

KEEPING CONNECTED TO OUR ST MATTHEW'S FAMILY

Theme: Home is where the heart is!



End to Homelessness week would warm any heart.

Homelessness is not normally good news, but the end of homelessness week makes me feel great about living on the Border and the community of St Matthew's is more open than ever while the doors are shut.

Friday 7th started with taking the funeral for "Snowy" a homeless man who found a new family and identity and future thanks to Dr Jon Brabant and Carevan and the many volunteers, including those in St Matthew's family and all and all who support St Matthew's Crisis Care and emergency food relief.

Then to Trinity Anglican College Thurgoona to accept over 700 dollars for St Matthew's crisis care and to tell a very attentive year nine class about the challenge of homelessness as yet another class embarks on a project to assist vulnerable people in our community. Then on my way to another funeral to see some Albury residents stopping to help a collapsed stranger with drug and alcohol problems. To Top it off another well-dressed busy Albury businessperson grabs me by the arm though keeping her distance and promises gift to help St Matthew's continue to help local homeless people.

What a day to put pep in your step to discover that even in a masked up COVID safe Albury our most vulnerable citizens are far from invisible and there are so many hands of friendship safely reaching out.

Thank you for all the small and larger acts of kindness our service helps to give us a picture of all that is going on the light is off, but we are very much at home through loving action. Which is a whole lot better than the lights being ablaze and the doors open. But the real connections are relying on us all working together and happily, even though the Murray River has never been wider and the Border harder, we have never had such a close, concerned and caring relationship with our Bishop.

A thought for the time: 'It is not important the distance between us, for I close my eyes and see you and hold your hand.'



Education is an enormous challenge and this last week Public Schools NSW celebrated Education Week, with the theme of 'Learning Together'. Over the past year, the need to 'learn together' remotely has seen the local school become the epicentre of recovery and resilience from the threat of bushfires, floods and the COVID-19 pandemic. (From Media

Release)

Children's Church 20th Anniversary 16th August



First photo: Golda Quinlivan supported Children's Church - welcoming, giving out service sheets in Narthex and helping with morning tea for 20 years. She brought her now late teenage Grandsons with her.

Second photo: Pam Horsborough brings her two granddaughters to Children's Church – they love coming and look forward to coming when reopens.

Third photo: Janette Kettle and Julie Scott remembering our 20 year to date - happy commitment to Children's Church

Fourth photo: Fleur, Janette Kettle's Granddaughter, one of the first Children's Church children.

Children's Church began during the Incumbency of Fr. Keith Brice and Dorothy Ryan, Vicki Gray's Mum was part of a growing team of special people who have continued to ensure that children remain at the heart, front and centre of the St Matthew's story. Janette Kettle and Julie Scott continue to go into bat for the children of St Matthew's even as they are growing up and it is wonderful to meet adults who still cherish there days growing up in such a caring environment through craft, music and good fun. Rev. Maureen Beattie, and currently Rev. Catherine Dawson have done much to connect the good news to a new generation of St Matthew's children with the unfailing help of the Mothers Union.



Please note If you have not been receiving The Keeping Connected to our St Matthew's Family Newsletter each fortnight, please go to the St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewsalbury.com and you will find the newsletters on the homepage, under News and Events.



Join us for a Livestream Service each Sunday 9:00 am on our website, Facebook or YouTube. The quickest and easiest way to connect is through YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUc6-CamX_tB6vXKlAy7uoA

If you need help connecting to YouTube, please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022 and we will be happy to assist.

Thanks to all who are contributing to our Virtual services including our musicians from our choir and organists as well as Tome Summerfield and Hatti Evans who feature in this weeks service.

PRAYER

We pray to the LORD, in this time of uncertainty to the God who is our shelter and strength,
We give thanks for the unexpected joys arising in times of trouble.
We pray for the eyes of faith and hope to see the light calling us forward.

We pray for our communities:

for the elderly, confined to their homes and separated from family and support; for children and teachers in this strange landscape of learning; for those who have lost their source of income; for those who fear for their home; for those who have no home; for those offering extraordinary, everyday kindness; for those seeking ways to use technology to keep connected.

We pray for key workers:

for all medical staff and hospital workers, who go to work knowing the risks they face; for medical researchers, seeking ways to develop a vaccine to prevent and to cure; for social workers, protecting the vulnerable; for care workers, providing

contact and support to those who have no other help; for Police and Emergency Services; for farmers, delivery and shop workers, all those in the Arts, keeping the nation provisioned; for cleaners, fighting the spread of infection; for Political Leaders seeking direction

In our different circumstances and separate environments, we hold our hopes and fears together.

In the silence of our hearts we lift before God those from whom we have been separated...

We acknowledge our helplessness in times of human need and we ask your special compassion to comfort those most vulnerable and hold us safely together in the hollow of your hand.

Amen.

A reading from Psalm 85 – words of encouragement as we look to the future:

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.

For the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Gospel reading is taken from the 14th Chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew – Jesus told his friends not to lose heart even when they find themselves in deep water. He promises to be with us and to see us through all our difficulties.

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came

toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

For the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Good News for sharing:



*Great news for Hailey Wright and family - 25/7 Hailey and family arrived back home to Baranduda Saturday, 5pm, very excited. First night home in 8 months (first photo) 1/8 Reunited at Murchison, Will (Hailey's twin) returned home from Aunty Jaynes.



