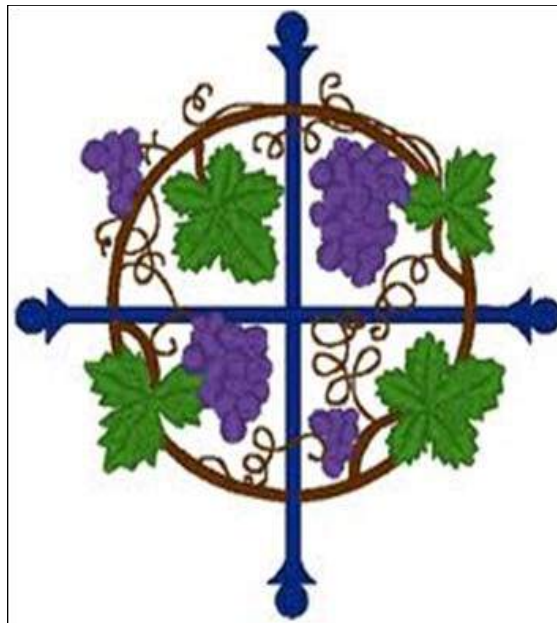


ST MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE



PARISH OF ALBURY

*In the heart of Albury
Welcomes all people*

MARCH 2017

Fr Peter writes :
Dear People of St Matthew's

*I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all,
wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all
in the Dance, said he.*

*I danced for the scribe
And the pharisee,
But they would not dance
And they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen,
For James and John –
They came with me
And the Dance went on.*

*I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame;
The holy people
Said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung me on high,
And they left me there
On a Cross to die.*

It is fascinating that "lord of the dance" one of our most popular hymns is also on the "banned list" in many churches because of its wide sources of inspiration and the adventurous, questioning mind of its author. In writing the lyrics to "Lord Of The Dance" in 1963, [Sydney Carter](#) was inspired partly by [Jesus](#), but also partly by a statue of the [Hindu God Shiva](#) as [Nataraja](#) (Shiva's dancing pose) which sat on his desk, and was partly intending simply to give tribute to [Shaker music](#). He later stated, "I did not think the churches would like it at all. But in fact people did sing it and, unknown to me, it touched a chord ... Anyway, it's the sort of [Christianity](#) I believe in." Carter's voice is refreshingly contemporary, he says—

Your holy hearsay is not evidence
Give me the good news in the present tense ...
So shut the Bible up and show me how
The Christ you talk about is living now.

St Matthews is almost inevitably associated with ashes, fires early in our history burning the rectory and later the great fire destroying St Matthews itself and recently an arson attempt that could have so easily ended in tragedy.

We also remember new life springing from ashes like spring from winter and this is our focus during the coming Lenten season. "Doing the time warp again" has been the churches Lenten tradition but tons of liturgical ash and symbolic recreations have



Fr Peter with Footballer and 2017 Young Australian of the year for Victoria, Jason Ball

distanced rather than connected us from the realities of the World Christ came to save. Lent at St Matthews will give us and our community "good reasons to change our mind"

This Lent we are embarking on a series of lent lectures "faith in the firing line" including significant national speakers that are involved in real community and social change, often padding against the current "great minds think differently".



February 19th Footballer, Jason Ball young Australian of the year for Victoria, one of Australia's most sought after speakers for his work in mental health and inclusion will speak at our 9am service.

Sunday 26th February will be Harvest festival focusing on St Matthews crisis care, help for the homeless, partnership with Carevan, our op shop and support for refugees.

Tuesday 28th February Shrove Tuesday pancake night in the church grounds and Ash Wednesday,

The beginning of lent on the 1st March with 10.30am Mass and 6pm Evensong both with imposition of ashes.

5th March 9am, Fr Rod Bower famous for his church signs on the central coast "communicating differently" **and at 5pm an interfaith gathering with Human Rights Commissioner Edward Santow - believing differently.**

12th March our local Federal Member of Parliament Sussan Ley- different lives one community.

19th March author, biblical scholar and free thinker Keith Mascord - begging to differ?

26th March Mr Peter Evans deputy chairman of Ramsay Health - the Faith to make a difference

And 2nd April international Human Rights Lawyer and refugee advocate Julian Burnside - deciding differently.

Lent will see us working toward more services for homeless people, a "crisis care coffee club" (in St Matthews garden on the rectory side) providing greater opportunity for mental health and welfare assistance, and also seeking donations for tea, coffee the quality that we drink ourselves) hot chocolate, sugar and long life milk for our daily crisis care coffee club.

