

ST LUKE'S CHURCH
THE PARISH OF MODBURY
and
GOLDEN GROVE

Sunday, 18th February, 2024

.... WELCOME

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
OUR SERVICES TODAY

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion with hymns
11.30am Bari Worship

Muzak to Their Ears - Australians and the Message of the Church Today

John Diamond was an English journalist who died of cancer in 2001. He wrote honestly and bravely about his battle with the disease in his regular column as well as in a book called *C: Because Cowards Get Cancer Too*. Some Christians who read his work contacted him and offered him spiritual answers and here is what he wrote about what they had to say:

“They tell me about their spiritual product as though I might not have come across it before..as if in 47 years of living in a Christian country I might not yet have stumbled upon the concept of Christ as redeemer.I’m happy not believing and that’s what the evangelists don’t seem to understand.”

I am sure that there are a lot of people in our culture who are just like John Diamond. Not hostile to or ignorant of Christianity, and often quite willing to engage with questions of spirituality, mortality and meaning. Nevertheless, the church is not where they are going to go to ask those questions and to seek answers. The message of the church has become part of the background noise of their lives, something they can hear but which fails to offer them anything they think is worthwhile, certainly nothing which captures their attention or imagination. Perhaps the message of the church has become just like Muzak to their ears.

What can today’s reading from the Book of Acts tell us about a church that people might pay attention to?

In a letter to clergy, Archbishop Geoff Smith announced that he has received the resignation of Bishop Denise Ferguson as an assistant bishop in the Diocese. Bishop Denise will be retiring to Brisbane to be close to family. Bishop Denise will finish ministry in the Diocese on July 20 and conclude as assistant bishop early in September following Long Service Leave. We will farewell Bishop Denise and Mark at a service at the Cathedral on July 20 commencing at 10am.

Annual Vestry Meeting. Notice is hereby given that the Annual Vestry Meeting of the parish will be held on 10th March, 2024, at 11.00 am. At this meeting we will receive reports from the Parish Priest and Wardens, the audited statement of accounts and a draft budget for the coming year. We will also appoint Wardens, members of Parish Council, and representatives for the Nomination Committee. Please give prayerful consideration to these important roles in the parish. If anyone wishes to nominate for one of these roles please speak with Jo to get a nomination form.

Vestry meeting at 11.00 today to consider the MAP so far.

During Lent we will be using the First Order for Holy Communion and there will be a sermon series about being the Church in the 21st Century, incorporating many ideas from a book called *The Provocative Church* by Graham Tomlin.

25th Feb: Shopping for Truth: Australian Attitudes to faith today

3rd Mar: Evangelism is not your job: The Church as Evangelistic community

10th Mar: A Church worth going to: The Church as transformative community

17th Mar: God's Conspiracy Theory: The Church as provocative community

NEW! Evening Discussion Group. Would you like an opportunity share your views and engage with others about the provocative sermon topics set for Lent (see above)? We are looking to form an evening discussion group which will provide that opportunity. The group will be led by the Rev'd Don Owers and, at this stage it's looking as though it will meet over a cuppa on Thursdays from 7pm – 9pm at St Luke's (but this could be changed depending on people's availability). Please don't let transport concerns deter you as we may be able to resolve those. If you're interested (even if you can't make a Thursday evening) could you please speak to the Rev'd Don Owers or email the office at: stlukesmodbury@outlook.com

World Day of Prayer service is being held on Friday, 1st March at 1.30pm, at Trinity Lutheran Church (Lutheran Homes), 1215 Grand Junction Road, Hope Valley. The service has been written by the women of Palestine. Afternoon tea will follow the service. Please do join us for this special service. Please refer to the poster on the noticeboard in the balcony room. Denise Robinson.

Our shoebox gifts were sent to the Ukraine and Papua New Guinea.

Wanted – bird cages for the Opshop; glass jars with metal lids – please see Jean Rechner.

Food hampers – we constantly need food for the hampers given out at the Opshop. Please see notice board in the balcony room for what we need. Money is always gratefully received.

