

Keeping Connected to our St Matthew's Family

Theme: Loving Through The Lockdown

July 2021



The year is flying by, but no one is flying anywhere!

It does feel like being in a marathon and pacing ourselves for the journey ahead to share some hope when most people would be fed up. Coming together on the border is much better than it could have been, and the weather is too miserable to go very far. We could look at all those things we would not want to do on a sunny day – what about another caring clean out of some winter woollies or going through the Christmas card list sending a few early cheerio's? What about finding a few favourite photos and giving thanks over a cup of tea and warm memories?

The office is humming away, and we are very grateful for everyone who is lending a hand just when we needed it. We continue to help the homeless but do so much more to support people who are helping others. Kindness and compassion are things that we all do together. I would like to imagine all those who have been knitting or crocheting knee rugs and the teddy bears given at Baptisms. I wish you could see the appreciation and delight. It is touching to see the caring rugs on the bed/wheelchair as a special reminder that people are being thought of and feel special. Copies of cards from our Pastoral Care Team or our Keeping Connected Newsletter are all ways of saying that we belong, and all are welcome. Our ministry of welcome is the basis of reaching out with social justice for Indigenous people, for refugees and for those who are hurting, and the Parish of St Mary's Armidale have expressed their deep gratitude for being remembered when they are trying to bring out a compassionate outcome to a painful situation.

Many thanks to our musicians who are being so flexible to enhance our worship both on Wednesday's and our Sunday services. We should not forget the Tunes On Tuesday Recitals that are enjoying such a friendly rollup, so that is certainly something to do - you can bring a sandwich, the air conditioning is working and give yourself a little lunchtime musical holiday!



Our dear friends from away - Ray Fietz sends his regards from Bathurst and looking forward to coming back to St Matthew's and Kay West also from our sanctuary team in her new home in Western Australia with her son and her dog Harris. We are keeping them in our thoughts and send our loving wishes.

St Matthew's Music Association

Auntie Nancy Rooke Indigenous Music Scholarship

Announced Sunday 4th July - Congratulations to Tyson Evans, recipient of this Scholarship 2021.



Remembering Diana Princess of Wales at St Matthew's Easter Service 1983



Remembering Princess Diana who would have turned 60 July 1st, 2021.



Left: Organist at the service was David Luxon.

Top right: Servers at Easter Service for the Prince and Princess of Wales - Louise Moffitt, not sure who the next server is, Bill Moffitt, Noel Kerr, James Moffitt.

Important dates in July:

NAIDOC Week 4th – 11th July

In 2021 the **theme** is – **Heal Country!** A **theme** which calls for all Australians to continue to seek greater protection from exploitation and destruction of land, water, sacred sites and cultural heritage.



Sunday 11th July – POSTPONED –
Fundraising Event: CIRCA AD Jewels –
The Jewels and Style of The Duke and
Duchess of Windsor presented by Adrian
Dickens. This will now be held 10th
October.
Sunday 18th July Children's Church 10:30
am

Sunday Service 9:00 am each Sunday. As we count our blessings of being able to meet, we are mindful of the measures that are helping keep our community safe. We are grateful for our congregations understanding in suspending Holy Communion in this period, but so thankful that our real connection is expressed in the sharing our love and care together until we get the all clear. Part of that care is in our social distancing and in supporting St Matthew's by Direct Debit, tap-n-go, or collection bags as you depart, rather than handing round the plate.

Private Communion can be arranged, by phoning St Matthew's Office 6021 3022

Wednesday Service 10:30 am. This service is a great option for people who find the 9am service too early, especially in the winter months. The service is a slightly different format but connected in prayer and loving action.

Procedure for attendance at services be patient with ourselves and with others. We are set up with QR-Code Registration on arrival, please bring your mobile phone for this process. If you do not have a mobile phone, you are able to register manually on the sign-on sheet on arrival. We are asking that people start arriving at 8:40 am so you have time to register and maintain safe social distance. Sanitising and safe personal hygiene procedures are still a requirement at the time of arrival.

You can continue to **Keep Connected** via the St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewsalbury.com and Facebook. If you have a SMART TV you can tune in to St Matthew's Livestream Sunday Service through YouTube.

Please Note: you can watch all the livestream Sunday Services on St Matthew's Albury YouTube at any time that suits you – can even watch time and time again!

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



St Matthew's change to Office hours:

Monday – Friday 10:00 am – Noon.

St Matthew's Office - Volunteers are manning the office each morning. We welcome back Deb Davenport Tuesdays to assist with some administration duties too.

The **Keeping Connected to our St Matthew's Family Newsletter** is a monthly production.

