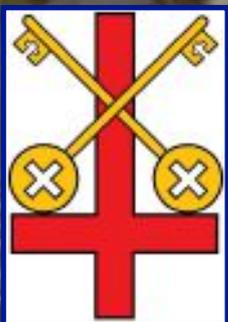


# Cross & Keys

September 2020 - Newsletter of  
Saint Peter's Church



**Anglican**  
Church  
Saint Peter's East Maitland



## *Rotary support for Saint Peter's*

When Rotary Club of Maitland Sunrise heard about the work that is being done at Saint Peter's Church to help the homeless and those in need they recognised an opportunity to support the work being done in the local community. An initiative of the club is provision of "Dignity Bags" that contain personal hygiene items for men who have found themselves homeless, often with little notice. The bags contain an assortment of items including shampoo, soap, toothpaste and toothbrush, shaving cream and disposable razors, together with plate, dish, cup and cutlery - all of which can be kept in the cloth bag.



Parish Priest, The Reverend Scott Dulley, was delighted to receive a delivery of the Dignity Bags, knowing that the next time there is a knock on the Rectory Door he will be able to provide immediate assistance .

## *Community Support*

Maitland Community Centre at Rutherford was also able to lend a hand when they heard about the number of requests for assistance for the homeless being received at Saint Peter's Church. Thanks to a donation they had received they were able to share with us a number of blankets and tinned food to bolster our supplies. This is a wonderful example of various community organisations working together to help those in need, all recognising that the need is genuine and often comes at a critical and unexpected time in a person's life.

*Saint Peter's Church is sincerely appreciative for all donations to help their work with those in need in our community*

## 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



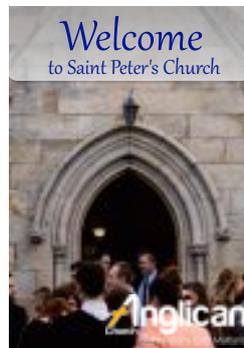
**Parish Office & Parish Information** The Parish Office is normally open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 4 pm and is the first point of contact for all parish enquiries and bookings. If the office is unattended please leave a message. Contact details and information about our 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.

**Site Hire** The Parish Hall is available for hire for one-off or regular community and commercial events.

**School & Retirement Living** We commend to you our Anglican College at Fletcher and our Retirement Village in Tenambit.



**Bargains Galore! Clothing, Household items, Books, Bric-a-brac - something for everyone.**

**Thursday 9am - 4pm**  
**Friday 9am - 4pm**  
**Saturday 9am - 1pm**

**Located at rear of St Peter's Parish Hall, Banks Street, East Maitland**

Contact Ph. 4934 5303  
[office@eastmaitlandanglican.org](mailto:office@eastmaitlandanglican.org)  
[www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org)

Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland

**Parish Office Telephone:** (02) 4934 5303  
**E-mail:** [office@eastmaitlandanglican.org](mailto:office@eastmaitlandanglican.org)  
**Parish:** [www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org)  
**Weddings:** [www.huntermvalleyweddings.info](http://www.huntermvalleyweddings.info)  
**Mailing:** PO Box 662 East Maitland NSW 2323

### 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.



**B**ishop Tyrrell Anglican College is a co-educational independent school that focuses on the development of the whole child within a caring, Christian environment.

Enrolments are now open. To find out more visit our website [www.btac.nsw.edu.au](http://www.btac.nsw.edu.au) or contact our Registrar on 02 4979 8488.



## Scott's Spot

There are few of us still around these days who hold memories of times as extraordinary as what we have been living through in these past five or six months. We read the stories of the last major international pandemic, the Spanish Flu, around the time of the First World War. There are also fewer and fewer in our community who have clear memories of even the Second World War. An event which shaped the lives of a generation.

Throughout these past months we have been called upon to make adjustments to our lives which most of us never imagined we would ever need to make. Simple things which we would have once taken for granted like shaking hands, are for now not part of our usual practice. Not to mention booking a place at church, sitting on green ticks - perhaps not even in our usual place, not singing in worship, sanitising our hands and wearing face masks. So much change in such a short space of time has been exhausting for me and I suspect for many others also. As human beings we sometimes don't do well coping with major changes to our routines and way of life. Sometimes even the smallest change can bring about distress and anxiety for some.

