



Alstonville Anglicans

Easter 6

Sunday 22nd May 2022

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



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.

Liturgy for 22nd May

Sentence of the Day

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,' says the Lord. 'Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.'

John 14.27

Collect

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,
the truth, and the life:
grant that we may walk in his way,
rejoice in his truth, and share his risen life;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

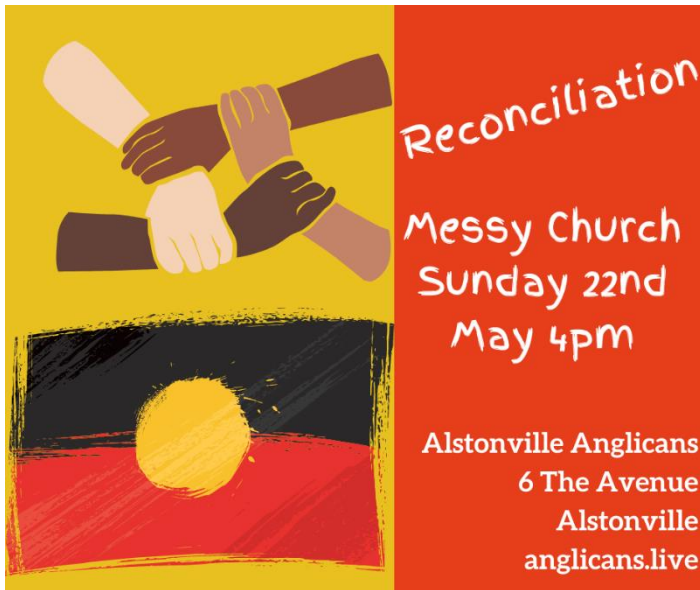
Readings John 14:23-29

²³ Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ 'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is

greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

Messages

Worship & Spirituality



Reconciliation
Messy Church
Sunday 22nd
May 4pm

Alstonville Anglicans
6 The Avenue
Alstonville
anglicans.live

The poster features a yellow background on the left with an illustration of four hands of different skin tones clasped together. Below this is a stylized Aboriginal flag with a yellow sun in the center. The right side of the poster has a red background with white text.

Community Engagement



**BE BRAVE.
MAKE CHANGE.**

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2022 **#NRW2022**
27 MAY – 3 JUNE

RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA

The poster features a yellow background with a group of diverse people in various poses. A young boy is running with a megaphone, a man is sitting on the ground, and a woman is holding a baby. The text is in bold, blue and pink fonts. The Reconciliation Australia logo is in the top right corner.

Reconciliation Week

The flags will be flying at St Bartholomew's in honour of Reconciliation week, May 27th – June 3rd. The theme for Reconciliation week 2022 is 'Be Brave, Make Change' This year we are asked to make change beginning with brave actions in their daily lives – where they live, work, play and socialise.

We will be focusing on Reconciliation in our services on Sunday 29th May and Sunday 6th June.

Fete 2022 Saturday 7th May

Watch this space! We will have a financial breakdown for you next week.

Community-On-the-Verge



Everyone is welcome to help themselves 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

SORRY: No more Plastic Lids Collection

Last week, we sent away our last huge load of plastic lids (to Canberra). Unfortunately, due to an ongoing problem with their transport, we are no longer able to collect them at the church and at the Op Shop. Thank you for the wonderful support you have given during the last year. An amazing amount (several tonnes) of plastic was saved from simply being dumped into our Council landfill. We hope that one day, we can start this collection again.

However, **you can still donate any of the plastic bread**



tags – as they are POSTED to South Australia. The containers are just inside the Ministry Centre and Op Shop entrance doors.

THANK YOU,
John and Jenny Noble

Professional Room for Hire



'Get a Room'. Our Professional Room is now available for hire. This space is ideal for small groups or individuals. It is comfortable, private and has Wi-Fi access. Let's spread the word.

Good Governance

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.



Sermon Notes 15th May 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

1. New

The theme connecting the lectionary readings is the word "new". Revelation 21 describes a new heaven and a new earth – a new Jerusalem. Acts describes a new ethic, a morality of inclusion. The Gospel of John highlights the new commandment to love one another. What exactly is "new"



about the command to love? After all, the command to love is a golden thread running through the Hebrew Scriptures and the teaching of Jesus. For example, Leviticus and the ten commandments in Exodus instruct us to love the Lord our God and to love our neighbours as yourself. What then is new about the final teaching of Jesus? Love one another as I have loved you? Is it the example that Jesus offers that makes the new commandment new? Love one another, Jesus says, as I have loved you. To unravel the new commandment and live into the newness it offers, I invite us to consider the experience of living and loving in two different cities, countries, or cultures.

2. Living in two different cities

Perhaps you have had the experience of living in two different cities and experienced being lost in translation when you have crashed headfirst into the solid but unwritten rules that govern a city or culture. For example, the Japanese culture is often reserved, demure and utterly respectful. In contrast, Australians have a reputation for being exuberant, loud, and even brash. In the Tokyo Olympics an amusing clash of cultures went viral at Australian swimming coach Dean Boxall's wild celebration after Arianne Titmus won gold. Dean's enthusiasm was a joy to behold, except for the nervous Japanese official who tried to seat him. There is a way of being that is Australian and there is a way of being that is Japanese. Were Dean to live permanently in Tokyo, no doubt he would gradually shift "to fit in".

