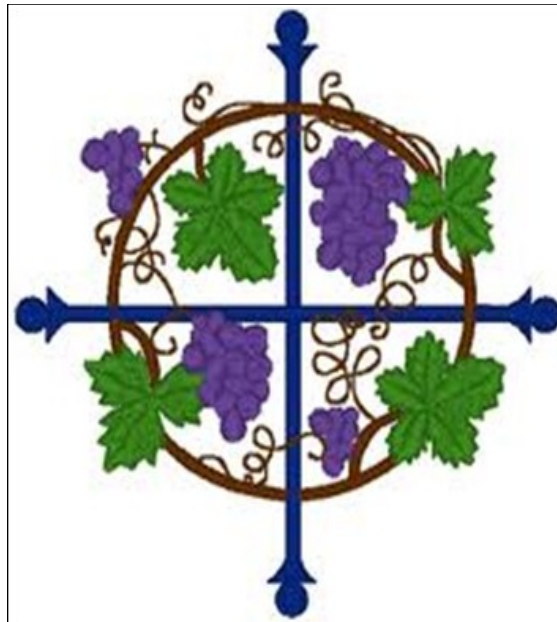


ST MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE



PARISH OF ALBURY

JULY 2014

Fr Peter writes :
Dear People of St Matthew's

*Forth in thy name, O lord, I go,
My daily labour to pursue;
Thee, only thee, resolved to know,
In all I think or speak or do.*

*For thee delightfully employ
Whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
And run my course with even joy,
And closely walk with thee to heaven.*



At Glyndebourne Opera

This hymn filled with the energy of Pentecost is from the pen of Charles Wesley, who was himself moved to think out of and controversially step out of the square and changed the world.

For the oddly named "ordinary days" following Pentecost the green days full of growth in the new ways the spirit leads St Matthews has started with a bang with the Celtic weekend which was an unanticipated success.

Each even of the weekend, workshop, cocktail party, mass and concert was a Celtic hit, so many thanks to Reverend Maureen Beattie who gave birth to the whole idea and to Fr Alan and a wonderful committed team who brought new ideas and energy to provide a new cultural and spiritual experience for not just the insiders but for the wonder community.

The spirit of God blows where it will, and it is amazing what can happen if in faith your sail ready for new directions .it is comforting to have your life mapped out but it can be a fearful trap. Some have entertained angels unaware but many more have been too busy or too organised to see a new opportunity and go for it.

God makes all things new, and new things can be inconvenient and inspiring. We give thanks for the ministry of Bishop John McIntyre of Gippsland, a St Matthew's friend and visitor who also made a contribution to local discussion through media interviews when he was here.

There are few who have earned medals for spiritual heroism in our day but he is certainly one of them. I do wonder about the ways that his inclusive message of Christian love and ministry will be furthered by older and younger people who heard him. I for one am acutely aware of the shortness of our opportunity to make a difference and I am praying for more opportunities to be involved in global networks of Christian mission.

During my visit to England I have asked the Archbishop of Canterbury's office to look into the treatment of refugees during the Archbishops forthcoming visit Federal and state budgets are also, matters for concern in compromising outcomes for local people both

young and old, and it will be good for various parts of our congregations to consider specific ways that vulnerable people will be impacted upon. The Church of England is a vast resource for dealing with organisational issues and I hope that the networks that were strengthened in Westminster, Norwich, Cambridge and elsewhere in the city of London will help us look at some fresh ways of looking at the challenges that we face together. Tax time is upon us and please take the opportunity to talk to your friends about the opportunities to make tax deductible donations through our National Trust and Music Foundation accounts.

Every blessing Fr Peter



Bishop of Norwich



The Cartwheeling Verger



Rev'd Canon Jane Hedges,
Dean of Norwich



Bishop of Lyn

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Fellowship Group is now meeting in the Parish Centre (formerly the Rectory) after the Wednesday service.

The back room will be available for parish meetings and we encourage the groups to use it. Please remember to let the office know if you wish to use the sun room .

Advertising Sign. Fr Alan and Ray to look at metal frames for a new advertising sign.

Finances. Bec Litton is now the Finance Committee chairperson. We are in the process of getting a new auditor.

Available funds in the No 1 a/c at 31st May \$10,914.00 Less invoiced items to be paid \$28,207.33. Money to be transferred from High grove and the No 2 a/c so that the accounts can be paid.

We are looking at setting the front room formerly the piano room up as an interview room, this will give the people concerned privacy.

Pastoral Care. Everything seems to be going well in this department. 23 hampers were distributed during May. People have been taking food left in the narthex. If you are able to bring your donations of food to church on Sunday or in the mornings during the week it can then put into the flower room for safe keeping.

