

My Report to Parish Council: 17 October 2024

In keeping with his migratory habits, Fred (Jill's dad) now needs to return to Christchurch, New Zealand – he can only be away for 6 months at a time. So, Jill and I are taking the opportunity to spend 10 days in Christchurch to see him settle in and catch up with family. It is vital I get to meet our third grandchild, Sasha Pearl, before she turns 1 year old! As always, without the coverage provided by Fr Patrick Duckworth, Fr John Pinson, and Fr John Dougherty, this would not be possible. My sincere thanks to them for being so generous with their time. There is no doubt that Jill and I do love the Gold Coast, it is just that where there's family...

A. A snapshot of events since our September meeting:

- 1. The Twenty-six week "Surprised by the God of Hope" course is now completed and our 'Wednesday 11 o'clock timeslot' will be vacant for about six weeks. This will allow for vacation time and the establishment of a new course, hopefully commencing near or in Advent.
- 2. **20** x Advent Reflection booklets have been ordered and they should be arriving soon. This time I have ordered (another) catholic publication from America. These will be offered free (or with donation) to folk who are interested.
- 3. Much heroic voluntary work continues in the garden and grounds. Thanks to Allen, Jeff, and Alain for their continuing commitment to keeping the grounds and buildings looking great and safely maintained.
- 4. **Citizenship.** As of 1st October, Jill and Craig have both become Australian citizens. The ceremony at HOTA was simple and all over within 45 minutes. Now it remains for me or anyone to explain to Jill how to vote. We toasted both on the morning of 7 October, following our 9:30 Eucharist.
- 5. The "Inquirer's Hour" is going from strength to strength. We meet for one hour at 4:00 pm on Sundays (excluding Sung Evensong Sundays.) We have 8 or 9 people attending regularly, having met 5 times already. This session is also a thinly disguised Confirmation Class, so the numbers bode well.



- Royal Commission for Defence and Veteran Suicide. In mid-September, this report was released. 122 recommendations were made, many of them calling for better service from DVA (Veterans' Affairs) and Defence itself. The organistion to which I belong - SPAHS - has sought to support Veterans for over 100 years and has focused, in recent years, on providing temporary accommodation for homeless ex-service personnel. The "Lavender Apartments" at Coolangatta are just such an example. Our organisation purchased 4 units that needed significant renovation. Now that this work has been completed, we are working with the Salvation Army providing decent quality temporary accommodation. Only this week I have been working with St John's Crisis Centre to house a veteran and his wife in the apartments. I will keep you posted.
- 7. Two new umbrellas in the courtyard. With generous donations, we have purchased two new umbrellas for the courtyard between the Church and the Visitors' Centre. The old umbrellas were long overdue for replacement. The new ones look excellent. Now all we need is the inevitable hot and sunny weather.
- 8. **Defence Chaplains' Memorial.** On Wednesday afternoon, 9th October, I attended the official opening of the Defence Chaplains Memorial at ANZAC Park, Toowong. It was official enough to draw out retired Chaplain colleagues whom I have not seen for some years. It was a special afternoon and far too many 'war stories' were told. I am deeply appreciative of the work the Garland Trust put into arranging this event as well as the significant efforts of Cr Penny Wolff, Councillor of the Walter Taylor Ward.

- 9. **Trivia Night.** The inaugural St Peter's Trivia Night was held on Friday 11 October. It was a great night, enjoyed by 33 people. \$240 was raised. The success of this event means we will be looking to hold another one, hopefully before the end of the year.
- 10. **2nd Cantor and 2nd Organist.** You may know we have attracted two young people to these positions, Nicolette, and Jayden. We have been emboldened in this regard by the generous donation to "Music" that was made last month. Please note that we still hope to use other musicians on occasions (so you haven't escaped Peter and Lorraine!) Putting Nicolette and Jayden 'on the payroll' serves two purposes: firstly, it keeps young people coming into the church in very impactful ways and, secondly, it gives our current Organist and Cantor adjustment space going into the future.
- 11. Sung Evensong. This Sunday 20 October, we enjoy our Sung Evensong service once again. Bishop John Roundhill has expressed a desire to attend these services whenever he can so we may yet see him this Sunday. The bishop maintains that there are very few (if any) services of this nature taking place in the Diocese, so he is very appreciative of what we are doing.
- 12. Inga Moore's six-month contract has now ended. At this stage, Inga is unable to continue with this commitment but she is still volunteering her time for which we are very grateful.

