

KEEPING CONNECTED TO OUR ST MATTHEW'S FAMILY

Theme: Happy Father's Day



Fr Peter with Roma Jones 96 3/9



Kyle, Bishop Clarence and Michelle



Stevie Dearthridge and Fr Peter

Community celebrations have never been more important, finding new ways to connect families while acknowledging the difficulty of separation. Beyond the confines of any church building we can also reboot the positive messaging of communion and welcome. Even without the virus, isolation as well as love, can get dropped off unexpectedly on our doorstep but together we can deal with it. Social commentator and St Matthews speaker Hugh Mackay in his new books speak of the importance of compassion, and in his address at St Matthew's last year urged us to value our Christian community in offering welcome and connection. Thanks for all those who continue to connect in the most practical amazing ways through small acts of kindness. In the midst of a changing world the Father's Day themes of being cared for, giving guidance and being defended are powerful themes on both sides of every border and we rejoice to discover them in the great variety of contexts and families wherever they are found. This week's service includes many acts of love and practical care across our parish including Bishop Clarence and his family in Wangaratta and with a special focus on fathers and the children of St Matthew's. Special Thank You for our musicians and all who work in the background to keep the St Matthew's ship afloat.

Thoughts for the week:

'Your world is full of beauty when your heart is full of love.'

'The question is not how to cure or be cured, but how to live.'

'To plant a garden is to believe in Tomorrow' - Audrey Hepburn

REMINDER: Evensong Sunday 6th September 5pm St Matthew's Albury

YouTube

Contact details: If you have recently changed your email address or have a new email address, or a new mobile number, please inform St Matthew's Office 6021 3022

Ways to Keep Connected:

*The Keeping Connected to our St Matthew's Family Newsletter is on the St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewsalbury.com on homepage, News and Events.

*if you have a SMART TV you can tune in to St Matthew's Livestream Service through YouTube and 'Keep Connected'

***Join us for a Livestream Service each Sunday 9:00 am on our website, Facebook or YouTube. If you need help** connecting to YouTube or your Smart TV, please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022 and we will be happy to assist.



Emma McGlone



Bennett, Cian, Hugh Coyle



Coyle family



Stevie Dearthridge

Prayer for Happy Father's Day - We thank God for all the father figures in our lives and pray with all those who may be sad today.

This year Father's Day might be different
Dad's, and Grandad's and even great's might be far away
It's hard to give people a hug or a kiss or even get together
Some people we really love are not with us anymore

We might be sad because life is hard right now with lots of things, we can't do
We might be laughing together on screens or across the borders

This Father's Day we are thanking God for everyone who cares
Everyone who is like a Dad to others
People who love us in our own family or love us like we are family
Anyone who loves us and helps us
We are Praying for them all
with Thanks

Especially for those who are having a hard time or feel alone
Praying that God's big warm love will be close
Even as we send our love to you
on this different Father's Day

'Happy Father's Day'

The reading is from the 15th Chapter of the Gospel according to St Luke when Jesus tells the story to explain the amazing love and forgiveness of God our Father. This is the parable of the Prodigal son. The religious authorities grumbled against Jesus complaining that he kept bad company and welcomed the write-offs. So he told them this story: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine good people who need no repentance. Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and went on a holiday, and there he threw away his dad's money. When he had spent everything, a severe famine hit where he was now living and he ran out of money and lost everything. So he went and got a job looking after pigs. He was starving and wished he could have eaten the pig food just to keep himself alive. Then he thought to himself even my Father's servants have plenty to eat so I will go back home to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and threw his arms around him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out our best outfit and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "But his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing and was so angry he refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'what a slap in the face!' 'Listen! For all these years I have always done the right thing and worked my guts out and never had so much as a thank you. You have never thrown me any sort of party even though I have done the right thing. But when this son of yours came back, who has thrown away all your money on bad living you have rewarded him. Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

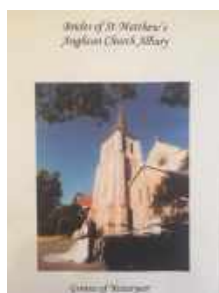
For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us. Thanks be to God.

ST MATTHEW'S RETRO LANE OP SHOP MISSION STATEMENT

To raise funds for the work of St Matthew's Albury for the most vulnerable in our community, to provide cheap clothes and goods for sale and to offer a socially inclusive environment to volunteers regardless of race, sexuality, ability or beliefs.

Sharing the Good News

Sharing the vouchers! If you have any spare vouchers for the tip they would be greatly appreciated please drop into the retro op shop or St Matthew's Office 10 – 12 Monday – Friday. Thank you in advance.



Gowns of Yesteryear

now published on
St Matthew's Albury YouTube

HAPPY Birthday wishes to all celebrating a birthday in September



1st Christine (Kiki) Watson – 90th; Joe Nesbitt

2nd Essie Osborne; Marilyn Comitti; Marlene Hudson

3rd Roma Jones

13th Annette Gorham – 60th; Oliver Chick – 3

14th Jaxon Chick – 14

15th Barb Hoodless; Mark Carden

17th Dannielle Chick – 40 18th Helen Kennedy

20th Rebecca Litton 23rd Laurel Foster

26th Christine Thomas 29th Maureen Lewis

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

What's on this week: National Stroke Week 31 August – 6 September 2020 This year they're celebrating everyday Australians who know and can recognise the signs of stroke. They are F.A.S.T. Heroes! Across Australia, F.A.S.T. Heroes can save lives, simply by knowing and recognising the F.A.S.T. (Face, Arms, Speech, Time) signs of stroke and calling an ambulance immediately. They know that stroke is always a medical emergency and time is critical.

OUT and ABOUT



Sandra Macleod-Miller



Oliver Chick and Isabella Chick



Tina



Virginia Johns



Vicki Chick



Iris Jackson-Jones



Fran Luxon



David Luxon



Michelle Wood



John Sloane



Dean Heta



PASTORAL CARE: THANK YOU so much to all who have knitted/crocheted and donated kindness rugs. We are extending our acts of kindness to include kindness scarves – ‘wrapped in caring thoughts and kindness’. If you would like to knit or crochet scarves to donate, they would be greatly appreciated.

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.



Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are sick or unwell at this time.

Remembering our loved ones whose years' mind is in September.



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/>

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.



SWELL VOX is a small ensemble of musicians from Albury, NSW, Australia. They primarily focus on repertoire featuring the organ and voices, including both sacred and secular music. Their goal is to provide high quality music and anecdotal entertainment, primarily in the online music space.



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, available on the St Matthew's website. 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.



Update: Albury Chamber Music Festival – A call from Government House confirming the Gala Concert in the presence of their Excellencies the Governor General and Mrs Hurley Saturday 14th November at 11:30 am and Artistic Co-Directors Sally-Anne Russell and Conductor Mario Dobernig. Sunday 15th

November the Vice Regal Festival Service at St Matthew's, still to be confirmed. 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.