This very real human reaction to change has inspired words such as those in the second verse of Henry Francis Lyte's wonderful hymn, Abide with Me,

*"Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around around I see:  
O thou who changest not, abide with me."*

I have found myself in recent times yearning for things which are familiar or dare I say even "normal". It would be nice, if just for a little while, the rapid change we have been experiencing would stop. I found myself able to identify with the last line of that hymn verse in particular in ways that I previously had not. I wonder if you have may have felt something like that too?

The reality is I know that change is constant and is always a part of our life. I suspect it is just the rapid nature of change to things that I hold as so important that my soul and spirit have been railing up against in these past months. I know that God changes too. I know it is the constant faithfulness of God that I yearn for not that God will forever stay the same and completely unchanged.

Just as I was grappling with these things in prayer and perfectly on cue along came the change of season from Winter to Spring. Throughout the past decade that we have lived in the Hunter Valley I have noticed that towards the end of Winter each year we get that little bit of warm weather which is followed by a very cold snap, which in turn is followed by the consistently warmer weather of the new season. This little dance of the weather has come just at the right time for me this year. It has given me something that I can identify as a usual or "normal" pattern for my life. This change of season has for me this year been a gift - an answer to prayer. It has given me the reassurance I needed and I am deeply grateful. Isn't it amazing how the most simple thing can have such a profound effect!

As I have reflected on the change of the weather seasons I have also subsequently been reminded of the pattern of our church liturgical seasons as well. These can be a bit too routine and at times taken for granted but at other times can be a source of great comfort as we are held by the liturgical cycle of our church. This has certainly been my experience this year through Lent, Easter and the weeks since.

I hope that you are going well as we move through this extraordinary season and that you are able to find comfort in some of the usual as well as the unusual occurrences of life.



## Parish Diary .....

The majority of Parish activities are on hold at the present time due to the Covid-19 situation.

We continue to be guided by Government guidelines and advice from the Diocese.

## Registers

### Holy Baptism

Due to the Covid-19 situation Baptisms were suspended from the end of March. The first Baptism took place on 26th July of **Tristan Burns** and on 30th August of **Lincoln Tull**. We are now taking Baptism bookings at the new times of 1pm and 2.30pm with only one Baptism at each service.

### Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of all those who have died recently, including **Gordon Marquet, David Guy, Pamela Parrey, and Susie Griffiths**. May they rest in peace.

### In Memoriam

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 will be no flowers in church during Lent.

If you would like to organise memorial flowers for a loved one, please contact Flower Co-ordinator, Liz Brown. on 0422 101448 or Maryka in the Parish Office on 4934 5303.

## October Episcopal Visit Sunday 11th October

On Sunday 11th October Bishop Sonia will be visiting Saint Peter's Church. During that visit it would be appropriate for Adult Baptism, Confirmations and Reception into the Anglican Church to take place. We will of course need to take into consideration whatever measures will be required around Covid-19, particularly pre-booking for services, maintaining social distancing and limiting attendance numbers.

If you or anyone you know is interested in Adult Baptism, Confirmation or Reception into the Anglican Church, please contact Maryka in the Parish Office on 4934 5303.



## Parish Governance

Covid-19 has had an impact on most aspects of Parish Life, however our Church Wardens have been actively involved in ensuring that we are all kept Covid safe. For those attending church services you would see them on the door to the church, ticking off the Attendance Register and ensuring that contact details are complete before directing people to the Sidespeople who ensure hand sanitisation takes place before accompanying them to their allotted seating. We thank them for their time and commitment.



Church Wardens - Anne Page, Geoff Seccombe and Kevin Short

# Community Ministries

## Food Parcels

In an unfortunate reflection of the difficult times we now live in there has been an increase in the number of homeless people approaching St Peter's Church, East Maitland seeking help. The need is immediate and we always endeavour to provide assistance. We are now reaching out for help from our community to put together a supply of items that can be given to those in dire need. Whilst we direct people to local support services, we typically provide a food parcel that will help with immediate needs, containing:



- Breakfast Cereal
- Long Life Milk - Small
- Instant Noodles (Cup Style)
- Packet Soup / Cuppa Soups
- Tinned Beans (Small Ring Pull)
- Tinned Spaghetti (Small Ring Pull)
- Tinned Tuna (Ring Pull)
- Tinned Soup (Ring Pull)

If you are able to assist with donations of the above items, please bring them to the Parish Office during office hours of 9am – 4pm, Tuesday to Friday.

