

St John's Anglican Church Bentleigh

PARISH NEWS

September - October 2022

HM Queen Elizabeth II

21 April 1926 - 9 September 2022

Gracious God, we give thanks for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth, for her faith and her dedication to duty.

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www.facebook.com/st.johns.bentleigh

9557 2226

Vicar: The Rev'd Santa Packianathan

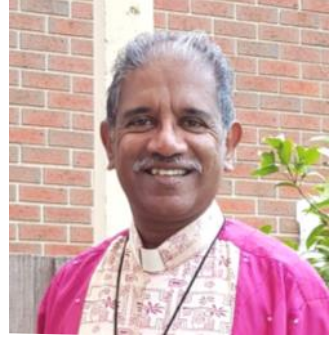
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Our Purpose:

'To be a centre of God's love and hope in Bentleigh & Bentleigh East'

Recently I was drawn to two unexpected matters. The first was an email which was about “How do we live a Christian life?” This question was based on a book written by Dorothy C. Bass, a prolific author and practical theologian, entitled ‘Practicing Our Faith’ which was an insightful and helpful framework for thinking about Christian faith and life. ‘Practicing Our Faith’ makes a compelling case for what remains a fundamental question of our time: “How do we live a Christian life?”



What are Christian practices? Christian practices are things we do within a Christian community (or maybe even outside the Christian community). They are shared patterns of activity. In and through them, life together takes shape over time — in response to and in the light of God, as known in Jesus Christ. Woven together, these practices form a way of life. Ultimately, Christian practices can be understood not as tasks but as gifts. It is important to note that within each practice, thinking and doing are inextricably knit together – see <https://practicingourfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/What-is-a-practice2.pdf> for further information.

Bass identified 12 Christian practices as we live a Christian life. A short description of these practices is listed below:

1. **Honouring the Body** - the practice born of the confidence that our bodies are made in the image of God's own goodness
2. **Hospitality** - recognising the need for shelter is a fundamental human need
3. **Household Economics** - the Christian practice of household economics calls on us to manage our private

homes for the well-being and livelihood of this planet we all share

4. **Saying Yes and Saying No** - tough decisions and persistent effort are required of those who seek lives that are whole and holy
5. **Keeping Sabbath** - the practice of keeping Sabbath helps us to resist the tyranny of too much or too little work
6. **Testimony** - in testimony, people speak truthfully about what they have experienced and seen, offering it to the community for the edification of all
7. **Singing Our Lives** - what we sing and how we sing reveals much of who we are, and entering another's song and music-making provides a gateway into their world, which might be much different from our own
8. **Dying Well** - dying well embraces both lament and hope, and both a sense of divine judgment and an awareness of divine mercy
9. **Healing** - the practice of healing is a central part of the reconciling activity of God in the world;
10. **Forgiveness** - forgiveness involves us in a whole way of life that is shaped by an ever-deepening friendship with God and with other people
11. **Shaping Communities** - This practice takes on life through roles and rituals, laws and agreements — indeed, through the whole assortment of shared commitments and institutional arrangements that order common life
12. **Discernment** - the intentional practice by which a community or an individual seeks, recognizes, and intentionally takes part in the activity of God in concrete situations.

Of course, there could be others practices too (for example, peacemaking). As we reflect on how to live a Christian life in today's world, what practices listed above do you believe need your attention? Obviously, I can't explain the details of each practice in this short article. Therefore, before making your decision, it would be advisable to read about these practices in:

<https://practicingourfaith.org/practices/>

(adapted from: <https://practicingourfaith.org/>)



The second interesting thing that occurred, was an unexpected phone call late on Tuesday 7th September. The caller asked, “do you have a choir for the Sunday service?” The reason for this question was that she is interested to join the choir. She did not give a phone number to call back, but I encouraged her to call the church once again to enquire about this further. While with hindsight, there were many other ways to respond to this type of calls, I am pleased that someone out there had taken the trouble to call the church office, and which made me wonder about the 7th practice listed above.

Would parishioners be interested to establish a regular choir in the parish? The choir's repertoire would include the more contemporary Christian songs that many people outside church seem interested. This would certainly be an encouragement to everyone present and a great opportunity to show who we are through the weekly livestream. Of course, this is for the greater glory of God.

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”

1 Corinthians 1:3 (NRSVA)

With prayers and blessings

Santa ☺

Soli Deo Gloria!

Reports from the Parish Council to the Congregation

First Aid Training

Parish Council has arranged for First Aid training to be available to members of the congregation, as well as Parish Council members, late September.

Concerts at St John's

Glen Eira Council has granted support for a series of concerts, the first one to be McKinnon Secondary College Musicians, Sunday, 9th October, 2 pm.

