



# Alstonville Anglicans

**Day of Pentecost**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 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.

## Alstonville Anglicans

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman priest@anglicans.live	0402 764 969
Associates	The Reverend John Kidson The Reverend Geoff Vidal The Reverend Doug Bannerman The Reverend Greg Ezzy	0411 394 213 0447 645 456 0418 182 450 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 5<sup>th</sup> June to 12<sup>th</sup> June

5 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday 9am Holy Communion Reconciliation Sunday
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm 10am Anam Cara praying for Community
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday Parish Office Closed (Please refrain from accessing the office at this time)
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Anam Cara 9am Op Shop 9am – 3pm LLM Meeting 6pm
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Op Shop 9am – 3pm Anam Cara 6pm
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Office 9am – 12pm Friday 10am Holy Communion
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday 9am Holy Communion

## Messages

### Worship & Spirituality



MESSY LIFE  
FAMILY SERVICE  
INVITES YOU TO

**Dancing with the  
Trinity**

**WORSHIP...TEACHING...FRIENDSHIP**

AT ALSTONVILLE ANGLICANS  
SUNDAY 12 JUNE 5 PM  
(GAMES FROM 4PM)

### Cursillo 3 Day Weekend for Men's / Women's 62



June 10th-13th at Nuralamee, Corindi Beach NSW.  
If you are interested please speak to one of the ministers. For more information contact Desley Ryan [dryan999@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dryan999@bigpond.net.au)

### Community Engagement

### To Make You Laugh



What do a tick and the Eiffel Tower have in common?  
They are both Paris sites.

## Reconciliation Week

The flags will be flying at St Bartholomew's in honour of Reconciliation week, May 27<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup> and for the remainder of June as a sign of respect for and solidarity with First Nations People. The theme for Reconciliation week 2022 is 'Be Brave, Make Change' This year we are asked to make change beginning with brave actions in our daily lives – where we live, work, play and socialise.

We will be focusing on Reconciliation in our services on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June.



## Community-On-the-Verge



Parish Council are considering an idea from COVE to plant a herb spiral.

COVE contacts are:

Alan Larsen on 0409 655 123 or

Barbara Fewtrell 0429 385 713

## Professional Room for Hire



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.

## Empowering Leadership

### Parish Leaders for 2022

**Rector's Warden:** Bruce Sharp

**Warden:** Jenny Noble

**Parish Councillors:**

Des Fitzpatrick, Kay Fry, Charlie Handley, Graham Ireland, Amanda Middleton, Mark Stuckey, Robyn Hannah, Margaret Brown.

**Other Appointments:**

**Treasurer:** Anne Bryce

**Social Committee Coordinator:** Amanda Middleton

**Worship Leaders:**

Mark Stuckey, Barbara Fewtrell, Susan Fitzpatrick, Helen Nicholson, Charlie Handley

Thank you for your willingness to serve our Parish.

### 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](mailto: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.

### Passing of the Plate



Parish Council advise that from Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June the passing of the collection plate will be reinstated in services.

### Sign Up for Planned Giving

To lessen the burden on volunteers and to reduce risk around cash handling and storage on property, you are encouraged to 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.

If you would prefer to directly deposit into the Parish Account the details are: **Bank account:** BSB 705 077 / Acc:00032931

## Community Engagement

### Communications Upgrade

We will be streamlining our Communications in a bid to improve effectiveness. Our bulletin will look a little different and there is now a Connect Card for you to find out more and ask questions.

- Non regular announcements for our Mission and activities will be included in the bulletin.
- Regular and routine information is available in an information book, online and via the 'Alstonville Anglicans' app.

## Play Place



Play Place 9.30-11.30am Thursdays during school terms.

## Sew Helpful



Sew Helpful 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays 1pm.  
All welcome.

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

[www.anglicarenorthcoast.org.au](http://www.anglicarenorthcoast.org.au)

## SORRY: No more Plastic Lids Collection



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

## 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](mailto:wattlg@bigpond.com).

## Prayers

Please remember our family and friends impacted by the floods.

# Sermon Notes 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

Three "prayer songs of blessing" based on **John 17.20-26**

**Jean Valjean's Death** in Les Miserables musical adaptation of Victor Hugo's 1862 novel by Claude-Michel Schönberg (music), and Herbert Kretzmer (English lyrics).

God...

on...

high

hear my prayer

Take me now

to thy care

Where you are

let me be

Take me now,

take me there

Bring me home

Bring me home

Take my hand

And lead me to salvation

Take my love

For love is everlasting

And remember

The truth that once was spoken:

To love another person

is to see the face of God!

### Forever Young written by Bob Dylan

May God bless and keep you  
always

May your wishes all come true

May you always do for others

And let others do for you

May you build a ladder to the  
stars

And climb on every rung

May you stay forever young

Forever young, forever young

May you stay forever young.

May you grow up to be righteous

May you grow up to be true

May you always know the truth

And see the light surrounding  
you.

May you always be courageous

Stand upright and be strong

May you stay forever young

Forever young, forever young

May you stay forever young

May your hands always be busy

May your feet always be swift

May you have a strong

foundation

When the winds of changes  
shift

May your heart always be joyful

And may your song always be

sung

May you stay forever young

Forever young, forever young

May you stay forever young





"Forever Young" is a prayer blessing song that Bob Dylan wrote in 1966 for his son Jesse. It is an outpouring of abundant grace and extravagant love expressing Bob Dylan's intense hope that his son would have a good life. "God on high hear my prayer" is the final scene in the musical by Shonberg *Les Misearbles*. It is an utterly beautiful blessing that Jean Valjean prays at the end of his life. Valjean overflows with love for his adopted daughter and his son in law

and wants them to know that love is the essence of life. In knowing love, they will see the face of God. In both these songs we are intruding on a very intimate, vulnerable scene when one human being is divinised in praying love into another human being. It is the very same with John 17, we are eavesdropping on a scene of great intimacy. John 17 is not a "to do list", nor is an indictment on when the church has failed to be what it hopes it could be. Rather, John 17, like "Forever young" and "God on high" is a prayer blessing song one human being prays for people they deeply love.

