

St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham



the
Parish Matters

Celebrates parish life and reports important items from the most recent Parish Council meeting
Find us on the web at www.stmargaretseltham.org.au/ Facebook at www.facebook.com/stmargaretseltham

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Broughton Publishing.

PALM SUNDAY PEACE MARCH

Sunday 25th March

Please join with other Anglicans outside St Paul's Cathedral at 1.40 for a walk to the State Library prior to speeches and the march.

Look out for the St Margaret's Banner

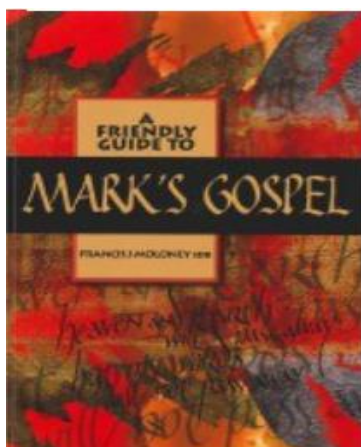
(see back page)

If you would like to travel in with others, meet at Margie Dahl's home at 27 Betula Ave Bundoora to travel in by tram (forget trains!) please bring lunch, water and suitable clothing

Education Seminar by Prof Moloney. Appreciation and thanks:

Fr Frank Moloney's three part seminar on the Gospel of Mark was one of the most enlightening experiences in my learning about scripture. The thirty or so participants were very privileged to hear such a quality revelation and many did not realize that this was his first presentation since recovering from surgery that resulted in the shift to the long week end from the once advertised weekend before.. For those that missed out we can strongly recommend his book as enlightening reading.

Fr Frank began with a focus on Mark's Prologue in which we are told *who* Jesus is and *what* he does, but not *how* he does it. The detail follows later in the Gospel. He also gave us insight into the differences between Mark's version and the other Gospels and that the writing was a story to bring home the prophecies in the Old Testament. The structure of detail consists of his Galilean Ministry; the formation of disciples "on the way" to Jerusalem (with a "bridge" from one section to another, opening with the blind man in Bethsaida and closed with blind Bartimaeus, leading to the endings in Jerusalem of the the Passion of and Resurrection of Jesus.



The second part focused on the Passion of Jesus, covering the final evening and the Jewish trial. He uncovers that this moment in the story is made up of 11 scenes, alternating between negative and positive responses to Jesus. In the sixth (central) scene, Jesus celebrates a meal and gives himself unconditionally to the disciples who will flee, deny and betray him (see 14:17-31: betrayal [vv. 17-21], supper [vv. 22-26], flight and denial [vv. 27-31]. The Passion continues with the trial and crucifixion made up of 9 scenes, alternating between positive and negative responses to Jesus. In the fifth (central) scene, Jesus is crucified (see 15:16-32: soldiers ironically proclaim the truth [vv. 16-20a], the crucifixion of Jesus [vv. 20b-25], Jewish leaders mock Jesus [vv. 26-32].

The final part of Fr Frank's presentation was on the Resurrection of Jesus (and his Disciples) consisting of the Women coming to anoint Jesus as the sun rises (vv. 1-3); the discovery of an empty tomb, and a young man dressed in a white robe (vv. 4-5); the Easter proclamation and the mission of the women (vv. 6-7); the women fleeing, "They fled from the tomb and said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid" (v. 8).

As an audience we were in awe of a truly international presenter, who lives almost on our doorstep in Clifton Hill. If you missed the seminar, watch out for an opportunity to hear him preferably after you have read the book which is one of a set of four.

Thank you so much Keren, Annette and Adrienne for organising this event and thanks also to all who helped with set up and the afternoon tea.