Garage & Car boot sale. A new date will be decided when Fr Peter returns

Kaye Kennedy **Secretary**

EVENING GROUP NEWS

In May we held a successful card and games party at Legacy House. There were approximately 55 people in attendance with \$ 753.00 been raised.



Later in the year we will distribute this money and as we have been contributing towards paying the rental on the photocopier. I would think this would be where the money will be spent. Thank you to everyone who supported this fund raiser.

At our June meeting we had a representative from Hume Medicare. He spoke to the group about eHealth. This is to make Australia's health system work better for you.

Anyone can register on line www.ehealth.gov.au or visit a Department of Human services centre offering Medicare services or Hume Medicare office at 594 Hovell St. Albury.

By registering, and if travelling, your e health records will be accessible, so you will not have to repeat your medical details. It will save doctors and nurses time double checking your medical history.

In late September we will be doing a walk around St Matthew's Garden with Robyn Gibbs, more details in a later edition of the Grapevine.

Kaye Kennedy **Secretary**

**Special Inter-Church Fellowship
Men's Breakfast!**

8.30 am; SATURDAY, 5th JULY 2014

At

**ALBURY CHURCH of GOD
418 Urana Road, LAVINGTON**

With Special Guest Speaker:

Pastor Saboo John Mitchell

**Evangelist & Senior Pastor of "Assembly of Believer's Church"
(Rahim Nagar, Northern India).**

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sion to see Salvation of Souls Accompanied by Healings & De-
liverance as God Moves.**

**Pastor Saboo is also Skilled in the Presentation of Jesus Christ
to both Hindu and Muslim by Using Their Own Scriptures.**

**THIS IS A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND MINISTRY
THAT NO CHRISTIAN MAN SHOULD MISS!!!**



Reverend Libby Gilchrist final service at
St Matthews Albury



Children's Church in June 2014

'The Trinity' was the theme for this month.

Rev. Maureen took the service as F/Peter is overseas. The music was ably provided by Cathy

Carden, and the happy action songs were as usual enjoyed.

To illustrate the Trinity, coloured cellophane sheets were shown, with 'clear', symbolizing the Holy Spirit, 'Blue', the Son, and 'yellow' the Father, but when put together, make green, the colour of God.

Rev. Maureen also told a story illustrating the grace and generosity of the Holy Spirit which becomes apparent, when dwelling in a person.

The 15 children, as usual, helped prepare the children's altar for communion, and all those who wished to, who are not yet confirmed, received the bread, those confirmed, both the elements.

The usual musical procession took place, and then refreshments after.

During the Celtic Mass, held during the Celtic Weekend, June 21/22nd, 4 of our children helped light the 4



Candles of the Winter Solstice, and carried the blessed water from the Stowe Missal, which was sprinkled on the congregation in blessing.

Julie Scott Children's Church spokesperson for St. Matts M.U.



MEDITATION

THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS (6)

A couple of months ago we read how Jesus said, "If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than your whole body be thrown into hell". (St Matthew Chapter 5, verse 29)

Surely Our Lord does not really mean this ? Most of the New Testament records of the words and works of Jesus were written in the Greek language. It was an almost universal language at the time. The Greek words used in this saying mean in effect, "Don't let your eye lead you into sin".

How could it do that ? By resting too long on an object of temptation. eg. A look of hate towards someone we don't get along with, or a look of disdain towards someone because of their race. Anything which helps to seduce us to sin is to be ruthlessly discarded from our life. Once again Jesus uses dynamic language to make His listeners sit up and take notice. So we must be careful to distinguish between literal and figurative terms (such as this) in the teaching of Jesus. This is one reason why some of the teachings of Jesus are "hard".

To emphasise the point made by Our Lord – anything that could jeopardise our loyalty to Him; any action, habit or pleasure, needs to be 'plucked out' of our life. How can we do this ? How can we free ourselves from these things ? It is a fact of life, that such thoughts and pictures can come into our minds, and it can be very difficult to shut the door on them.

The first way to try to deal with them is to do something positive. eg. to engage in a Christian activity such as making a phone call or paying a visit to someone who is lonely or ill, or aged or in need. As we begin to think of others, we begin to forget ourselves. Christian action can help cure 'unchristian' thoughts or actions. If this is not possible, then a short prayer or Scripture reading could help. Some suggestions are Psalm 121, Psalm 130, St Paul's letter to the Ephesians Chapter 6, verses 10-18.

We could also consider what the consequences of our thoughts or actions might be. St Peter was very conscious of temptation, and in rather picturesque language he wrote, "Be self controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him. Standing firm in the faith..."

