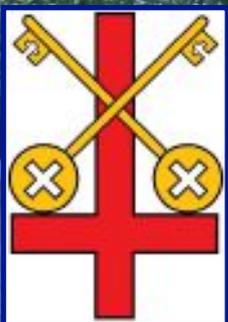
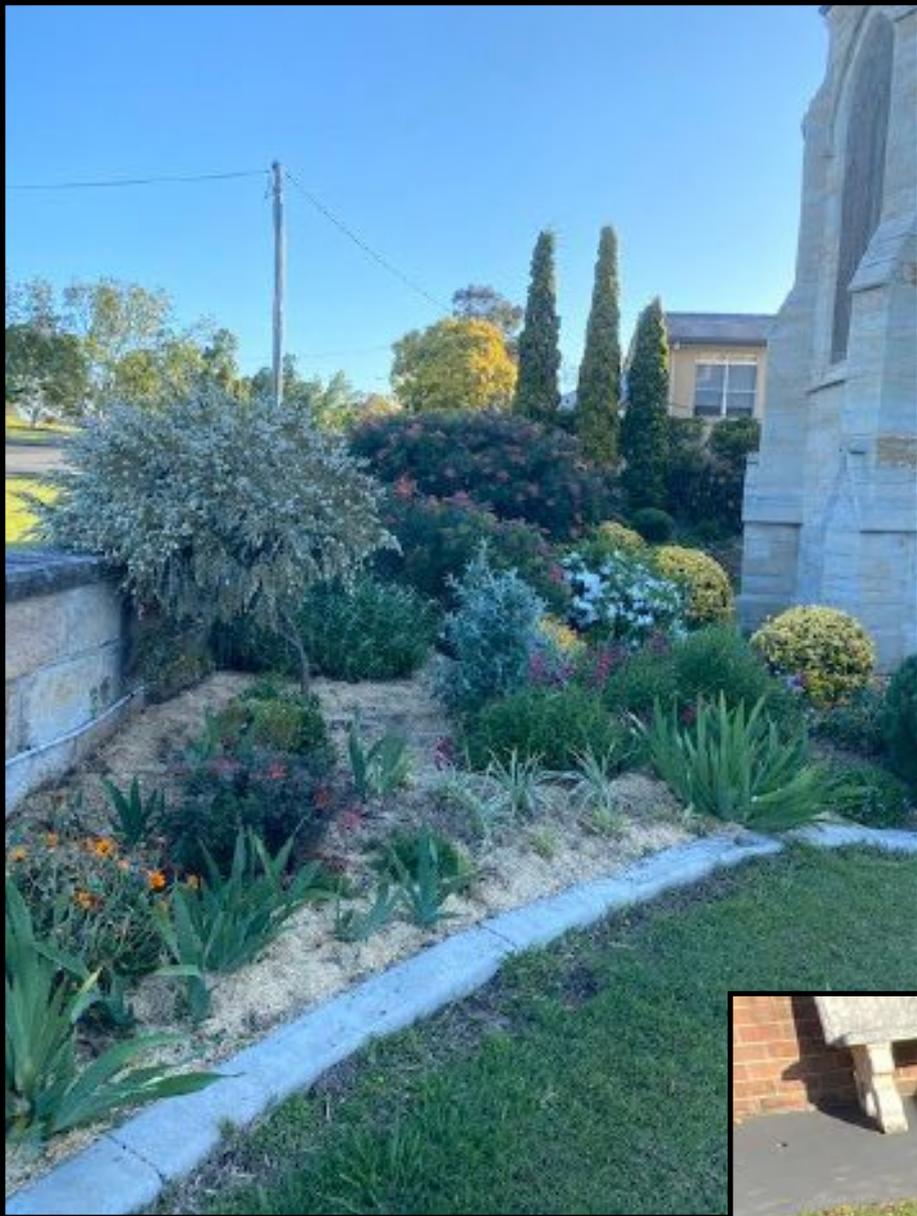


Cross & Keys

October 2020 - Newsletter of
Saint Peter's Church



Anglican
Church
Saint Peter's East Maitland



The gardens at Saint Peter's Church are maintained by a committed team of volunteers who ensure that the gardens are maintained throughout the year, providing a peaceful and beautiful sanctuary for all those who visit.