Harry Watson

Seminar: Insight into the Gospel of Mark

On Saturday March 10 we welcomed Fr Frank Moloney SDB to St Margaret's to conduct an afternoon seminar on the Gospel of Mark. Fr Frank is one of Australia's greatest scripture theologians and author of *The Friendly Guide to Mark*. He is currently a Senior Professorial Fellow at Catholic Theological College. The seminar was attended by 28 parishioners with two visitors from Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Parish. The consensus of all who attended was that Fr. Frank was a wonderful teacher who was passionate about helping us to understand the context and content of the gospel of Mark. He explained the use of the prologue in Mark and how that set up the expectations in the readers of the time. Then he went on to explore the two main narratives of discipleship and the passion. The feedback from attendees demonstrated that we all went away with a much better understanding of the intention of the writer of Mark and of the key themes in its structure. Many people stated that they will hear and reflect on the Sunday readings differently from now on and others hurried home to read Mark again.

We hope to invite Fr Frank back again for another seminar in the future.

A special thanks to the organising team Adrienne Watson, Keren Terpstra and Annette Street and to Harry Watson and David Tuke for their technical assistance.

Annette Street

Two Different Days for Pancakes

Pancakes & Games held Sunday 11th February 2018

An early Shrove Tuesday Pancake 'celebration' was enjoyed by parishioners after the 10.00am service on Sunday 11th February. Jan Kerr, Angela Langan and their helpers made delicious pancakes which were enjoyed with cups of tea and coffee. After the pancakes were eaten it was time for Pancake Tossing and Relay events in which the children and some "bigger" children (adults) participated enthusiastically.

The children also demonstrated their skill and expertise at Apple Bobbing outside on the veranda. The Games were organised by Diana Warrell – and were a big hit with those participating and watching.

The event was enjoyed by all who attended and \$110 was raised from Donations for **Act for Peace** to assist the people of Bangladesh following the devastating floods caused by severe monsoonal rains.

Kathleen Toal on behalf of the Wardens.

Shrove Tuesday, 13 February

Over fifty people from churches in Eltham, Montmorency and further afield gathered on Shrove Tuesday, 13 February to help raise money for the people of Bangladesh who were affected by the catastrophic floods in 2017. The great rivers of the Brahmaputra and the Ganges become one mighty river. Altogether, 700 rivers crisscross the country, providing water for cultivation, fish and a way of transporting people and goods. The plain of the river delta takes up 79% of the country.

The heavy monsoonal rain of last year flooded one third of the country. Millions of people were affected. The figures of the death toll are very rubbery due to lack of communications. There is still a desperate need for food, housing, infrastructure and tools of trade. 640,000 homes were destroyed. Whole villages disappeared. Millions of people left what was left of their homes with their meagre possessions.

Many survivors developed waterborne diseases such as watery diarrhoea, skin disease, acute respiratory infection and eye infection. 9,000 kms of roads were washed away along with 500 bridges and over 150 dams. Crops were destroyed and livestock drowned leading to a huge food crisis and lack of work for agricultural labourers. Fishing boats were wrecked.

Those who came to the event learned about Bangladesh and enjoyed a delicious supper of pancakes, waffles and fruit salad. It was wonderful to see so many people from a range of churches sharing food and fellowship.

Altogether, close to \$1,200 was raised. This money has been given to Act for Peace which is the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Act for Peace is part of the ACT (Action of Churches Together) Alliance which is a coalition of more than 140 churches and church-related organisations working together in over 100 countries. They create positive and sustainable change in the lives of poor and marginalised people, regardless of their religion, politics, gender, sexual orientation, race or nationality.

Act for Peace itself does not have any projects in Bangladesh. However, the ACT Alliance is able to use the money through its partners who are active there. Christian Aid is the official relief and development agency of 41 British and Irish churches. DanChurchAid is the Danish agency which, in 2016, assisted 3.6 million people through humanitarian and development activities in 29 countries. ICCO is based in the Netherland and focuses on economic empowerment, food security and responsible business and emergency aid.

