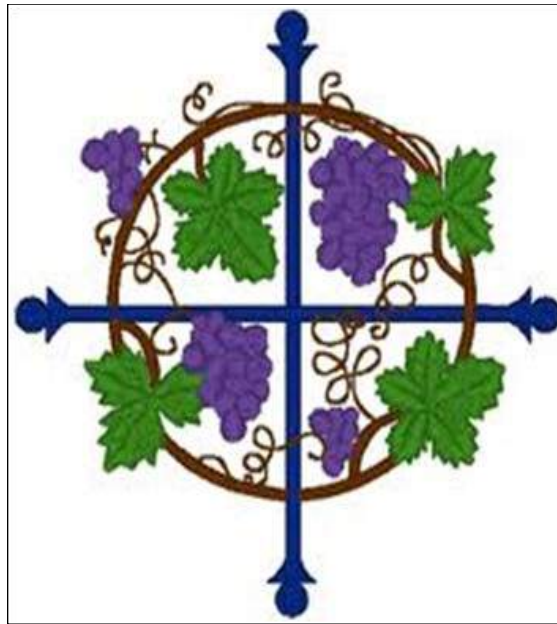


ST MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE



PARISH OF ALBURY

MARCH 2015

Fr Peter writes :

Dear People of St Matthew's

*Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.*

*So shall we have peace divine:
Holier gladness ours shall be;
Round us, too, shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to Thee.*

*Keep, O keep us, Savior dear,
Ever constant by Thy side;
That with Thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide*

*by George Smyttan born 1822 in India
and buried in a paupers grave, aged 48 in Germany*



Lenten prayer from Nigeria.

God in heaven, you have helped me grow like a tree. Our enemy, like a bird, has carried in one twig of his own choosing after another. Before I knew it, he had built a dwelling place and was living in it. This season, I am throwing out both the bird and the nest. **Amen**

Australia has been protected from so much that has been painful in the world but 2015 sees us as one family sharing fears and challenges

From the sackcloth and ashes a renewed response made in faith and hope and love across borders national, economic, historical political and spiritual has been an unexpected blessing if we have eyes to see it .

National imperatives relating to the fate of those on Death Row in Bali resonate with Lenten themes of repentance, change and redemption and reconciliation rather than retribution and a revenge. Anyone fortunate enough to be involved in our local schools or with the young people in our community must be encouraged by the real potential to be found here.

Any gardener knows that occasionally plants benefit from being shaken out of their pots and Lent gives us an opportunity to break out and try something new. And what a good time for annual meetings to review and reboot our parish life.

Lenten lectures on Sundays at 9am provide a challenging opportunity to explore the themes of Justice, Liberty and Community in this 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and Tuesdays in lent from 6 to 8pm “Film and food for thought” look at Christian themes found in the “Rev” series about the ups and downs of parish life that we share with St Davids Albury Uniting church in their parish hall around in Wilson Street.



Fr Peter

ALBURY LENT LECTURES 2015

Peace, Justice and Liberty –

800th anniversary of Magna Carta

SUNDAY SESSIONS – Every Sunday during Lent at the 9.00am Eucharist, Guest Speaker instead of sermon). Retiring Collection for St Matthews crisis care , Head-space, and youth opportunities,

Sunday 22nd February -

Dr Beth Wilson AM—’Peace, Justice & Liberty– the individual and the community’

Sunday 1st March -

The Rt Rev’d John Parkes AM -’Christians as Advocates for Liberty, Peace & Justice.

Annual General Meeting—after the service

5.00pm Evensong—

Fr Kevin Flanagan & Rev’d Christine Moimoi—Sharing the Christian Community

Sunday 8th March -

Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC—’Faith at the Front’

Sunday 15th March -

Rodney Croome AM -’Faith, Equality, Human Rights & Inclusion’

Sunday 22nd March -

Superintendent ‘Beth’ Elizabeth Stirton, commander Albury LAC.—’Justice and Community’

‘Film and Food for Thought’

Tuesdays 24 February, 3, 10, 17, 24 March

6pm at the St David’s Uniting Church, Beginning with a ‘lite Lenten bite’
for a short DVD from the BBC ‘Rev’ series at 6.30pm.

Discussion to follow - All Welcome

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The last meeting for the current Parish Council was held in February.

Our next meeting in March will have some new members.

After a considerable number of years, Angie Barney has resigned from Parish Council.

Angie was asked by Fr John Davies to come onto Parish Council so she has been on it for a considerable number of years.

She has been giving the Anglican Food Room report each month. Her input at the meetings will be missed.

