



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL

18 June 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Parish
Link

Reverend Anne writes...

A God of Surprises!

I wonder if you've ever done something for someone and they've said with a grin "I'll remember you in my will." We know they don't mean it, and we laugh it off good-heartedly. This was Sarah in our first Scripture reading this morning. At the request of her husband Abraham, she has hastily produced a fine meal for three visitors who were passing by. As they left, one told Abraham that next time they came, Sarah would have a son. Sarah laughed to herself at this suggestion, being past menopause, and well advanced in years.

But this wasn't just anyone delivering the news - it was God. In the fullness of time, she did indeed have a son, Isaac, and the prediction was very true. God's generosity and love for his people enables the most surprising things to happen when you have faith. And even when you, like Sarah, are feeling faced with an impossibility, our loving God can surprise you!

Blessings, Anne



Hymns: Introit 72 • Psalm 116 • Gradual 409
Offertory 450 (tune 219) • Communion: anthem • Final 155

4th Sunday of the month retiring collection for parish outreach

Sentence: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand. Romans 5.1–2

Prayer of the Day

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life, and defeat into victory: increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over evil, in the strength of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer at the time of choosing an incumbent: Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments; an encourager who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling. Give to those who will choose wisdom, discernment and patience, and give to us warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

First Reading: Genesis 18.1–15

¹ The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹ They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' ¹⁰ Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹² So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' ¹³ The Lord said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" ¹⁴ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.' ¹⁵ But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.'

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

Psalm: 116.1–2, 116.11–18

¹ I love the Lord, because he heard my voice: the voice of my supplication;

² **Because he inclined his ear to me: in the day that I called to him.**

¹¹ How shall I repay the Lord: for all his benefits to me?

¹² **I will take up the cup of salvation: and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹³ I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all his people.

¹⁴ **Grievous in the sight of the Lord: is the death of his faithful ones.**

¹⁵ O Lord, I am your servant, your servant and the child of your handmaid:
you have unloosed my bonds.

¹⁶ **I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹⁷ I will pay my vows to the Lord: in the presence of all his people,

¹⁸ **In the courts of the house of the Lord:
even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.**

Second Reading: Romans 5.1–11

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew, Chapter 9, beginning at verse 10

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;

³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

¹ Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." ⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

For the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Prayer of the Week

Lord, we beseech you to keep your family, the Church, in continual godliness, that through your protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve you in good works, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Years Mind

Norman Reynolds, Otilie Shepherd, Kathleen Westrup, Dorothy Beattie, Harry Hilas, Mae Williams, Eldred Eveleigh, Ainsley Jansz, and George Gledhill, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: St John the Baptist Anglican Church Wantirna South (Vacant incumbency); Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander people of Australia (Torres Strait Islander Clergy & People); Benetas (Sandra Hills, CEO); Surfcoast Anglican Parish - Pastoral visit (Bp Brad Billings); St Mary's Cathedral Kuala Lumpur - preaching (Bp Paul Barker).

The Parish: Pray for our Wardens and Parish Council members.

The World: Pray for all missionaries and church workers.

The Nation: Pray for our federal politicians and those who work in Parliament House.

ABM Pew Reflections

God's plans for saving humanity and all creation will not be thwarted. It was no wonder Sarah laughed at the idea of conceiving a child, since she was past child-bearing age – but all things are possible with God, and through this child came many descendants, all the way to Jesus. Then through Jesus' perfect life, death and resurrection all that was broken has been restored – we have peace with God, access to God's grace, and hope for the future. Thanks be to God! • Praise God for sending Jesus and pray that we may grow in grace so that we may love others as he loved us. • Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Korea, the Daehan Seong Gong Hoe.

Daily Readings

Monday	2 Corinthians 6.1-10	Ps 98.1-7	Matthew 5.38-42
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 8.1-9	Ps 146	Matthew 5.43-48
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 9.6-19	Ps 112	Matthew 6.1-6, 16-18
Thursday	2 Corinthians 11.1-11	Ps 111	Matthew 6.7-15
Friday	2 Corinthians 11.18-30	Ps 34.1-8	Matthew 6.19-23
Saturday	2 Corinthians 12.1-10	Ps 34.4-10	Matthew 6.24-34



If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing by Thursday at anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

ST PETER'S DAY July 2

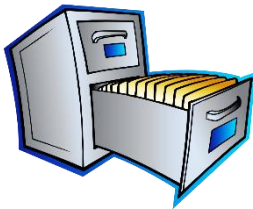
We will have a special morning tea, so if you are able to bring a small plate of morning tea that would be great (drop it off in the Undercroft before the service).

CLIMATE ACTION GROUP (CAG)

The Climate Action group are setting up a new recycling initiative.

Please bring your **empty foil tablet blister packs** and we will deliver them to a recycling location.

Collection containers will be at the back of the Church and in the Undercroft.



FILING CABINETS AVAILABLE

Several three and four drawer filing cabinets are surplus to requirements now and are available free to a good home. Speak to Rev'd Anne if you are interested.