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



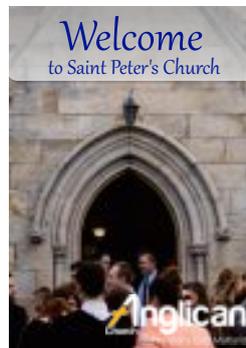
Parish Office & Parish Information The Parish Office is normally open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 4 pm and is the first point of contact for all parish enquiries and bookings. If the office is unattended please leave a message. Contact details and information about our regular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



OP SHOP

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

Thursday 9am - 3pm
Friday 9am - 3pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm

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

Contact Ph. 4934 5303
office@eastmaitlandanglican.org
www.eastmaitlandanglican.org



Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland

Parish Office

Telephone: (02) 4934 5303

E-mail: office@eastmaitlandanglican.org

Parish: www.eastmaitlandanglican.org

Weddings: www.huntermvalleyweddings.info

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.



Bishop 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 or contact our Registrar on 02 4979 8488.



Scott's Spot

Saint Francis of Assisi, a much loved and admired saint, is commemorated by the church on the 4th October each year. Saint Francis will feature in one of our new clerestory windows alongside Saint Clare. My wife, the Reverend Sarah Dullely, has prepared some reflections on Saint Francis which she has been kind enough to allow me to share with you.



“St Francis would have to be one of the most recognised and loved saints, not only by Christians, but by other believers, and, even those that do not profess to have a faith. He is renowned for his affinity and care for all of creation and his way of life that imitated Christ by serving the poor and outcast. Pope Francis earlier this year wrote, ‘St Francis loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature, and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace.’

It's reported that St Francis was not always such a devout figure. When he was young he liked to party and have fine clothes and possessions. His father was after all a fabric merchant that traded in fine fabrics from cultured nations. He was a leader among his peer group and aspired to do heroic things. It is said that he was on his way to war, kitted out in splendid armour and horse, when he had a dream that God spoke to him, telling him that he had it all wrong.

St Francis was called into action by God to ‘repair my church’. I've read that Francis took that quite literally, and went around fixing the physical buildings, however, what he also did was bore witness to the infallible reality of God's love for all of creation and emptied himself of all the ‘trappings’ that would hinder the total abandonment into living who he was in Christ. He sought after and saw God in all of creation. It was from this expanded understanding, that Francis developed a practice of contemplation and a Rule of Life that was to follow the teachings of Jesus and to walk in his footsteps. Francis, like Christ, viewed all living beings as treasured gifts from God and understood that each living being is connected and intimately united together. It is from this connection that the desire to embrace, protect and care for all of creation wells up.

Francis understood, that in devoting himself to imitating Christ, he was truly free. In devoting himself to imitating Christ, he participates in living Christ's pattern of life, death and resurrection.... fully participating in all of the joy, the love, the sadness, the pain, and the suffering. In devoting himself to imitating Christ, he was able to sink deeply into his relationship with God, where the core of his being has an unshakeable understanding that no matter what happens around him, he can never be separated from the love that God has for him.”

As we reflect on Saint Francis there is so much that still speaks into our lives today. It will be a great joy and blessing to have a representation of Francis in our church windows to assist us in our own Christian discipleship.

With the assurance of my prayers for you all.

Scott

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

During October baptisms are scheduled for Riley George Taylor, Mason Bryce Taylor, and Lachlan James Hickey. Baptisms now take place on Sundays at 1pm.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of all those who have died recently, including **Brian Booklass, Susie Griffiths, Mary Ekert, David Bailey, and Neil Sauber.** 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 the weekend of 10th/11th October Bishop Sonia will be visiting Saint Peter's Church and will be presiding and preaching at all of our weekend services.

On Sunday 11 October at our 10.30am Eucharist Bishop Sonia will also confirm Olivia, Darcy and Mia.

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Sonia to Saint Peter's



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 and that the ongoing work of the Parish continues.

Thanks are extended to all parishioners who continue to provide financial support at a time when many are opting not to attend services in person, but are still making online donations. Your financial support has been instrumental in ensuring that we are able to continue to maintain the church and the grounds and that Covid-19 has not affected the work of the Parish.



Church Wardens - Anne Page, Geoff Seccombe and Kevin Short

Parish Grounds

Thanks to Barbara Wood who brought in some photos from 2002 when the row of lillypillies were planted alongside the church, with some help from Barb and Robbie's twin grandsons. Planted by Barbara Horn, who tended the gardens at that time, the lillypillies have grown into strong, shady trees in 2020 and are now cared for by Richard Fellows and his fellow gardeners.



