



Alstonville Anglicans

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday 30th January 2022



Sharing the Good Life

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

Our doors are open: LGBTQIA+ welcome here.

Streaming licence: One License A-738115

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 30th January

Sentence of the Day

Now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 1 Corinthians 13.14

Collect

Bounteous God,
we give thanks for this ancient and beautiful land,
a land of despair and hope,
a land of wealth and abundant harvests,
a land of fire, drought and flood.
We pray that your Spirit may continue to move in this land
and bring forgiveness, reconciliation,
and an end to all injustice;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings Luke 4:14-21

²¹ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Messages



To make you smile...

I forgot how to throw a boomerang the other day...

and then it came back to me!!

Worship & Spirituality



Waterslide Afternoon

Bring swimmers
& or old clothes &
sunscreen
BYO nibbles

Sunday 30th January
2pm-4pm

Paul & Lesley Earner's home
20 Lismore Rd, Alstonville

Opposite Mitre 10

Ph: 0416 280 140

Pastoral Care

Family Cross



Today the Family Cross is being given to Diane Mueller.

Cursillo Ultreya



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

Community Engagement

Action for Afghanistan!

Alstonville Social Justice Group Meeting, Tuesday 8th February 10am at St Bartholomew's Church.

- What is happening right now in Afghanistan?
- What has our government been doing thus far?
- What can we do locally to assist Afghans who are in grave danger?

Stanley Yeo, the vice-president of Ballina Region for Refugees, will answer these and other questions. All welcome!

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.

AREA Donations

Thanks, as always for your generous donations to AREA. In recent weeks several envelopes were placed into the collection plate without names on them. Could you please contact John Noble if you have made a donation so that receipts can be issued.

Play Place



Cleaning of Play Place toys and equipment. Thursday 3rd Feb, from 8am. Volunteers welcome.

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.

Annual Report & AGM



The Annual Report will be available by 13th February.

AGM February 20th 2022 11am.

Nominations for Wardens and Parish Council must be submitted to the Parish Office or the Rector's Warden no later than Friday 11th 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.

Church Cleaning Roster



We are looking for volunteers able to assist with basic Church Cleaning on a roster basis please. Many hands make light work etc. If you are able to assist, please call Bruce on 0412 783 921 or sign up via the website.

Sermon Notes 23rd January 2022

Welcome Announcement



Let's begin by reflecting. Reflect on the last time you received some really good news. What was it about this bit of news that made it so good? Was it a long-awaited answer to prayer? A baptism – the welcoming of a person into God's family and the Christian faith. News from

a friend or family member. News that COVID restrictions have eased allowing us to return to some sort of normal life if there is such a thing as "normal", the realisation that an adversity we are facing was not as bad as first intended or perhaps something else entirely.

Today's Gospel reading is about the bringing of good news. In fact, our Gospel reading today is Luke's illustration of an opening scene in the ministry of Jesus. It is Jesus' manifesto for the work that lies ahead of him. It describes what Jesus came to do and is still doing in lives today.

Over recent weeks we have celebrated the birth of Jesus, learned of his baptism in the river Jordan by John the Baptist, his cousin, and now we see Jesus in the synagogue reading from a scroll by the Prophet Isaiah. When reading the whole of Luke Chapter 4, we first see Jesus deprived and tempted in the wilderness. He leaves the wilderness and returns to Galilee with the power of the Spirit. News is beginning to spread about him, there is amazement, and a high reputation is being built. Later there is

rejection and the chapter concludes with Jesus providing healing.

It has been described that Jesus is on a preaching tour. He has been in Galilee and now moved to a synagogue in Nazareth, the town in which he was brought up. Unlike the temple where sacrifices occur, a synagogue was an important institution among the Jews of the day. Originating during the exile, it provided a place where the Jews could study the scriptures and worship God. The synagogue in essence has three main functions – prayer, reading of scripture and teaching.¹ Jesus went to the synagogue as was his custom. It was the Sabbath day, the seventh day of the week – the day of rest, the day to worship God. Jesus was there to worship God, to pray, to read, to understand the scriptures and indicate how he would be applying them.

So, there are two questions. Why is this good news and what makes it good news?