MOTHERS UNION

There will be a film with lunch on Wed 28th at the home of Helen Jones at 12 noon. RSVP to Jan please.

Also, early notice of a parish lunch on December 13.

We are pleased to advise that work is continuing on the security fence, it is about half way complete and we have just had delivery of sufficient materials to make another 6,000 bricks on site, which may be enough to finish the fence. We have also sent 3,000 USD to Bor to pay local workers.

Staffing costs for the 20 teachers continues to be a focus of our fundraising efforts, salaries are costing 2,000 USD (about 3,000 AUD) per month, which includes provision of a basic lunch.

We are working with Kirsty Kennedy to develop a fund-raising campaign in the wider community. Kirsty has a decade of experience in fund-raising and has some great ideas that should help us to expand our support base.

In the coming months we will be exploring new funding avenues, our future requests for support by way of donations will focus on:

- **more classroom furniture.** We need to provide furniture for 3 more classrooms (2,100 USD / classroom);
- **water supply.** The existing well was repaired by the local community and they installed a pump. The surrounding population has increased and our school numbers have risen - we need a new well (15,000 USD) and a solar pump + water tank (5,000 USD);
- **school uniforms, sporting equipment & school supplies;**
- **additional toilets.**

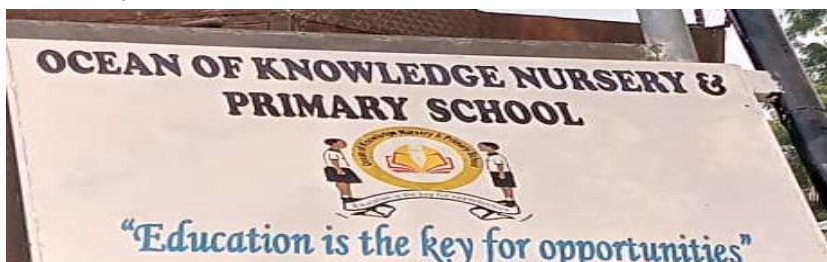
Every donation is making a positive impact on the lives of the children and teachers at the school, and the growing community which we find ourselves a part of in Bortown.

Can you help us to pay the staff and complete our development program?

Donations made to: Abaar Orphanage Bortown South Sudan
BSB 013-225 Account no 2807-31691

All donations are tax-deductible. Receipts will be issued early July.

Margaret Dooley 0438129161



Some of the 280 boys and girls at the school



Background information

- UNESCO estimates that only 30% of school-age children in South Sudan are attending school.
- Many government schools are closed because the Government cannot fund the teachers' salaries. We were able to employ experienced teachers who had been working unpaid in state schools.
- Students pay \$7,000SSP (\$53 USD = \$80 AUD) per term. The top student in each year level receives free tuition, and for families with many children, there are pro-rata discounts available. Orphaned children receive free education.

Abaar Orphanage Bortown South Sudan

CYCLING JESUS' JOURNEY ... TO SAVE CHURCH LIVES

[Update from Lars on his 3000 km fundraising trip](#)

Day: 15

Rev. Stout 1881 Map Route: 6.

Departing: Jerusalem (maximum elevation 785 m)

Destination: Bethel (Baytin) (maximum elevation 866 m). There's kind of a valley in-between.

Distance: approximately 28 km on bike. Approximate walking time: 5 hr 53 min. By car: 53 min. By bike? Let's find out!

Heights above sea level: 540 m to 879 m. Longest incline: 339 m is from Hizma to Baytin (Bethel) and is about 15 km.

Total inclines: 660 m

Total declines: 570 m

Weather: 17°C, Wind W at 6 km/h, 81% Humidity. Being situated some 800m above sea level as part of the Mt. Scopus peak, French Hill enjoys snowfall on cold winters apparently.

Jesus is 12 apparently. And after celebrating Passover with his family, they all started the long journey home together ... or so they thought. Joseph and Mary must have thought the young Jesus was with one of their other extended family members travelling back home to Nazareth together? But he wasn't. Were there Uncles and Aunts in this travelling group? Who were these people? Are their names mentioned in the biblical texts? Just how big was this travelling group for a 12-year-old not to have been noticed missing? How far did the group journey before Mary, or was it Joseph, realised Jesus was missing? How many kilometres (Roman miles?) had they already travelled before they realised? Did not the texts say it took them 3 days to return to Jerusalem to find Jesus? What kind of 12-year-old lad would do this and not be perplexed? I won't actually turn back to Jerusalem on this section. I will keep going forward, imagining that the young Jesus has been appropriately scolded and everyone is heading onward and upward North to Nazareth.

Donate through our bank account, using the reference **AED**.

