to select a Columbarium Niche it will be necessary to meet on site with the Parish Office Administrator who will be able to identify available niches in order for you to make your selection.

Once a selection of the niche has been made you will be asked to complete a Booking Form and make payment.

A letter confirming receipt of your payment and details of the niche will be provided to you. We ask that a copy of the letter is kept with the legal papers of the person for whom the niche has been reserved, and amend the relevant sections of the Last Will and Testament to ensure that wishes relating to the final resting place of the mortal remains are made clear.

For information and assistance please contact the Parish Office on (02) 4934 5303 or email office@eastmaitlandanglican.org

Community Ministries Saint Peter's Pantry

Every Wednesday the Parish Hall is a hive of activity as members of the Ministry Team together with a group of volunteers work to receive the OzHarvest truck, unload it, sort what is delivered, and then package up the food for collection by those in the community who have registered for assistance.

This is a case of "more hands make light work" and additional volunteers would be appreciated to go onto the weekly roster. All we ask is a commitment of 3-4 hours every 3-4 weeks on a Wednesday from 11am - 3pm.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Scott Dulley or Maryka in the Parish Office on 4934 5303 who will be happy to discuss this with you.



World Day of Prayer Friday 5th March 2021 - 10am

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian Lay-women initiative (although in recent years it has been open to both men and women). It is run under the motto of "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday of March each year. The movement aims to bring together women and men of various cultures and traditions in a yearly Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.



This year, the service will be held in St Peter's Church East Maitland on 5th March at 10am. Our World Day of Prayer Service for 2021 has been prepared by the Christian women of Vanuatu. Vanuatu is a small country situated in the Pacific Ocean, a Republic formed after gaining Independence in 1980 from a French and British Condominium Government. It proudly adopted the Motto "In God we stand."

Each year the place of the Service is shared around the various churches in the East Maitland area; and this year it is the turn of St Peter's Church to be host.





Mission Partnerships Walkabout Ministries - The Rev'd Gloria Shipp

Walkabout Ministries is the way that the Reverend Gloria Shipp continues to be a pioneer for Aboriginal ministry in the Anglican Church of Australia. The first Aboriginal woman to be ordained a priest in 1996, Gloria has spent her ministry bridging cultures and demonstrating Christ's love and concern to communities in Dubbo, NSW.

Although COVID-19 has meant Gloria has retired from her role as a Juvenile Justice Chaplain, she continues to

run a busy schedule of events which include a Women's Camp, weekly Elders Group, Reconciliation luncheon, Women of the Bible afternoons, a Christian rally in Dubbo and outreach trips, as well as baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Your support for this project provides a small stipend for Gloria, some administrative assistance, and supplies for the various activities. » In 2021 Walkabout Ministries needs \$25,000





ABM Lent Appeal Envelopes

The ABM Lent Appeal in 2021 features three projects - Phillipines Asset Based Community Development Project, St John's Theological Seminary Zambia, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants. Appeal envelopes will be included in Liturgy Booklets during Lent - please consider making a donation to these very worthwhile causes.

Memorial Flowers

Throughout the year we pray for the souls of loved ones on the anniversary of their death. Each year families remember loved ones who have died by dedicating memorial flowers in the church on the weekend in which they are included in our prayers. (There are no flowers in church during Lent).

This is a lovely way to remember loved ones and to help Saint Peter's maintain a supply of fresh flowers throughout the church.

The cost of flowers is determined by the family making the donation, however as an indication this is usually in the order of \$150 - \$200, and the family can have an input into the choice of flowers.

The number of families organising flowers has reduced in recent times and we are looking to address this in order to have fresh flowers in the church as often as possible.



If you would like to organise memorial flowers for a loved one, please contact Maryka in the Parish Office on 4934 5303.



Christmas 2020

