

KEEPING CONNECTED TO OUR ST MATTHEW'S FAMILY

Theme: Giving thanks for Friendship

12th - 25th October



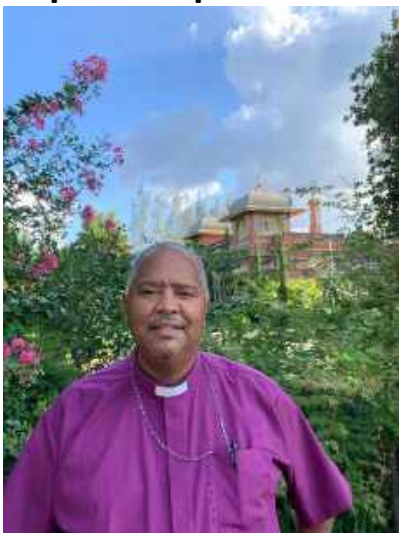
The year is flying by, but we seem to have such very long days. The news is so often very negative so putting ourselves on a more positive diet will make us very much better company when we can all get together again. The roses are blooming and each one seems like a miracle and just as exciting is to find out more about each other. The Church can be

like a garden bed and this time is special in that we get to know each other better. Our virtual services are such an adventure, and the adventure starts with trying to connect with the technology. You might try asking your friends how they have been going with it, and if you or they have been struggling can you please send us a message and we will show you how easy it is. 900 people tuned in to last week's service – imagine 900 people trying to squeeze into St Matthew's and flooding out onto Kiewa Street! What a joyful thought but this is our joyful reality. Let us not concentrate on the closed door but on the open community. Many new things are happening, Rev Catie Inches-Ogden our dear friend who was part of our congregation is moving from Northern Albury Parish to look after the Parish of Mansfield and we will be welcoming the Rev Emily

Payne who is moving up from Melbourne you will get a little glimpse of her in our service, as well as photo above. Christmas is around the corner and before that we have All Soul's and All Saint's Days, Movember, Melbourne Cup, NAIDOC Week, Albury Chamber Music Festival, Remembrance Day, "Stir-Up" Sunday, Relay for Life. Some have suggested that we go for an early Christmas putting up lights, thinking about sending cards and making an extra effort to connect simply – the old-fashioned way! Why not start making a list and making something personal or even writing a little poem or finding a picture from Christmas long ago that means something special. Maybe we can get our families to help us and send out a shared family message. You might even like to prepare a little video clip to share with our St Matthew's family (short, about 2 minutes and in landscape) in one of our livestream services. You might like to share your special Christmas ideas. The St Matthew's Craft Group will be selling gift ideas by online order in the lead up to Christmas – more detail mid-November.

We are also looking forward to welcoming Bishop Clarence and we are working on it.

Important points from the Bishop's letter 7th October:



As a Church we have a responsibility to care for all and especially the most vulnerable who are a large part of our congregations. We understand the need and desire for people to gather for worship and feel for those who have not been able to connect via Zoom or YouTube services. Soon the time will come when we can 'worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness'. I am imagining that day to be a day of great celebration, the beginning of a 'new normal', but also a time of deeper appreciation for what we have missed out on for such a long time.

For outdoor services: For as long as is possible, please refrain from 'outdoor services/gatherings. Meetings should preferably take place via Zoom and not in person.

Regarding other Pastoral matters:

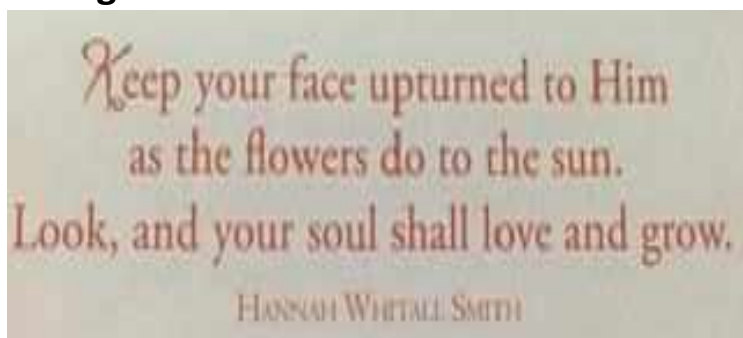
- No home communion is to take place
- No Pastoral Visiting unless it is for an emergency

- Services in Church only for those of an already established socially connected bubble as prescribed in the DHHS guidelines.

I pray that we will all do the right thing, doing what is best for the people committed to our care, as well as taking care of ourselves in any decision making. The Church of God has been in existence for a very long time and the Church will continue to exist beyond our lives.

From our Bishop an Invitation to all in our Diocese to join us for a special Diocesan Morning Prayer on the **Feast of All Saints, Sunday, 1 November at 10am** so that we can continue to 'pray together'. More information and details to follow.

Thoughts for the week:



*We do not remember days;
We remember moments.
Make moments worth remembering.
Cesare Pavese*

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.

Please Note: **you can watch all the livestream services on St Matthew's Albury YouTube at any time that suits you**, after they premiere – can even watch time and time again!

PRAYERS



We give thanks for your enfolding love.
For the wonder and refreshment, we find in
children. For the comfort and patience, we find in
older people.

For the courage and friendship, we discover in
unexpected places.

