



St Peter's
CHURCH SOUTHPORT



Pentecost VII & VIII ~ Sunday 16 & 23 July 2023

Introduction:

We have had an exciting month since our last meeting of 8th June.

As months go it has been a busy one, although I have come to the conclusion that most months are busy in parish life. We've had some great get-togethers and my sense is that folk are enjoying getting out and about.

St John's has once again provided us with a letter of appreciation for the units provided for those in need. It is good to be reminded about this very significant investment on St Peter's part. Our Marine Parade and Ahern St properties are 'good works' and we are allowed to be proud of what they stand for.

I have heard through the grapevine that Tim and Steph Newton will be returning from Oxford, UK, for a few weeks back home this month. We do look forward to seeing them again and no doubt we will marvel at just how much Winifred has grown. I'm sure John and Carol will be delighted to see them too!

A. A snapshot of events since we last met:

- **We celebrated our Patronal Festival (for the 137th time!) on 25th June**, and the mini concert provided by the Cornerstone Chorus along with the cleverly catered-for lunch (a-la-Costco) made the day a real success. It was lovely to see parishioners enjoying each other's company after the winter of Covid-discontent. Well done Inga for exhibiting such magnificent catering skills. Although we had hoped originally to hold the festivities at St Hilda's, I do believe that our own facilities were just right for the day.
- **We have also re-commenced SPARK** this last Sunday, 9th July. 8 children attended and thanks to the hard work and preparation of those running the classes it got off to a good start. A special thank you to those who have laboured to prepare the lessons. Volunteers to help are always welcome.
- We have enjoyed **a number of baptisms** of young folk over this last month. Pictures of these joyous occasions can be found below.



In this edition of the "Key Notes," I am providing a copy of my most recent "Report to Parish Council." I believe that this is an excellent way to keep you all up to date with what is going on in the life of the parish. As always, I am happy to discuss any of the points that are covered. Feel free to discuss these with any member of the Parish Council too. Enjoy your reading! Fr Don

- **The Revd. Mike Uptin**, regional worker for *Bush Church Aid*, joined us for all three services at St Peter's on Sunday 18th June. It was a pleasure to have Fr Mike with us. He will be known to many of us as the previous Rector of Surfers Paradise parish as well as previously serving as the Gold Coast Area Dean.
- **A new camera** has been installed in the Gallery. The quality of its picture is a vast improvement on what we had before. A generous donation has made this excellent upgrade possible. I am currently looking at updating the computer hardware as we are constantly dogged by glitches when streaming online – and the hardware appears to be the problem. At this stage I am seeking some advice from Craig on cost etc.
- **Coffee on Mondays** continues to be a surprise success. It has been, and continues to be, a great opportunity for parishioners to get to know people who attend different Sunday services and would not otherwise run into each other. Again, Inga's excellent baking skills have come into their own at this weekly occasion.
- **Synod** has come and gone and a special thanks to Russell and Jason for their report (published in the last Key Notes.) The general impression gained from my conversations with those who did attend was that the Diocese is on something of a 'holding pattern' as it awaits the appointment of a new Archbishop.
- On July 7th I attended a cocktail party farewelling **Professor Susan Brandis** as Chair of the St Hilda's School Committee for the last 10 years (having already served on the Committee for 13 years prior to that.) Professor Brandis gave great service to the school, and we had much to celebrate that evening.

- **The Gold Coast Chamber Orchestra.** Last night Jill and I attended a classical guitar evening at Bond University. It was part of the 2023 GCCO concert series. It was very pleasing to see how well the GCCO is now doing in its new 'home.' It was our pleasure to host the GCCO for five or so years at St Peter's and it is surely a sign of success that they can now boast audiences of 400 or more at the Bond University venues now available to them. Anna, the manager of the GCCO, remembers St Peter's very fondly and misses us all. Who knows, she may persuade the GCCO to perform a small concert for us at St Peter's sometime soon.
- **Wednesday Bible Studies.** 6 (sometimes 7) parishioners are enjoying the Wednesday bible study based on N T Wright's commentary on Revelations. It can be tough going - Revelations always presents some challenges – but it is also a rewarding study. I think we're all enjoying learning so much about a very confusing book at the end of the Bible that most of try to avoid!
- **Catering for events.** Since Covid we have been able to cater for funerals and other events. This is about to change. Inga has offered to take on the role of 'Catering Manager' and as events pop up that require catering, she will exercise her considerable gifts in this area.

