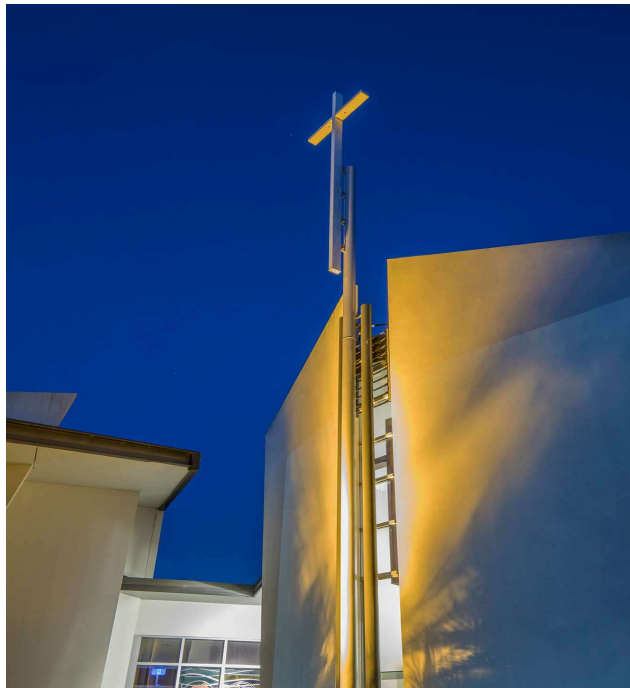


Welcome to worship at Holy Trinity, Terrigal
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
26th July 2020



9.00am – Holy Eucharist
*Presiding & Preaching – **Fr Mark Watson***
Organist – *Chris Silince*

11.00am – Baptism

BAPTISM

We welcome Kohv Marjanovic into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism at 11am today. His older brother Luka, was baptised here in July three years ago. Their parents, Bosko and Kendall usually attend the 7.30am Eucharist. Please pray for them and for the Godparents, families and friends.

BEING IMMUNISED AGAINST CHRISTIANITY

During this time of pandemic, visiting a nursing home or aged care facility requires one to answer a series of questions concerning travel, whether you have had contact with people with COVID-19 or 'flu' symptoms, whether you have had those symptoms yourself, etc. Evidence of vaccination against influenza must be provided.

Last Sunday, I referred to C.S. Lewis' little classic, *Mere Christianity*, in which he compares the Christian life to a virus. Just as a virus spreads its infection, so the life of Jesus through the Spirit spreads what Lewis calls 'good infection'. This good infection must be 'caught' by us then spread to others. We are 'infected for good' as we expose ourselves to the life of Christ as it is communicated to us through word and sacrament. For 'good infection' to happen, we must let it spread within us so it can then be passed onto others. But there are some who think that minimal exposure will do the trick!

Think how we are immunised against various diseases. We are given a tiny bit of the disease. When we are exposed to just a tiny bit of our faith, we become immunised against it! As someone once said, "many people have just enough religion to make them miserable." One hour on Sundays is not enough. Daily prayer and Bible reading are basic practices that expose us to the "good infection" of the life of Jesus through the Spirit.

Silent meditation, small group studies, attending the liturgy on holy days, going on retreat are other practices that are available to us. We spend time with those we love. When the love Jesus overflows from our hearts in grateful adoration and praise then we *want* to spend time in his presence.

Some years ago, one of those years when Christmas was on a Monday – meaning Christmas Eve was obviously on the Sunday – someone wished me a “Merry Christmas” on the way out after the service. I asked if they were coming to one of the Christmas liturgies. The response was, “No, this is my Christmas service.” I pointed out that this was the Fourth Sunday of Advent; Christmas hadn’t arrived yet. The response was, “Oh well, I don’t want to overdo it.” I was speechless.

I recently heard a young Franciscan priest say that without a vibrant and personal relationship with Jesus Christ our religion will soon become a chore, a duty, a nod in God’s direction instead of a loving embrace. Referring to the disciples at Pentecost, he said, “If we want to build the kingdom of God in our midst, a warm, summer breeze simple won’t do. The Spirit is a violent wind come to shake up this world, and we are his hands and feet. Rush out into the world, and don’t go quietly.”

One of the values of daily Morning and Evening Prayer is that the lectionary (the book of readings for each day) follows a schematic pattern. That means that the readings for a particular day may not appear to make much sense without being placed in context. If I only say Morning Prayer sporadically, the readings become meaningless because they are being heard in isolation from what has gone before and what comes after. It is like hearing one chapter of a story which has been removed from the rest of the story. It lifts the chapter out of its context. The church is part of a story that started long before any of us got here. Without an awareness of our part in that larger story, we become dislocated from the ‘big picture’. Many people in our

world today live disconnected lives because their own individual stories have become disconnected from the larger story. A former bishop of Newcastle in an article a while back, referred to the many young people who live in the 'foreground' of life without any 'background'. He said, "The background is the great mega story that Christianity is." The rhythm of the liturgical year gives shape to our lives and forms us as we journey in faith. We all need a sense of connectedness; to know we are part of something bigger than ourselves. When our own personal story is not part of the mega story which is the gospel, our lives become shrunken and bland.

Peter Maurin, one of the founders of the Catholic Worker movement, said that the Church has taken its own dynamite and placed it in hermetically sealed containers and sat on the lid. United Methodist theologian Stanley Hauerwas commented that the problem with Christianity is not that it is socially conservative or politically liberal but that "it is just too damned dull!"

