



Alstonville Anglicans

Pentecost 19

Bulletin for Thurs 17th - 20th October 2019

We acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land, on which we worship, work and meet, the Bundjalung people. We recognise the significant role the past and future Elders play in the life of the region. We are mindful that within and without the beautiful sandstone church, the Land always was and always will be Aboriginal Land.



It may come as no surprise to you that I wholeheartedly reject the bog-standard interpretation of this parable dished up by unimaginative and lazy interpretations of scripture. Does this parable mean that if we want something from God we should just pray? If it doesn't arrive, pray harder. Still nothing? Keep trying..pray harder still. If you pray hard

enough God will eventually give you what you want, even if it's to stop you nagging. Such an interpretation relies on God being a disinterested authority figure who has little interest in humanity but is willing to be manipulated by enough nagging.

The radical thing about Jesus' story of the persistent widow beseeching a judge for fairness can only be grasped from the perspective of first century Judaism. In Hebrew the word for widow is often *almanah* which translates as a person with little influence, one who is silent. In addition to her vulnerability as an unprotected, unmarried woman living at the margins of society

Please note a hearing loop is installed on the right hand side of St Barts.

Please turn off your mobile phone during worship. Toilets are located in the front of the Hall.

First Aid Kits are located in the Church & the Hall.

with little access to resources, she is expected to 'be seen and not heard', to quote an antiquated approach to parenting. Here we have a radical, empowered woman with agency to name her needs and claim the power of naming. Naming is central to identity. A person is identified through names, to be a person is to have a name. Sometimes names can be ascribed and forced on others against their will.

Who are the vulnerable and the silent that we need to be listening to?

The Gospel according to Luke 18:1-8

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Christmas Hampers

It may seem a little early to start thinking about Christmas but the Mental Health Support Group has to have the first Christmas Hampers ready for distribution by the end of November. If you are able, please could you place something non perishable or a gift into the basket that will be at the entrance to Church? A weekly donation would help enormously helpful. Last year we distributed more than 60 Hampers that made a huge difference for those families to be able to celebrate.

Thank you in anticipation. Barbara Swain

Parish Council

PCare working on a year plan for 2020. Can Ministry coordinators please communicate with your parish councilors important dates for inclusion.

Anglicare Donation

The very successful 'Evening of Rhythm' raised \$1400. Today it will be presented to Anglicare North Coast Affordable Housing Project.



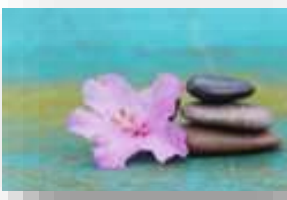
What's your favourite Hymn or Song? Juke Box Sunday 17th November

At 8am and 6pm we will have a service of hymns and songs. What's your favourite hymn or song and why? Let us know via the website or here in the church.



Prayer for...

Jeremiah 29:10 says "Seek the welfare of the city". Prayer for youth, children, families and the church Monday strictly 10am-10.30am.



Anam Cara

Anam Cara Empowering Facilitators Workshops
Wednesdays 30 Oct and 6th Nov, 11am-12 noon.
All welcome Please bring your favourite resources eg. Poem, chant, prayer etc.

Please take a flyer and give it to
your neighbour or a friend.



Memorial Service

Sunday October 27, 8am & 6pm. The service is open to the community. During the service, an opportunity is offered to remember loved ones. **Through music, words and rituals we remember** and honour friends and family who have died. **Come.** You will be warmly welcomed and

safely held as you respect your loved ones who have died.
We are saving a seat for you.

Rosters Sunday 27th October 8.00am (4th Sunday team)

Person in Charge: Johnny Sernberg **Worship Leader:** Mark Stuckey

Music: Ros Sharp **Sound:** Shane McBurney

Flowers: Nancy West, Joyce Shepherd, Jane Crooke

Church Cleaning: Johnny Sernberg, Marius Mulder

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman	0402 764 969
	priest@anglicans.live	
Associate	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
Parish Office:	The Ministry Centre, 8 The Avenue, Alstonville	
Telephone:	6628 0231	
Postal:	PO Box 451, Alstonville NSW 2477	
e-mail:	office@anglicans.live	
website:	anglicans.live	

The Anglican Op Shop 1 The Avenue, Alstonville **Tel:** 6628 8777

We give thanks to God for all people making offertories to the vision of God's Kingdom here on earth. If you would like to contribute electronically to the Parish Provider these are the details: **BSB: 705 077 / Acc: 32931**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday	20th Oct	8.00am	Holy Communion St Barts
		4.00pm	Families @4
		6.00pm	Sunday@6 St Bart's
Monday	21st Oct	10.30am	Life Group Meeting Room
		1.00pm	Sew Helpful
Tuesday	22nd Oct	1.30pm	Life Group at Carol Stone's home
Wednesday	23rd Oct	9.00am	Meditation Group, St Bart's
		10.00am	Maranoo
Thursday	24th Oct	9.30am	Play Place
		6.00pm	Contemplative Church, Sound Healing
Friday	25th Oct	10.00am	Holy Communion, St Bart's
		2.00pm	Choir Practice, St Bart's
Saturday	26th Oct		
Sunday	27th Oct	8.00am	Holy Communion St Barts
		10.00am	Holy Communion, St Peter & St Paul's, Tregeagle
		4.00pm	Messy Church
		6.00pm	Sunday@6

Bible Readings

20th October	Jeremiah 31: 27-34	Psalm 119:97-104	Luke 18:1-8
27th October	Joel 2:23-32	Luke 18:15-30	