



# Alstonville Anglicans

**Pentecost 5**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**Welcome, so good to see you.**

**Sentence of the Day**

Do to others as you would have them do to you. Love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.  
Luke 6.31, 35

**Collect**

Eternal God,  
you have taught us through Christ  
that love is the fulfilment of the law:  
help us to love you with all our heart,  
with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength,  
and our neighbour as ourself;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Sharing the Good Life**

We acknowledge the Bundjalung people, traditional custodians of the Land.

Our doors are open: LGBTQIA+ welcome here.

Streaming licence: CCLI 102220

Alstonville Anglicans are committed to ensuring that all people who participate in our worship, programs and ministries have a safe and rewarding experience.

**Tel: 66280231 [www.anglicans.live](http://www.anglicans.live)**

**Bank account: BSB 705 077 / Acc:00032931**

## Dates 10<sup>th</sup> July to 17<sup>th</sup> July

10 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Sunday</b>
9am	Holy Communion
5pm	Messy Life Naidoc film (games 4pm)
11 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Monday</b>
9am-12pm	Parish Office
9am – 3pm	Op Shop
10am	Anam Cara
12 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Tuesday</b>
	Parish Office Closed (No office access)
4pm	Singalong group (contact Susan)
13 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Wednesday</b>
9am-12pm	Parish Office
9am	Anam Cara (contact Charlie)
9am – 3pm	Op Shop
14 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Thursday</b>
9am-12pm	Parish Office
9am-3pm	Op Shop
6pm	Sound Sauna & Healing Experience
7pm	Community Meal (contact Doug)
15 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Friday</b>
	Parish Office 9am – 12pm
10am	Holy Communion
17 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Sunday</b>
9am	Holy Communion

Planned Giving  
made easy

Application forms  
available today



Have you downloaded our App?  
'Alstonville Anglicans'

1. Download the app from the app store or google play.
2. Sign-up to create an account.
3. Update your profile.
4. Access the member directory.

### **COVID and Mask Wearing Update**

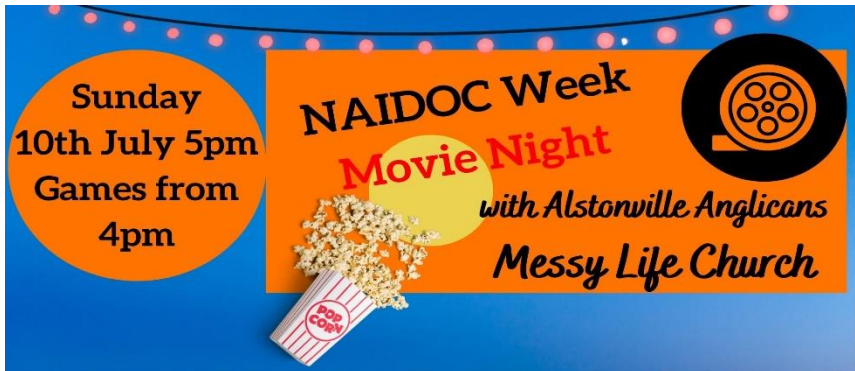
#### **Facts:**

- There are currently 10,000 reported COVID cases a day in NSW.
- In the 2 years 2020-2021 there were 2,000 COVID deaths in Australia. So far in 2022 there have been 8,000 COVID deaths in Australia.
- Full vaccination decreases the risk of COVID death by 80% - even new variants.

- Risk of death from COVID increases with age such that 80-90 year olds with COVID have a 1 in 50 risk of dying.
- NSW Health has recommended that restrictions including mandatory mask wearing be reintroduced. The NSW Government has not taken this advice.
- Proper mask wearing more than halves the risk of getting or transmitting COVID.

**With these facts in mind, the Parish COVID Committee has met and recommends that we all wear masks in Church Services and volunteering at the Op Shop. Mask wearing is, of course, not mandatory, but is strongly recommended.**

## Worship & Spirituality



A promotional poster for NAIDOC Week Movie Night. The background is blue with a string of colorful lights at the top. On the left, an orange circle contains the text: "Sunday 10th July 5pm Games from 4pm". The main text on the right is on an orange background: "NAIDOC Week" in black, "Movie Night" in red, and "with Alstonville Anglicans Messy Life Church" in black script. There is a black circular icon with a film reel symbol and a white popcorn bucket with "popcorn" written on it.



**Sound Sauna &  
Healing Experience 6pm  
Community Meal 7pm  
Thursday 14th July**

All welcome. Cost by donation.  
BYO wine/drinks, meal provided  
(vegetarian, gluten and dairy free)



Alstonville Anglicans  
6 The Avenue Alstonville  
anglicans.live

## Community Engagement



LET'S MAKE SOME  
JOYFUL NOISE!

Sing-a-long Group

Tuesdays 4pm  
St Bartholomew's  
Church

All Welcome!

Alstonville  
Anglicans  
6 The Avenue  
Alstonville  
anglicans.live



AREA appreciates your  
ongoing support for Bruce  
Fleming's 'mission' at  
Alstonville High School

Financial statements  
now available in the  
church or office.

