



# Alstonville Anglicans

## Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022



## Liturgy for 13<sup>th</sup> February

### Sentence of the Day

Blessed are you when people hate you on account of the Son of man. Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Luke 6.23

### 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.

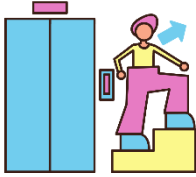
## Collect

Righteous God,  
you challenge the powers that rule this world  
and you show favour to the oppressed:  
instil in us a true sense of justice,  
that we may discern the signs of your kingdom  
and strive for right to prevail;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Readings Luke 6:17-26

<sup>17</sup> Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. <sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. <sup>21</sup> "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. <sup>22</sup> "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. <sup>24</sup> "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. <sup>25</sup> "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. <sup>26</sup> "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

# Messages



**To make you smile...**

I have a fear of elevators...

**but I am taking steps to avoid it.**

## Worship & Spirituality

**Messy Life Family Service  
Sunday 13th February 5pm**

**Pencil Case Blessing**



**Games from 4pm  
pool table, table tennis**



**Alstonville  
Anglicans  
6 The Avenue  
anglicans.live**



There is a bit of  
**Ash Barty**  
in all of us!

**Messy Church**  
**Ash Barty Party**  
Sunday 27th Feb 4pm



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6 The Avenue  
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## Cursillo Ultreya



The Diocesan Ultreya will now be held via Zoom on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February. For more details, please contact Mark on 0428 404 783.

## Shrove Tuesday



1st March 2022 5.30pm in the Ministry Centre \$10 includes Savoury Crepe & Sweet Pancake and a quiz. RSVP by 20th February to Jenny Noble

## Life Groups Lent 2022



### Let's be honest!

The words spoken by Jesus at the Last Supper, the real reason why he died on Good Friday, and what the resurrection means for 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians, is all a bit of a mystery isn't it?

So, here's an invitation and encouragement, to come to a brief exploration of Jesus' last week, which we call Holy Week. You are invited to join a Life Group for five weeks, commencing in the second week of March, and do a bit of sorting out of fact from fiction to nurture your faith.

Each participant will have the book, *The Last Week* (\$12), to read and to discuss or just listen in a small group, to make sense of the events, and what was really going on for Jesus.

Times and places of each group will be advertised next week to give all who want to enrich their faith in God, an opportunity to sign up and enjoy.

Enquiries: Greg Ezzy M0412660742

## Community Engagement

### Community-On-the-Verge




Help yourself to what is ripe and ready for picking. If you are keen to be involved as the garden evolves, please contact Alan Larsen on 0409 655 123 or Barbara Fewtrell 0429 385 713.

**Apology to  
Stolen Generations**

On 13 February 2008 the Australian Parliament made a formal apology to members of the Stolen Generations.

To recognise the anniversary of the occasion and in national recognition of Indigenous Australians, the Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag will be flown all day on Sunday, 13 February 2022 at Alstonville Anglicans.

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## LinC Luncheon



Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 12 noon in the SDA room. RSVP 16<sup>th</sup> March to Viv Carson 0422 201 191

[lincalstonville@gmail.com](mailto:lincalstonville@gmail.com)

## Good Governance

### COVID Update

"The rules are constantly changing as you know. This is a summary as at present.

- Density limit 2/sq m.
- Masks required indoors.

- Effective 8 January, singing and dancing at hospitality venues is no longer permitted other than for wedding services and receptions.
- QR code check in is compulsory.
- Ventilation is important, so doors and windows open, and morning tea outside but remembering social distancing.

Thank you for your understanding. Covid Committee."

## Sign Up for Planned Giving

Forms for signing up for Planned Giving are now available from the website and in the church foyer and parish office.

## Annual Report & AGM



The Annual Report will be available by 13<sup>th</sup> February.

**AGM February 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 11am.**

**Nominations for Wardens and Parish Council must be submitted to the Parish Office or the Rector's Warden no later than Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022.**

Please note that nomination forms are available at the Parish Office and in the Church Foyer. All nomination forms submitted must bear the written consent (signature) of the nominated person before they can be accepted. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the website.

## Sermon Notes 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**Where is our church?** What is our church address? Who are the ministers of our church? Would the ministers of the church be willing to stand up? We shall return to these questions again. For now, let us step into the Gospel reading, Luke 5.1-11.

## **Introductory comments**

My husband and I are very proud of our sons. They are chefs. They work extremely hard. They came home late from their shift on a particular day, frustrated, tired and demoralised. It had been a particularly slow day with few orders. The kitchen closes at 2 p.m. They had started to clean and pack up the kitchen early as there were no customers. By 2.10 p.m., the kitchen was spotless, the grill had been cleaned, the floors washed, all the appliances were off and sanitised. It was at this moment that a rather large order came in for a big table. Everyone knew the restaurant policy, that the kitchen closed at 2 p.m. At 2.10 pm, everything was shutdown. Nevertheless, the chefs were forced to start everything up again and prepare meals for a large table. A similar thing is happening for the fishermen in Luke 5.1-11.