These agencies will work with Christian organisations within Bangladesh. One of these is the Christian Commission for the Development of Bangladesh works in rural development, people-managed savings and credit programs and provides training for traditional birth attendants.

Each of the churches represented at Pancakes Plus has its own international aid agency, and they all do excellent work. However, working through Act for Peace, we can work together. This embodies that unity which is Christ's gift and his will for the Church.

Thanks very much to our Vicar, Keren and to all the members of the Do Justice Group who helped make Pancakes Plus such a success.

Margie Dahl

Locking Up the Hall and Foyer

Most of us have to lock up our facilities from time to time. **This is a reminder** because on several occasions recently the place has been left open.

The check list is

- **Make sure the kitchen outside door is closed.** It is always locked from the outside (Master key access only). **Often it has not been pulled shut**
- **Check each of the FIVE outside hall doors are pulled and bolted shut. (This includes the wet room door)**
- **Remember the foyer door needs locking with the key.**
- **If you don't have a key, lock the foyer door from the inside and leave by the kitchen door which is self locking. Check that it is closed. (Don't leave your keys inside because you can't get in again)**

Faith & Film Group

The Shape of Water

In February the Film, Faith, Friends and Food group saw 'The Shape of Water' at the Nova Cinema. We found it to be an unusual film and very thought provoking. Over our Thai dinner Judy Scott encouraged us to consider the symbols used in the film and we found this a fascinating exercise. We explored:

- what the use of the colour green might mean
- the images that could represent different understandings of God; particularly the image of water
- Examples of resurrection

If you enjoy film and exploration of the spiritual we would love to have you join us on the fourth Sunday each month. Times of sessions are published by the cinema on the Wednesday so if you would like to receive an email on Wednesday notifying you of the upcoming film details please let me know your email address.

Shirley Nash

Meg's Munchers

After twenty years of supporting parishioners with a lunch, it's with thanksgiving and regret that Meg's Munchers comes to an end. The vicar and parish council want to acknowledge all those who over the years helped with this ministry, planning and cooking and encouraging those who came and enjoyed eating together.

The lunches started in 1998. Annette Sims would put a roast & vegetables in the St Margaret's oven before the 11am service and then serve to some folk at lunchtime.

A further group started to help in 2004 and lunch was held every second month. In October 2008 we had a "10th Birthday Celebration.

Co-ordinators overtime were Manee Morrison, Mary Ann Wilkie, Robin Wembridge Helpers have included Barbara & John Talbot, Val & Michael Tucker, Bev & Bryan Thompson, Jenny Disney, Ken Grant, Sylvia Gilbert, Betty Cooper, Jennifer, Shirley Burns. Occasionally help from other members of the congregation.

What a tremendous effort!

It is the nature of life that all things have a time and a season. We give thanks for the ministry of Meg's Munchers, and look forward to further ministry and fellowship opportunities which will grow up in its wake.

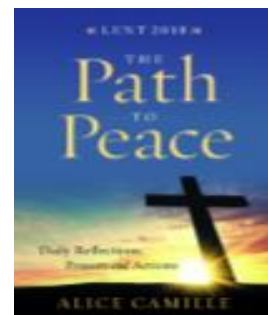
World Day of Prayer

On Friday 2nd March about 60 folk from the surrounding parishes in different denominations met at St Margaret's to pray for peace in the world. This year's liturgy was prepared by the women of Suriname, a tiny nation on the east coast of South America. Leadership of the service was ably shared between people from St Margaret's, from St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, and Our Lady, Eltham. Many thanks to Fay Gravenall for acting as coordinator, and thanks to the Wednesday worshippers for their support, participation, and provision of morning tea. Thanks to Gwenda for playing for the service. We look forward to praying together again next year, when the World Day of Prayer will be hosted by Our Lady's, Eltham.

Revd Keren

Lent Studies 2018

This year we are engaging as a parish using the daily reflections in *The Path to Peace*. There will be an opportunity to share our reflections after the Wednesday service over morning tea.