FOR PRAYER

The health and well-being of those needing immediate prayers:

Susan Restell, Jose, Damian Wyld, Glenys Williams, Bryan Mason, Rhonda Hill, Duane Fowler, Betty Bryson, Debbie Southren, Greg Downton, Anne Pfitzner, Ann and Fred Tee, Marion Ford, Vimla Mukerji, Kathy Fennell, Roland Barker, Jeremy Bollen, Eric Walton, Ron Rockcliffe, Jenny Lawton, Mercedes Siguenza, Aaron Watkins, Max Pontifex, Matthew Pontifex, Fiona.

Those who need ongoing prayers for healing and well-being:

Helen Gummow, Jessie Waters, Donald & Marjory Prince, Beth Morgan, Emily Cahill, Emmett Bollen, Bryan Shillabeer, Cathie, Faith Drodge, Catherine Cooling, Carol Aitken, Malcolm Mayes, Naomi, Vicky Pattie, Jake Drury, Samantha Drury, Nerida Fidock, Brian Gummow, Michaela Kinnoch, Mia, Muriel Taylor and family, Joy Pedlar and family, Sylvia and Bill McDonald, Chris Davies, Robbie Fowler, Flack family, Jean, Cilla Harvey, Joanne Clark and family, Jean Downton and family, Gary Fawcett and family, Mary Turner, Robert Rechner, Melissa Burtenshaw, Peter Morris, Zoe, Jeanette and Allan Canton, Jill G, Sue Fawcett, Andrew Mitchell, Frances K.

Cycle of Prayer. This week we keep before God in our prayers the following members of our Parish family:

Joseph & Jolene Ng, Julie & Ralph Nicholls, David & Toni Owen, Don & Elizabeth Owers, Margaret Palin and St Luke's Opshop.

Those who have died and whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Lawrence Foale, Amy Watson, Derek Northam, Joan Watson, Ernest Bushell.
+ *Rest in peace and rise in glory.*

Requests for prayer should be made to Deb Travis 0450 950 112 (8am service); June Hindmarch 0402 138 694 (9.30am service); or speak to Jean Rechner 0409 816 115 (Thursday service).

Next week's readings

Isaiah 61:1-3
Romans 10:8-15

Second Sunday in Lent

Psalm 67:1-7
Matthew 5:1-11

ROSTER REMINDER for 9.30am service next Sunday

Reader 1: Christine Walker
Reader 2: Simon Bailey
Intercessor: Healing Prayers
Sidespersons: John Dearman & Warren Henriks
Welcoming: Susan Dearman & June Hindmarch
Morning Tea: Maria Harrison & Marilyn Harris

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST	The Rev'd Jo Smith; 0401 086 404 jo@amip.net.au
PRIEST'S WARDEN	Peter Caddy; 0490 821 880; pmtcaddy@outlook.com
PEOPLE'S WARDEN	Margaret Curd; 0423 205 140; curdm@bigpond.com
PARISH OFFICE	25 Smart Road, Modbury Phone: 8396 1407 Email: stlukesmodbury@outlook.com Web: www.stlukesmodbury.com
PASTORAL CARE TEAM & OP SHOP CO-ORDINATOR	Colin Fidock; 0417 819 938; colin.fidock@bigpond.com
COMMUNITY GARDEN CONVENOR	David Datson; 0413 278 180; dd@edtcomputers.biz
PROPERTY COMMITTEE CONVENOR	Darryel McLean; 0447 508 609; macfuddled@gmail.com
WEEKLY PEW SHEET	Please forward information to the church email or put a note under the office door by Wednesday.
CHURCH BANK DETAILS	BSB No: 015 300 A/c No: 709007242 A/c Name: St Luke's Church Modbury

REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday	Bible Study	10.00am
Tuesday	Holy Communion	8.30am
	Community Garden	9.30am
Wednesday	Foodbank (fortnightly)	10.00am
	Bible Study	10.00am
Thursday	Holy Communion	10.00am
	Stretch & Balance class & Christian Meditation (fortnightly)	2.30pm
Friday	Community Garden	9.30am
Community Garden BBQ	1 st Tuesday of the month	11.30am
Bari Worship	1 st & 3 rd Sunday of the month	11.30am
Men's Group	2 nd Thursday of the month	7.30pm