Website & Media. There is someone at the Registry office who has offered to revamp our website. We want to get rid of some of the old stuff. Suggested we should utilise the face page. If anyone has any ideas regarding the website please either email the office or put it in writing.

Outreach & Mission. The Pastoral Care team are important part of our ministry. They try to visit as many people as they can or cannot come to church for various reasons.

Eucharistic Ministry at the Mercy. Because of a lot of red tape, this ministry will not continue this year until it is viable.

Anglican Food room. Receiving a fabulous lot of donations. People are very generous. Have had people using the shower. 15 hampers were given out during January, also 1 hot meal & 1 shower pack.

Finances.

At the end January our No 1 account was overdrawn by \$8347.66 add deposits made in February \$14759.51 which includes a \$10,000 transfer from High grove account. Leaving a balance of \$6411.85. Less supplier invoices received since start of February. Cash book balance at 10th Feb \$1417.31.

As you can see we are very short of money.

It is planned to hold a garage sale in April

More details later Please note, we cannot accept mattresses, or electrical goods.

Lenten Talks During Lent we will be having a guest preacher at the Sunday services. Fr Kevin & Christine Moimoi to speak at Evensong. On Tuesday nights a short film will be shown followed by discussion at St David's.

Kaye Kennedy **Secretary**



Evening Group News

At our February meeting, we discussed our programme for the year.

It was decided to have a cakeless cake stall running over two weeks commencing on the 26th April finishing on the 3rd May. *More details later.*

As most people are aware the Evening Group helps to pay for the lease on the office photocopier. The photocopier is used every day, not only by the office but by the different church groups. It is not a cheaper piece of equipment to run.

Later in the year we hope to have someone speak to us on how the shops in Dean St. have changed over the years.

We will have a bring & share tea followed by a games night in June. In July we go out for lunch.

Our group is only small but we do try to have a varied programme. Nothing has been planned for our next meeting in March, but you never know I might think of something.!

Kaye Kennedy

I recently heard this performed as a sung piece on ABC radio, which on googling I discovered is a poem by 19th century American poet Richard Henry Stoddard, set to music by Tchaikovsky. In this Lenten/Easter period I would like to share it with you.

Crown of Thorns -



When Jesus Christ was yet a child
He had a garden small and wild,
Where-in he cherished roses fair,
And wove them into garlands there.

“Do you bind roses in your hair?”
They cried, in scorn, to Jesus there.
The boy said humbly: “Take, I pray,
All but the naked thorns away,”

Now once as summertime drew nigh,
There came a troop of children by,
And seeing roses on the tree,
With shouts they plucked them merrily.

Then of the thorns he made a crown,
And with rough fingers pressed it down,
Till on his forehead fair and young,
Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

Carol Read



MEDITATION
THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS (12)

Jesus took bread and blessed it and broke it....”take, this is my body.” And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He said to them, “this is my blood of the New Covenant which is poured out for many”. (St MarkCh:14 Verses 22-24)

When Jesus and His disciples gathered in the Upper Room on the eve of His Crucifixion, they were celebrating an annual Jewish Festival commemorating the great deliverance from Egypt and the establishment of the Covenant made between Israel and God. At the foot of Mt Sinai, Moses had read the Law to the people and they had responded, “everything that the Lord has said we will do.” As a sign of this mutual agreement, the blood of sacrificial animals was sprinkled partly on the altar, signifying the presence of God, and partly on the people. Moses then spoke of this act as the “blood of the Covenant which the Lord has made with you.” (See Exodus Ch: 24)

At this meal with His disciples, Jesus was initiating a New Covenant: one in which a greater deliverance was about to be accomplished. This meant that the Old Covenant of Moses was about to be supplanted with the Covenant or Agreement with God that Jesus was about to make between God and all mankind. Our Lord took the cup at that Last Supper and said “this is my blood of the New Covenant which is poured out for many.” Bread was included in this meal, signifying the goodness and love of God in sustaining Israel. Our Lord gave it a new and greater significance. “This is my body (given) for you” (1 Corinthians Ch:11 Verse 23).

The old was gone, the new was about to arrive. Good Friday was its fulfilment. Those arms outstretched on the cross are set to embrace all: that is the part of Our Heavenly Father. Our part is to humbly acknowledge Him as Lord, and to affirm “All that the Lord says, we will do.”

Like the Israelites, who failed to keep their promise, we live in a world where its attractions, distractions and problems hinder us from following Our Lord as God’s people. Yet like the Publican (tax gatherer) in one of the parables of Jesus, we can plead with Our Heavenly Father, “Lord, be merciful to me a sinner.” Why ? All because of the sacrifice of Jesus on Good Friday and portrayed in the Last Supper.