Council Meeting

The recent Council meeting dealt with regular business and quite some time on developing a plan for action on the first of our four growth intention strategies: Development of Pathways to Community Connection which has three parts.

1 All ages worship service, with the need to find people resources to make this happen periodically. A notice about this appears in the pew sheet..

2 The Focus on marketing was discussed and passed on to the Communication Committee.

3 The plan to start ONE new activity for Mums of young children / babies was moved along seeking involvement of interested Mums.

For more details **the council minutes are on the foyer notice board.**

The training workshop on Saturday led to whole hearted support for delivering opportunities that will support families and children, consistent with the views of many in the Parish that we should maintain a diverse range of membership age if we are to be a 'complete family'. Revd Keren has written above about the need to support this activity with proper compliance with the 2017 legislation on safe care for children.

Council Appreciations

A regular item on Parish Council's agenda is to recognise and express our appreciation to specific people:

- **Megs Munchers providers** for about seventeen years they have been cooking a roast meal for those who don't get a chance to have one. Largely single people.

ELTHAM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

On Good Friday evening, at 7.30, the St. Mark's Choir, Fitzroy (about 50 strong), are rendering Stainer's "Crucifixion" at St. Margaret's Church, Eltham. As it is the first time the oratorio has been rendered in the district, a large congregation should be expected. The collection is towards a permanent memorial to fallen soldiers, to be erected in the Church after the war is over

St. Margaret's Church, Eltham, was packed on Saturday afternoon, the 16th inst., on the occasion of the unveiling and dedication of the Eltham honour Board and two stained glass windows, the gifts of the local residents and the family of the late Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wippell respectively.

The Honour Board, which was unveiled by Archdeacon Hayman, is a handsome piece of work in blackwood and Australian ash. Upon it are inscribed 74 names, 13 of which have paid the supreme sacrifice, as indicated by a cross in red before each name. At its base on each side are brackets which carry two handsome brass vases for flowers, and underneath it was placed on Saturday by the Vicar a laurel wreath. The Archdeacon preached a splendid sermon. He

also dedicated a large Union Jack on a polished standard of Queensland maple (the gift of Mr. E. W. Smithers) as well as a credence bracket (the gift of Mr. W. H. Saxe, a friend of the Vicar).

The second portion of the service was devoted to the dedication of the windows by the Rev. E. E. Pelham Chase, a former Vicar of the Parish. He spoke most feelingly and appealed to those present. The windows are a valuable addition to an already beautiful church. The designs are carried out in excellent tone, and depict St. Margaret and St. Paul, and bear the inscription: "To the glory of God and in loving memory of Walter and Elvira Wippell. Erected by their children. " Beneath them was placed a beautiful wreath by Mr. W. T. Grant.

The music was creditably rendered by an augmented choir giving the anthem, " Across the Bar." Mr E. F. Derbyshire sang the antiphon, " How Lovely

are Thy Dwellings," and Mr. J. O. Davies, " He Thou Faithful Unto Death" (from St. Paul), both of which found ready appreciation from those assembled. The collection realised a good amount, and is to go towards a fund for a permanent memorial to the fallen soldiers to be erected in the Church after the war is over, which, it is hoped will take the form of a handsome blackwood alter. The people of Eltham are to be congratulated upon the results of such an effort. **Citation available.**

Eltham & Whittlesea Advertiser and the Diamond Creek Advocate 22 March 1918. The newspaper report provides a detailed account of the services held at St Margarets on Good Friday 15th March 1918 and Saturday afternoon 16th March 1918.

Notices

St Margaret's joining with Eltham Bookshop to launch a book written by an asylum seeker previously on Manus Island. Speaker Julian Burnside AO QC. May 30 at Eltham College 5.30-7.30. More details to follow.

Eds this edition Harry Watson and Sally Petty

St Margaret's
Anglicans, Eltham



Do Justice