If you have any news or articles that you would like featured in the monthly Keeping Connected Newsletter, please email to nettie.gorham@gmail.com



MOTHER'S UNION

MOTHER'S UNION STUDY, PRAYER, AND SUPPORT GROUP meets every Friday at the Martin Centre, Cahill Place from 9:30 am – 12 noon. Everyone most welcome.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH report Rev. Catherine

Dawson: Hello St M's from Children's church, this month we faced a storm. A big storm that Jesus was going to sleep through! We made the storm using a sheet and moving it up and down. Somehow a sheep joined in and was bumped out of the storm!! The disciples were so scared they yelled at Jesus!! And he fixed the storm. So today if we get really scared, we can yell out to Jesus. Of course, you can ask for help

much sooner and then there is no need to yell. For our craft activity we made a boat. A proper boat that

we and Jesus can sit in. Sails were well set. Thank you to the Children's church team. From setting up tables, to cocktail franks, to music, boat making and brewing a storm everybody had a great time. Catherine

July Children's Church is the 18th July at 10:30 am This coming Sunday Children's church is happening. Not sure how much singing we can do but there will be dancing and marching, craft and stories and hopefully a cuppa to finish ...

Guess what?! Our August service will be a celebration of 21 years of Children's Church. You are invited to the party. Blessings Catherine Dawson



Thoughts for the month:

God is patient and kind, loving and merciful. Wrap yourself in His love.

Life is full of daily treasures. The wave of a neighbour, the smell of a fresh spring rain, a hug from a child... Take each day slowly so that each treasure you find can be a source of joy to fill your heart. Melissa Johnson

Nothing is so strong as gentleness, and nothing is so gentle as strength. Ralph Sockman

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 requests: Packets of biscuits, tins of soup, cup of soup, tins of vegetables.

Tins of spaghetti and baked beans, packets of pasta, bottles of pasta sauce.

Boxes of tea bags, packets of noodles, tins of tuna, 1litre long life milk.

SPECIAL REQUEST: there is a real need for hair care donations of new comb sets.



A Big thank you to Trish and Don, Barb and Malcolm Ross, and their team, volunteering their time to sort all the donated goods/storage rooms in Rectory - huge job!!! Well Done!

"Wow! Donations, donations and more donations!!" said someone as they walked into the back room at the Rectory ... Parish members and others have been incredibly generous givers. A lot has been donated for the homeless and so much came in as a result of the bushfire appeal, that there were lots of lovely things left over in store.

Basing our thinking on the need to connect what we have with those in need, we have begun a sort-out in the back room.

Our Op-Shop group does a fantastic job preparing and selling a good deal of clothing etc. but as the space is very small, it's too hard to store everything at the shop. Once the sorting is done, we plan to make it easy to select goods to sell in the shop. After speaking to Lynne and John at the Op-Shop, we found we would also need other outlets for surplus donations. To that end, we have been in touch with other local charities, and each seems to have their speciality.

Vinnies will take clean clothes and shoes. Lifeline will take anything at all and they have a large group of sorters, transport and contacts, and are able to ship things here, there and overseas to partner charities. It is all recycled. To that end, we have shared with them some things that have been in storage for some time.

Did you know that COVID-19 has altered shopping patterns? Currently there is little or no call for men's suits and lady's office wear and even party outfits. Jack's Rags buys cotton and polyester clothes, and these are sold to them for sorting and re-sale.

We have set aside a small room to have easily accessible things for those in dire or urgent need. We have sorted a range of men's, women's, and children's clothing, sleeping gear, bathroom and hygiene packs. This room will be kept topped up from future donations.

The Pastoral Care Group are able to make use of the lovely hand-made knee rugs that we have in storage. When and where possible, they take them to nursing homes and they also make use of some of the hygiene packs.

Lately we have been popping a beanie or two in with food packs – we're not sure how that goes, as we have not had any feedback yet.

COVID-19 has been very disruptive and as such, we have faced some logistical challenges that have resulted in a backlog of donations, but we are in the process of reorganising things so that our aim to connect all your generous donations with people in need is met.

If any of you are wondering where your gifts are going, please rest assured that it is our priority to ensure your generosity is not wasted and supporting our local community remains our focus.



No weddings in June.

Baptisms June 2021:

Rhythm Pike, Pippa Malone, Ezra Vitullo



HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes to all celebrating a birthday

JULY:

3rd Dawn Brooks

12th Ray Fietz

15th Shirley Gray 93rd birthday

19th Gwen Rudd 90th birthday

23rd Judy Guilmartin

29th Tom Summerfield

10th Cath McGlone

13th Kylie Hull

16th Sandy Bobisch

20th Nita Mercer 93rd birthday

27th Angela Braybrooks

30th Kaye Kennedy

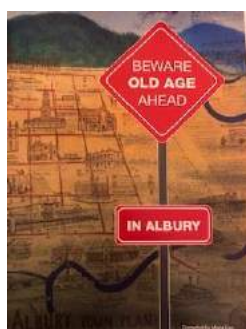
Early August:

1st Kirsty Coyle

8th Val Hawker

3rd Gwen Schnelle, Jill Fielder

10th Judith Hore



Fundraiser book for St Matthew's - makes you laugh and might even 'save your sanity'!