As we take the bread and wine and hear “the body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life” or “the body of Christ strengthen you”, Christ is present with us. We are His disciples in the Holy Communion, just as He was with those first disciples. The Spirit of the risen Christ strengthens and sustains us in our pilgrimage through this life, to life eternal. In the words of one of our hymns –

“O God unseen yet ever near
Thy presence may we feel....
And go rejoicing on our way
Renewed with strength divine.”

Father Colin





Children's Church in February 2015

As it was Harvest Festival on that date, it was decided to have the whole congregation together!

During the second hymn, the children were encouraged to bring the goods which were collected on the back table, to the altar,

and as there were lots of goods, several of the congregation helped!

Andraya Vesely read the gospel, which was a modernised version of Matthew 6 v25-34, and the congregation were invited to add statements urging us not to worry! During his address, Fr. Peter spoke about the valued place farmers and food producers have in our world, and what an often difficult and challenging business it is. He had some bread dough, which he gave to the children in the congregation, to knead, as well as some of the congregation.

Two musicians, Kathleen and Ann, played a "Corelli" theme and variations in E minor, while the altar was prepared. Tom Summerfield played the children's church theme tune 'All things bright and beautiful', and we all did the actions, coached by Fr Peter! A sumptuous morning tea with lots of fresh fruit and savoury treats was provided.

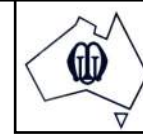
The produce was distributed to the needy.

Julie Scott

Children's church spokesperson for M.U. Albury.



DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA



LADY DAY

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 2015

10 AM MORNING TEA

Please bring MU & Parish Banners for Banner Parade

11 AM EUCHARIST

FOLLOWED BY 'BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH'

GUEST SPEAKER; Mrs Lorna Morris to tell us of her work with families attending children's court.

ENTRY \$5.00 *With all proceeds going to ABM*



MOTHER'S UNION CARD

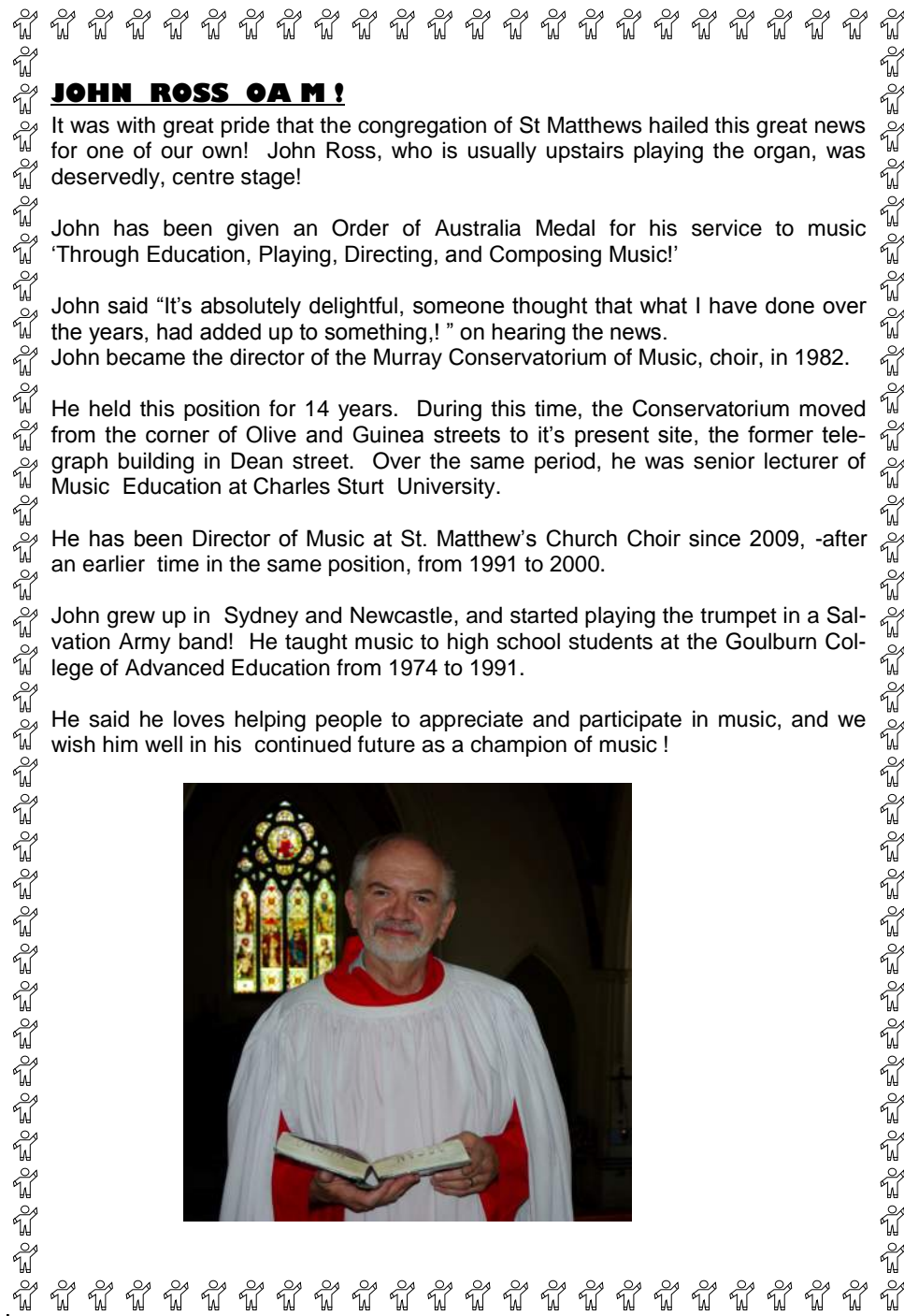
STALL ! Attractive and good quality greeting cards with a Christian message are available after the 9 am service on Sunday, and after the 10.30 Eucharist.
Cards are \$2 each