## **Into the Gospel text: Luke 5.1-11**

Peter and his colleagues are in their boats, in the shallows. They have finished cleaning and repairing their nets and preparing the boat for the next day's work. Sure, they have had a poor catch, but tomorrow is another day, right? It is at this point, at the end of the day when everything is cleaned and packed up, that Jesus, a carpenter who probably knows little about fishing, suggests that go out deep again and let down their nets for a catch. Remembering how despondent our sons were in a similar situation, I am amazed at Peter's willingness to go fishing again.

Jesus says, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answers, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you





say so, I will let down the nets." An abundant catch of fish follows, Simon is literally overcome. There is a self-effacing pattern of model of leadership in the kingdom of God at play here. In the same way that Mary was humbled at the call of God on her life so too is Peter: "But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!'" Peter's response is an allusion to the response of someone else, who while daydreaming in church one day, was confronted with the Holy.

### **Into the Hebrew Text: Isaiah 6.1-13**

While going about his routine religious duties in the Temple, Isaiah sees a vision of God's glory and experiences a call to serve as a prophet to his people. The out-of-this-world vision makes sense in the context of Scripture. The seraphs are fiery creatures. They cover their faces reminding people that both Moses and Elijah believed that one could not see the face of God and live. In Exodus 3:6, "Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God". In 1 Kings 19:13, "When Elijah heard it [the heavenly voice], he wrapped his face in his mantle"

"Isaiah's" call to ministry would become one of the most quoted Old Testament books in the NT. The vision of Isaiah provided key ideas that helped the early Christians make sense of their experience of Jesus. Jesus is the answer to Isaiah's vision. Jesus becomes the place where heaven and earth embrace in marriage, and God's love heals, enlightens and liberates. In Luke 5 Jesus shares his calling first with Peter, then with all the disciples and then with us.



## Jesus' call and our call

Jesus starts expanding the circle of blessing by asking Simon to join him inside it. He wants to use the boat as a kind of pulpit to speak to the crowd on the shore. We too are drawn into this sacred circle of blessing. We too become the place where heaven meets earth and the love of God is poured out to us and through us to heal, enlighten, and liberate... We become the place where all God's promises come true. We become the place where poverty and hunger disappear, and the forces of destruction are muted once and for all. It is our glory to collaborate with Jesus together with Peter, James, John and Andrew and all the disciples down the ages and across the globe. The guidelines are simple. Everything begins with a sincere response to God as made visible in Christ; it continues with humble repentance, and it ends with the promise, "*Do not be afraid; from now on you [singular] will be catching people.*"

The sermon by rights ends here.

However.

Many will hear this as an invitation to ministry, to do more. To do particularly churchy things. Many will hear this invitation as an expectation, to sign up for parish council, to do more Bible Studies, to join more community organisations, to teach Sunday School, to prepare food for the homeless. Please continue to do these things, as they are a blessing to us; however the call is deeper than that...

read on.



Others will hear the invitation to ministry as an invitation to *be* more — to be kinder, more generous, more loving, more religious...more.

The call is more powerful than that.

Ministry involves being just who you already are and doing just what you already do...with one difference...you understand yourself as God's person in God's world and for God's world.

The point of our sacred space and our sacred actions is to consecrate the way we see our ourselves and consecrate how we see what we do.

As we consecrate bread and wine, the ordinary things of this world to be an extraordinary channel of God's grace, so our eyes are consecrated to see the munificent mundane in everything we do as Eucharist action. If we limit our sacred work to our prayer time and our worship time only, friends, we are in big trouble. The point of the Eucharist is that we learn to see everything we do as eucharist action. The holiness with which we receive the body and blood of Christ is no different to the holiness with which we prepare meals, clean the kitchen, make our beds, mow the lawn. The respect and reverence we learn to adopt in receiving Holy Communion is pointless unless we learn to see that all we touch is holy too. Imagine the transformation that is possible if we treat the average broom and the average task of sweeping with the same sense of prayer we have for Holy Communion? These ideas are inspired by two sources, Brother Lawrence who taught the practice of the presence of God and the Rule of Benedict which has had a significant influence on Anglican Spirituality.

Brother Lawrence writes: When we walk in the presence of God, the busiest moment of the day is no





different from the quiet of a prayer altar. Even in the midst of noise and clutter, while people's voices are coming at you from all directions, asking for your help with many different things, you can possess God with the same serenity as if you were

on your knees in church.

The Rule of St Benedict describes what is expected of the cellarer, who is in charge of groceries and other food stores: Chapter 31:10. Qualifications of the Monastery Cellarer " He will regard all utensils and goods of the monastery as sacred vessels of the altar, 11 aware that nothing is to be neglected."