## Sketches by Fr Rod Galagher

Parishioner Alan Moir was recently instrumental in documenting a selection of sketches done by Reverend Rodney Galagher into an 80 page hard cover book that is a wonderful visual representation of the Hunter region and beyond. The sketches are reproduced in a book that is now available for sale for \$30.



To purchase your copy please phone Alan Moir on 0427 388 105 to organise payment and pick up of the book.



## Parish Office

Saint Peter's Parish Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, from 9am - 4pm. Our Parish Office Administrator, Maryka Gibson is available to assist with all administration matters related to Saint Peter's. Phone enquiries can be made to 4934 5303, where a message can be left if the phone is unattended or busy.

# Op Shop

Update from Jane Hall, Co-ordinator

We have had a flying start to our Op Shop during these Covid times. With record donations and takings we have been overwhelmed with the support from our Parishioners and the Community. The responsible and compliant approach to our Covid requirements from our customers has been wonderful. Also, let's not forget that none of this would be possible without the amazing work of our Volunteer Staff.

We are very pleased to announce our return to Pre-Covid opening hours from 3<sup>rd</sup> September. This means our Op Shop opening time from this date will be 9am on all days.

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2020 we had our Grand Re-opening of our first Saturday morning celebrated with a huge Half Price Sale on all our Winter Clothing. If you have Facebook keep in touch for all our great specials every week!

We also have fantastic Triple Layered Face Masks for sale in the Op Shop for just \$5 each. A huge thank you to our talented Mrs Christine Butler who is so kindly donating all monies from the sale of the Face Masks to the Op Shop.



Always a wide variety of items for sale - not just clothing - we also have household items, bric-a-brac, books, toys, etc.



## Working with Children Checks & Safe Ministry Training

Throughout the Parish we have many people who volunteer to assist with a variety of roles. In order to comply with both legal and Diocesan requirements in regard to volunteers, many of our volunteers have been asked to provide Working with Children Checks and to attend Safe Ministry Training. For many of the volunteer roles this is an essential and necessary requirement.

### Working with Children Checks

To get a Working with Children check requires you to apply online by going to the website at [www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check) and completing the online form. At this point you are provided with an Application Number - this then needs to be taken to the local Service NSW office together with proof of identity. For volunteers this check is free. You will then be provided with a Working With Children Check number - please advise this number and your date of birth to Maryka in the Parish Office so that she can complete the process.

### Safe Ministry Training

Safe Ministry Training workshops are scheduled at various times during the year, however the training can be undertaken via online training via the following weblink: [www.openlearning.com/courses/safe-ministry-online-induction](http://www.openlearning.com/courses/safe-ministry-online-induction). The cost is \$30 per person payable directly to [Openlearning.com](http://Openlearning.com). When you have completed the training please bring a copy of your certificate to Maryka in the Parish Office and a copy of your receipt for reimbursement.

# Mission Partnerships NATSIAC

**NATSIAC's vision is to be the primary voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans, promoting Gospel mission, encouraging ministry and generating resources so that they may walk together with God and the wider church.**

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council is an official body of the Anglican Church of Australia with representatives from across the national church working together on issues that are important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans.

NATSIAC members are immersed in Indigenous ministry. From their own experience and accumulated wisdom, they guide the wider church on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander matters.

Members have expressed their concern for the serious Gap in Indigenous health outcomes, and the struggle by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to overcome poverty, including access to decent housing and sanitation. They consider rates of domestic violence, incarceration and deaths in custody to be unacceptable. NATSIAC are also calling attention to the impact of climate change in the Torres Strait Islands.

NATSIAC provides a vital and prophetic voice in the church. Your support of NATSIAC helps Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans to support one another and raise their voice in the wider church.



NATSIAC members at their 2019 Gathering in Adelaide. © ABM/Brad Chapman.



## Prayers and Readings at your Fingertips .....

The daily readings and prayers that we use at Saint Peter's are taken from the Australian Lectionary. Saint Peter's Church has a subscription to ePray that is an online, easy to use resource for worship planning, based on the Australian Lectionary.