And every 2nd Tuesday at St Matthews "Tunes on Tuesday" a lunchtime concert in the middle of Albury is a great way to enjoy a break in the middle of the day and hear some fine music, entry by donation

All invited all welcome *Fr. Peter*

Below: Multi-faith Service Photos



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council held a planning meeting in early February.

At this meeting, we discussed many things. Looking at how the Rectory could be used. One suggestion was could we build onto the back of the building.

National Trust to be asked if we could use money from the trust for upkeep on the Rectory.

Looking for options for a new glass door for church.

When the wooden doors are closed it looks as if the church is closed. It was suggested that we have automatic glass doors in front of the wooden doors so that the wooden doors could be opened when the church is opened.

One of the Rotary clubs to be asked if they would fund the building of another gazebo. We are thinking of putting one over the rectory driveway. It would be built on the same design as the one on the southern side. A car would be able to be driven through it. There would be seats in it so that the homeless could sit in it.

Fr Peter is thinking about asking a mental health nurse to come weekly to talk to the people who come for coffee.

St Matthew's choir would be happy to combine with the Cathedral choir for special events.

Possible date for the Celtic service 25th June

Possible date for St Matthew's Fete 28th October

Parish AGM 26th November

Possible date for confirmation 10th December

At the Parish Council meeting.-

Anglican Food Room. 22 hampers and lots of tea & coffee were handed out during January. Donations of tea/ coffee, sugar are always welcome.

OP shop - \$421 was taken during January which was good considering that it wasn't opened for a couple of weeks.

Security. Matthew Paul to purchase cameras that can record. When they are purchased they will be installed.

Looking at putting gates on the stairs to the choir gallery.

Finances. Mark Carden has been appointed chairperson of the finance committee.

At the end of January, the bank balance was \$3796,62

Kaye Kennedy Secretary



Evening Group News

Members of the Evening Group met in February for their first meeting of the year on Thursday 16th February.

It was decided that we hold another Trivia Night later in the year, probably August. The date to be decided.

A programme was not finalised, it will be decided each month what we will do the following month.

Evening Group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm. The venue is the Rectory.

But during the winter months the times will be different.

In June, we will meet at 5 pm for a Soup & bread tea. In July, we will dine out for lunch. In August, there won't be a meeting the Trivia night will be held in lieu.

Please consider joining a friendly little group.

Kaye Kennedy President

**St Matthew's
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Dr Donna Coleman
Pianist



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Parker, Cheney, Ives, Joplin
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SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY

2:00 PM

TICKETS: ADULTS \$25

BOOKINGS: ST MATTHEW'S PARISH

OFFICE 6021 3022



DONNA COLEMAN (PIANIST) pictured at the Adamshurst Ballroom in 2016 wearing one of the costumes from *Strictly Ballroom*

MEDITATION

THE PARABLE OF DIVES AND LAZARUS

There was a rich man....who lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. (St Luke Ch:16 verses 19-31)

It is important to remember that Our Lord never condemned wealth. The question he poses to us is what do we do with it ? Shall we use it selfishly, or shall we use some of it to help others in difficult circumstances ? What Jesus and the Apostles do condemn is the LOVE of money, and that is why greed is not listed at the top of the seven deadly sins for nothing. **"People who want to get rich fall into temptation....for the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil."** (1 Timothy 6:9-10).

Upon his death, Dives finds himself in "torment" whilst Lazarus is in glory. What sin did Dives commit? He had never ordered Lazarus to be moved from his gate, he had no objection to Lazarus being fed leftovers, he was not deliberately cruel to Lazarus. The sin of Dives was that he never really took any notice of Lazarus who was so weak, sick and helpless he couldn't even ward off the stray dogs that tormented him. As far as he was concerned, Lazarus was a part of life, and that was the way it was. It was not what Dives did that landed him in torment, but rather what he did not do.

Dives looked out from his life of luxury at the world's pain and suffering, and felt no need to do anything about it. His was the punishment of the man who never noticed and so did nothing.

In the end Dives makes a request – that his brothers be warned not to fall into the same error that he had made. It seems harsh, but his request was refused. Why ? Because during their lifetime, his brothers would have had plenty of opportunities to see the plight of the less fortunate and respond to their need. They also had the scriptures to guide them.

Is it any different today? The same as Dives, we have the record of the works and words of Jesus to guide us.