Name of Account: Anglican Parish of Box Hill **Bank Name:** NAB

Bank BSB No (6 digits): 083 004 **Account No:** 3468 14183

TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

THE WINTER GAMES

AT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH



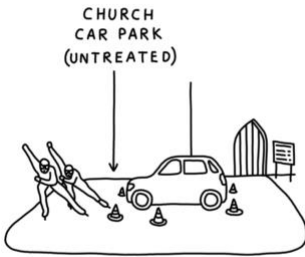
SNOWBOARDING



SKI JUMPING



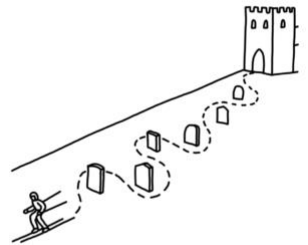
SKELETON



SPEED SKATING



CURLING



SLALOM

CartoonChurch.com



If biblical headlines were written by today's media...

On Red Sea crossing:

WETLANDS TRAMPLED IN LABOUR STRIKE

Pursuing Environmentalists Killed

On David vs. Goliath:

HATE CRIME KILLS BELOVED CHAMPION

Psychologist Questions Influence of Rock

On Elijah on Mt. Carmel:

FIRE SENDS RELIGIOUS EXTREMIST INTO FRENZY

400 Killed

On the birth of Christ:

HOTELS FULL, ANIMALS LEFT HOMELESS

Animal Rights Activists Enraged by Insensitive Couple

On feeding the 5,000:

PREACHER STEALS CHILD'S LUNCH

Disciples Mystified Over Behaviour

On healing the 10 lepers:

LOCAL DOCTOR'S PRACTICE RUINED

"Faith Healer" Causes Bankruptcy

On healing of the Gadarene demoniac:

MADMAN'S FRIEND CAUSES STAMPEDE

Local Farmer's Investment Lost

On raising Lazarus from the dead:

FUNDAMENTALIST PREACHER RAISES A STINK

Reading of Will now to be Delayed

Week Ahead

SUNDAY 18.06.23

Third Sunday after Pentecost

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

4.30-5.30pm Farsi Service, *St Aidan's*

MON 19.06.23

Vicar's day off

9.30-10.30am Tai Chi *hall*

6.30-8.30pm Tai Chi *hall*

TUES 20.06.23

8.30am-1.30pm Office open

9.00-4.00pm Men@Work

6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing, *hall*

WED 21.06.23

6.30-7.00am Chinese outreach, *hall*

10.30am Eucharist

9.30-11.30am Playgroup

10-11.30am Wellways Tai Chi *hall*

8.00pm Choir practice, *church and Undercroft*

THU 22.06.23

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

FRI 23.06.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

SAT 24.06.23

10.30am-1.30pm SAIL, *on holidays*

SUNDAY 25.06.23

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

4.30-5.30pm Farsi Service, *St Aidan's*

For the Diary

June 24

Climate Action Group Meeting

10.30am, *Undercroft*

June 28

Lunch and film at home Helen Jones

12 noon

July 2

St Peter's Day

Celebratory morning tea

July 9

Sea Sunday

OUR INFORMATION

FIRST AID KIT – Located in the office and kitchen.

TOILETS – Located in the Church Hall and in the church building through the church doors front right.

WHEELCHAIR – Located near the toilet for the disabled upstairs.

FIRE & EMERGENCY – Please make yourself aware of the nearest escape route in the event of an emergency or fire.

OH&S – Please ensure that any incidents/accidents are reported to the Vicar or Wardens and incident report completed.



ST PETER'S

1038 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

Parish Office: 9899 5122

E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au

Usual Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Fri 8.30am – 12.30pm

Mission Statement

Sharing the Good News

Telling the story afresh

Expressing God's love

Serving the community

Nurturing and sharing faith

Equipping to serve

Vision

To ensure that there continues to be a living, committed, communal Anglican presence of liturgical celebration, nurture and outreach in Box Hill.

Reporting Child Abuse

All child safety concerns must be reported to

Kooyoora Professional Standards

1800 135 246

Vicar

Reverend Anne Kennedy (Acting Vicar)

T 0429 123 478

E robann29@bigpond.com

Assistant priest:

Reverend Alasdair MacKinnon-Love SCP

0438 323 059

E alsadair@mackinnonlove.com

Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439 **E** esther_win@hotmail.com

Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken 9939 5881

Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

T 0431 541 535

E aroujoseph18@gmail.com

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Sophia Errey 9878 6297

Garry Male 0421 056 706

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Roster for Sunday 9.30am service

	Today 18.06.23	Next week 25.06.23
SIDESPEOPLE	Michele M, Barbara P	Martin F, Rosemary S
SERVERS	Rosemary S, Elizabeth B, <i>Garry M</i>	Judy J, Michele M, <i>Garry M</i>
READERS	Rosemary S, Linda B	Charles B, Barbara P
INTERCESSOR	Elizabeth B	Sophia E/Judy J
COUNTING	Hilary B, Elizabeth B	Michele M, Garry P
MORNING TEA	Cecilia , Margaret R, Jan, Jennifer F	Barbara P , Keith W, Dianne A

St Peter's is part of the Anglican Church of Australia and the worldwide Anglican Communion. St Peter's church is on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and we acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land.