'Beware: Old Age Ahead in Albury' is a unique take on steering family members or yourself through the complicated realities of getting older, by Marie Lee. The book includes a wealth of easy-to-read information, local resources and wonderful illustrations,

100% of the proceeds go to the church's Homeless Fund.

Be quick: limited copies on special for only \$20.00, Available at St Matthew's Office (10 – 12) and Retro Op-Shop (10 – 2).

Good news is for sharing - If you have some good news or have an event coming up that you would like to include in the Newsletter, please share with us by sending an email to St Matthew's Office: office@stmatthewsalbury.com

OUT AND ABOUT



Stevie



Eve Ross and Fr Peter



Fr Peter and Betty White



Fr Peter & Mrs Tobin



Victoria Chick



Pam Horsburgh



Robin Wellard



Graham Stevens



Delaney's



Paul, Michelle Wood



Olwen, Dexter



Judith,



Belinda Wilkinson



Michelle Evans



Hannah, Fran



Barbara Hoodless



Bryan Baker



Robyne Slade, Chris Thomas



Denise, Robin



Annette., Elizah



Amanda Lovekin



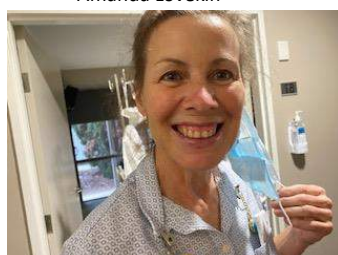
Kylie Hall



Chris Thoma



Sussan Ley



Nurse Cathy



Iris Jackson-Jones



Maureen Lewis



St Matthew's Craft Group



The July meeting Helen Glachan showed how to knit poppies. The Craft Group will make enough poppies to make two reefs for St Matthew's to use each Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

Next meetings St Matthew's Craft Group – Wednesday 4th August 1:00 —4:00 pm, if you are interested in joining the group, please contact Sadie Moffitt 0438 610 740.



Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Team meet the first Wednesday of each month at the rectory. We continue to stay connected phoning and visiting friends in our Parish and community. 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 phone Annette 0413 938 541. A visit can also be arranged. If you know of anyone who is sick or in hospital, please phone Annette so a visit from Fr Peter can be arranged.

Our kindness rugs and 'thinking of you' cards, continue to be given to members in our parish/community who are not well, and are so greatly appreciated by all who receive them. Thank you to all who have made and donated knitted/crocheted rugs or wool for rugs to be made. A new 'Act of Kindness' idea this year is giving a knitted or crocheted shawl, very handy for people

in hospital or Nursing Homes, if you would like to make and donate one, they would be appreciated.

From 1st June, it is a requirement that all visitors and staff entering a residential aged care facility provide evidence that they have received a dose of the 2021 influenza vaccination.

Our friends at Dellacourt Service



Norma



Dawn



Lila



Florrie



Eve



Marg

Dates next Retirement Village Services: (at this stage)

Borella House: Tuesday 20th July, 3:30 pm **Yallaroo:** Tuesday 27th July, 11:00 am

Riverwood: Friday 30th July, 10:00 am

Mercy Marianella: Tuesday 10th August 11:00 am **Dellacourt:** Tuesday 10th August 3:00 pm

Murray Gardens: Thursday 19th August 11:00am



*Our thoughts and prayers
are with all who are sick or unwell at home, or in hospital.
Also, remembering our loved ones whose years' mind is in May – June.
And those who have recently died.
Forever in our hearts.*

Funerals June: Ken Everett, Doug Oxbrow



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 6:15 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

Albury Chamber Music Festival 2021

**Dates for the Albury Chamber Music Festival 2021
Friday 5th – Sunday 7th November.**

Lady Primrose Potter has called to confirm her attendance at our festival she is one of the most important Arts patrons in the country and many of her friends are making plans to join her.

Nance Grant and Lady Potter both turn 90 this year so it will be a time to celebrate another milestone for two of Australia's Golden Girls of the Arts.



TUNES ON TUESDAY RECITALS:

July 20 – James Flores (Organ)

August 3 James Flores & Thomas Summerfield (Organ and Piano)

August 17 Callum Knox & James Flores (Organ)

August 31 Bulmer Family (Classical Guitar)



PARISH FINANCES: St Matthew's is looking to the future and working out how we can continue to service the community without going into a financial panic. A huge 'thank you' to the increasing number of people who are making a regular donation to the work of St Matthew's it is so encouraging. If you haven't managed to Direct Debit, make an enquiry at your bank and it's surprisingly easy to organise.

Bank details are: Account name: St Matthews Church Albury

BSB: 032736

Account no: 392189

Reference: 'Giving' and your name.