What can we do ? Obviously we can't save the world on our own, but we can make a difference and act where we see a need –maybe it is a person or family close to where we live. Maybe it is a special need we are told about at church, maybe it is contributing to the emergency food cupboard. And of course there are numerous large organisations that help the poor and needy such as Anglicare, The Barnabas Fund, and so many others. If we can't help directly, we should always uphold these people and their helpers in our prayers. In our troubled and broken world we are to do all we can to alleviate suffering and bring Christ's love to others. May Jesus' words become true in your life
"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink....whatever you did for the least of these.... you did it for me." (St Matthew 25:34-40)

Father Colin





Children's Church IN FEBRUARY

The theme of the day was 'Teddy Bears Picnic'.

This is a theme we have done for the last few years.

It proved to be a very happy and successful morning with 17 children attending. After the usual joyful action songs, Fr. Peter asked the children about their teddies, which they were invited to bring, and said that teddies echoed the love that Jesus has for us, even when we have been naughty and need to say 'sorry!' They are a symbol of love and caring. It was obvious that teddies were very special in the lives of many, and it was amazing how different they all were!

Tom Summerfield played for most of the service, with David Luxon taking the chair to play the theme song "Teddy Bear's Picnic" in his inimitable, jaunty style! This year we noticed more people sang along!

During communion, it was great to see lines of adult communicants, after the children went forward first. After the figure-8 musical procession, the children were invited to fill a small plate with, a jelly cup, fairy bread, honey joys and grapes, and a drink, and sit together on a rug, near a beach umbrella at the lectern, and the adults had flapjacks, wafers and small cakes, tea and coffee, and chatted while the children had their picnic.

Fr. Peter told the congregation that the following Sunday 26th, is **Harvest Festival, at 9am**, and the children were invited to bring a tin of vegetables or garden produce for the Carevan or homeless people.

Due to the guest speakers and special program during lent, and Easter day falling on the usual Children's Church, Sunday, there wont be Children's church at 10.30 for March and April, but there will be children's activities during the Palm Sunday and Easter day services.

Don't forget Pancake night, 5.30 on Shrove Tuesday, in the rectory gardens 28th Feb.

Julie Scott

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





L: Beth Stirton and
Graham Docksey



R: Candlemas—
Presentation of Christ in
the Temple



Above: Carevan Founder John Brabant with Fr Peter



Above: Carevan workers



L: Jason using the home-
less shower



R: Sue Merkel on the
farm



Baptism - Murray Family



Trinity Anglican College Principal Justin Becket
with his wife and son

Tunes of Tuesday—Recitals
Scots School 'Mary Poppins' cast; James Flores and Dr Allan Beavis



NEWS FROM THE TOWER

Sadly, the first Grapevine edition for the year was a little too late for my information re the visiting UK bellringers.

This was not the fault of the Editor, but my timing!

Unfortunately, by the time you received it, the event was over.

However, I would like to report that the quarter peal rung in honour of Jim Jefferies' outstanding achievement as a bellringer, was successful.

Those who were listening from the sanctuary of the garden thoroughly enjoyed the performance. There was time for refreshment, fellowship and recovery following the Peal before we indulged in some general ringing for those who had not rung earlier. This was a very successful visit.

Other visits are also planned this year for April 20 and June 6, so you will have more opportunities to come and listen.

I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to see the bellringers at work to please come up to the tower either on Sunday morning before Church, or on practice night, every Tuesday commencing at 5 PM.

Also, we would be glad to hear from anyone who might be interested in learning this ancient art of bellringing.

Please contact me on the number listed on the front page of the Pew Sheet or alternatively, ring the Parish Office as I am having problems with my phone at the moment.

Pam Thorman (Tower Captain).



MULTI FAITH SERVICE

Sunday 5th March

At 5pm

All welcome, all invited



TUNES ON TUESDAY

St Matthew's Church

Fortnightly

1.10pm-1.50pm

14 & 28th February, 14 & 28 March, 11 April

More dates next issue.

H U M O U R Psychiatrist vs. Bartender

Ever since I was a child, I've always had a fear of someone under my bed at night. So I went to a shrink and told him: "I've got problems.- Every time I go to bed I think there's somebody under it. I'm scared. I think I'm going crazy."

'Just put yourself in my hands for one year, ' said the shrink. Come talk to me three times a week and we should be able to get rid of those fears."

"How much do you charge?" "Eighty dollars per visit," replied the doctor. "I'll sleep on it," I said. Six months later the doctor met me on the street.

"Why didn't you come to see me about those fears you were having?" He asked.

"Well, Eighty bucks a visit, three times a week for a year, is \$12,480.00.