*A note of Sincere Thanks from Margie Wright, Hailey's great grandmother, for all the care and support for her and her family these last months.

*Gifts for the Homeless:



Chris Thomas, Fr Peter and Davina Gibb, Trinity Anglican College



Jack's Rags



Thank you to George from Peards and Nola Murphy for bringing our fountain back into action.



Marie Lee's book *Beware Old Age Ahead* in Albury is available for \$25.00 from St Matthew's Retro Op Shop



HAPPY Birthday wishes:

- 1st Kirsty Coyle
 - 3rd Gwen Schnelle. 3rd Jill Fielder
 - 10th Judith Hore
 - 17th Rowena Ginns
 - 28th Christine Nesbit
- And all celebrating a birthday in August

*Congratulations to Justin and Jacqui Dynan on the birth of Lawrence Archer Dynan a new grandchild for Lyn and Dave Dynan.

Good news is for sharing - If you have some good news, please share with us by sending an email to St Matthew's Office: office@stmatthewsalbury.com



Emergency Food Room needs: Below is a list of items used in the food bags: Packet of breakfast cereal, 1 litre long life milk, Packet of tea bags, Tins of tuna (family sized), Packet of pasta, Bottle of pasta sauce, Tin of soup, Tin of spaghetti, Tin of baked beans, Tin of vegetables, Bottle of store bought jam, Cup of soup. *Note: self-opening cans preferred*



St Matthew's Garden is in need of a new cordless blower, Ryobi OBL1820S available at Bunnings for \$109.00 The batteries and charger are fine. This is due to the tremendous number of leaves and constant use. We still need to make sure Albury knows St Matthew's hasn't been abandoned and still loved and cared for awaiting the re-opening.

Out and About



Betty White



Ordette Mannering



Mary McAllister



Hatti Evans and Tom Summerfield



Sally Morris and Morris



The Richardsons



Prayers:

Denise Farrington, Kevin Monte, Lisa Ride, Patricia Clout, Bob Mahaffey, Norman Halburd, Sylvia Williams.

And all those not well at this time.



In Memory:

Joyce Morey, Joy Fellowes



MEDITATION across the world and in Albury we are using new ways to stay in touch. There are growing numbers using ZOOM to connect with a meditation group at 5:30 each Thursday. At a time of great stress and isolation this could be just the tonic we need! Connect with

Michelle and Paul on: Zoom:

<http://www.explorationinmeditationandprayer.com/>



PASTORAL CARE: The 'Phone Tree' is a great way to keep in touch. If you would like one of our team to phone you, or if you know of anyone who would appreciate being contacted, please contact Annette 0413 938 541. Through these difficult and changing times it is important we think of each other, and

those who are sick and isolated, and pray for all.

St Matthew's Craft Group Meetings first Wednesday each month.

If you would like to be part of this group, please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022

TUNES ON TUESDAY continues at the usual time of 1:10pm, every week online, please check our website for details. Join YouTube each Sunday for short Organ Recitals with James Flores at 1:30pm.

Silver Celebration



James Flores, organist and St Matthew's Organ Scholar is pleased to announce the release of a CD to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the St. Matthew's, Albury, Létourneau organ. Own a part of Albury's history by ordering a CD! Buy for \$20.00

<https://silvercelebration.jamesfloresorganist.com/>

St Matthew's Letourneau Pipe Organ – John Scott has written detailed



information about the St Matthew's Letourneau Pipe Organ, this will be available on the St Matthew's website in the near future.

Great Organs of Australia

Masterworks at St. Matthew's

Sydney organist David Drury

Premiere Recording of the Letourneau Organ

Limited copies of this CD available at reduced price of \$15.00 **Every cent raised from the sale of these CD's goes into the Organ Fund.** Purchase from St Matthew's Office or from the Church organists: David Luxon, Malcolm Halford or John Scott.

Albury Chamber Music Festival – Save the date Gala Concert in the presence of their Excellencies the Governor General and Mrs Hurley Saturday 14th November afternoon, and Sunday 15th November the Vice Regal Festival Service at St Matthew's, Artistic Co-Directors Sally-Anne Russell and Conductor Mario Dobernig. Please check the Festival Website for updates.

PARISH FINANCES – Share the load! There is something we can all do, if we all do a little, it will sort the problem, we can stop talking about it and it will be one less thing to worry about. In gratitude for all those who are making an extra effort, Fr Peter has reduced his pay by 20% to help lighten the load. He wonders if others could consider making a small regular donation to help get us through. Please consider making direct deposits to the Church accounts. Without further contributions the Parish will not be able to pay Fr Peter's wages and other fixed costs for June and beyond. Your assistance is needed. Bank details are:

Account name: St Matthews Church Albury

BSB: 032736

Account no: 392189

Reference: 'Giving' and your name

Please help us reach all our Parish Members: If any of your friends have recently got an email address, could you please send an email to St Matthew's Office, with their name and email address, so we can add it to our emailing list. Share the news and connection by emailing the Keeping Connected Newsletter to family and friends.



REGULAR UPDATES - Please keep going back to the website, includes Livestream links , Facebook and YouTube.

JOIN US for a Livestream Service EACH SUNDAY 9:00 am

on our website, Facebook or YouTube.

This is a GREAT WAY of keeping the action alive and looking to the future.