

KEEPING CONNECTED TO OUR ST MATTHEW'S FAMILY

Theme: Sharing our Gifts



Fr Peter, Joyce, Atara and Kevin Wanambiro



Bishop Clarence



Annette Gorham, Deb Davenport

At a time when our world is sharing bad news it is even more important to share the good news. The great news is people are sharing their gifts in the most amazing ways and it's making a world of difference!

We have had a lot more communication from across the Parish, community, and from our Bishop in these days of lockdown.

In the best ways we have been turned 'inside out' and we are more connected to our congregation than we ever were when they were sitting in a pew.

Communion has never been holier when God's grace and kindness have been shared so generously in the community we continue to be broken and shared in loving action and meeting together in new ways that could have never have been contemplated by the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews when he said: Do not neglect to meet together as is the habit of some. It seems that after all this time we have discovered the truth of the maxim 'you don't have to go to Church to be a Christian' - we are the Church wherever we are.

Every day brings more encouraging news of the development of a vaccine and we continue to pray for the Leaders across the world working for our benefit. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with all those special people whose wedding, baptism, funeral and celebration plans have gone out the window even the church window in these challenging times.

While the Church is closed our Pastoral Care is open if you know of anyone who would like a home visit or has any needs please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022 and we will be happy to assist.

Thought for the week: *To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world.*

Ways to Keep Connected:

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

*Time for a TV upgrade? Treat yourself to a new **SMART TV** so you can tune in the St Matthew's Livestream Service each week and 'Keep Connected'

***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_tB6vXKIAy7uoA](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUC6-CamX_tB6vXKIAy7uoA)

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.

PRAYER DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

God of hope, we give you thanks that you fashioned the universe in love and care for all creation.

In this time of anxiety, uncertainty, and hardship, we entrust to your tender care all those who have contracted COVID-19, that they may know your comfort and peace and may find relief and recovery.

We pray for doctors, nurses and all who are caring for the sick that, through their skill and care, those affected by coronavirus may be restored to health. Give skill, wisdom, and resilience to medical researchers and those searching for a vaccine.

We pray for the vulnerable and the fearful, for those who are isolated through current lockdowns. In their loneliness, be their hope and give us strength to be bearers of your compassion to others, even in the midst of our own fears and disquiet.

We pray for our homes and families, our schools and aged care facilities; for our local community, that our neighbourhoods may be places of trust and friendship and not of fear and suspicion.

We pray for those who are guiding our nation and our state at this time; for the leaders of the nations of the world and all who guide public health policy during this pandemic, that they may not be guided by partisan politics, but may look to the welfare and care of all their people.

To your love and protection we commit each other and all those we love and this world that you love and for which your Son came and gave his life that all may live, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(based on prayers from the Church of England)

The reading is from the 12th Chapter of St Pauls letter to the Romans where he encourages God’s people to share their gifts in the service of others.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Do not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, and from the word of God within us, thanks be to God.

Celebration from Children’s Church 20th Anniversary 16th August



Set up for Children’s Church celebration last week artwork prepared over the years by Julie Scott. Janette Kettle made the butterfly cake and has made so many yummy treats for the children over the years and is such a powerhouse of great and original ideas to do with themes and activities for Children’s Church family and so warm and welcoming to all.

In the run-up to Op Shop week in late September please see the following Mission Statement:

ST MATTHEW'S RETRO LANE OP SHOP MISSION STATEMENT

To raise funds fro 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 environemnt to volunteers regardless of race, sexuality, ability or beliefs.

Sharing the Good News



Congratulations

Pauline and Jim Wenham
celebrating their
50th Wedding Anniversary
22nd August 2020