This is a reason many people today are prone to joining extremist political or religious groups. At least they believe something even if it is violent and destructive. The alternative is not a bland and ineffective religiosity. It is the message of Jesus Christ crucified and risen from the dead. We are called to spread this 'good infection' by our words and actions motivated by the love of God in Christ.

Fr Mark

Sentence

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.39-39

Prayer of the Day

O God, the fount of wisdom
you have revealed to us in Christ
the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price:
grant us your Spirit's gift of discernment,
that, in the midst of things of this world
we may learn to value the priceless worth of your kingdom
and be ready to renounce all else
for the sake of your precious gift you offer;
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from first book of Kings chapter 3, verses 5 – 12

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an

understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?’

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, ‘Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 119, verses 129 – 136

129 Wonderful are your commands:
and therefore my soul keeps them.

**130 The unfolding of your word gives light:
it gives understanding to the simple.**

131 I open my mouth and draw in my breath:
for I yearn for your commandments.

**132 O turn to me and be merciful to me:
as is your way with those who love your name.**

133 Order my steps according to your word:
that no evil may get mastery over me.

**134 Deliver me from my oppressors:
that I may keep your precepts.**

135 Make your face shine upon your servant:
and teach me your statutes.

**136 My eyes gush out with streams of water:
because they pay no heed to your law.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans chapter 8, verses 26 – 39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed to little ones the secrets of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Chapter 13, verses 44 – 58

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.' When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

He came to his home town and began to teach the people in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said, 'Where did this man get this wisdom and these deeds of power? Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And

are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all this?' And they took offence at him. But Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour except in their own country and in their own house.' And he did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.

For the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Prayer for those suffering severe illness (adapted from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, p. 692)

Healing Spirit,

we pray for those suffering from serious diseases
and for those who are terminally ill,
and those living with the COVID-19 virus.

We pray for skill and patience for the doctors and nurses who
care for them. We pray that their relatives and friends may be
strengthened and comforted.

May their faith not falter as they support each other through
testing times.

We pray for those engaged in research
that by your inspiration and their skill
the scourges of this generation may be overcome.

Help us to live in your way
and to seek health in body, mind and spirit. **Amen.**

Direct debit details of account:

ASDF Account

Parish of Terrigal

BSB: 705-077

Account number: 00040934

Please pray for

Barb Matthews, Graeme Patterson, Ken Hope, Norm Williams, Emma Horton, Isobel Hargraves, Gail Lyndon, Jean Jackson, Marian French, Aaron Lane, Pat Lindsay, Toby Lindsay, Gloria Townsend

'Whispers of Love' Meditation

Reflection

Prayer is not a competition or of accumulating good feelings and great insights. Prayer is about "showing up" with an open mind and heart, being willing and ready to grow and change.

Joyce Rupp

Prayerfully Reverend Ann

Women's Fellowship Group

We have approval to re-commence the Women's Fellowship meetings. The first meeting will be on Monday 10th August 2020 at 1:00pm.

Please note that the meeting can be for a maximum of 60 minutes and ladies will need to bring their own cup for tea and coffee. There is individually packed biscuits available or you can bring your own snack but food cannot be shared.

Prayer of the Week

O God, the protector of all that trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy,
that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal
that we finally lose not the things eternal.
Grant this, O heavenly Father,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Ordinary Sunday 17[Pentecost 8] – Sunday 26 July 2020

- Genesis 29. 15-28; Psalm 105.1-11 or Psalm 128
Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.44-58

Having tricked his older brother out of his birthright, Jacob is himself tricked. Having served Laban for seven years on the understanding that he would be allowed to marry Laban's younger daughter, Rachel, Jacob finds that the veiled woman he went to bed with was in fact Leah, the older sister, not nearly as pretty in Jacob's eyes. Complaining, Jacob is forced to hear Laban saying that giving the younger daughter in marriage before the first is not the done thing. Jacob then works for another seven years in order to enter into a (polygamous) marriage with Rachel.

- Pray for all who find themselves to have been tricked or swindled by wily, unscrupulous operators.
- Give thanks for the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

• Text: Robert McLean

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Parish Directory

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Website - www.terrigalanglican.org.au

Rector – The Reverend Canon Mark Watson – 4365 1374 or 0434 431 400

Email - cyprian7@bigpond.com

Associate Priests

The Reverend Ann Watson – 4365 1065 or 0427 135 771

The Reverend Roy Hazlewood – 0418 290 192

The Reverend Dr Richard Harvey – 0422 109 262

The Reverend Bruce McAteer - 0417 229 296

Parish Executive

Neil Ewer (0412 640 477) – Rector’s Warden

Terry Rowe (4365 0430) - People’s Warden

Kyara Newport (0400 994 779) - People’s Warden

Parish Secretary - Kyara Newport (0400 994 779)

Parish Treasurer - Terry Rowe (4365 0430)

Parish Ministries

Parish Organist - Chris Sillince - 0422 225 849

Sacristan and Mission Secretary - Coralie Taylor

Messy Church Convenor - Rhonda Kiss – 4363 5001

Pastoral Care - contact - 4365 1115

Trinity Band & Cursillo – Libby Harvey – 0431 315 085

Safety Officer - Mike Keaney

Copyright Compliance Officer – Terry Rowe

Parish Bookshop – Kyara Newport

Women’s Fellowship – Pam Flegg – 4384 5326

Market Day Co-ordinator – Ian Wolstenholme

Parish Opportunity Shop

Carolyn Shields / Christine De Gans - 4365 1280

**The Op Shop is open Tuesday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.00pm
and each Saturday from 10.00am to 1.00pm**