B. Forthcoming:

- **Blessing of the St Hilda's Rowing team.** This Saturday 15th July, Fr Patrick has asked me to fill in for him and conduct the 'Blessing Service' for the St Hilda's Rowing Club. It's always a pleasure to be involved with St Hilda's activities.
- **Admission to Holy Communion:** this Sunday 16th July, three young folk will be admitted to Holy Communion at our 7:00 am service. This is a very pleasing 'first' for our 7:00 service.
- **Spring Festival.** This event is scheduled for the end of August. It is a type of 'Harvest Festival' and more. It will be the next opportunity for parishioners to get together and socialize.

C. The Three 'themes' that I have been working on this year at St Peter's.

1. Firstly, bidding everyone 'come back!' If our Patronal Festival is anything to go by parishioners are really enjoying the opportunities, we provide for socializing. The re-commencement of SPARK also marks a significant milestone in our efforts to get back to pre-Covid parish momentum.
2. Secondly, the three-month 'test and adjust' period in preparation for Christine's impending retirement continues. Christine and I have been in discussion on what will work going forward. A review and next report to the Council will take place in early August.
3. Finally, enhancing and developing our Anglo-Catholic worship traditions. Significant headway has been made with the production of a 'catalogue' of metalware for the sanctuary. This also involves establishing costs and working with a reliable agent to place secure orders with. A catalogue of new metal furnishings and vessels for the Sanctuary has now been created for viewing by interested parishioners.



D. Final points:

Security at the Rectory: I report that the strangest of events took place at the Rectory several weeks back. About midnight someone opened our meter box and switched off a number of our connecting fuses. When I inspected the meter box at 2:00 am it was evident that someone had opened the box and played with the switches. This was a bit creepy. The meter box is now once again securely locked.

Leaving aside this odd business I report that it's been a tremendous month in the life of the parish and that I continue to pray that all our work and strivings be for the greater glory of God.



Fr Don Parker

Report for Parish Council meeting of 13th July 2023

The Parish Diary

Sunday 16 July: Pentecost VII

- 7:00 am Holy Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer 1928 [BCP])
[Admission to Holy Communion]
9:30 am Holy Baptism & Eucharist (A Prayerbook for Australia [APBA])
[SPARK! Sunday School]
5:45 pm Sung Evensong & Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 17 July

- 10:00 am *Coffee on Monday* - The Parish Centre

Tuesday 18 July

- 6:00 pm Choir Practice

Wednesday 19 July

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)
11:00 am Bible Study (via Zoom & Face-to-face)

Thursday 20 July

- 12:00 Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Sunday 23 July: Mary Magdalene

- 7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
9:30 am Holy Eucharist (APBA) [SPARK! Sunday School]
5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Monday 24 July

- 10:00 am *Coffee on Monday*

Tuesday 25 July

- 6:00 pm Choir Practice

Wednesday 26 July

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (APBA)
11:00 am Bible Study (via Zoom & Face-to-face)

Thursday 27 July

- 12:00 Midday Holy Eucharist (APBA)

Sunday 30 July: Pentecost IX

- 7:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
9:30 am Holy Eucharist (APBA) [SPARK! Sunday School]
5:45 pm Holy Eucharist (APBA)



Look who Ken & Sandra ran into on their recent cruise...

*The Revd. Pauline and Peter Harley
(Pauline was our theological student here in
the Parish in 2016)*



Collect & Readings:

Pentecost VII – Sunday 16 July

Isaiah 55: 10–13

10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. 12 For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. 13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Collect

Bountiful God,
we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word: by your Holy Spirit,
help us to receive it with joy, and to live according to it, that we may grow in faith and hope and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Psalm 65: 1-14

R You crown the year with your goodness, O Lord

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, but you will blot them out. **R**
- 4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away. **R**
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power; they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamour of the peoples.
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvellous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy. **R**
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth. **R**
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty. **R**
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing. **R**

Romans 8: 1-11

1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Matthew 13: 1 - 23

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen!' 18 'Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'



Collect & Readings:

Mary Magdalene - Sunday 23 July

the Song of Solomon 3: 1-4a

- 1 Upon my bed at night
I sought him whom my soul loves;
I sought him, but found him not;
I called him, but he gave no answer.
- 2 'I will rise now and go about the city,
in the streets and in the squares;
I will seek him whom my soul loves.'
I sought him, but found him not.
- 3 The sentinels found me,
as they went about in the city.
'Have you seen him whom my soul loves?'
- 4 Scarcely had I passed them,
when I found him whom my soul loves.
I held him, and would not let him go
until I brought him into my mother's house,
and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

Psalm 63

R O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you.