For those of you who have an iPhone or a smartphone, ePray is available as an app - just download the app and put in St Peter's code, 5911,

**epray** *daily* **Free**  
Be nourished & sustained through *Daily Prayer*

Make use of this app to the Anglican Church of Australia's annual prayer resource

Download the ePray Daily Prayer app for free on the App Store or Google Play

Get up with the app, with your phone, and with the ePray Daily Prayer app, you're ready to go!

Your Parish Code is 5911

5 9 1 1

Visit our Website: [www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org)

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

# Church Development

## Stained Glass Windows in Clerestory

It is pleasing (and exciting) to report that there is a distinct possibility that the final two sets of stained glass windows on the southern clerestory of St Peters Church may soon be completed. It would be wonderful if this could indeed happen.

A set of windows comprises two individual windows and the quadrofoil between them.

We have a donor for one set of windows (which will be St Francis) and another for half of the remaining window set (this will be St Clare). This leaves just one half window set to be funded. This would be at a cost of approximately \$20,000

The price of the windows is set on the basis of installing two window sets at the same time thus making it more economical by sharing the cost of the hire of the scaffolding and cherry picker etc.

Previously there had been a suggestion from within the Parish that we should endeavour to fund one of the windows from within the Parish itself eg numbers of people making a donation towards the cost and dedicating it as a Parish window. So the call went out to the St Peter's Community for those wishing to make a donation. We have received a very positive response to this request and are confident that the target of \$20,000 will be achieved. We are still just a little way short of the total required so please consider a donation. There is a tax deductible option available.

If you are interested in this idea and could consider being involved in the concept of a Parish donation please speak with Parish Priest, The Reverend Scott Dulley, or contact Kay Sharp on 0418 790 706 or Maryka Gibson in the Parish Office on 4934 5303.

In the meantime, we can confirm that the St Francis window is definitely going ahead - we have funding for half the St Clare window and we will certainly be doing all that we possibly can to find the balance of funds for this window.

How wonderful it would be to celebrate the installation of these beautiful new windows after all the negativity that 2020 has brought us - and to show the love that this beautiful Church brings to all of us.



*Thanks to the St Peter's Parish Community for your support*

## Visitors to Saint Peter's Organist James Goldrick

Saint Peter's was recently contacted by James Goldrick, a Sydney organist, previously living in the USA. James was an Organ Scholar of Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle, and has been an organist at both Sydney and Brisbane Catholic Cathedrals. In recent weeks he has played a recital at Christ Church St Laurence in Sydney.

James was in the local area visiting Morpeth and said that he had always wanted to play the Willis Organ of Saint Peter's. We were delighted to welcome James to Saint Peter's and give him the opportunity to experience first hand our wonderful organ.



## Flower Arrangers

The flowers arrangements that decorate our church each week are looked after by a team of volunteers who work on a roster basis to ensure that flowers are displayed at their best at all times.



Under the leadership of Elizabeth Brown a team of volunteers arrange the flowers when they are received and visit the church during the week to ensure that water is replenished and any dead blooms are removed.

We certainly appreciate the efforts of all involved and often receive compliments from visitors who will comment on how beautiful the flower arrangements are and what a difference they make throughout the church. Thank You Team!

## Update on Covid-19

### Church Services

Church Services are held on Saturdays at 6pm. Sundays at 7.30am and 10.30am, and Wednesdays at 8am. Pre-registration is required and attendance is limited to 50 people at each church service. Social Distancing of 1.5m is a requirement of entry and we ask that face masks are worn.

### Baptisms

Baptisms have now resumed at St Peter's however these are at the new times of 1pm and 2.30pm with only one Baptism at each service. Attendance is limited to 50 people at each Baptism.

### Children's Activities

Playgroup and Music Time programs were suspended at the start of the Covid-19 crisis and no date has yet been determined for them to recommence.

### Parish Hall

The Parish Hall has limited access and activities such as the Community Meal have been discontinued until further notice.

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.



## Saint Peter's Op Shop

*The team of volunteers at Saint Peter's Op Shop works tirelessly to ensure that our Op Shop maintains its reputation for quality at affordable prices. All profit goes to helping with maintenance of the Church - please continue to support this great Parish initiative.*

