

Prayer:
Almighty and everlasting God, give to us the increase of faith, hope and love and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us to love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MARMINGATHA

Stories to Inspire

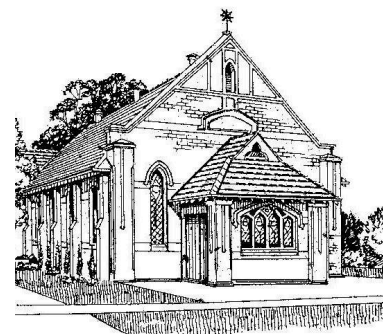
FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2021



St Andrew's Aberfeldie

REFRAMING PARISH MINISTRY

Parish Council decided to hold a two hour planning workshop on a Saturday morning in July. Originally scheduled to be held in the church following breakfast together, the workshop had to be switched to Zoom due to a snap lockdown. The workshop was not just restricted to the Churchwardens and members of Parish Council, but also involved several other key members of the parish who would bring a lot of experience and expertise to the planning process.



Given the challenge of holding such a workshop using Zoom, where it could become difficult to manage the level of interaction and conversation, one of the workshop participants, who works full-time as a Project Manager, agreed to facilitate the workshop for us. She prepared a Power Point presentation, which included the Parish Questionnaire and key information from the 'Reimagining the Future' document, and this presentation was shared on screen for everyone to see.

First using key information from the 'Reimagining the Future' document to reiterate the purpose of the workshop, the facilitator then lead the participants through each of the questions in the Parish Questionnaire, which had been emailed to everyone a week prior to the workshop for them to become familiar with. A majority of questions were answered very quickly, as there was immediate and unanimous agreement between participants, while a few did require more detailed discussion and debate before consensus was reached.

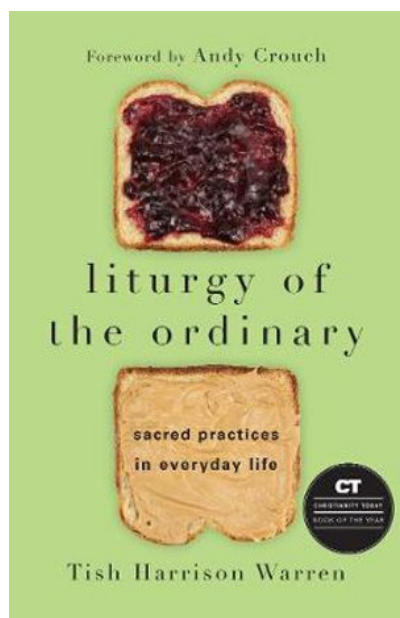
Having generally agreed on the answers to the Parish Questionnaire, the workshop used this analysis to reach unanimous agreement that the scenario which best described the current situation of the parish was 'Reframe'. It was then agreed that the next step in the process would be for the Parish Mission & Ministry Committee to separately discuss the ideas generated by the workshop around what a 'reframe' of ministry might look like for the parish.

The Mission & Ministry Committee (the Committee) decided that the best approach to take to reframing parish ministry was to revisit the Parish Mission Action Plan (MAP). The most recent MAP had been developed in 2019 and was for the period 2019–2022, and the Committee felt that much of what was included in the MAP was already essentially a reframing of ministry. Several goals in the MAP were amended, and a number of key strategies were also reworked which resulted in a 'new' MAP which delivers on reframing ministry in the parish.

- Rev Michael Danaher

Merri Creek Anglican

SPRITUAL NOURISHMENT & GROWTH



Rev. Beck Miller at Merri Creek Anglican has been running an evening course on Zoom based on Tish Harrison Warren's popular book, *Liturgy of the Ordinary*. Warren is an American Anglican Priest and bestselling author whose books really connect with younger Christians. On Monday nights, for 45 minutes, 25 people have been gathering on Zoom to watch the short videos provided by Seminary Now ministry training streaming service. Participants then go to breakout rooms and discuss the questions provided.

The course helps people to engage with God in the everyday activities of life like making your bed and brushing your teeth. Warren even teaches us to transform the annoying things that happen in our day, like losing our keys, into an opportunity for worship. This has been a refreshing opportunity for spiritual nourishment and growth in what has been an otherwise dreary slog of a lockdown.

- Rev Peter Carolane

"Everyone wants a revolution. No one wants to do the dishes."

- Trish Harrison Warren

St Jude's Carlton

ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL COVID CARE PACKS DELIVERED!

In mid-October, I helped deliver 2100 care packs for healthcare workers at RMH (with another 500 were delivered at the end of October) on behalf of all St Jude's, in partnership with Merri Creek Anglican, St John's West Brunswick, St Augustine's Moreland, Darebin Presbyterian and CrossCulture Church. The donations team were so grateful and said they'd be really appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who participated in making packs and praying.

Please keep supporting and praying for our dedicated healthcare workers across the city as the increase in COVID cases intensifies pressure on our hospitals. - Rev Alex Zunica



In the photo of the handover with myself (from left to right) is Stephanie Gorman (Administration Manager of the Royal Melbourne Hospital Foundation), Di Martin (member of Darebin Presbyterian and coordinator of the initiative) and Ed (another member of Darebin Presbyterian)

St Thomas' Moonee Ponds

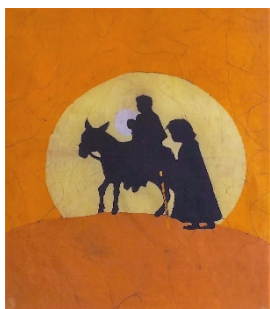
RE-IMAGINING THE FUTURE & A NEW MAP

This year the parish of St Thomas' Moonee Ponds has been working on a new MAP. The process outlined in the 'Re-imagining the Future' guide dovetails well with the process of developing a new MAP.

We began with Part 1 - revisiting and unpacking our values and mission in light of our current and changing context. This process took longer than I expected but was an important part of the journey for the parish team who were working on it. As a result, there was a light-bulb moment when one member exclaimed, "that means mission has to start with us." This brought a shift in thinking from 'if we just run the right events mission will happen' to 'how can we encourage one another at church and in our relationships outside church to take one step closer to Christ from where they are currently'. That shift helped us as we then moved to the strategic planning process in Parts 2 to 4.

Part 2 was a simple step, identifying quickly with scenario 3 - Reframe. Part 3 required an honest assessment of our missional, operational, financial, and strategic health as a parish. The biggest challenge for us is our operational health - having adequate people in the parish to implement the mission. As we move forward with our new MAP, this is the area we particularly need to address, and even more so since COVID-19 when fewer people are willing to engage.

It has been worth taking the time to work through each step with the parish strategic planning team, unpacking the realities from the aspirational ideals as we chart a more realistic vision for the next 3 years. - Rev Vanessa Bennett



MARMINGATHA CLERGY CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Bishop Genieve and John invite you to the Marmingatha Christmas drinks for 2021.

5-7pm Tuesday 23 November 2021

St Michael's North Carlton

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Please send your stories to inspire for December...
+Genieve



Click here for this weeks' video message from the Archbishop