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no
water;
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy
place, that I might behold your power and your
glory. **R**
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life
itself; my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your Name. **R**
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches. **R**
- 7 For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me
fast. **R**

2 Corinthians 5: 14-21

14 For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. 15 And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. 17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son called Mary Magdalene to be a witness
of his resurrection:
mercifully grant that by your grace
we may be forgiven and healed,
and may know you in the power of your Son's risen life;
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.



John 20: 1 - 18

1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13 They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' 14 When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' 16 Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

For All the Saints

Anne

July 26

Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tradition holds that St. Anne, or Ann, is the mother of the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus. There is no mention of Anne in the bible. Non-biblical books from the early Christian centuries acknowledge Mary's parents as Joachim and Anne. These sources claim that Joachim and Anne were childless for many years of their marriage. The angel Gabriel appeared to them separately and declared that they would in fact bear a child who must be dedicated to God. Hence, Anne became the mother of our Blessed Virgin Mary.

There is very little known about the parents of the Virgin Mary. St. Anne and St. Joachim are not mentioned in the canonical gospels; however, their story has been told in a document known as the "Gospel of James." This document is not to be read for its' historical or factual accuracy, nor is it the inspired Word of God (which is why it is not included in the bible). Yet, the legend included in this document that tells of St. Anne and St. Joachim is the first mention of Mary's parents and has been a catalyst for Christians to honor and celebrate Mary's parents.

In art St. Anne is often shown seated with a book on her lap. The child Mary stands against her, eager to listen. This depiction of St. Anne is a small explanation of what we know of this holy woman. God entrusted to St. Anne the task of raising Our Lady in a holy and virtuous home, and from a very young age Mary looked to St. Anne to learn about God and how He works in the lives of those who love and serve Him.

The Collect

Everloving God,
in Christ you shared our sense of heritage
and the continuity of the generations;
as we remember Anne, the grandmother of
your Son,
help us to respect our forebears
and to learn from the wisdom of the old;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



Mary, Martha & Lazarus

29 July

Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus were evidently close friends of Jesus. He came to their home simply as a welcomed guest, rather than as one celebrating the conversion of a sinner like Zacchaeus or one unceremoniously received by a suspicious Pharisee. The sisters felt free to call on Jesus at their brother's death, even though a return to Judea at that time seemed to spell almost certain death.

Martha's great glory is her simple and strong statement of faith in Jesus after her brother's death. "Jesus told her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world'" (John 11:25-27).

No doubt Martha was an active sort of person. On one occasion, she prepares the meal for Jesus and possibly his fellow guests and forthrightly states the obvious: All hands should pitch in to help with the dinner. The Lord recognizes that Martha is "worried about many things," also noting that Mary, who has spent the preparation time at Jesus' feet listening to his words "has chosen the better part." John 12:1-8 describes Mary's anointing of Jesus' feet at Bethany, an act which he praised highly.

Immediately after we are told that the chief priests plotted to kill Lazarus "because many of the Jews were turning away and believing in Jesus because of him." Lazarus was the one of whom the Jews said, "See how much he loved him." In their sight Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead. Legends abound about the life of Lazarus after the death and resurrection of Jesus. He is supposed to have left a written account of what he saw in the next world before he was called back to life. Some say he followed Peter into Syria. Another story is that despite being put into a leaking boat by the Jews at Jaffa, he, his sisters, and others landed safely in Cyprus. There he died peacefully after serving as bishop for 30 years.

It is certain there was early devotion to the saint. Around the year 390, the pilgrim lady Etheria talks of the procession that took place on the Saturday before Palm Sunday at the tomb where Lazarus had been raised from the dead. In the West, Passion Sunday was called *Dominica de Lazaro*, and Augustine tells us that in Africa the Gospel of the raising of Lazarus was read at the office of Palm Sunday.



Johannes Vermeer, *Christ in the House of Martha and Mary* c. 1655

A Note of thanks

From a grateful tenant who has been able to find support in our units that are managed by St John's Crisis Centre

Hi,

Firstly, I would just like to say that my son and I fled a DV situation last year and st.johns crisis center has helped us out so much since then.

mine and my son's time with st.johns crisis center has been amazing, my case worker was wonderful, always on hand and ready if I needed anything.

any maintenance issues were fixed straight away and I was really impressed by all the communication with the staff.

I completed a cooking class at st.johns crisis center that was organised by the staff, i also completed an online course and I am so proud of myself for doing both.