And for the small acts of kindness that make the
world of difference. Amen

God of healing and compassion, we thank you for
all who work in Health Care. Give skill, sympathy, and resilience to all who
care for the sick, and your wisdom to those engaged in medical research.
Amen

We give thanks for the unity of Leaders of the nation's working towards a
vaccine and for our own Government seeking the welfare of all. Amen
Strengthen by your Spirit the vocations of all who work for our greater
welfare. We pray for teachers and students and the extra anxiety of
examinations and decisions for their future. We also pray for those who
labour in the background and whose service goes unnoticed may they feel
your special presence and blessing in all they undertake and sustain and
encourage them. Amen.

Loving God, you asked us to share the good news of healing of mind, body
and spirit give to all your children a heart to reach out in faith, hope and love.
And to walk gently with others until you bring us all safely home. Amen.

Family Prayer, The Lord's Prayer



Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

The reading is from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians – St Paul reminds members of the early Church that good news is more than good words. Wari Williams



We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

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.

Reminder: Safe Church Awareness Online Workshop 7pm on 21st and 22nd October 2020 As part of the Safe Church approval process, the Diocese has mandated that a number of roles within the Parish require completion of a Safe Church Awareness Workshop. Many of our Parish have already completed these workshops. Examples of roles requiring completion of the workshop, include: member of Parish Council, Pastoral Care team, Choir, Servers, Side persons, Welcomers and Group Leaders. Due to the Victorian Covid restrictions and closure of the NSW/Vic Border, there will not be an in-person workshop before the Diocese cut-off date for Safe Church clearances this year. Instead the Diocese is conducting an online Safe Church Awareness Workshop via ZOOM which you can do from your home or office over two sessions for approximately 3 hrs the first evening and 2 hrs the following evening. There is NO Charge for this workshop. You need to register and have access to the internet. If there is sufficient interest, St Matthews will arrange for a group to watch the Zoom Training from the Rectory on the nights listed below.

To register email: safechurch@wangeratta-anglican.org.au

With Name, Phone Number and Email address.

Anyone who wishes to attend using their personal computer will need to email Father David Still at safechurch@wangeratta-anglican.org.au and he will send the zoom link and meeting details to you, plus the workshop handbook.

If you have an enquiry re Safe Church at St Matthews Albury, or you wish to join the ZOOM group at the Rectory, you can contact Mark Carden, Church Warden, on markcarden1@bigpond.com

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.

New Op Shop Facebook page please like and share it.

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.



Emergency Food Room needs:

The food room is quite well stocked at the moment, but we could do with:

bottles of pasta sauce, boxes of tea bags, store bought jam, 1L long life milk.

Note: self-opening cans preferred

Barbara Hoodless

4/10 From Marion Bennett - Re the service this morning - One of the best hours in my week - thanks to all who put it together, in particular all the Musos. The wonderful blessing by Bp Clarence and the final tones of the organ set off the new week on a marvellous note.



HAPPY Birthday wishes

to all celebrating a birthday in October

13th Wari Williams

14th Dexter Horne, John Atkinson

23rd Elly Chick 25th Stacey Chick

27th Gill Mackay

28th Ailsa Jones 28th Bev Butler

Dexter celebrates his 10th birthday



Suggestion: Tune into **Songs of Praise** on ABC TV Sunday mornings at 1130 am

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

For sale: Pride Path rider 10 deluxe



Excellent condition. Comes with the front basket and the custom shopping bag on the rear. There is also an extra cushion that was purchased for comfort. Price \$2000. if interested please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022

Request: We are seeking an outdoor setting in very good condition for the St Matthew's Village. If you are able to assist, please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022

OUT AND ABOUT



Ron Ricketts



SwellVox,



Chew McGrath



Betty White



Fr Peter with Ben Yonson



Barbara Hoodless



Wari, Peter and Sally Williams



Sue Fyfe



Mark Carden



Ross Altass



Rick Allen



Bob Mahaffey



Lodge Christmas collection



St Matthew's Craft Group

Meetings first Wednesday each month from 1 – 5 pm. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact Annette 0413 938 541. Their next meeting is Wednesday 4th November.



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.



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

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

Rest in peace: Gwen Cullen

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:

www.quietcommunion.org



Update: Albury Chamber Music Festival



This event will now be a Virtual Service hosted by their Excellencies the Governor General and Mrs Hurley Saturday 14th November at a time to be confirmed and Artistic Co-Directors Sally-Anne Russell and Conductor Mario Dobernig. Their Excellencies are currently working on a date for an Albury visit in the New Year and to Host a live Festival Concert at St Matthew's. Please check the Festival Website for updates.

We will be announcing our St Matthew's Music Association Scholarships including a new Indigenous Music Scholarship at the Virtual Concert. Please consider making a Tax-deductible donation toward the future of one of the children of the border.

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.

PARISH FINANCES – Budget week this week! We are counting our pennies across the nation and St Matthew's as well is looking to the future and working out how we can continue to service the community without going into a financial panic. Aa huge 'thank you' to the increasing number of people who are making a regular donation to the work of St Matthew's it's so encouraging. If you haven't managed to Direct Debit, make an enquiry at your bank and it's surprisingly easy to organise. New technology whether it is YouTube, a new car, a sewing machine, or a lawn mower can be frightening to begin with but surprisingly easy when given a go. I hoped that by making some financial sacrifices myself that the load would be a bit lighter and others would also help out, and that is exactly what is happening so 'thank you' again on behalf of myself and St Matthew's.

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.

Evensong first Sunday each month Tune in Sunday 1st November 5pm
St Matthew's Albury YouTube

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