

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 at the time of choosing an incumbent

Bountiful God,
 give to this parish a faithful pastor
 who will faithfully speak your word
 and minister your sacraments;
 an encourager who will equip your people for ministry
 and enable us to fulfil our calling.
 Give to those who will choose, wisdom,
 discernment and patience,
 and to us give warm and generous hearts,
 For Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

Parish Council Report

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At the last Parish Council meeting chaired by Rev Linda we covered the following agenda items:

- Business Arising from last meeting: the terms of reference for the Council sub committees were received and put into the procedures manual.
- Action List: the issue of payment to vergers was discussed and a decision was made that such payments be formalised.
- The vicar's report was received with thanks. The main points she noted were:
 - I am hopeful that we will soon have a firm date for announcing the news of the incumbent
 - I have had a firm message from Clem Taplin that it is time for me to take a break.

Please don't forget and add to the tubs for food in the Foyer each week. For the LINC basket and St Mark's Fitzroy and is distributed by Anglicare



A JOURNEY TO THE PAST FRANKLIN
A QUEST FOR THE FUTURE

for WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
 June 10, 2023, 2pm - 4.30pm **St. Margaret's Anglican Church**
 79-81 Pitt Street Eltham

Parish Council Report (Contd)

- She is correct. She can cover me on June 25th and Wednesday 21st. Clem suggests I set up Morning Prayer for 28th June
- We continue to be “thin on the ground” for those who can take Home Communion
 - Over the past two weeks I have had two funerals on-the-go at once.. Without Carolyn in the office I could not have managed it! Her efficiency is remarkable
 - The Prevention Of Violence Against Women Project is underway. I have attended the first meeting with folk from other churches. Two of our parishioners have expressed interest in joining a Steering Committee
- Finance Report: John Humann reported that the finances of the parish were healthy. There was discussion on church heating and this was to be looked into by the property committee. The change in procedures for casual employees was noted.
The use of a cash card machine for the upcoming garage and goodies sale was approved. There was discussion about a similar facility for casual giving at regular and special services such as funerals.
 - Subcommittee reports were received from Pastoral Care, Property, Do Justice, Marketing & communication.

Word Environment Day Program

Amnesty International, OXFAM and St.Margaret's Eltham have partnered to show the documentary “FRANKLIN” which follows the eighth - generation Tasmanian Oliver Cassidy as he embarks on a life changing solo raft trip down the mighty, beautiful Franklin River. His aim is to retrace his late father's trip made to attend the blockade that saved the World Heritage listed national park from being destroyed by a huge hydroelectric dam project in the early 1980s.

PROGRAM MC: Mitzi Tuke
Acknowledgement of Country

Marguerite Marshall: A Climate Reality Leader trained by Al Gore. A climate campaigner for decades, Marguerite will talk about urgent action needed to prevent catastrophic change and how joining others will help achieve success.

Dr. Harry Watson (SAGE) will speak on “The extreme urgency of holistic action for carbon neutral mobility.”

Don Stokes (OXFAM) volunteer and activist speaking on Oxfam's Climate Justice Program

Katrina North (Amnesty International) The right to protest is powerful when passionate and courageous people raise their voices to make the world a better place, for example in protection of the mighty Franklin River.



Refreshments and information tables in the hall
Cost: \$10.00. To book: use the QR code
or <https://trybooking.com//CHPMF>
For more information: Phone: 9439 9238 or visit:
www.stmargaretseltham.org.au

- Brief updates were provided on each of the HeartEdge projects for 2023, namely the Memory Care Cafe, September Concert, Yarning Circle and Taize services
- The detailed planning for the September music concert was presented and the need for follow up on well-known performers was identified. Thanks to Marg Sandy, John H and Diana W for managing this important event in Parish life and fund raising support for the Music Scholarships
- The partnership with Community groups was discussed. There was emphasis on the need for a tidy-up of the surrounds.
- The upcoming SAGE (St Meg's Action Group for the Environment) event was noted

Harry Watson

Property Progress



Removing the tennis court fence from the John St. end and installing a new paling fence has proved to be a great decision and has opened up the whole area. The next task is to replace the wire fence between the Vicarage and the labyrinth and replant. A continuing task is to keep up the gardening, cleaning, weeding ... never ends really. With thanks to those who have helped in so many ways.

Sally Petty

The Joy of Our Taizé Service

The joy of our Taizé service is infectious, the word is spreading and our numbers keep growing even on a cold wet night. If you were unable or forgot there is always a next time for you to join us for some delicious soup beforehand or just the service itself. Remember to pop the last Sunday in the month on your calendar, you can't go wrong. Pop on your coat, join in the chat, share our wonderful space, and be spiritually uplifted in prayer and song. Last Sunday night 28 were present celebrating with each other, coming as far as from Mornington



yes word gets out about the place where love is shared.

A big thank you to our musicians, readers, and those involved in meal preparation for their commitment and love to St. Margaret's.

Coordinator Helen Robertson

Pastoral Care News

Pastoral Care has been as busy as ever, At the moment we are two short in the team, with Jenn recovering from major surgery (hopefully back at church soon) and Sheila on holiday in Europe.

Our Linda has been a stalwart for visiting those in regular need and also lots of emergencies. With help from EHC, Adrienne, Helen and Harry the 14 people on the 'regular' list have been visited before Easter and since.

