

KEEPING CONNECTED TO OUR ST MATTHEW'S FAMILY



St Matthew's Op Shop



Bell tower Jim Jeffries



Hau and Liz Heta

Sharing the Good News in Words and Actions

This week the world has been focused on standing up for Justice on thoughts of Universal kindness and how we can make a positive change. Many will be disturbed by vandalism and violence and so we pray that we might understand the very human emotions of hurt and anger and yet use our opportunity toward long term structural improvement. The golden rule and walking in another's shoes will find us in a kinder more compassionate world. I Thank everyone who has been using this opportunity of isolation to think more creatively about reaching out to others. Communicating Gods love for all can be as simple as a phone call, it might be as complicated as enabling political change and supporting our politicians in the midst of a volatile climate. It might mean supporting our young people as they strive to lead in environmental and climate issues or taking time to reflect on the horrific realities of inequality and the plight of our first peoples. How do we honour the issues of mental health? Homelessness? And refugees? And what about the vulnerability of older people who have given our society so much? Each one of us in our own way, in our own place, can make a difference and together we will get through the current dangers and bring others into a brighter future.

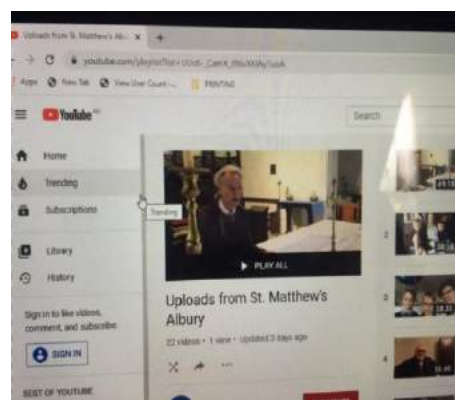
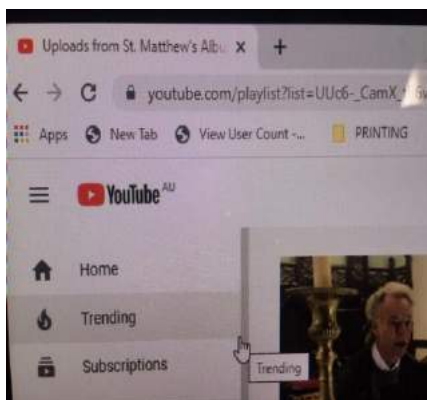


*From the Church of England,
A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

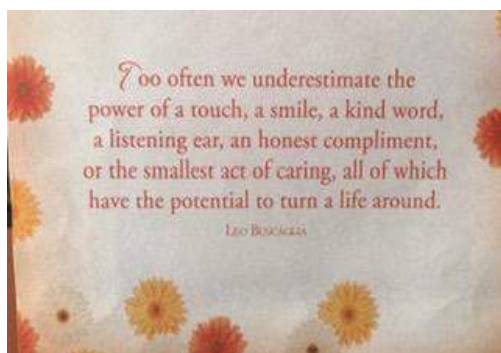
Stay at home, continue to pray, to love, to care for the vulnerable.

Join us for a recorded Service this Sunday 9:00 am on our website, Facebook or YouTube.

The quickest and easiest way to connect to our Sunday Services is through YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUC6-CamX_tB6vXKlAy7uoA



Many will be asking when St Matthew's Church will be opening and I would warmly invite you to contact me to share your thoughts as we care for each other and our community. Some Clubs and associations are turning a blind eye but the reality is that social distancing would mean no more than 50 people, no singing, no morning tea, no greeting of peace, no proper congregating as we have known it. The building is the same, but the quality of being together is simply not there, it would be like being under house arrest at the very coldest time of year. We are considering ways that we can open at different times of the week in response to community needs. It would be lovely to hear from you and as always if anyone is in particular need you can call me at any time of day or night, and we will do whatever we can.



REMINDER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: Tune into 'Kid's Blast' live each Sunday at 10:00 am, google: youtubekidsblaststpeters

GOOD NEWS FOR SHARING:



* Congratulations to St Matthew's Jim Hisslop OAM recently receiving Honour at the Queen's Birthday Awards. The Order of Australia Medal was received in honour of his work for Ex-Services Men and Women in Legacy for the last 25 years, looking after wives and families of deceased and returned Servicemen. And for the last 10 – 12 years trying to get justice in Superannuation - an ongoing battle! The Order of Australia Medal will be presented to Jim later in the year at Government House Victoria.

St Matthew's will be featured by ABC national compass television filming in Albury in 5 days during July.

* Congratulations to Helen Martin National Volunteers' Week - acknowledged for 30 years Volunteer in Palliative Care at The Mercy.



* Ray Fietz visits Albury



Sue Fyfe with Ray Fietz



Ray Fietz



Ray Fietz with Sandra Macleod-Miller

* Message from Margie Wright, Hailey Wright's great Grandmother: Rowie and Bill (Ginns) called in with a lovely kindness rug. Thank you all for it - it is beautifully warm and pretty. I snuggled up with it last night. All is well with Hailey. Still an outpatient at Royal Children's Hospital for blood tests but they are coming up ok. My family are overwhelmed with all the care and prayers and can only thank you all very much. Love Margie x



Your support helps ensure The Royal Children's Hospital has access to new, cutting-edge equipment and technology, highly skilled staff with the best and brightest medical minds, research teams who transform the future of children's health, and that the patients and their families' experience during treatment is always improving.

* Message from Rod Brown Livestream service 31/5 Pentecost Sunday: 'What an amazing, uplifting group effort this Pentecost from members of the great St Matthews family reminding us that we are all integral and connected. Bravo! Inspiring, spiritually uplifting, heart-warming and so welcoming. Keep up the good work, you make a difference in so many ways. Love to all my friends, can't wait to see you all - before too long I hope.'

* Birthdays June: 5th - Victoria Chick; 5th - Joan Sheather 95; 24th – Max Barry 96
Happy Birthday wishes to all celebrating a birthday in June.



Brian, Paul, Mon, Matthew-Paul, David Paul, Brian, David



Mon with spinach from St Matthew's garden



Acts of kindness in our community - Buddhi with his pumpkins from the community garden Annette and Buddhi

Prayers for:

- Necia and Graham Searle
- Bev Butler
- Hau and Liz Heta
- Ross Altass
- others who are on our hearts

In Memory:

- 1/6 RIP - Di Laundess, after a huge fight with cancer, champion member of the dragon boat community and inspiration. Thinking of her husband Bob, 4 daughters and many friends.



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.



KINDNESS RUGS – this act of kindness continues to be so warmly received by so many in our parish and community. Thank you, to the talented people who continue to make the beautiful rugs.

If you would like to make and donate a crocheted/knitted knee rug, it would be greatly appreciated.



TUNES ON TUESDAY continues at the usual time, every week online, please check our website for details. We are also looking at **Albury Chamber Music Festival** in November and working out ways to share the music. There is exciting news from **Government House Canberra** about the **Governor General**, as Patron of St Matthew's Music Association, which is an engine of music

lessons and Master classes and also St Matthew's has been asked to share stories of community kindness so that the Governor General can use His opportunity to share the good news of compassion and loving action in regional Australia.

REMINDER TAX time and making a difference! Please refer to our website for more detail about making a tax deductible donation to St Matthew's Music Association and organ restoration we are so close to being able to install our digital 32foot pipe and what a tribute to this majestic instrument that has been used so much for our digital services. Donations can also be made to St Matthews through our national trust account which helps maintain the life of this iconic building. We invite you to become a Member of The Albury Chamber Music Festival and the Music Association, see our website for more details and other news.

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.