(1 Peter Ch:5 Verse:8)

Fr Colin



Rev. Alan Kelb was M.C. at the Concert

CELTIC WEEKEND PHOTOS



A CELTIC WEEKEND AT ST MATTHEWS ALBURY

21st – 22nd June 2014

It was initiated with an idea which took on a life of its own, infusing those around with a sense of excitement and anticipation. The weekend began at St David's Uniting Church with Cath Connelly from Melbourne - Retreat Leader, Spiritual Director and Celtic Harpist leading a Celtic Spirituality workshop. Cath spoke of the beauty of this ancient spirituality and its revival in recent years – a creation spirituality based on Genesis 1, created in the image of our God – God who is in us, finding our true uniqueness in the Christ. The workshop illustrated that Celtic spirituality is based in God's goodness in all creation our God given nature, and the Christ who awakens this in us. Cath also spoke of the "The Thin Place" the place between here and beyond; how when we pay attention and are mindful of our surroundings we see with the eyes of God beyond the veil making connections with that which we know, which is embedded in us all. For example on Sunday watching little children playing during the service took me to that liminal place – a connectedness with the beauty in our surroundings; it's all around us when make time to see.

Saturday evening's Celtic Concert and Cocktail party was held at St Matthews. Pews were moved to create a magnificent open space, flickering candlelight picking up the theme of a Winter Solstice. Over a sumptuous variety of finger food and a glass of wine we were entertained by Robert Boyd (from St Matthew's choir) singing the poetry of Robbie Burns followed by the sounds of the Albury Wodonga Pipes and Drums filling the cavernous space with ethereal sounds along with Karen Mann and her exquisite highland dancing. Cathies Celtic dancers were a delight to watch and then Mary Buckley a student of Trinity captured our hearts playing and singing many of her own compositions on the Celtic Harp. Dianne Robertson (also of the choir) sang that old favourite Danny Boy and Shanul Sharma from the Australian Opera serenaded us. Jan Skinner amused us with her recitation "A letter from an Irish mother" and finally more from the Albury Wodonga Pipe and Drums. The order of service "A People's Celtic Mass" was produced and adapted by St Matthew's Trinitarian Liturgical Committee of three.

John Ross, Director of Music created a setting for the mass with input from his wife Odette. A mass

setting for use around the Diocese, using familiar hymnal music of Irish, Scottish and Welsh origins. Overall the service was inviting with a "Home Spun" feel of warmth and inclusiveness; building on the theme of Celtic Spirituality; an inclusiveness where there are no outsiders and all are welcome.

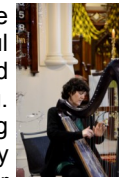
On a misty and foggy Sunday morning at 9am 250 people attended for worship. We were led into the service with the haunting sounds of the Albury Wodonga Pipes and Drums, we could have been in Scotland, it was both stirring and moving. Little children lit the candles of our Winter Solstice wreath symbolic of the light returning following the longest night; we now turn towards the light to welcome spring and new life and the light of the Christ within us. Wiradjuri Elder Nancy Rooke welcomed us to country and the Altar and congregation were sprinkled with Holy water to prepare our hearts and minds to receive God's blessings. Cath Connelly was our guest preacher the essence of her



homily was based on the prologue of John's Gospel with an understanding of our God who is the breath of all life. She spoke of the knot-work of the Celts who understood this, an outward sign that everything that exists is entangled in Divinity; nothing exists that is not tangled up in God. We heard how the Celts adopted Christianity in the 5th and 6th centuries, how these earlier expressions of divinity emerged into the flourishing of stone crosses, of poetry and song, of blessing and prayers that proclaimed the Christ who is present in all. Throughout the service our spirits were lifted by the angelic voices of the choir who sang the beautiful Gaelic blessing before we were led out with the uplifting sounds of 'Highland Cathedral' played on the pipes and drums. There were tears and smiles all around; the service was followed by a typical St Matthew's morning tea of freshly made scones with jam and cream while we were entertained by the Albury Wodonga Pipes and Drums and Cathies Celtic dancers.

Cath Connelly's Harp performance in the afternoon was homely. There were roosters crowing in the background and we settled as if around the hearth and open fire listening to stories of old, interspersed with the beautiful soothing melodic sounds of the Celtic harp. It was a wonderful weekend and the excitement is still lingering and the echoes of the music still playing. Overall, more than 500 people attended our weekend, with several attending St Matthews for the very first time. The response was overwhelmingly positive; we look forward to celebrating our Celtic Heritage and the Winter Solstice again next year and perhaps annually.

Reverend Maureen Beattie



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An Old Gaelic Rune :

I SAW A STRANGER YESTERE'EN.....