Safe Ministry Training

All those who are interested in being involved in Pastoral Care/Prayer Circle are invited to ensure that they have completed Level One Safe Ministry training, as a minimum. Glynis Rose will assist those who let her know of their interest to complete the training.

Rosemary Martin, Parish Secretary

Concert Series 2022 - A Spring Celebration

We are very excited about the series of three concerts to be presented at St John's in October and November. Called "**A Spring Celebration**" these concerts will feature music presented by young people from McKinnon Secondary College and from Trinity College at the University of Melbourne.



The first - Musicians from McKinnon - a wonderful gatherings of ensembles including orchestra, wind symphony, senior singers and several chamber groups from McKinnon Secondary College.

Conducted by the music staff of the school, this is an exciting opportunity for us to hear and support the work of one of our local schools. It will be on **Sunday, 9 October 2022 at 2pm.**



Two concerts will bookend the month of November on the Sunday afternoons of the 6 and 27 November respectively. They will be presented by two delightful and entertaining a-cappella groups who sing a variety of fun, upbeat and heartwarming popular repertoire for a-cappella voices.



The women's a capella group - The Candystripes - will present their concert on **6 November at 2pm**.



The Trinity Tiger Tones are the male a cappella group who will bring us a unique blend of uplifting and energetic music making on **27 November at 2pm**.



Bookings for all three concerts can be made via [<https://www.trybooking.com/CCKFX>] and the parish office [P:03 9557 2226, open on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday].

These concerts follow a very successful venture last year and promise to be a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon. We warmly encourage you to attend and to spread the word. The cost is \$25/\$20 and school students can come along without charge for each of the concerts. Please take one of the fliers for the first concert available now, with fliers for the other two to follow shortly.

Sunday 9 October at 2 pm - Musicians from McKinnon

Sunday 6 November at 2pm - The Candystripes – Women's a capella group

Sunday 27 November at 2pm – Trinity Tiger Tones – Men's a capella group

All concerts are held here at St John's Bentleigh and supported by a community grant from the Glen Eira Council.



Celebration of Ken Newell's Music Ministry at St John's

On Sunday 25 September at 9.30am we will have a special service to celebrate Ken Newell's long-standing contribution at the organ. We will be joined by Ken's family on that day and we warmly extend the invitation to parishioners and friends of St John's.

There will be only one service on this Sunday, please save the date and come to the 9.30am service for this special occasion. Morning tea will be served after the service.

St John's Bentleigh on *The Melbourne Anglican*

The following article was published on the TMA website (<https://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/2022/08/renovation-creates-welcoming-space-for-east-bentleigh-community/>)

Kirralee Nicolle

24 August 2022



A church in Melbourne's southeast is enjoying the benefits of a newly-renovated building.

Parishioners at St John's Bentleigh recently celebrated the unveiling of a new entrance, as well as an upgraded kitchen, stage and flooring. Since 2020, members of the church arranged for the removal of asbestos in the church and hall, upgraded the toilets, ceiling, lighting, windows and sound equipment.

The renovations had made the space very welcoming to the community, vicar-in-charge Reverend Santa Packianathan said.

He said he hoped it would lead more people to come to church.

"It's not a frightening place, it's a safe place to be," he said.

The building works for the latest set of renovations at St John's Bentleigh began in 2020 but faced a number of setbacks due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

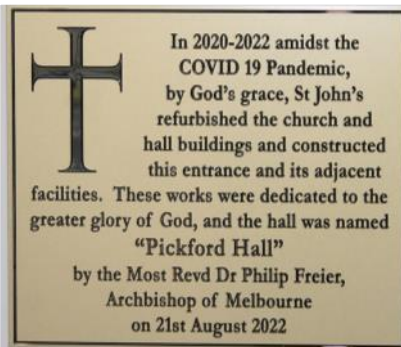
Mr Packianathan said the parish's former incumbent, the Reverend Dr David Powys, was an instrumental part of starting the renovation process. The congregation also managed to raise \$130,000 to fund the upgrades through a series of events including a high tea, art show and talent night.

As part of the upgrade, the church hall was also named Pickford Hall. Mr Packianathan said that the late Tom and Marj Pickford had been core long-term members of the church community and the parish council wished to recognise them by renaming the hall in their honour.

Archbishop of Melbourne the Most Reverend Philip Freier attended the opening event on 21 August and unveiled the new hall name.