B. Coming up:

1. **Olive Street.** On Monday 21st October, Laurel George (Diocesan Property Office), Nicole Ford (Anglicare), along with Christine and myself will view 5 Olive Street regarding "making good." As has been stated, the property has been well looked after over the years but changes like the internet fibre optic connection, office storage cabinetry (built in – not free standing), alterations to the bathroom facilities and some kitchen changes will need to be addressed.

- 2. **Confirmations.** This year Bishop John Roundhill will conduct our Confirmation Service on **Saturday 23 November, at 5:30 pm.** Please contact the office if we have not already contacted you if you or someone you know is seeking Confirmation. The sooner the better please as this will allow time for Confirmation classes beforehand.
- 3. Admission to Holy Communion. It is my intention to admit a small group of young people to Holy Communion before Christmas. Again, we will try and contact those whom we consider might be ready. If we do not contact you and you are seeking Admission to Holy Communion for a young person known to you, please do not hesitate to contact the office.
- 4. This Friday 18th October is the Feast of St Luke. The Feast of St Simon and Jude is observed on Sunday 27thOctober.
- 5. All Souls is observed on Sunday 3rd November. As is our custom, the names of those to be remembered in prayer will be confirmed with parishioners.
- 6. **Remembrance Sunday.** This service takes place on Sunday 10th November, and again, we will welcome the TSS Cadets to our 9:30 am Holy Eucharist to assist us with our commemorations.



C. Finally:

Looking ahead to Advent and Christmas:

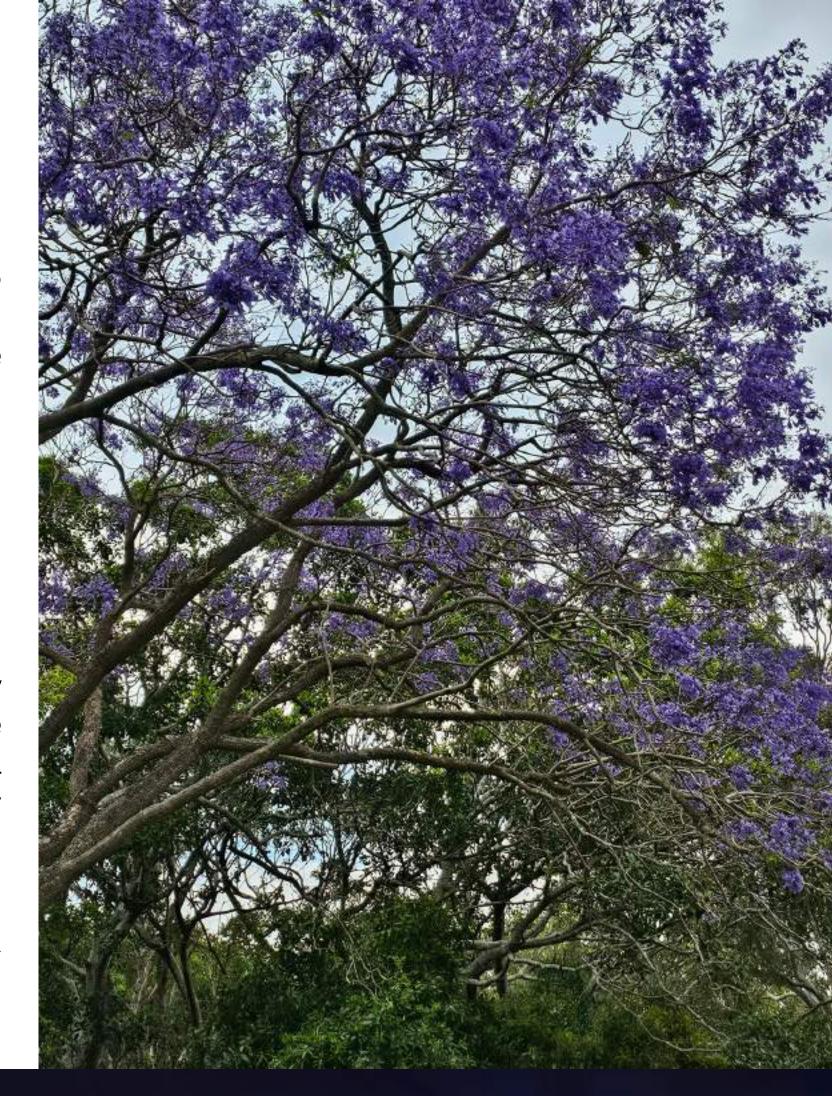
This year, just to keep things as simple as possible, on the first Sunday in Advent, our intention is to combine most of the activities that we have spread out over previous Advent seasons. This will include "the turning on of the lights," the Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Carols - as well as the BBQ and fun.

