

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.

**We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth.
Give us and all peoples grace to live in harmony with
your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty.**

*From A Prayer Book for Australia
c. Broughton Books*

Planned Giving at St Margaret's Eltham

St Margaret's new Parish Year has just commenced as of the 1st October 2023 .and like all new Years it is time to reflect on the past year and plan for the next year. The Annual Meeting (AM) for the Parish will be held on Sunday 19th November, the reports from the various parish groups including the Parish Council and the financial reports for the past Parish Year 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023 will be available prior to the meeting. At the AM the Parish Treasurer will speak to the financial reports and present the Parish Budget for 2023-24.

In 2022-23 the Planned Giving was approximately \$50,735 and Open Plate \$13,303.

Planned Giving is an important part of our parish life giving us the opportunity to personally give towards the good work St. Margaret's does, both in our Parish and the community.

The running of a parish like ours is costly the costs of maintaining our premises, paying clergy and staff are increasing every year, especially insurance, electricity and gas and staff oncosts e.g. superannuation. Our buildings also require continued levels of maintenance and repair.

Now is an opportunity to review your commitment to the church, especially if you have set your regular contribution some time ago.

There are several ways that you can participate in the Planned Giving program.

- Direct Planned Giving through your Bank account (EFT);
- Direct Planned Giving to the Parish ADF Planned Giving Account (Forms available in the foyer if you wish to use this option and are not already using this method);
- Weekly Planned Giving Envelopes;
- Open Plate; and
- We now have a Quest Tap & Go machine with pre-set amounts to choose from \$5, \$10, \$15 or \$20.

The wardens wish to thank the parishioners who have signed up for Planned Giving. It is an important help to the planning of the parish's finances.

Kathleen Toal

On behalf of the Wardens, Treasurer & Parish Accountant

TAIZE

The Music, prayer and silence creating a contemplative atmosphere for all 32 present to engage in whatever way they felt drawn to in their own silence and reflection.

This service has grown steadily to become an important part of what we at St. Margaret's love and share. Our hospitality extending beyond our walls and into the wider community. We can be proud of what we have achieved. However, none of it would be possible unless those committed folk supporting one another came together under the St. Margaret's banner.

Our thanks go this month to David and Mitzi for



preparing the preservice meal so enjoyed by 23 this month. To Robert and his band of merry musicians, Helen and Jim, to John Humann for creating the atmosphere. Thanks also go to Heidi for so carefully putting the service together and Carolyn for her behind the scene assistance. A Team of wonderful people.



Remember if you haven't tried this service and all that it offers, you still have two more this year to come and try it. You may well find it gives you the time you are looking for in your spiritual

journey.

Look forward to seeing you soon.

***Helen Robertson,
Coordinator.***

TAP AND GO



If you wish to make any donations try using the new Tap and Go facility. But, if donation is for a specific purpose please advise the Parish Office.

3rd November Our New Vicar will land on our shores

I am happy to report that Wardens and the Nomination Committee are in communication with Yvette every couple of weeks as she and Marco prepare to leave the UK.

Her emails are often commenting on their



excitement and not long now. I'm sure that as her belongings have already left, she is feeling a little adrift and between two places. Our prayers are with them both as they continue to finalise their time in the UK and prepare for their new adventures down under. Yvette and Marco will be living just off the top of Arthur St. **We thought we could collect some basic items to put in the cupboards. Donations welcome, please put in the box in the hall meeting room.**

INSTALLATION

Reminder that all are warmly invited to come to the Installation service on Thursday 16th November at 7.30 to be followed by refreshments in the hall. Bishop Brad will preside. This will be a joyous occasion so please plan on attending. If you need transport, please let the office know or Sally Tel: 0407543532

THANKYOU LINDA

We will all join together between the 2 services on Sunday 12 November, 9.30. Please come and express your thanks for Linda's ministry to the people of St Margarets. Contributions to a present can be either put in an envelope in the collection plate or give to a warden.

ST MARGARET'S DAY



Reminder: one service on **Sunday 19th November @ 10.00** Preacher: The Revd. Yvette. Followed by the Annual Meeting chaired by Revd Linda

Then it's party time.

Catered lunch in the hall. **Cost \$20 per head** subsidized by the parish. NB if this is beyond your budget, please talk to a warden. We really want **all** parishioners possible to attend. Menu is scrumptious and covers roasts, veggies, salads and desserts. Please write your name down on list in the hall. **We need definite numbers.** BYO drinks. Let us know if you need transport.



Hospitality at St Margarets

St Margaret's Church & Hall have quite a presence as you approach from the street. Walking up the pathway there is the old heritage part of the church steeped in much history.

In recent time the old church was extended out from the north wall & a thoughtful worship space was created. The lovely light filled Narthex now links the church with the hall & other amenities allowing easy access for all. Most people find pleasure in talking about these features & showing visitors around.

At the same time as the extension was built, the kitchen also underwent renovation. This has made use of the hall both by the church & the wider community much more viable.

However, not many would talk about the kitchen & even fewer people want to be in there! I think you would agree that the time spent after church, in community, having a cup of tea is special. Nothing like a personal connection. It does however take someone to be in the kitchen to prepare & serve the tea & coffee. The number of people on the roster for both Sunday services are very few. The more people on the roster the fewer times you actually have to do the task during the year. Please ask yourself if you can offer to do this. This is a Unisex kitchen!

There has been a small change in the kitchen in the last short while. The instant hot water service "died" & has now been removed. After much consideration it was decided that our needs have changed & that now we operate with 2 urns for the larger services & there is a kettle for smaller needs. One of the urns has been elevated to allow easy filling of coffee pots. These changes appear to be working well, so enjoy.

Coralie Carew

PARISH COUNCIL

September meeting was held on 25 September via zoom.