Pancake night!

Sponsored as usual by St. Matthew's Mother's Union, it was a happy night, with some of the congregations of Sacred Heart, and St. David's parish joining us. Last year's palm crosses were burned to produce ash for the Ash Wed. Services.





JOHN ROSS OAM!

It was with great pride that the congregation of St Matthews hailed this great news for one of our own! John Ross, who is usually upstairs playing the organ, was deservedly, centre stage!

John has been given an Order of Australia Medal for his service to music 'Through Education, Playing, Directing, and Composing Music!'

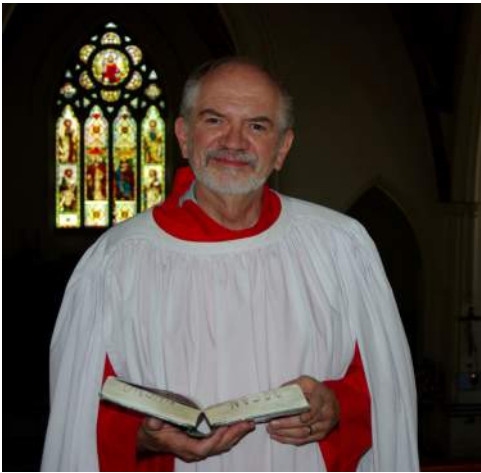
John said "It's absolutely delightful, someone thought that what I have done over the years, had added up to something,! " on hearing the news.
John became the director of the Murray Conservatorium of Music, choir, in 1982.

He held this position for 14 years. During this time, the Conservatorium moved from the corner of Olive and Guinea streets to it's present site, the former telegraph building in Dean street. Over the same period, he was senior lecturer of Music Education at Charles Sturt University.

He has been Director of Music at St. Matthew's Church Choir since 2009, -after an earlier time in the same position, from 1991 to 2000.

John grew up in Sydney and Newcastle, and started playing the trumpet in a Salvation Army band! He taught music to high school students at the Goulburn College of Advanced Education from 1974 to 1991.

He said he loves helping people to appreciate and participate in music, and we wish him well in his continued future as a champion of music !



H U M O U R

LOVE YOUR PASTOR

'He...gave some to be...pastors'

Ephesians 4: 11 NKJV



Pastors have a tough job. They get more kicks than kisses. If a pastor is young, he lacks experience; if he's grey-haired, he's too old. If he has five kids, he has too many; if he has none, he's setting a bad example. If his wife sings in the choir, she's being forward; if not, she's not dedicated enough. If he preaches from notes, he's dry; if his words are impromptu, he's too shallow. If he spends too much time in his study, he's neglecting his people; if he makes home visits, he's not a good time manager.

If he's attentive to the poor, he's after public approval; if he attends to the wealthy, he's ingratiating. If he suggests improvements, he's a dictator; if he doesn't, he has no vision. If he uses too many illustrations, he neglects the Bible; if he doesn't use enough stories, he's unclear. If he speaks against wrong, he's legalistic; if he doesn't, he's a compromiser. If he preaches for an hour, he's windy; less than that, he has nothing to say. If he preaches the truth, he's offensive; if he doesn't, he's wishy-washy.