A bartender cured me for \$10.00. I was so happy to have saved all that money that I went and bought me a new pickup truck."

"Is that so?" With a bit of an attitude he said, "and how, may I ask, did a bartender cure you?" **"He told me to cut the legs off the bed. Ain't nobody under there now."**

.....It's always better to get a second opinion.

THIS WAS WRITTEN BY A BLACK MAN IN TEXAS, WHAT A GREAT SENSE OF HUMOUR ! **'BLACK IS BLACK!'**

When I was born, I was BLACK,
When I grew up, I was BLACK,
When I went in the sun, I stayed BLACK,
When I got cold, I was BLACK,
When I was scared, I was BLACK,
When I was sick, I was BLACK,
And when I die, I'll still be BLACK.

NOW, You 'white' folks.....

When you're born, you're PINK,
When you grow-up, you're WHITE,
When you go in the sun, you get RED,
When you're cold, you turn BLUE,
When you're scared, you're YELLOW,
When you get sick, you're GREEN,
When you bruise, you turn PURPLE,
And when you die, you look GREY.

So why y'all be callin' us
COLORED Folks?



FOR THE KIDS ;

Q. What did the canary say when she laid a square egg?

A. 'Ouch!

Q. Why do birds fly south

A. Because it's too far to walk

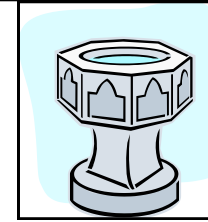


ON THE RECORD

Baptisms

We welcome into Christ's family

22 January Emily Rose GALLAHER
5 February Sammi Isabelle MURRAY
Ryder Jayke MURRAY
Harlow Indie MURRAY



Weddings

We congratulate those joined together in Holy Matrimony

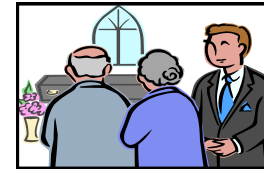
No Weddings in February



Funerals

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

No funerals for February



Years Mind – March

We pray for those whose anniversary falls at this time

James 'Jim' Charles EVANS (2nd), Benjamin PARKER (3rd), James Roy MONK (3rd), Joan THOMAS (5th), Gwen Elizabeth McDONALD (5th), Stanley Morris BEST (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), Matthew CRAWFORD (18th), Allan Keith MOREY (22nd), Frank GIBBS (23rd), Dorothy 'Doll' WEIDNER (23rd), Leonard LEMKE (26th), Mildred WINSTANLEY (28th), 'Chappy' Eric John Kevin WEIDNER (29th), Frank HARDY (30th), Nita KLOSE (30th), Brian Marcus CLIFF



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ST MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

SERVICE TIMES

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:	Catherine Dawson	0466 324 435
Pastoral Care	Carol Read	

PARISH OFFICE:

Rector's Secretary: Deb Davenport

Office Hours: Monday to Friday - 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Phone: 6021 3022 **Fax:** 6041 3149

E-mail: office@stmatthewsalbury.com **Website:** www.stmatthewsalbury.com

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

GRAPEVINE EDITOR: Julie Scott Ph. 6021 8897
Email: jazzer43@bigpond.net.au

PARISH COUNCIL:

Fr Peter MacLeod-Miller—Chairman
Victoria Chick—Rector's Warden
Ken Curnow—Warden
Joe Nesbit—Warden
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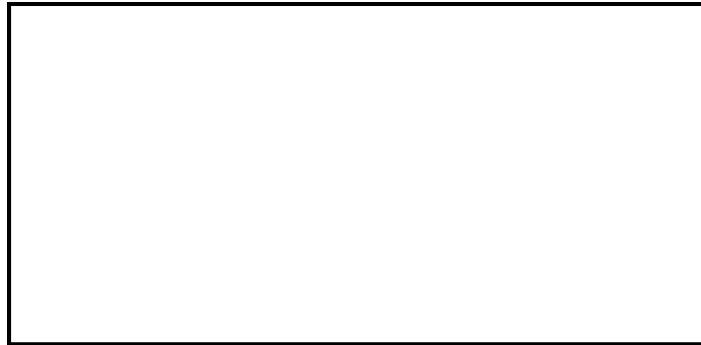
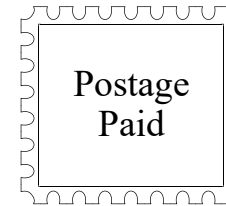
ST. MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE

PARISH OF ALBURY

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DATE: MARCH 2017