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,

Be Nourished & Sustained through **Free** Daily Prayer

Search and pray with us by the Anglican Daily Office - our parish prayer book!

Download the ePray Daily Prayer app for your smartphone

It's free and the app will give you daily readings and prayers from the Australian Lectionary for any given day of the year.

Your Daily Prayer code is:

5	9	1	1
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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.

Parish Grounds

“Garden Gossip” - by Wendy Cannon

Garden maintenance on Monday morning is in full swing again after lock down. The team, led by Richard Fellows, is made up of Steven Watts, Rita Lewis, Wendy Cannon and Carol Connaughton, who joins us when she can. Rita and Wendy spend the morning doing routine garden tasks, weeding, pruning etc. Hedging is Steven’s speciality.

His work is evident throughout the grounds and his current project is lowering the height of the Photinia hedge on the southern boundary. Quite a task! We plan to keep all hedge heights lower for ease of maintenance and the safety of the hedger.

Rita and Wendy are both given to quite heavy pruning and combined with Steven’s hedging, we produce a large pile of garden waste most weeks. Richard’s skill of cutting up garden clippings into small pieces to get as much in the green waste as possible never ceases to amaze.

Recently, roses in the columbarium garden were replaced. Thanks to Barbara Horn’s records we were able to replace with the same David Austin rose – Mary Rose. Taking them out was quite the challenge because the rootstock had become extremely woody and produced multiple shoots, which we believe contributed to the loss of 4 roses. Three were salvaged and replanted elsewhere in the garden where they are now showing new shoots. It is lovely to note that Father Rod Galagher’s ashes were interred between two of the roses.

Spring flowering continues. Bearded Iris in the William Street garden flower progressively and are a weekly delight. Grevilleas are amazing and full of birds. It is certainly a very rewarding garden to be involved in. There is great camaraderie and, even in socially distanced times, the inevitable morning tea break. Volunteers of course are always welcome.

(Photos of the gardens are included on the front and inside cover of this edition of Cross and Keys.)



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 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. The cost is \$30 per person payable directly to 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 Papua New Guinea Covid-19 Update

As cases of COVID-19 continue to rise in Papua New Guinea, Anglicare PNG and the Anglican Diocese of New Guinea Islands have been implementing vital COVID-19 community education to children, parents and community members through local primary schools.

Pictured is Mr Bonnie Mombo, the Church Partnership Program (CPP) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer,

who writes about his monitoring visit to one of the participating schools, showing the importance of community education about the virus. The following story comes from an interview conducted by Mr Mombo with local head teacher, Mr Elizah Daka.



Head Teacher Mr Elizah Daka (L) shows CPP Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Mr Bonnie Mombo, the COVID-19-related educational materials posted at the entrance to his school. © Bonnie Mombo, PNG Church Partnership Program, 2020.

Mr Daka said that he originally thought that the COVID-19 virus wouldn't affect Christian countries such as PNG, and the virus could easily be contained by global health authorities.

Once there was a confirmed case in PNG, Mr Daka's opinion changed and he became fearful. This anxiety increased when the PNG Government ordered a State of Emergency, with curfews and extensive travel restrictions. All schools were instructed by the Provincial Education Authority to close, with everyone to stay at home.

There was initially a lot of confusion about what COVID-19 was, why it had occurred and how people should behave in the community or at home. There was a lack of information about why and how to prevent the COVID-19 spread. As the situation changed quickly, neither the Provincial Department of Education or the Provincial Health Department had any COVID-19 awareness or education information in verbal or written form. There was no information provided from non-government agencies, or other organisations.

Mr Daka said the COVID-19 awareness and education information from the Anglicare CPP* team was the first to reach his community. Mr Daka said the local primary school students and teachers, and the local community, were very pleased and felt so blessed to have the CPP team visit and provide COVID-19, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and gender awareness information, as the virus was and will be a national issue that triggers fear and confusion among the people. The whole community learnt many new things from the awareness and education session.

Mr Daka said the students, teachers and parents now feel more confident in understanding how COVID-19 is spread, and the importance of practicing health and hygiene at home, in school and within the community. Parents and students now feel more confident in returning to school after the State of Emergency ceases.

Before the Anglicare CPP awareness team arrived, the community were scared of sending their children back to school. Initially, less than half of the students had returned.