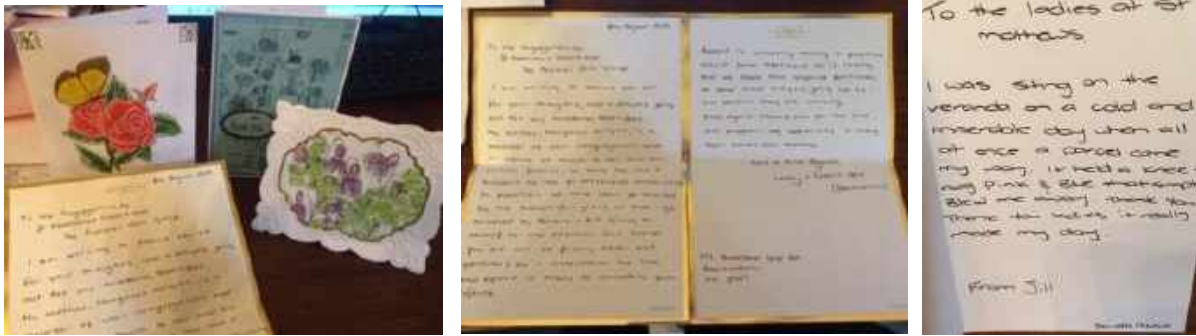
Baptism Thank You from Lauren Coburn:



Hi Father Peter, Thank you so much for Sunday. It was done so well and it made my day. I really appreciate you doing it in the uncertain times. Thank you to the Mother's Union.

Fr Peter to Lauren: Thank you for setting everything up so beautifully on Sunday. I thought both children were so perfectly behaved and such a pleasure and also using technology to be connected. Thank you for understanding that I wasn't wearing anything too formal. The Mother's Union were so glad that the teddies and books were so well received. They would have loved to have been there, but I assured them that we were remembering their good wishes and since the Mothers union was started by grandmothers that the other generations were well and truly represented. I loved them being so happily with their godmother and being slightly rattled by things that were unfamiliar. Very best wishes again and our services can be found on St Matthews YouTube next time you are zooming through cyberspace.

Thank you notes and cards received



Lesley and Robert Bell, Margie Wright's daughter and son-in-law thanking everyone for their thoughts, love and prayers and rug. Robert is currently having a positive result from treatment and appreciate our continued prayers. Jill Jansson wrote a poem of thanks after receiving a kindness rug.



A big Thank You for donations received for the Emergency Food Room, Ryobi blower, Fountain pump, and warm winter woollies for the Homeless.



PASTORAL CARE: THANK YOU so much to all who have knitted/crocheted 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 a scarf/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.



Cancer Council
Daffodil Day Appeal

Daffodil Day is Friday 28 August. The daffodil is recognised internationally as the symbol of HOPE for all people affected by cancer. Give hope this Daffodil Day Appeal by donating to fund life-saving cancer research. Donate online: <https://www.daffodilday.com.au/>



HAPPY Birthday wishes:

17th Rowena Ginns

28th Christine Nesbit

And all celebrating a birthday in August

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



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

Deaths: Noela White, Thelma Caldwell



In Memory:

remembering our dear friend Tim Fischer 22nd August,

OUT and ABOUT



Paul Summerfield



Joyce, Atara, Keving Wanambiro



Donation from Hilltop



Graham Power



Paul Beckhurst, Stuart



Brian Baker, Kathy Cherry



Christine Nesbitt



Joe Nesbitt



Annie Snow



Ros Jarvie



Edgar Braybrooks



Angela Braybrooks



Shirley Monte



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, 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.

Safe Church Awareness Online Workshop 7pm on 2nd and 3rd September 2020 Registrations close 28 August.

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, Sidespersons, Welcomers and Group Leaders.

Due to the closure of the NSW/Vic Border, planned workshops have been cancelled and a 2 session online workshop via ZOOM has been arranged for the **2nd and 3rd of September at 7pm** for approximately 3 hrs the first evening and 2 hrs the following evening. This may suit some people in preference to the usual all day workshops in a church hall.

There is NO Charge for this workshop and the Workshop book will be emailed to you.

Registration is required by 28 August and you will need access to the internet.

See the attached document for further information

Registration will be through eventbrite.com.au:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/safe-church-awareness-workshop-online-tickets-116695135291>

or email: safechurch@wangeratta-anglican.org.au

with Name

Phone Number/s

Email address.

If you have an enquiry re SafeChurch at St Matthews Albury, you can contact Mark Carden, Church Warden, on markcarden1@bigpond.com

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.



REMINDER:

Evensong first Sunday each month

Tune in Sunday 6th September 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.***