The Christmas Eve Services will be (mostly) unchanged from previous years.

As the year races by and the **Feast of the Nativity** draws near may we all have to opportunity to pause and reflect upon the true meaning of this wonderful time of the year. May the Lord Bless us in our daily work and leisure.

Fr Don

right: The Rectory Jacaranda now in full bloom!





Collect & Readings for 20th October: Pentecost XXII

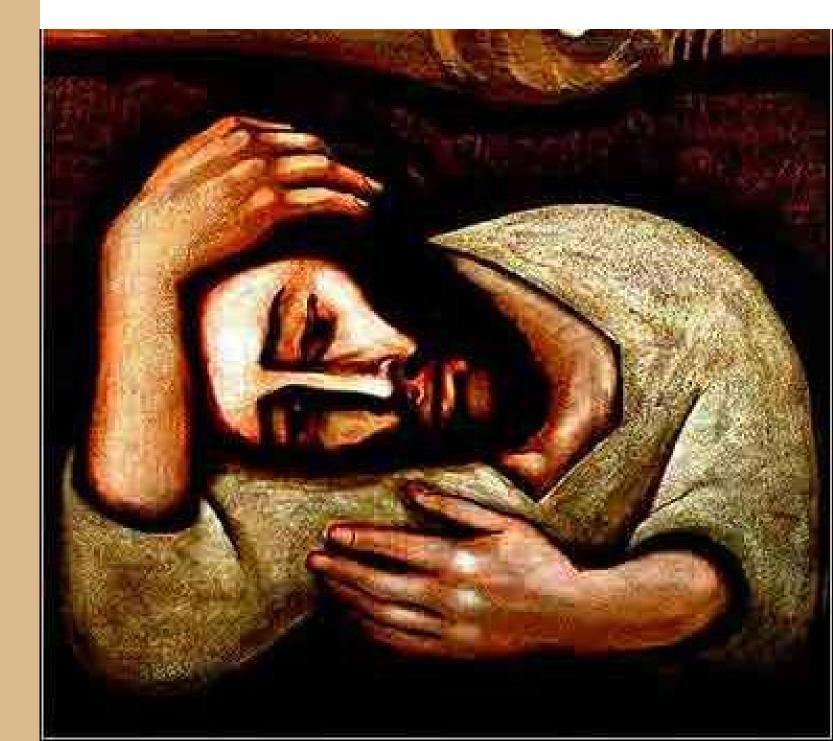
Isaiah 53: 4-12

4 Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lordhas laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 8 By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. 9. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. 10 Yet it was the will of the Lordto crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lordshall prosper. 11 Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

R God shall give the angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

- 1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, abides under the shadow of the Almighty. He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my strong-hold, my God in whom I put my trust." *R*
- 9. Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation;10 There shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. *R*
- 11. For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.
- 12. They shall bear you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13. You shall tread upon the lion and adder; you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet. *R*
- 14. Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my Name. 15. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I am with him in trouble, I will rescue him and bring him to honour. 16. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation. *R*



Hebrews 5: 1-10

1Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; 3 and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. 4 And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

5So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; 6 as he says also in another place,

'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

7In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; 9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, 10 having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Mark 10: 35 - 45

35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' 36 And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' 37 And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' 38 But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' 39 They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; 40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

41When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. 42So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 43But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. 45For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'



Michael Willman, Melchizedek (1681)

THE COLLECT

God of unchangeable power,
when the heaven and earth were made,
the morning stars sang together
and the host of heaven shouted for joy:
open our eyes to the wonders of creation
and teach us to use all things for good,
to the honour of your glorious name;
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.

