



Alstonville Anglicans

Lent 4

Bulletin for Wed 27 Mar–Sun 31 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.



The parables of chapter fifteen are justly regarded as *the* high point in Luke's Gospel. Frank Maloney suggests that the journey narrative is composed in just three parts: the lead-up to this chapter, chapter fifteen itself, and the lead-down from it. For Frank, these three parables embody the kernel of Jesus' teaching on the way to Jerusalem. Together with the Parable of the Great Dinner, they tell us that Jesus passionately believes God wishes ALL to be saved and struggles desperately to save all, but also, that struggle as God might, God may very well not succeed. The obstacles are not at all according to the will of God, for example the elder boy's reasons for refusing to enter the feast are entirely perverse, while the father's reaction is extraordinarily patient. *'Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'* The warning of an absolute obstacle remains however: presumption of entitlement coupled with contempt for others, be they ever so lowly, may very well end by defeating even the all-embracing love of God.

**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.**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found! And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him! ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

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.

Ministry & Mission Plan

In this edition please find updated copies of our Ministry & Mission Plan. Please email the office if you notice information that is incorrect or has been left out by 28th April.



Families@4

Our Families@4 Service today at 4.00pm.
The final Service for this term is Sunday 7th April.
Recommencing Sunday 6th May for Term 2.

2019 Mothers' Day Fete

Hamper Raffle: Donations of food/grocery items gratefully accepted. Please check the use by dates are current. Leave items at the office.

Beautiful baskets: Empty baskets available on Sunday 7th and 14th April, for return by 6th May. Donated goods also welcome.

Steptoe's corner: All sorts of recyclable / saleable items accepted. Please take to the Op Shop by the end of April. Any queries contact Barry Campey.

Plant Stall: Please start potting plants for the stall. Your efforts are appreciated.

Thank you Des Fitzpatrick: 66289014, 0408397182

Easter Services

Good Friday	10am
Easter Family Saturday	4pm
Easter Sunday Sunrise	6am
Easter Sunday	8am & 6pm

Safe Church Awareness

27th April 9am-4.30pm
St Andrew's, Lismore.
Compulsory for all Ministry leaders.

Bible Readings

31st Mar Joshua 5:9-12	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
7th April Isaiah 43:16-21	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8

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	
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website:	anglicans.live	

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	31st Mar	4.00pm	Families@4
		6.00pm	Sunday@6
Monday	1st April	1.00pm	Sew Helpful Craft Group
Tuesday	2nd April	1.30pm	Life Group at Carol Stone's home
Wednesday	3rd April	9.00am	Meditation Group, St Bart's
		11.00am	Pastoral Care Meeting
		3.30pm	Property Committee meeting
Thursday	4th April	9.30am	Play Place
		3.30pm	Op Shop meeting
		6.00pm	Contemplative Church, St Bart's
			Eucharist
Friday	5th April		10.00am Holy Communion, St Bart's
		2.00pm	Choir Practice
Sunday Lent 5	7th April	8.00am	Holy Communion, St Bart's
		4.00pm	Families@4
		5.30pm	Cuppa then Sunday@6, St Bart's

Rosters Sunday 7th April 8.00am (1st Sunday team)

Person in Charge: Worship Leader: Mark Stuckey

Music: Carol Vidal **Sound:** Geoff Vidal **No flowers in Lent.**

Heartfelt House

Newsletter March 19 available on noticeboard in the Ministry Centre.