Written by Bonnie Mombo, PNG Church Partnership Program Monitoring and Evaluation Officer.

** CPP is the Church Partnership Program funded by the Australian Government #PNGCPP; #PNGAusPartnership*



Church Development

Stained Glass Windows in Clerestory

The support of the Saint Peter's community was never more evident than when we put out a call for help to cover the cost of completing the final set of windows in the Southern Clerestory. Thanks to the generosity of a number of families we are now very close to achieving our target of \$20,000 and are in a position to give the go ahead to our Stained Glass Artisan, Jeff Hamilton, to commence work on the overall design.

If you were thinking about donating to this project and ready to make a final decision to assist, please speak with our Rector, Scott Duley or contact the Parish Office on 4934 5303.



ALL SOULS DAY EUCHARIST – MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

This year the All Souls Day Eucharist will take place on Monday 2nd November commencing at 6.00pm. Please plan to attend this special All Soul's Day service as we remember our loved ones and others with whom our lives are connected who have passed from this life into the nearer presence of God.



Due to Covid-19 restrictions, names for inclusions in our prayers should be advised to Maryka in the Parish Office, either by phone 4934 5303 or email to office@eastmaitlandanglican.org. We will be preparing these lists throughout October, so please make sure you put down the names of those you would like included in the All Souls Day prayers.

On the evening itself, welcomers will be on hand to ensure that all who attend have included the names of their loved ones, and to add any who have not already been included.

Please make sure to put this in your diary and make every effort to come to this beautiful and meaningful service.

Visit our Website: www.eastmaitlandanglican.org

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

Parish Ministries

Card Ministry

Many of you would have received a card from the Parish on the occasion of your birthday or anniversary and also at Christmas and Easter. This is an often unsung ministry that has been quietly but efficiently looked after by Coral Galagher for the past 15 years. Coral has recently moved house and decided that the time has come to put away her card making equipment and birthday lists.

We could not let Coral's retirement from this role go without expressing the sincere thanks of the Parish for her dedication and commitment to creating individual cards and to ensuring that cards are sent out each month. We wish Coral every contentment in her new home and hope that she is able to relax knowing that the Card Ministry can be considered to be a job well done.



Thank You Coral xx

Op Shop

Many of you who have enjoyed shopping at the Op Shop may have noted the laborious system of hand writing each individual docket - this system allowed the volunteers to record every sale and reconcile the sales at the end of each day but was time consuming.



In what is a momentous step forward for the Op Shop a Cash Register has now been purchased, allowing volunteer staff to efficiently issue dockets and reconcile sales. This has been the cause of much rejoicing among the volunteers, making their role so much easier.

Volunteers are always required - if you, or anyone you think may be interested, can spare a few hours a fortnight or a month to help out in the Op Shop please contact Jane Hall in the Op Shop or the Parish Office on 4934 5303.

Covid-19 Arrangements

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 time of 1pm 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.

The Glebe Cemetery

East Maitland



Saint Peter's Old Burial Ground - The Glebe

This Church of England burial ground is the oldest cemetery in the Hunter Valley and belonged to the first Saint Peter's East Maitland. The first burial took place as early as 1828 and thereafter it was in use for a period of more than 70 years.

Because of its lonely and isolated position on the hill below the Rathluba property the burial ground is now a remnant of its original state. The silent tombs are a reminder of far off days when daily life and social conditions were vastly different from our own. The older stones were often quaint and their messages told us much about the ideas and convictions of the early settlers.

One well known pioneer who found his last resting place in St Peter's Old Burial Ground was the Police Magistrate, Edward Denny Day, who captured the Jew Boy Gang and apprehended the perpetrators of the Myall Creek massacre.

Although it was in use from an early stage the burial ground was not consecrated until Saint Peter's Day 1843 when Bishop Broughton performed the ceremony in a tent erected on the ground. To avoid fording the creek through the Glebe the hearse used to follow a bush track through Rathluba from Buchanan road, however in more recent times the route has been engulfed by a housing estate.

The Glebe Cemetery is now looked after by Maitland City Council

(Information taken from James Waddell's record of St Peter's Old Burial Ground)

Police Magistrate Edward Denny Day is commemorated on a Stained Glass Window in the Sanctuary at Saint Peter's Church. Pictured on the Stained Glass Window is The Ascension in memory of Edward Denny Day and his wife Margaret.

