



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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St Margaret's Anglican Parish Eltham acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship. We commit to working for reconciliation and justice for Aboriginal people. Diversity and inclusivity are important to us at St Margaret's.

Prayer for 2022

God give us grace:
to seek after you with all our hearts,
to desire to know you with our minds,
to love you not for fear of loss or hope of gain
but for yourself alone.
Send us out that we may be
your hands of healing,
your voice of hope,
and your blessing for those around us. **Amen.**

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INCUMBENCY COMMITTEE

Just a reminder of our coming up Parish Profile afternoon, with our Archdeacon Tim Johnson on **Sunday 26th June 2pm**. This is a time for you to have your say and express your feelings and wishes so that they will be heard.

The process of selecting a new vicar whether by Archbishops Appointment or by Incumbency Committee alone, requires your input. We acknowledge not all of us will get all we desire in a spiritual leader, but you can shape how our Parish is thinking and where we wish to be in the coming years.

Remember we cannot represent your thoughts if we are not aware of them. If you are unable to attend, please write your thoughts down and pass them on to a member of your Incumbency Committee. Please join us and share.

Helen Robertson
Sandra Brown-Holt
John Humann

PASTORAL CARE

Recently our Wednesday Eucharist focused on the Gospel where Mary visits Elizabeth and they share the joy of their pregnancy news. Luke 1: 39-45. The commentator that I read in preparation for Mass raised the issue that there is no such thing as a purely 'spiritual love'. True Love literally 'em-bodies' the whole person -spirit, mind, emotion and body. Mary, filled with the Spirit soon breaks out into that wonderful hymn of praise we call the Magnificat.

These thoughts provide us with a context for thinking about Pastoral Care an embodied way to care. You may like to take some time to reflect on the pastoral care that you share on an informal basis with others. There are so many people who care for our community. Some people assist in services reading, or assisting at the altar. Some people pray for us, others provide tea and coffee and clean up afterward. You see, we don't have to be a member of the Pastoral Care team or sharing Home Communion to be embody the love of Christ. Whenever you are moved to help others either at church or beyond its precincts you are embodying the love of God. Thank you!

A group of volunteers has been trained to take Communion on home visits. It is clear that not everybody feels comfortable receiving Communion in their home setting. This is a very personal choice and your wishes will be respected and honoured. For some, the very fact of a visit from a St Margaret's parishioner is communion enough! For others, receiving Communion at home is a welcome blessing. The privilege of placing the consecrated host in the open hand of another person is not to be taken lightly. This action of giving and receiving is both powerful and sacred. If you would like to receive Communion at home please call Linda or Carolyn in the office and we can arrange a visit.

Blessings

Linda

SAFE MINISTRY

Dear Friends,

Anne Fairweather Safe Ministry and Inclusion Officer of the diocese recently came to visit me at St Margarets and we had a very helpful conversation. She explained the purpose of upcoming training for all who volunteer on church rosters. It is to demonstrate a culture of care for others, and to be a visible sign of this commitment to those outside of the church. The biblical term for such care and well-being is Shalom. I am reminded of the words from 1 Peter:22 *See How They Love One another!* Our aim is to embrace a culture of care through intentional teaching. With changes to Child Safe Standards and increasing awareness of elder abuse and violence against women, new training is being rolled out by the Diocese.

Updated Level 1 training is required of all who volunteer on church rosters. You are no longer required to undertake a Police Check or hold a Working With Children Check, unless you are directly involved with working with children. These more onerous requirements remain in place for Church Wardens and those on Parish Council.

Anne Fairweather will come to our church to provide training for us on Saturday 13th of August between 10.00-12.00. Please put this date in your diary. If you are unable to attend on that day, I will take a follow-up session so we can all be up to date with current diocesan requirements.

Wishing you blessings,

Linda

SECURITY

You will be aware that we have had a couple of upsetting security breaches at St Margarets. We don't know how or why. However, we need to all be aware. The Property Committee will again look at the installation of cameras. But we also ask everyone whether tenants or parishioners, to be conscious of ensuring the property is locked and secure. If you are the last person out, please double check all doors. If you have a key, but can do without, please hand in the to office or one of the wardens. Many thanks

PARISH LADIES FELLOWSHIP

Pam Simpson started the group, there were so many young mums in the Parish. The name Ladies Auxiliary was chosen so we could welcome divorced and unmarried mums. Our first meeting was February 1968. At our meetings we usually had guest speakers. When our Vicar John Simpson and his wife left the parish in 1970. Margaret Bentley and I (Barbara Talbot) took over as president and secretary. We are both still with the group. During these years we have had a lot of fun. Made lamingtons once. This was very messy, we used a chocolate jelly and had coconut and chocolate jelly everywhere. Another of our ventures, we purchased 20 It casks of wine, bottled and sold it.

We had wonderful Dinner Dances in Petrie Park hall, Progressive Dinners and Wine Tasting nights. We really kept our husbands and friends from neighbouring churches involved. We were a young group with evening meetings. As we grew older we changed to day meetings and also changed to having 2 lunches each year with guest speakers.

Over the years we have donated to many organisations. To name a few: Anglicare, Appin Hall Children's Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, Children First, Cancer Council, Royal Flying doctors Service. Plus we purchased new carpet and tiles for St Faith's church.

Many thanks to our husbands, St Faith's and St Margaret's parishioners who have supported us over the years.

Barbara Talbot



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sun 19th	12:30pm	CAVE luncheon
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Sun 26th	2:00—4:00pm	Parish Profile Consultation
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Sun 26th	5:30pm 6:30pm	Taize—meal Taize prayer
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Editor This edition Sally

Pics: Barbara Talbot, Kathleen Toal, Harry Watson Next ed. Copy July 6

PENTECOST –

On Sunday June 5th we were delighted to welcome Bishop Kate to our celebration of Pentecost. What a joyous service. Loads of red, beautiful music and the parish choir. What a celebration. Extra special morning tea followed by the dedication of the Yarning Circle and then a light lunch. Thanks to all who helped organise this very special day. Here you can follow the last process for the Yarning Circle, the extinguishing of the Easter Candle, blessing from +Kate and the joyous opening of the Circle.