News comes in many different forms and describes what has happened or what is going to happen! We, as a human society live in the events that have happened or will happen. A news item can paint a picture that makes us view the world differently from that point on. When it comes to good news, Theologian NT Wright describes the good news as a welcome announcement.² The welcome announcement is that Jesus has come into the world to bring good news and by Jesus' interactions the scripture which he proclaimed has been fulfilled. This is evident when we read of Jesus standing in the synagogue and reading the words from the Prophet Isaiah, words which glow with the message of God's pity and compassion. So, we see Jesus finding the place where it is written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim

¹¹ Barclay, W. 1967 The Gospel of Luke – The Daily Study Bible, The Saint Andrew Press

² NT Wright -Simply Good News: The Welcome Announcement of Jesus the King (Devotional)
<https://ntwrightonline.org/youversion>



release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."³

As I have prepared for this message today, I have reflected on verse 18 and

three points resonate with me.

The first is the Spirit of the Lord **is** upon me. The 'is' is very important. It shows God's presence is at work in all situations. God has poured out Himself through spirit and entered life, God enters Jesus' life, and enters our lives too!

Secondly, Jesus recognising that he is the anointed one - the chosen one - the one that has been spoken of by the prophets. Filled with the power of the Spirit, Jesus is the anointed one. Anointed to go about and bring hope and healing to a fallen world.

Thirdly, to bring good news to the poor. Whether we like or not our lives are far from perfect. We live in a broken world. There was brokenness in Jesus' time on earth and there remains brokenness in our world today. Jesus saw himself as coming with good news for the world's troubled people; for the poor, the captives, the blind and the oppressed. Jesus would be there for each one and that includes you and me. With the power of the Spirit upon Him, Jesus meets every need with love and compassion.

Our God is a God of love, and He cares for His people and the world He created deeply. God wants to redeem His people, you, and me! God sent Jesus as the anointed one through the power of the Spirit to show how to love and care for each other. Jesus is a game changer. An agent for change. His mission is to come alongside the poor, the captives, the blind and the oppressed to bring hope and bring healing. Jesus asks us to do the same

³ Luke 4: 18-19 (NRSV)

and through the power of the Spirit we are equipped for good works as his followers.



Earlier in the service as the Baptism was being introduced, we heard that Baptism is about Blessing. Each person comes into the world as an Original Blessing. Shortly, Desiree will Baptise Elyse and as part of the Baptism Desiree will use oil to sign a cross on Elyse to show that she is marked as Christ's own for ever. The oil signifies

the Spirit of God and the anointing by the Holy Spirit. Each of us who have been baptised have been anointed with the Holy Spirit and have the Spirit of God working in us around us. As followers of Jesus, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue the work that Jesus started; to show love, to show compassion. Our words and actions are a welcomed announcement, and a troubled world can be viewed differently.

My prayer and encouragement for each of us is that we have the welcome announcement in our lives too! That we allow the Holy Spirit to work in us and fill us with power as we go about our daily tasks. That showing love, care and compassion is evident with those we interact with allowing the world to be viewed differently. Amen.

Mark Stuckey, LLM

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 .

Messy Church

Recommencing 27th February 2022

Anam Cara



Anam Cara Praying for you on Monday mornings will be in recess until February

Anam Cara Wenesdays will be in recess in January and recommence 2nd February 2022

Anam Cara Thursdays will continue through January.

Community Engagement

Play Place



Play Place is in recess until 10 February 2022.

Sew Helpful



Sew Helpful is in recess over the holiday period.

Plastic lids and Bread tags

If you have any plastic lids / bread tags, PLEASE bring them to the church or to the Op Shop and place them in the white garbage collection boxes. The plastic will be recycled and used to assist children with disabilities. This is a small step we can take together to help look after our beautiful world.



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.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

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 30th January to 6th February

30 th Jan	Sunday 9am Holy Communion Slip and Slide 2-4pm
31 st Jan	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm
1 st Feb	Tuesday Parish Office Closed
2 nd Feb	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Anam Cara 9am Op Shop 9am – 3pm
3 rd Feb	Play Place cleaning of equipment 8am Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm Anam Cara 6pm
4 th Feb	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Friday 10am Holy Communion
6 th Feb	Sunday 9am Holy Communion

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.