The staff are wonderful, the transitional house we stayed in is beautiful and was so nice to live in, when we arrived it was clean, neat and tidy, it had everything we needed and we settled in very quickly.

My case worker and the staff always made sure that we had everything we needed and checked in on a weekly basis.

If I had any questions they always answered them.

The staff are incredible.

in all honesty i really don't know where my son and i would be if it wasn't for st.johns crisis center.. the staff are truly amazing.

Thank you so much to all of the staff.

My son and I truly appreciate everything they have done for us.

What's been happening?

The Phoenix Ladies celebrate "Bastille

Day"

The flag certainly gives the game away



Fun, Food and a challenging quiz on all things French...



No forgetting the company of great friends!



Baptisms



Arthur Ji Bourne was baptised on Saturday 8 July (Arthur's older brothers were baptised in St Peter's too: *Charlie*, the oldest, baptised in April 2017 and *Daniel*, the next oldest, was baptised in November 2018.) We look forward to number four!

*Welcome to the Body of Christ
- the Church!*

Georgia Hope and Lucinda Rose were baptised on Sunday 9 July. This week we look forward to admitting Georgia and Lucinda to Holy Communion



What's On?

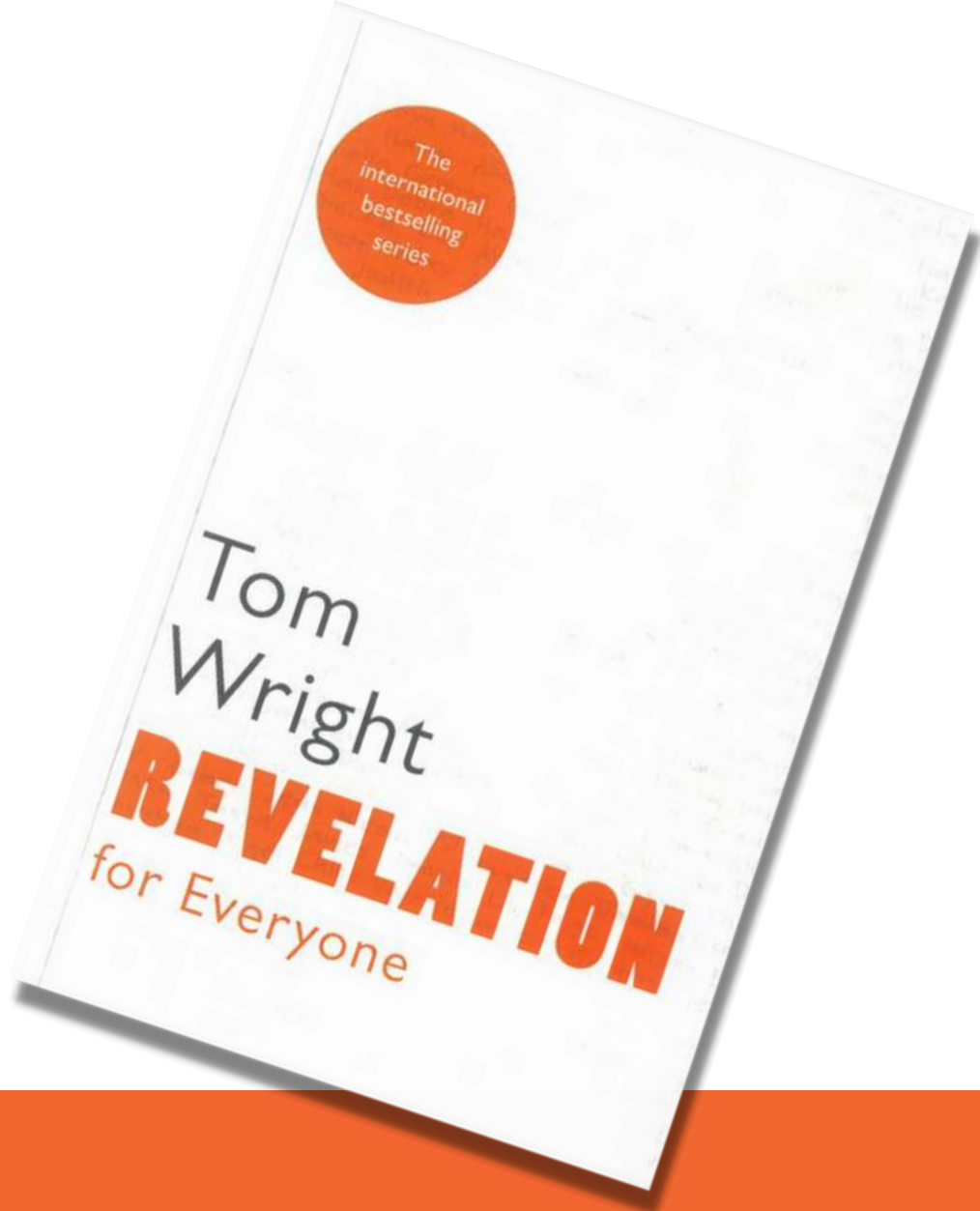
Coffee on Mondays ('COM')
Every Monday, 10:00 am in the Parish Centre



No time to stop on for a cuppa after Sunday Morning Eucharist?