### **Concluding comments**

Jesus expands the circle of blessing and shares his ministry with Peter and then with us. We are called to minister. Our baptismal vows are our ordination – we shine as a light for Christ in the world. Where is the Church? Wherever God has placed us. Who are the ministers...the bishops? All of us. This is not a text about **doing**... it is a text about **seeing**, about how you see your identity. You are already doing God's work, being God's person – do not be afraid.

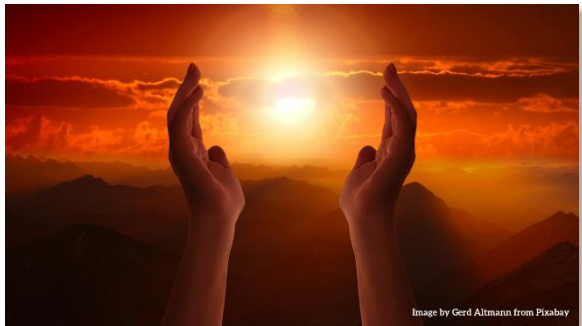


Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay

## Regular Reminders

### Worship & Spirituality

Mothers Union: third Monday of each month.  
Contact Pam on 0417 258 991 or Joyce 0407 690 874 [joyce@stephanies.com.au](mailto:joyce@stephanies.com.au).

### Messy Church

Recommencing 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Anam Cara



#### **Anam Cara Praying for you**

Monday mornings 10am

**Anam Cara Wenesdays** 9am  
& **Thursdays** 6pm

### Community Engagement

#### Play Place



Play Place 9.30-11.30am

Recommencing for Term 1 10<sup>th</sup> February

#### Sew Helpful



Sew Helpful 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays 1pm

#### Plastic lids and Bread tags



Your donated bread tags will be recycled to make wheelchairs and your donated plastic lids will be recycled to make prosthetic limbs for disabled children. They can be dropped at the Op Shop or the hall.

## Pastoral Care

If you or anyone you know is ill or in hospital, please let the office or Lynne Watt our Pastoral Care Coordinator know. Also, if you do visit anyone could you email Lynne? [wattlg@bigpond.com](mailto:wattlg@bigpond.com).

## Family Cross



On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February the Family Cross is being given to Chris Lockley.

## Prayers



Please remember Chris Lockley and Gail Burley in your prayers this week.

## Parishioner Contribution



Catherine being  
dragged along  
by her new  
four-legged friend!!

## ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers all the baptised!

Rector The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman  
0402 764 969 [priest@anglicans.live](mailto:priest@anglicans.live)

Associates	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
	The Reverend Doug Bannerman	0418 182 450
	The Reverend Greg Ezzy	0412 660 742

Parish Office: 8 The Avenue, Alstonville  
Telephone: 6628 0231  
Postal: PO Box 451, Alstonville NSW 2477  
e-mail: [office@anglicans.live](mailto:office@anglicans.live)  
website: [anglicans.live](http://anglicans.live)

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

### The Anglican Op Shop

1 The Avenue, Alstonville **Tel:** 6628 8777

### Dates 13<sup>th</sup> February to 20<sup>th</sup> February

13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Sunday 9am Holy Communion Sunday 4pm Messy Life Church Family Service AGM Report available
14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tuesday Parish Office Closed (Please refrain from accessing the office at this time)
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Anam Cara 9am Op Shop 9am – 3pm Parish Council Meeting 6pm
17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm Play Place 9.30am Anam Cara 6pm
18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Friday 10am Holy Communion
20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Sunday 9am Holy Communion AGM 11am

# Values

What follows are the best words that we are able to offer, to describe what we love best about Alstonville Anglicans. When you come to us and when we go to you, this is what we are thinking and feeling.

## Beloved:

each person comes into the world as an original blessing from God. Thus, each person is a beloved person: significant, wanted and loved.

## Belonging:

anyone who wants to belong already belongs. We want to welcome each other as a gift, saying, "my greatest difference from you is my greatest gift to you". Community matters and is protected. We want to consciously enjoy each other hearing "the Christ in me sees the Christ in you."

## Being:

we are human beings not human doings. Our being present is important. The Spirit of God vibrates within us "like a pure diamond, blazing with the invisible light of heaven."

## Believing:

we are partners with God in living heaven on earth now. We want to be one call among many, offering a provocative but compassionate voice calling for a whole new way of thinking and believing that is loving, liberating and lifegiving.

## Blessing:

as beloved original blessings, we are blessed to be a blessing to others. God is always on God's way through us to creation, of which humans are a part. We believe everyone is called, that everyone has something beautiful to do for God. We want to be the sort of beloved community that creates space for people to express their calling.