All this year for various reasons on our side and St Vincent's, it has not been possible to deliver regular communion services. We have reluctantly agreed to suspend services for the rest of this year with Fr Robert indicating that he will be able to review his ability to support this in the new year.

The planned seminar for after Sunday church on *Ageing in Body and Growing in Spirit*, to be presented by our Christine Winkett has been postponed because of various clashes. Look out for the upcoming date.

There are still well over 20 on our contacts list, many of whom receive regular visits and some who are in rehab or permanent care. Most of you will know that making visits to these places can be very challenging with physical (RAT tests) and electronic hoops to jump through. All the places we visit are now back to requiring us to wear a mask which makes it a huge challenge to communicate with the hearing impaired as the lip reading cannot be a support.

Memory Care Café Dates

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 1.30pm to 3.00pm

JUNE

6 June & 20 June

JULY

4 July & 18 July

AUG

1 August & 15 August



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Mens Breakfast continues to attract about ten to its monthly breakfast. The 25th Anniversary celebration has been postponed to October.

And we note with gratitude Mary LM's wonderful love and care shared through the Prayer Chain.

Please if anyone reading this feels they have the energy and ability to join us in this care, let us know. We badly need more members.

Harry Watson

Anglicare News

The latest newsletter tells us how much appreciated all our efforts in donating foods and knitted and crocheted rugs and little clothes have been. And Bev has had 6 bags of goodies delivered. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.



But it is June, now with the coolest months still to come. So for the next three weeks could we donate WARM SOCKS ? (By coincidence one of the big supermarkets is selling Bonds items at a very nice discount.). Foods can also be brought to the church.

Jenny Disney

Hello Anglicare friends.

Monday I rang Bob the Anglicare Driver and asked him to come and pick up the 12 large bags of donations that we have collected. He was amazed that we had this much again after such a short time. Three pickups in May! On behalf of Anglicare he thanked our group for the wonderful support we are giving and he knew the people whom he was delivering this load to would also be amazed and very thankful.

We collected 2 bags toiletries; large bag food; 4 bags linen and bedding; 1 large bag crochet rugs; 2 bags homemade children's patchwork quilts, 1 bag knitted beanies; 2 large bags of knitted jumpers for children.

I can only continue to thank you for your support whether it is by donating food, clothing, bedding and linen, toiletries and especially our prayers.

We know there are thousands of homeless, hungry and lonely people who, through Anglicare, God sends our donations to.

Blessings and take care, love Bev (and Jenny).

Flowers



Don't you love the flowers that adorn our church? Angela Langham **is a marvel**. For years she has kept the roster going and I am sure has filled in numerous times. **Sometimes parishioners pay for flowers as a remembrance for family members no longer with us. Please consider doing this.** Just contact Angela or the office.

Garage and Goodies Sale



Well, it was hard work but some interesting moments. We met many people and they wandered around our space. They certainly acquired some great items and bargains galore.

Thanks to all who donated, baked, set up and cleared away.

The ongoing total is currently \$2,700. Pretty good effort. PS. Fun to meet the man, who at 20 made all the mud bricks for the hall! He walked away with a Harris Tweed jacket, bought in the UK in the 70s by R Petty! Thanks again to all.

Sally Petty

And thanks to Sally too for organising this major Parish event.

Reflections from Jan Kerr

I'm delighted to have the opportunity to share Jan Kerr's beautifully penned reflection. I am sure it will connect with many of you who may have sat quietly with or without a four-legged friend. Thank you, Jan. --- Helen R

One of my favourite and special times in the Church calendar is when the wider community come to St

Margaret's to a service held in the hall. Step into the hall, you'll see a host of four-footed creatures gathered with their humans. Excitement, anticipation are in the air, social contacts are being made or sniffed out! This celebration of St. Francis of Assisi, known as the Blessing of the Animals, is held here on the first Sunday in October. I have been privileged to help plan the service a number of times. Helping to choose a guest speaker, find sponsors for pet treats - the take-home party bag, setting up the hall, sometimes with hay bales for children to sit on, pets' water bowls, humans' morning tea, etc. The pets varied from tiny mice, rabbits, cats, perhaps a stick insect and dogs large and small. Sometimes a band would be formed for the music and the dogs would loudly sing along! The pets being individually blessed by the clergy is the highlight of course!

John and I came to St Margaret's 19 years ago when we moved to Eltham, after we were married in 2004. We had been part of a very different Anglican church in Kew, where we met. We've enjoyed being part of this busy community with its host of different seasonal activities, providing opportunities to invite family and friends to join us. Also, there is a recognition and awareness of wider world or community issues, through forums, art exhibitions, concerts, inviting interaction with our neighbours and beyond. There are many other activities here to bring us together, with opportunities to learn, be nourished, to share a meal and spend time together. Hospitality is something I do enjoy, so you will see me behind the kitchen serving offering tea and coffee fairly often. John also has opportunities to use his many gifts! I must admit that some services are a challenge for me but I know the Love and Spirit of God is certainly present here at St Margaret's community.



INFLAMED WITH LOVE AT PENTECOST

(Thanks to Linda and helpers)

Editor this edition Harry

Pics: Sally, Diana and Harry

Next edition. Copy July 4

Let us know what you would like more of (and less?)