Sunday 28 October: St Simon & St Jude

Deuteronomy 32: 1-4

1 Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; let the earth hear the words of my mouth. 2 May my teaching drop like the rain, my speech condense like the dew; like gentle rain on grass, like showers on new growth. 3 For I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God! 4 The Rock, his work is perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God, without deceit, just and upright is he.

Psalm 19.1-6 R The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart

- 1. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2. One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another. *R*
- 3. Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- 4. Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world. *R*
- 5. In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6. It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat. *R*

Jude 1: 1-3, 17-25

1Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, To those who are called, who are beloved in God the Father and kept safe for Jesus Christ: 2 May and love be mercy, peace, abundance. 3 Beloved, while eagerly preparing to write to you about the salvation we share, I find it necessary to write and appeal to you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.17But you, beloved, must remember the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; 18 for they said to you, 'In the last time there will be scoffers, indulging their own ungodly lusts.'19 It is these worldly people, devoid of the Spirit, who are causing divisions. 20 But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; 21 keep yourselves in the love of God; look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

22 And have mercy on some who are wavering; 23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; and have mercy on still others with fear, hating even the tunic defiled by their bodies. 24 Now to him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, 25 to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and for ever. Amen.

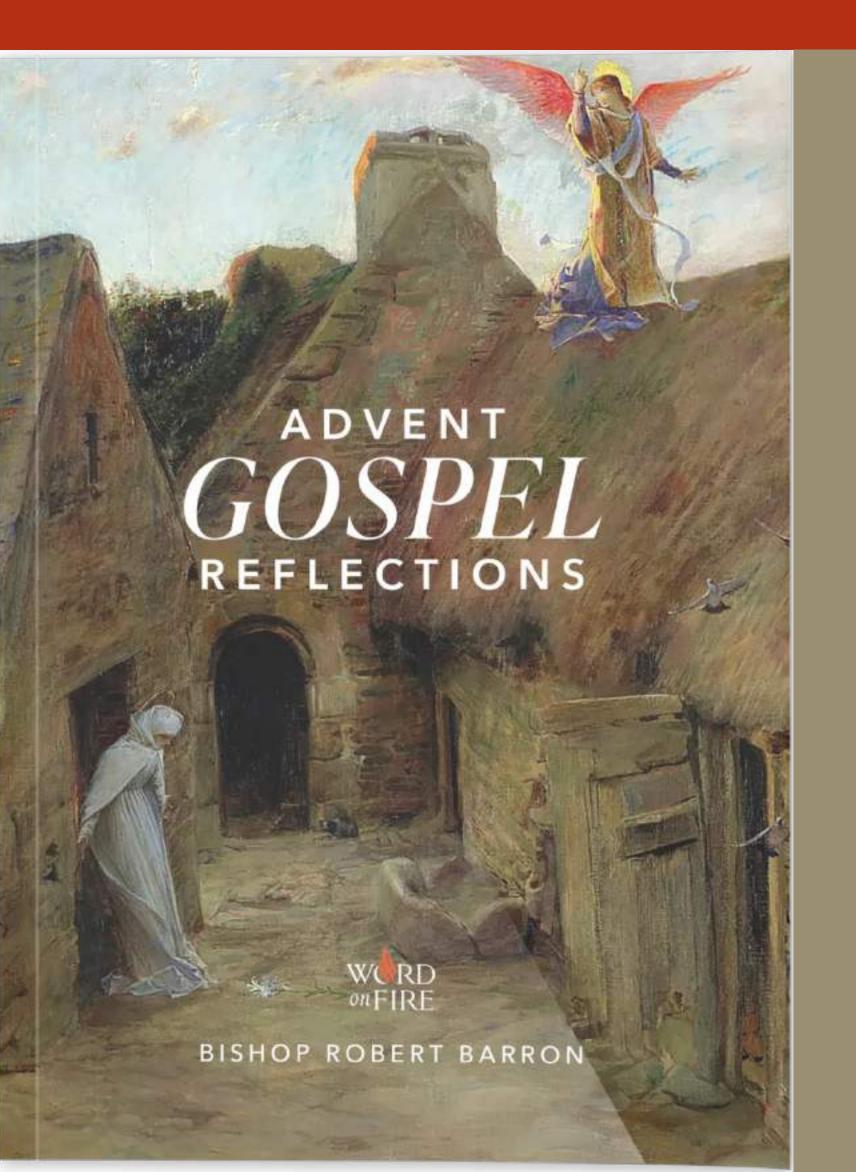
Luke 6: 12 - 16

12 Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God.13 And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles:14 Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew,15 and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot,16 and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.