John 17 shows Jesus in a personal and private moment of prayer. Having finished his public work, and having finished teaching and being with his disciples, Jesus steps into a prayer. We eavesdrop on his words.

Bob Dylan, Jesus, and Jean Valjean pray for the people that they have loved that they will continue to feel loved and protected by God's grace. Bob Dylan prays "May you know the truth and see the light surrounding you". Jean Valjean prays "bring me home" and Jesus prays "you and I are one." Ultimately both Jesus and Jean Valjean portray the message that the love of God and the love of others is one love: to love another person is to see the face of God. Thus, in every moment of authentic self-emptying love we are one with God and one with Christ, just as the Christ and the Creator are one.

Jesus says that at the heart of the experience of eternal life is to know God. To know God is love God. To be very clear eternal life is something that is experienced right here, right now. It is not a future place or a future experience. Eternal life is to experience a living relationship with God in Jesus animated by the Holy Spirit. Eternal life is

a love affair with God and it is experienced in everyday life moment by moment.

We know, taste, touch experience the love of God in every moment of being loved by another and in every moment of loving another. In every moment that we experience being loved and in every moment of loving another we are at that moment experiencing the unfolding of God's love and God's presence. The love that flows into us, that love that flows out of us is the Divine, the Sacred within us flourishing.

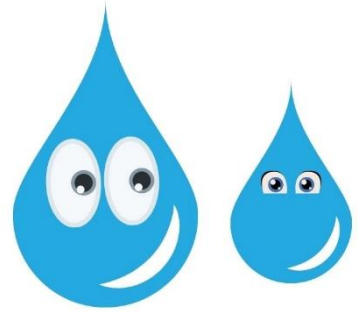
The impulse to love is the seed of God's very presence deep within in us. And this is precisely our struggle. God's presence is in us as something quiet, hidden, often invisible. Jesus said God's love and presence inside us like a bit of yeast in dough, it is hidden. Jesus said God's presence in us is like an insignificant and almost invisible mustard seed that surprises us with its growth into a large tree. So too, God's presence is inside us, vulnerable, hidden, gentle, not dramatic, not earthshattering and for this reason it is easily ignored, easily forgotten, easily overlooked, seldom overpowering.

The only thing this hidden presence of God in us seems to have in its favour is its gentle, unending, unwavering, nagging persistence. Unendingly and persistently it entices love from us. Like that piece of yeast that cannot help itself but cause the dough to grow and like that seed that cannot help itself but grow and become a tree so too is it with God's presence that is hidden in the depths of our lives. God's presence in us cannot help itself – it reaches out and touches others in every expression of love, gentleness, caring and kindness we offer another creature. The trick is to allow this persistent nudging to move us out of apathy as more and more we allow God's love in us to grow. What we experience then is the Holy Spirit, the presence of God within us and this Holy Spirit will energise us for more loving, it will give us every gift necessary to love well and it will fulfil us in ways beyond our imagining.

### **A concluding (and totally made up) story**

Two drops of rain were bobbing up and down, floating in the ocean: Big Drop and Small Drop.

Small Drop said to Big Drop: "I have heard that there is this thing called water" "Yes Little Drop of Rain," Big Drop replied. "The water is all around us, in the ocean. You are in the water, and the water is in you, you are completely surrounded by water."



Little Drop didn't quite understand Big Drop, so she tried another question: "Big Drop, what is this water that is in me and all around me...what is water made from...What is its substance?"

Big Drop looked thoughtful. "Water doesn't really have substance as such. Sometimes when it's very cold, water turns to ice. When it is very hot water becomes air; then it kind of floats...it dances between the sky and earth. Water is made from relationship, from connection, from "bonds of love" when oxygen atoms unite with hydrogen atoms. It's the bond that is important – the oxygen and the hydrogen love each other so much that they become one. Without their bond they remain just hydrogen and oxygen. Us Drops of Rain unite with water, unite with the ocean– we are nondual – we are united – we are drops of rain flowing to the ocean.

Little Drop looked puzzled. "But Big Drop, why can't I see the water if it is the ocean, if I am in it and it is in me?"

Big Drop pondered the question. "It's true, you cannot always see water, but sometimes you can feel it, you just know it's there." Little Drop looked sceptical. "That sounds like philosophical twaddle Big Drop. I'm sorry, but without proof, without actually being able to see it, I don't think I believe in water."

With that, Little Drop spun around and around and around. And as she spun she became hotter and hotter until she was air born and floated out of the ocean into the atmosphere. Big Drop wasn't too worried. She knew that there was nowhere that Little Drop could go to escape Water. If Little Drop went to the highest reaches water would be in the atmosphere. And if Little Drop went into the deepest abyss water would be there too.

## Liturgy for 5<sup>th</sup> June

### Sentence of the Day

God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. Romans 5.5

### Collect

O God, who in smoke and fire upon Mount Sinai gave the law to Moses, and who revealed the new covenant in the fire of the Spirit: grant, we pray, that, kindled by that same Spirit which you poured forth upon your apostles, we may fulfil with joy your commandment of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Readings John 14:8-17

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.'<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"?'<sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.<sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.<sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.<sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.<sup>15</sup> 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments.<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever.<sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.