- Event Planning form for Blessing of the Animals approved.
- Assignment of Lease information for the Childcare Centre. Approved and referred to the Diocesan solicitor.
- Financials abridged August 2023 tabled
- Copy of Financials August 2023 tabled
- Budget Abridged 2024 tabled. Committee reports received from: Pastoral Care, Property, (including review of water heating facility).
- Consideration of reallocation of grant to Greensborough Centre which has not been taken up. Work in Progress.
- Tap and Go is now setup. Finance Committee to develop a policy on use.
- Vicar reported on her ongoing work. Much appreciated by all. Governance
- Several groups have lodged Terms of Reference as requested. Still more to come.
- Annual meeting – request that chairs of Committee to prepare some illustrative presentations for the Annual meeting.
- Annual Review of Pathways to Reconciliation confirmed. Request that this be included in the Annual Meeting papers.
- Disability Inclusion papers tabled
- Discussion on celebrating our thanks to Linda, welcoming Yvette and St Margarets Day lunch. See separate articles.

MUSIC CONCERT

Committee Members: Marg. Sandy, Robert Street, Linda Fiske, Diana Warrell, John Humann

September saw the Music Concert with performances from the Open Door Singers led by Shaun Islip, Keren Terpstra playing her harp, Amelia and Lachlan playing piano while Jason played our organ, plus a duo on drums and guitar. With song sheets to help us the audience sang with great gusto especially "The Voice" by John Farnham. It was a wonderful coming together to share and enjoy the creating and enjoyment of music. The church was packed. One of our aims as a committee is to encourage this making and sharing of music. It has many health benefits.



After we paid Shaun Islip \$500 for his polished leading of the singers, acting as MC and operating the sound system, we made \$2467.15. We used our new "efpos" system, try booking and also gave people the option of paying cash. Information Brochures with how to make a donation,

which is tax deductible, were given out as well.

Afternoon tea was a last-minute affair and we hope to do something more next year.

Thank you to all the St. Margaret's people who supported the event and support the aims of the scholarship.

Our three young musicians who started as scholarship holders have completed their scholarships, and are now being paid to play at services. This is another aim of the committee -to encourage young people to continue their interest and enjoyment in music, develop skills, experience and even use these to make money particularly while they are students.

The other exciting development is the engaging of a new scholarship student who will commence February 2024. More about her later in the year.

Diana Warrell

Ed this edition: Sally. Pic: Sally, Diana, Linda M and Sandra. Next ed.

Material due 7/11 due out 12/11

Really appreciate contributions. Following hints would help save editing:

- Typeface Ariel
- 11 point
- 6pt between paras

Blessing of the Animals

Our St Francis Day celebration was a combined service in St Margaret's hall on Sunday 8th October.

An enormous amount of effort went into planning the event, and sincere thanks goes to the committee of Diana Warrell, Jan Kerr and Coralie Carew, together with Revd Linda and Revd Robert.

In the lead-up to the service speakers and publicity had to be arranged, sponsors finalised, music determined, musicians organised, service booklets agreed and printed and appropriate pet treats supplied.

On the day of the service we welcomed around 50 people, many from outside the parish, together with a menagerie of dogs of all sizes and breeds. The latter were exceedingly well behaved, due in no small part to the pet treats liberally dispensed during the service. (Thank you Jan!) Revd Linda played her usual warm and hospitable role, leading the morning's proceedings with stories of St Francis, prayers, homilies and blessings.



The first speaker was Sandra Verdan who spoke about the benefits of companion animals, especially in the context of dementia support. Sandra and her black standard poodle Jip, are already well known at St Margaret's where they join us at the Eltham Memory Care Cafe.



Then we heard from Andrew Hall from the Eltham Montmorency Branch of the RSL, who joined us with his prized assistance dog, Lola, a black labrador. Andrew told us of his time in the military, including tours of duty in the Middle East and Afghanistan,



and his subsequent journey with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, the incidence of which is distressingly high for men and even more so for women who serve in the armed forces. In Andrew's testimony he spoke of his greatest comfort and support being the assistance from Lola, who accompanies him literally everywhere. Finally, the musical contributions in the service proved to be most uplifting, led by our scholarship student Amelia Trinh

on keyboard, with singing led by John Humann on guitar and our friend Mike Dobson on ukelele. Mike is leader of the Diamond Creakers Uke Group. Audience participation on "All God's Creatures Got A Place In The Choir" was enthusiastic, while the meditative prayer of St Francis "Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace" was sung by all during the actual blessing of the pets, both past and present.



Many thanks to all the Committee members, and those who contributed to the prayers, the readings, the set-up and dismantling, the flowers, sound system and especially the delicious morning tea. All in all it was a great team effort, and a highly successful occasion.

John Humann

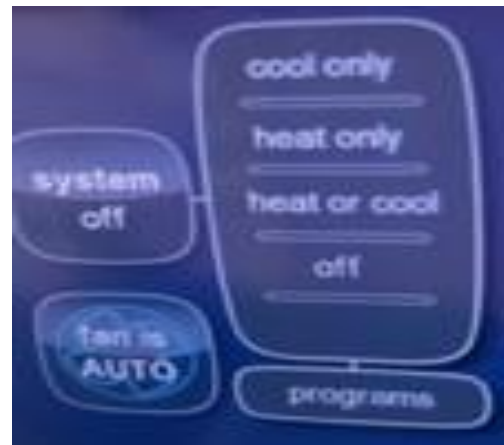
Heaters and locking

For anyone who needs to turn lock up or turn on/off heater:

Front door inside: turn to off then lock outside with key.



There are 2 heater controls: 1 on left of church. Press system on then heat only for winter or cool only for summer.



At end of service press system off. 1 on the right: open door and press top button on top marked heat. Turn off