Simon & Jude, Apostles & Martyrs

Almighty God,
you have built your Church
on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone:
we thank you for the apostles Simon and Jude,
and we pray that we may reveal your love and mercy,
and being joined in unity of spirit
may grow into a holy temple, acceptable to you;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



20 copies of this Book of "Advent Gospel Reflections" have been ordered for Advent this year

For All the Saints

James of Jerusalem

(James 'the less' or James the Just) October Apostle and Martyr

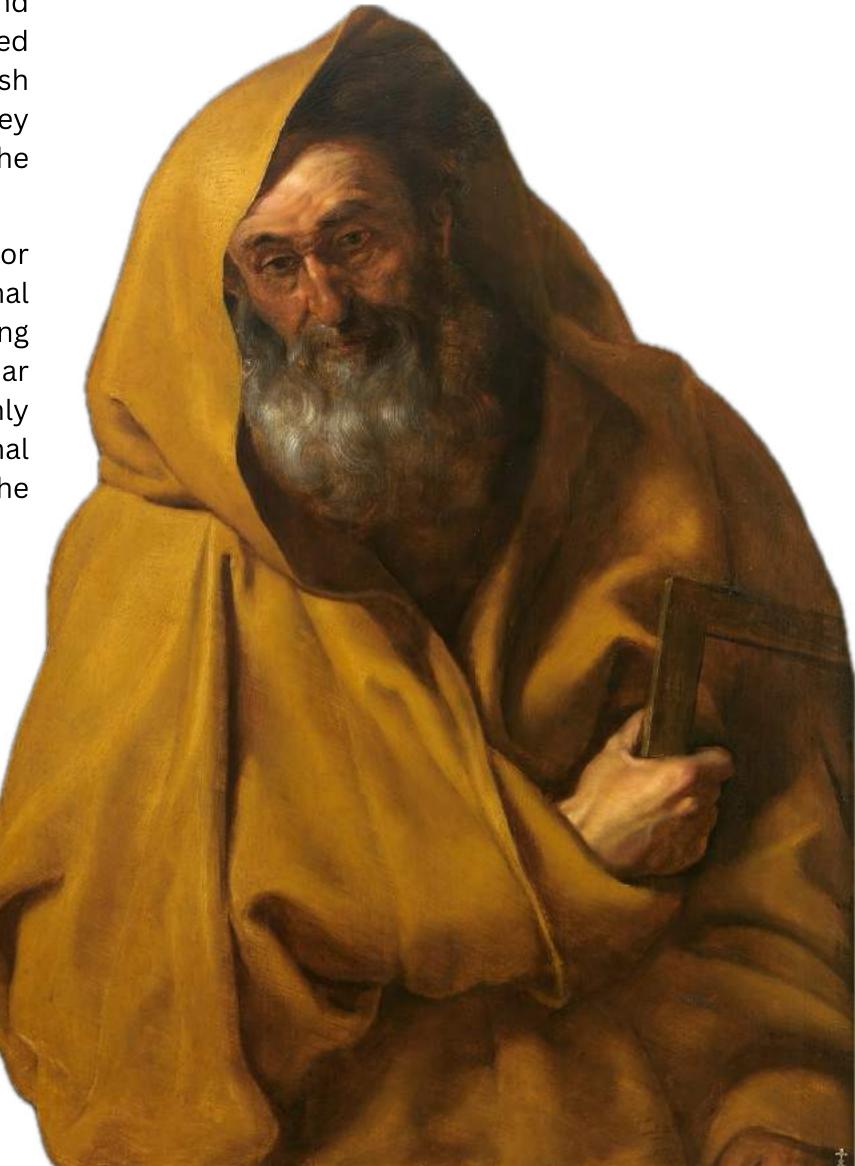
St. James the Less, the author of the first Catholic Epistle, was the son of Alphaeus of Cleophas. His mother Mary was either a sister or a close relative of the Blessed Virgin, and for that reason, according to Jewish custom, he was sometimes called the brother of the Lord. The Apostle held a distinguished position in the early Christian community of Jerusalem. St Paul tells us he was a witness of the Resurrection of Christ; he is also a "pillar" of the Church, whom St Paul consulted about the Gospel.

