



Alstonville Anglicans

Lent 3

Bulletin for Wed 20 Mar–Sun 24 Mar 2019

We acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land, on which we worship, work and meet, the Bundjalung people. We recognize 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.



Talk of recent killings of pilgrims by Pilate at the temple gives Jesus a chance to say something about the situation in Palestine that was current for him and the first audiences of Luke's Gospel. Jesus makes the point that we are not all innocent, powerless victims. Nor were these catastrophes punishment for bad behaviour. Like the looming doom of global warming where all are guilty of heating our planet, all inhabitants of Palestine contributed to the political hatred that saw only some murdered. Jesus points out that the animosity towards Rome, left unchecked, leads to death: "You will all perish just as they did." The parable that follows echoes the sermon of the Baptist: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." The fruits of repentance, remember, were sharing, honesty, and mutual respect. Unless the barren tree repents of injustice, prejudice and poisonous hatred, it will be cut down.

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.

In the light of the recent massacre in New Zealand where a far-right, white supremacist murdered 49 Muslims at prayer in two mosques, I wonder how Jesus' comments in Sunday's lectionary would relate to us? The innocent are clearly the victims who lost their lives in the attack. Whilst none of us pulled the trigger that was fatal to our religious cousins, any of our own thoughts, attitudes, comments, or jokes that reflect Islamophobic, anti-immigrant tendencies make us culpable of the massacre we mourn. Unless we repent of any of our own prejudices, bigotry, intolerance, racism, or hatred, we will be cut down like a barren tree that bears no fruit (Luke 13.7).

Luke 13:1-9

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?" ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." ⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Messy Church

Today 4.00pm. Hunting for Easter!



Pub Church

Today at 6.00pm

Bible Readings

24th Mar Isaiah 55:1-9

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

31st Mar Joshua 5:9-12

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Fete Committee Meeting: Tuesday 26th March 4.30pm

Women's & Men's Breakfast

On the second Tuesday of each month the men of the of the parish meet for breakfast at 7.30am at "Swish", Ballina. The women of the parish meet at "The Point", Ballina. This is an open invitation to everyone.

For more information phone Margaret Brown: 66283206
or Graeme Booth 0430471889.

AREA Breakfast- Save the Date!

Saturday May 18th, 7:30 - 9:30am at the Alstonville Baptist Church. \$15 each for delicious cooked breakfast and scintillating talk by Bruce. All funds raised go to support the Alstonville Religious Education Association, who fund Bruce Fleming's work at our local high school.



"Come to the Calm" next weekend!

An introduction to silence. A weekend retreat from 29-31 March 2019. Facilitated by Rev Desiree Snyman and Diana Eagles. Ballina Beach Village.

Information sheets available at the back of the church, from the Parish Office or register on the website.



Families@4

Our Families@4 Service Sunday 31st March at 4.00pm. An imaginative, creative approach to spiritual guidance. Suitable for faith seekers and families.

Lenten Studies—"Celebration of Discipline"

We have Lenten study books available in the office for \$10 each or on Sunday in the foyer. Place \$10 in the honesty box.

Safe Church Awareness Training

This course previously known as Safe Ministry Training is being offered in Lismore 27th April 9am-4.30pm. This is compulsory training for all on Parish Council, all LLMs and all Ministry coordinators or leaders. For more information please contact the parish office.

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

We give thanks to God for those who contribute to sharing the good life through this church electronically. **BSB: 705 077 / Acc: 40130**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Today	24th Mar	4.00pm	Messy Church
		6.00pm	Pub Church
Monday	25th Mar	1.00pm	Sew Helpful Craft Group
		6.30pm	Marriage Course
Tuesday	26th Mar	1.30pm	Life Group at Carol Stone's home
		4.30pm	Fete Committee Meeting
Wednesday	27th Mar	9.00am	Meditation Group, St Bart's
		10.00am	Maranooa Service
		4.00pm	Executive meeting
Thursday	28th Mar	9.30am	Play Place
		6.00pm	Contemplative Church, St Bart's
			Healing
Friday	29th Mar		Retreat, Ballina Village
		10.00am	Holy Communion, St Bart's
		2.00pm	Choir Practice
Sunday Lent 4	31st Mar	8.00am	Holy Communion, St Bart's
		10.00am	Service, St Peter & St Paul's
		4.00pm	Families@4
		5.30pm	Cuppa then Sunday@6, St Bart's

Rosters Sunday 31st March 8.00am (5th Sunday team)

Person in Charge: Marg Brown **Worship Leader:** Charlie Handley

Music: Carol Vidal **Sound:** Graham Ireland **No flowers in Lent.**