Looking for a coffee with your church friends. Why not join us on Mondays for a relaxed coffee/tea/chai in the Parish Centre.

- There's no cost (you can make a donation if you wish, but this is not a fundraising event.)
- You can chat with other parishioners and even bring a friend if you like.
- We have lovely facilities here - why not come along and enjoy them?



Wednesday Bible Study

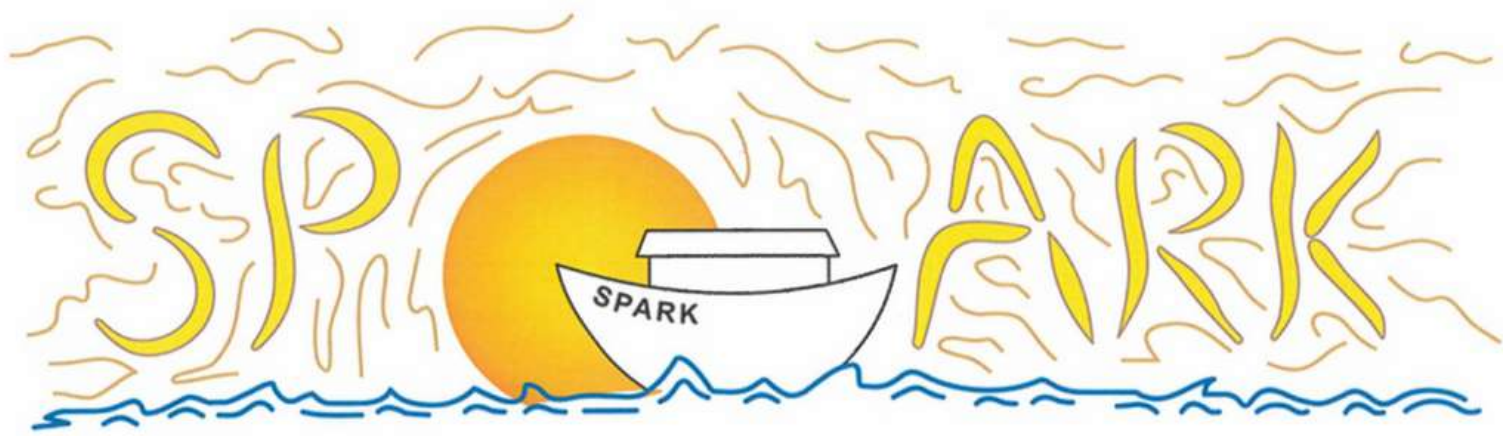
Wednesdays at 11:00 am

(following our 10:00 am Holy Eucharist)

The Book of Revelation.

Join us in person (in the Parish Centre) or Zoom online

- just let us know and we'll send a Zoom invite



St. Peter's. Anglican Religious Kids

It has begun!

*Our SPARK! Sunday School is now running during
our 9:30 am service.*

Bring your children (or grandchildren) along for some excellent teaching and fun.

Volunteer if you want to help (contact Christine in the Office.)

St Peter's Church Southport, is a welcoming, hospitable community committed to the worship of God in beauty and holiness in the classical Anglican tradition.

You can find out more about us at

www.stpetersgc.org.au

The Anglican Parish of Southport

83 Nerang St Southport QLD 4215

Phone: 07 5558 3887

Email: parish@stpetersgc.com.au

SERVICES

Sunday

7:00am: Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9:30am: Holy Eucharist (APBA)

5:45pm: Holy Eucharist (APBA)

5:45pm: Choral Evensong

(2nd Sunday of the month)

Weekday Eucharist

10:00am – Wednesday

12:00pm – Thursday

Rector

Fr. Don Parker

rector@stpetersgc.org.au

Parish Administrator

Mrs. Christine Corroy

parish@stpetersgc.org.au

Director of Music

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Anglican
Church Southern Queensland