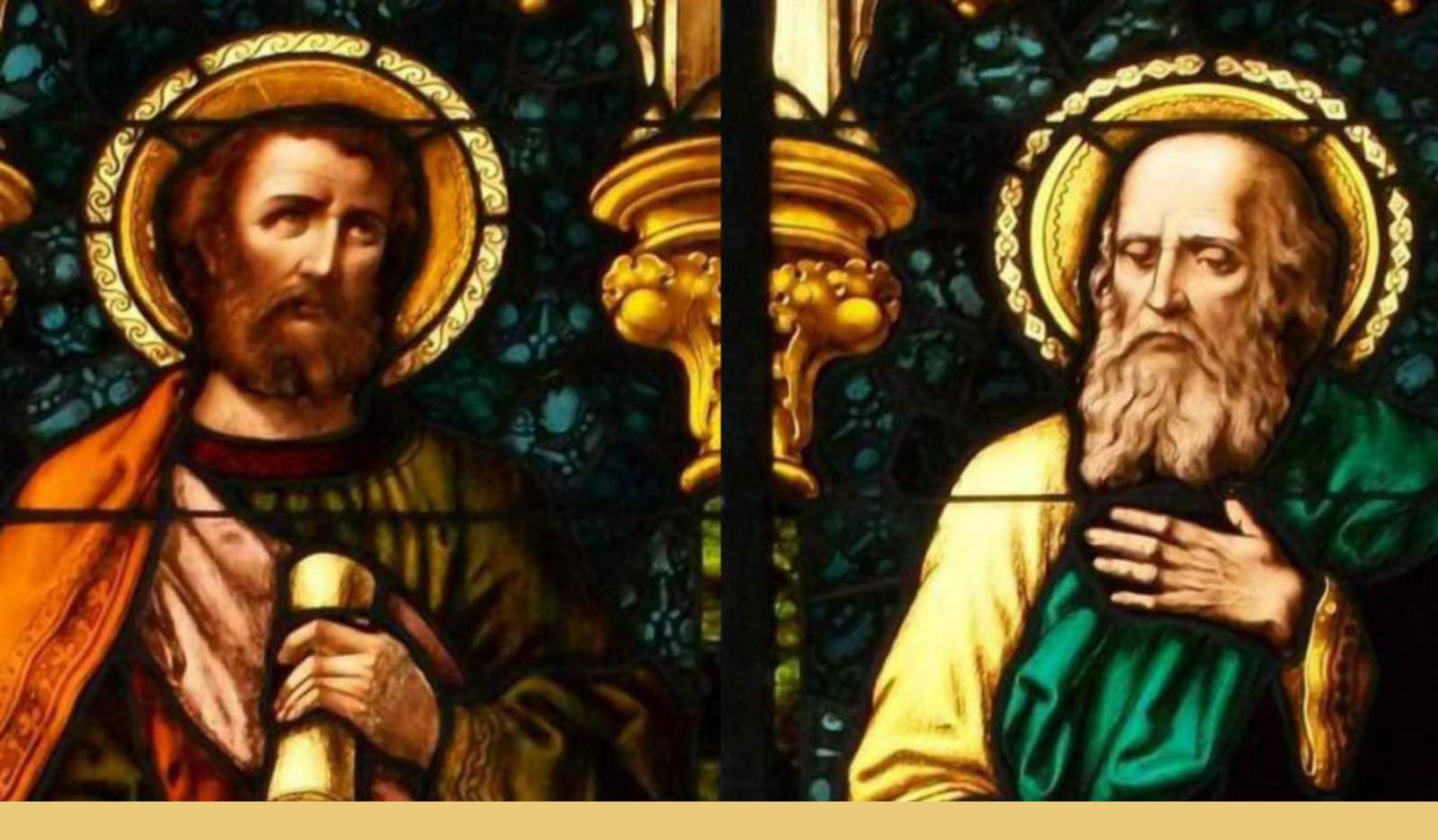
According to tradition, he was the first Bishop of Jerusalem and was at the Council of Jerusalem about the year 48 AD. The historians Eusebius and Hegesippus relayed that St. James was martyred for the Faith by the Herod (thus pleasing the Jewish Leaders) in the Spring of the year 62, although they greatly esteemed his person and had given him the surname of "James the Just."