The ubiquitous cultural clashes new emigrants experience when adjusting to an Australian life are well documented. "Bring a plate" means bring a plate with food on it. The answer to "how are you going?" is not "by aeroplane".

I was rather shocked when the church administrator enjoyed an Australia day thong throwing competition; in South Africa, thongs are not shoes. "See you later" does not mean someone will see you later, it means goodbye.

A third example is how some cultures indicate respect by looking someone in the eye and other cultures indicate respect by dropping the gaze.

The above examples hope to illustrate that moving from one city or country or culture to another requires literacy in a different way of being. So too is Jesus "new" commandment an invitation to live in a new city or country with a new culture and a different set of rules.

3. A new commandment

When Jesus gives us the new commandment, the parable of a new way of being has been dramatized. Jesus washes his disciples' feet shattering a domination way of being where some are rulers and others are servants. In sharing a Passover meal, Jesus shares bread and wine with his friends saying that the sharing of bread and wine is a sharing in his very life. Jesus is inviting a new way of being a shift that can be understood as learning to live in a new country with a different culture.

The country we are asked to leave behind is defined by domination, separation, and isolation. In the country we leave behind there are non-reciprocal relationships. Here, identity



is defined by negation and separation: I am I in so far as I am not you. A servant washes a master's feet never the other way around. Jesus overturns this domination paradigm of masters and servants when he washes the feet of his disciples.

The new culture or new city we are invited to make our home in is totally different. The New Country is a different way of defining the self, perceiving others and the world. Here God is not separate from us, but we live in God. We are not separate from each other, but our personhood is intricately woven together with each other. Inter-independence, complementarity, cooperation, friendship, and creative joy characterise the new culture and the new city. Jesus does not talk about the new culture in the new city, he lives it. He washes his disciples' feet effectively saying that this is what love is in the new city. I give myself to you in love and service. And by allowing me your master to wash your feet you are receiving me fully and giving yourself to me. Identity in this new paradigm is that we find out who we are by being inside each other. I am who I am because I am in you, with you, not separate from you, not against you and not outside you. Jesus lives this new paradigm when he says when you eat this bread and drink this wine, I am literally in you.

In the domination city we are outside each other, we are objects to each other – separate. In the communion city we are inside each other. In the domination city God is outside us, above us even. In the communion city, we are in God, embedded in the very dynamism of God's energy of Love. The model for the domination city is a pyramid. The model for the communion city is more than a circle, it is a network. Whatever we do this network, this web, we do to ourselves.

4. Loving from a new place

In the domination city people still love. Servants love their masters (see Peter 2.18, Ephesians 6.5 "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ"). Masters love their



servants. However, this type of loving transforms nothing, it cements the status quo – the normalcy of civilisation. In Luke Jesus reminds a faithful God follower “to love your neighbour”. He does love his neighbour but defines who his neighbour is from

a domination paradigm. He asks, “who is my neighbour?”. Loving from the communion city has a totally different energy. In the communion city all people and all creation are you neighbour, they are part of your identity in a subject-to-subject coinherence.

Do you have a feel for the difference? In the communion paradigm the command is not “love your neighbour as you love yourself”. It is to love your neighbour as being yourself, it is part of your very act of existing. With every breath you breathe you are love. This is what I mean when I say that in the domination city, we say prayers. In the communion city we are prayer. The way we understand our identity has to change. In the domination city we have too many descriptors – I am this or I am that. We waste inordinate amounts of energy defending these descriptors. In the communion city there is an inner core, a transcendent self, that says “I am who I am because you are who you are. I am. May you be.” Loving our neighbour from the communion paradigm is because we belong to each other. The culture of the communion city cannot be imposed – it emerges. What is new about this commandment is that it flows out from a completely different place, it is from a new paradigm, a communion city.

Regular Reminders

Worship & Spirituality

Church Open

The Church is open for meditation during office hours.

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

Anam Cara

Anam Cara Praying for you Monday mornings 10am

Anam Cara Wednesdays 9am

& **Thursdays** 6pm

Good Governance

COVID Update

- Masks not required but encouraged especially when singing.
- Social distancing is still advised as is adequate ventilation.
- Hand sanitiser will remain available but is not compulsory.
- Morning tea will continue to be served outside at the present time.
- The Covid Committee appreciates everybody's understanding, tolerance, and compliance.
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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.

Community Engagement

Play Place



Play Place 9.30-11.30am Thursdays during school terms.

Sew Helpful



Sew Helpful 1st & 3rd Mondays 1pm.
All welcome.

Anglicare North Coast 2022 Northern NSW Flood Appeal Please continue to support this Appeal.

www.anglicarenorthcoast.org.au

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.

Prayers

Please remember our family and friends impacted by the floods.

Alstonville Anglicans

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman	0402 764 969
	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
website: anglicans.live

Bank account: BSB 705 077 / Acc:00032931

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

Dates 22nd May to 29th May

22 nd May	Sunday 9am Holy Communion Messy Church 4pm
23 rd May	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm 10am Anam Cara praying for Community Executive Meeting 4pm
24 th May	Tuesday Parish Office Closed (Please refrain from accessing the office at this time)
25 th May	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Anam Cara 9am Op Shop 9am – 3pm
26 th May	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm Anam Cara 6pm
27 th May	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Friday 10am Holy Communion
29 th May	Sunday 9am Holy Communion Reconciliation Sunday