I put food in the eating place,

Drink in the drinking place,

Music in the music place:

And in the Blessed Name of the Triune,

He blessed myself and my house,

My cattle and my dear ones,

And the lark sang her song

Often, often, often,

Goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.

H U M O U R

EXPLANATION OF GOD Cont.....

'His Dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done, and all his hard work on earth, so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road any more, he could stay in Heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of, and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God, like a secretary, only more important.'

'You can pray any time you want, and they are sure to help you because they have it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.'

'You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there is anybody you want to make happy, it's God!'

'Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong, and besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach till noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know he's around you when you are scared, in the dark, or when you can't swim and you get thrown into really deep water by big kids'.

'But.... You shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here, and he can take me back anytime he pleases.'

And that is why I believe in God'.



HOLY HUMOUR.

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly ;

"I know what the bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means"?

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father "What does the bible mean?"

"That's easy Daddy" the young boy replied excitedly." It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth'!

ON THE RECORD

Baptisms

We welcome into Christ's family

| | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 25 May | Billie Rose BARBER |
| | Laylah Ann FLOWER |
| 1 June | Hamish Robert BELL |
| 8 June | Thomas William KITE |



Weddings

We congratulate those joined together in Holy Matrimony

No weddings for June



Funerals

We pray for those who have died and extend our sympathies to those who mourn

| | |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 7 May | Robert 'Bob' LAWSON |
| 20 May | Patricia Mary KARLSSON |
| 23 May | Daphne 'Elaine' SCHUBERT |
| 27 May | Wayne John BARNES |
| 13 June | Marjorie Boyd MOORE |
| 19 June | Michael John Stuart MEARES |
| 26 June | Gwenda Lyn BEER |



Years Mind – July

We pray for those whose anniversary falls at this time

Marion TAYLOR (1st), Jean Mavis KENNEDY (2nd), Valerie GIBBS (2nd), Debbie Lyn McKEON (3rd), Jean BLACK (4th), Joyce Olive SCHRODER (5th), Barry WILLIAMS (6th), Emily Edith MOREY (7th), Jean OGILVIE (7th), Thelma May WEIDNER (8th), Aileen HORE (9th), Julie Anne WEBB-MOLE (10th), Norman Alfred REED (11th), Lynnette Margaret AVERY (12th), Keith GRAHAM (13th), Alice Irene TREWELLA (13th), Charles William SAUNDERS (14th), Ida Mary MALE (16th), Ron SCOTT (18th), Samantha Trudy BOOTH (18th), Eric Maudsley BROMFIELD (19th), Jennifer Lynn HUTCHINSON (19th), Marjorie Jean BECKHURST (20th), William Alexander KIRKWOOD (21st), Stephen HOLMES (Priest)(21st), Geoffrey STEWART (22nd), Georgia PALFRAMAN (22nd), Wilma MILLER (25th), 'Lex' Herbert Alexander PIERSSENE (26th), Rodney JOSSELYN (28th), Corey CHURCHILL (28th), Patricia Frances LUND (28th), Lilian Joyce CUNNINGHAM (29th), Kathleen Eva EAGLES (29th), Luke WILLIAMS (30th), Leslie Albert GRAY (31st)



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SERVICE TIMES

Weekdays

7.00 a.m. Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

TUESDAY

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

10:30 a.m. Eucharist

THURSDAY

No services

FRIDAY

10.00 a.m. Eucharist at Riverwood (except 1st Friday). All welcome

SUNDAY

9.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist
Last Sunday of every month—Matins with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Children's Church 3rd Sunday every month
5.00 p.m. Evensong (Only 1st Sunday of every month)

PARISH CLERGY:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Rector: | Peter Macleod-Miller | (02) 6021 3022 |
| Associate Priest: | Fr Alan Kelb OAM | 0418 464 053 |
| Associate Priest: | Rev'd Maureen Beattie | (02) 6026 8861 |
| Hon. Associate Priest: | Fr. Bill Ginns | (02) 6025 0556 |
| Hon. Associate Priest: | Fr Colin Wellard | (02) 6021 0367 |
| Hospital Chaplain: | Rev'd Arthur Martin | Ph: 0414 575 875 |
| Pastoral Care | Deacon Heather Matthews | 0402 900 777 |

PARISH OFFICE:

Rector's Secretary: Deb Davenport
Book keeper/Accounts: Cate Kirk
Open Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Phone: 6021 3022 Fax: 6041 3149
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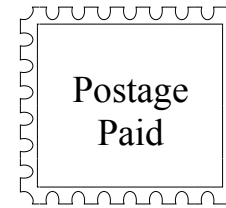
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PARISH OF ALBURY

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DATE: JULY 2014