Contact: John Noble 0414 285 132

## Sermon Notes Luke 10. 1-12, 17-24 for 3<sup>rd</sup> July

### Working on the Harvest

An English author with the grand name of Jerome K Jerome wrote a funny little book called "Three men in a boat". He made a fair bit of money from that book but he is better known for the quote "I like work, it fascinates me! I can sit and watch it for hours".

This story in Luke teaches us doing the work of Jesus is not limited to the twelve Apostles. Being a disciple of Jesus is not a watching role. The good news that "the Kingdom of God is near" isn't

something that only a select little group should know about. Jesus wants this news is to be known by everyone. Luke says Jesus appointed "seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place".

My idea about this is that Jesus didn't want lots of people sitting around watching his twelve Apostles work. So, seventy others were given a job to do. For the people of the time there's significance in the number seventy. Seventy represents all nations. In Genesis chapter 10 there is a long list of all the descendants of Noah after the flood. And what do you know? There are seventy nations named. So, this is a symbolic way of saying "Jesus wants this message spread all over the world; beyond all barriers of nationality and geography".

As he encourages these seventy others to go out, Jesus says to them "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few". These people would be well aware that it's hard work out there in the fields harvesting even when there are lots of others helping you. They were probably a bit overawed when they were told that there was a vast harvest and only a few workers.

Prayer is needed if we are not to have more watchers than workers. But Jesus doesn't say "go and encourage your friends and family to back you up with supportive prayer". Jesus tells the seventy he has appointed to pray to "the Lord of the harvest" to send out more workers into his harvest. It's the workers who are asked to pray for more workers.

Although Israel was a very religious nation, additional effective workers were needed. Religious concerns and practices were second nature and there were lots of religious leaders but there were few who were available for God's work. Perhaps this saying of Jesus is to remind us that religious activity that is merely directed TOWARD God and not DIRECTED BY God may be useless.

The teachings and the salvation of Jesus are for everyone and are passed on through everyone who follows him. They are good news; not only for individuals and communities but to all cultures (nations) and they are not to be kept as a secret.

As this message comes to individuals and communities it embraces and enhances the good that is already there. It adds meaning and context to the search people already have for God to be in their lives and calls people away from the things that are destructive and negative. The teachings and salvation brought by Jesus take the human nature in each individual person and every different culture and raise it up to godly life through connection with Jesus. Every person and every culture is called by Jesus to grow into a unity of love made beautifully rich by all the diversity that is brought together. We are all not made the same and we don't have to become the same.

Luke explains what Jesus says is the way to be good disciples. To be people who are effective in sharing his message, the aim is to "reach out" rather than to try to "drag in". I guess that's why our Parish has Play Place and Anam Cara and Messy Church and the Op Shop. They are all reaching out. Reaching out may sometimes mean actually going into someone's house or maybe meeting someone at a coffee shop. In doing this you are able to bring God's peace and wholeness. Jesus says the way to do this is simple. Just say "The kingdom of God has come near to you".

This is an amazingly simple strategy. You just keep reminding yourself that Jesus also wants to come into this house. Or remind yourself that Jesus wants to be part of your chat over coffee wherever you are meeting (be it at Options or The Crossing or Orios).

It can be scary meeting other people on their territory rather than where we normally spend our time. However, Jesus followers are to share the Good News in a spirit of trust. Trust God for everything. Don't take any excess baggage. Money and extra clothes can hold you back. Certainly, leave behind your own opinions. And don't take your own customs or culture either.

Accept the hospitality offered. Every person, every culture, has something to give. Disciples are called to give and accept gifts with gratitude, grace and humility. But you need to spend time with people. It's only after a few days of living in each other's pockets that sharing the good news really gets honest. There's always more to learn from closer connection with Jesus.

We are to share the Good News without fear; with all the energy and power God gives. Mostly we are to teach the Good News by the way we live it. It is in our lives and our conversations that we show Jesus brings Good News.

We certainly don't reveal the peace that knowing Jesus brings if we try forcing the word on others. True disciples are not people who put their foot in the doorway so that it can't be closed on them. The Gospel is love and love can't be forced. So, the advice of Jesus is do all that you can, then move on, leaving the rest up to God.

The workers sent out into the harvest by Jesus returned with joy. When disciples do succeed as these seventy did, they genuinely have a reason to rejoice. The rejoicing is because God's love has found a home. It is not personal success that gives joy, but the coming of the kingdom.

Jesus knows that those who love him and follow him are often going to have tough times in their lives. He beautifully and gently assures them, and us, that "nothing will hurt you" and says "rejoice that your names are written in heaven"

Be encouraged and excited that, as in this Gospel story, those who go out in Jesus' name (no matter how ordinary or unequipped they might think they are) will return with joy and stories of success.

The harvest is plentiful. However, there's a need for workers ... not watchers. Let's go out in Jesus' name to proclaim that "The Kingdom of God is near".



**Use our welcome booklet for info and contact details for regular activities. We welcome any feedback on the booklet.**