Part 2 of the service - Dedication and Unveiling the plaque commenced in the Narthex area



The Pickford family



The Archbishop Freier, Vicar Santa, Churchwardens, and Parish Councillors



Mayva and Jill serving scrumptious Morning Tea



The Archbishop Freier, Vicar Santa and the fundraising committee



Artwork from Children Activities - Jesus the 'Cornerstone'



Pickford Hall



Children Activities

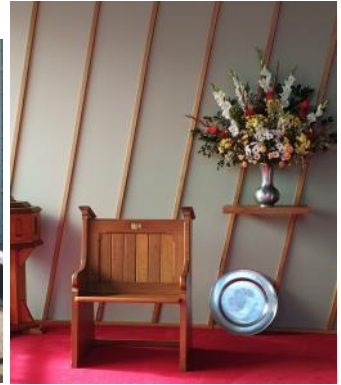


Refreshments served in the new renovated hall, the Pickford Hall

Working Bee

On Saturday, the day before the dedication service, a working bee gathered to ensure the church looks its best on that important day. The working bee was fun and everyone worked so well together.

The sausages were great and being outside having the lunch was an extra time of fellowship together. It was a very good idea to have this. The weather was wonderful!



Orana - AGM

Orana Fellowship held its AGM on 24 August, chaired by the vicar, all the previous office bearers were elected unopposed. Alison Merrey is again President, Gwen Wilson, Vice President, June Sinclair, Treasurer, Rosemary Martin, Secretary, Lyn Beaumont, Shirley Nisbet and Kaye Parkes Committee members.

A number of Leprosy Mission catalogues are on a table in the Narthex. Towards satisfying your requests, please list the items you wish to purchase at the Wednesday, September 28th meeting, 1 pm, at which the Leprosy Mission will hold a sale of goods.

All will be welcome to hear Bev Moss speak, at 1 pm. October 26th on 'Buckingham Palace in my underwear.' There will be slides illustrating her talk.

New Service Pattern at St John's

Date \ Time	8.30am	10.00am
18 Sep	Holy Communion <i>Live streamed</i>	Holy Communion
25 Sep	9.30am Celebration of Ken Newell's Music Ministry Holy Communion	
2 Oct	Holy Communion	Holy Communion <i>Live streamed</i>
9 Oct	Holy Communion	Praise, Prayer & Proclamation <i>Live streamed</i>
16 Oct	Holy Communion <i>Live streamed</i>	Holy Communion
23 Oct	Holy Communion	Praise, Prayer & Proclamation <i>Live streamed</i>
30 Oct	9.30am Combined Service (Fifth Sunday) Holy Communion	

Parishioners' News

We farewelled Rosemary Moses (21.8.2022) and Lois Borrett (24.8.2022) in the first weeks of September. Both were long-term parishioners of St Christopher's (Rosemary) and St John's (Lois), they were faithful servants of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jean Phibbs was fortunate to visit Lois before she passed away. Here's her story: 'Thank you Lois for giving me the chance to visit you on the afternoon of your death. The caring staff knew I was coming and gave me five to ten minutes on my own. I read the first verse from each of the hymns sang on the dedication service last Sunday (21/8). I got a gentle smile - Lois loved St John's and during my last visits I gave her as much news as I could. I got my last smile after reading a verse or two from the bible readings and the Lord's Prayer. God bless you Lois and may you rest in peace.'



What's On @ St John's



A Spring Celebration

Sunday 9 Oct at 2 pm - Musicians from McKinnon
Sunday 6 Nov at 2pm - The Candystripes – Women's a capella group
Sunday 27 Nov at 2pm – Trinity Tiger Tones – Men's a capella group

- **Craft, Chat & Cuppa** - Mondays 10am-12pm during school term
- **Maths & English tutoring** - Thursdays 3.30-5pm during school term
- **Ladies' Guild** - Third Wednesday at 10.30am
- **Breath** - Women's Support and Study Group, Wednesday 14 Sep, 5 Oct, 19 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov, 30 Nov at 7.30pm in the Narthex
- **Orana** - Fourth Wednesday at 1pm
- **St John's Munchers** - Lunches on 22 Sep, 27 Oct (partners), 24 Nov
- **Bentleigh Kids & Craft Market** - Saturdays (9.30am-1pm) 24 Sep, 22 Oct, 26 Nov
- **St John's Bentleigh Garden Club** - Last Tuesday of the month 7.45pm in the Narthex

Regular Worship Services

Sunday morning services are at 8.30am and 10.00am
Wednesday Holy Communion Service 10.30am

You can access our weekly service as it occurs, or at any time afterwards, by going to <https://youtube.com/channel/UCwvuRjxqIX4njbwZJBqNXQ/live> .

Online Giving: St John's Anglican Church Bentleigh

BSB 083 337 Acc. No. 51 5 354 967

Vicar - The Revd Santa Packianathan
Every day except for Thursday

Children & Families' Minister - Heather Saba

Parish Musician - Alex Scutt

Administration Assistant -

Cindy Utari - 9557 2226

Tue, Thurs, Fri

9.30am-12pm, 12:30pm - 4:00pm