If he fails to please everybody, he's hurting the church; if he tries to please everybody, he has no convictions. If he preaches tithing, he's a money-grabber; if not, he's failing to develop his people. If he receives a large salary, he's mercenary; if he doesn't, it proves he's not worth much. If he preaches on a regular basis, people get tired of hearing the same person; if he invites guest preachers, he's shirking his responsibility.

Wow! And you thought your pastor had an easy life! How'd you like to change places? *Bottom line: love your pastor.*

There's nothing like a good Bible story to make your day. -

And so it came to pass that Adam was hanging around the garden of Eden one day feeling very lonely so God asked him, "What's wrong with you?"

Adam said he didn't have anyone to talk to. God said that He was going to make Adam a companion and that it would be a woman.

He said, "This lady will gather food for you, she will cook for you, and when you discover clothing, she will wash it for you. "She will always agree with every decision you make and she will not nag you, and will always be the first to admit she was wrong when you've had a disagreement.

"She will praise you! "She will bear your children, and never ask you to get up in the middle of the night to take care of them."She will NEVER have a headache and will freely give you love and passion whenever you need it."

Adam asked God, "What will a woman like this cost?"

God replied, "An arm and a leg."

Adam thought carefully then asked, "What can I get for a rib?"

(Of course.... ..the rest is history!)



For the kids ; Q. Why didn't the lobster share his toys A. He was too shellfish.

ON THE RECORD

Baptisms

We welcome into Christ's family

25 January	Matthew Edward HORSCROFT
22 February	Tyler Luke MARCUS
	Maisie Jazmine BALLARD



Weddings

We congratulate those joined together in Holy Matrimony

14 February	Thomas Jordan BALL & Abbey Louise TAYLOR
21 February	Jonathan Andrew KAY & Kirsten Jane HENDERSON



Funerals

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

6 February	Beryl 'Betty' LARMOUR
18 February	'Bob' Robert LEWIS



Years Mind – March

We pray for those whose anniversary falls at this time

'Jim' James Charles EVANS (2nd), Benjamin PARKER (3rd), James Roy MONK (3rd), Joan THOMAS (5th), Gwen Elizabeth McDONALD (5th), Jeff HOLLAND (6th), Penny SNELL (6th), Aimee Lea KOEHLER (7th), Michael HEALY (8th), Gloria CORBAN (11th), Phyllis STEPHENS (12th), Henry KNOBLE (13th), Minnie EISENHAUER (13th), Sr Clare (13th), Joanne Lesley NESBIT (14th), Roy WINSTANLEY (17th), Allan Keith MOREY (22nd), Frank GIBBS (23rd), 'Doll' Dorothy WEIDNER (23rd), Leonard LEMKE (26th), Mildred WINSTANLEY (28th), Frank HARDY (30th), Nita KLOSE (30th), Brian Marcus CLIFF (30th), Joan DAVIS (31st)

BRASS CLEANING!

I am looking for people to clean the brass in the church. (A lot of the brass has been treated therefore does not need cleaning only wiping over with a clean cloth.)

The brass is usually cleaned on Friday or Saturday, but it can be cleaned on any day suitable to you.

Evening group members clean the brass on the 3rd & 4th weeks of the month, but because our numbers are small they have to do it twice in the year.

Brass can be cleaned by one person, but it is nice if there are two, you can chat while cleaning. If you are kind enough to volunteer, you would only have to clean the brass for two weeks per year. Perhaps the church sitters might consider going on the roster.

I will leave a sheet in the Narthex for you to put your name on if you are interested. (Please put your name on even if you are already doing the brass.)

Kaye Kennedy



Benjamin Fifield
B Pharm., (Hons) MPS
Pharmacist

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ST MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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	Rev'd Heather Matthews	0402 900 777

PARISH OFFICE:

Rector's Secretary: Deb Davenport
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Monday to Friday
Phone: 6021 3022 **Fax:** 6041 3149
E-mail: office@stmatthews.com.au **Website:** www.stmatthews.com.au
Facebook: [St Matthew's Anglican Church Albury](#)

PARISH BANKING DETAILS—

Bank: National Australia Bank (NAB) - Account Name: St Matthew's Church Albury No 1 Account—
BSB: 082 406 Account No: 17053 2923

PARISH COUNCIL:

Fr Peter MacLeod-Miller—Chairman
Victoria Chick—Rector's Warden
Ken Curnow—Warden
Joe Nesbit—Warden
Cathy Carden—Assistant Treasurer
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Ray Fietz—Head Verger

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Jenny Prince	Carol Read
John Satchell	Robyne Slade

GRAPEVINE EDITOR: Julie Scott

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ST. MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE

PARISH OF ALBURY

If undeliverable, please return to:

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PO Box 682, Albury. NSW. 2640.



DATE: MARCH 2015