Tradition has always recognized him as the author of the Epistle that bears his name. Internal evidence based on the language, style, and teaching of the Epistle reveals its author as a Jew familiar with the Old Testament, and a <u>Christian</u> thoroughly grounded in the teachings of the Gospel. External evidence from the early Fathers and Councils of the Church confirmed its authenticity and canonicity. James .

The date of its writing cannot be determined exactly. According to some scholars it was written about the year 49 A.D. Others, however, claim it was written after St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans (composed during the winter of 57-58 A.D.). It was probably written between the years 60 and 62 A.D.

St. James addresses himself to the "twelve tribes that are in the Dispersion," that is, to Christians outside Palestine; but nothing in the Epistle indicates that he is thinking only of Jewish Christians. St. James realises full well the temptations and difficulties they encounter in the midst of paganism, and as a spiritual father, he endeavours to guide and direct them in the faith. Therefore, the burden of his discourse is an exhortation to practical Christian living.





St Simon & St Jude ~ 28 October

Simon, surnamed the Zealot, may have been part of the group of that name, which repudiated foreign domination of Israel.

Beyond the fact that he was chosen by Our Lord as one of the twelve Apostles, there is no mention of him in the Gospels. According to Western tradition, after preaching in Egypt, he joined St. Jude in Syria and suffered martyrdom there.

Jude, also known as Thaddeus, is clearly distinguished from Judas Iscariot, the betrayer of Jesus. Mentioned twice in the Gospels (John 6:16 and Acts 1:13), he is thought to have been a cousin of Our Lord on St. Joseph's side.

His attribute is the club or ax, by means of which he is thought to have suffered martyrdom. The most generally recognised depiction of St. Jude, the apostle holds a medallion with the face of the Lord, possibly linked to the image of Edessa.

The legend of the image of Edessa is recorded in the *Historia Ecclesiastica* written by Eusebius (an early historian of the Church - writing in the early part of the 4th century AD).

According to the account, King Abgar, being ill, sent a letter to Jesus through a messenger by the name of Hannan.

In this letter Abgar asked Jesus for a cure. Hannan either painted an image of the face of Jesus, or received it miraculously, by Jesus lifting a cloth to His face and imprinting His image upon it.

The royal messenger brought the image back to Edessa. After the death of our Holy Savior, the apostle Thomas sent Jude to Abgar, and Jude cured the king miraculously.

Astonished, the king accepted Christianity and many of his subjects were baptized.

St. Jude is also depicted with a flame above his forehead indicating that he received the Holy Ghost with the other apostles at Pentecost.

According to tradition, after Jude's martyrdom, pilgrims visited his grave and many experienced his powerful intercession.

St. Bridget of Sweden and **St. Bernard** had visions from God in which they were shown St. Jude as "The Patron Saint of the Impossible."

His relics were brought from Beirut to Rome and today rest alongside those of St. Simon in St. Peter's Basilica.

Phoenix Ladies Fellowship

At the most recent **Phoenix Fellowship Meeting** we had the pleasure of meeting Michelle, Rachael and Kate from GCUH hospital. Together they introduced us to a project that they are undertaking within the Intensive Care Unit, which includes End of Life Care and Delirium Care at both GCUH and Robina Hospital

The facility's 40 beds provide care for patients from our local area and as far away as Cairns, Toowoomba and Coffs Harbour. Many of the patients have extended stays or have no family or friends in regular visiting distance.

The staff are aware that their surroundings are very clinical and they would like to create a more homely, personal atmosphere. Some of the ways that they can undertake this are by providing sensory and personal items.

Some examples are:

Scented hand creams that the family can use on their loved ones normalising touch and promoting family members being involved in their loved ones care while creating a memory scent for the family.

Photo frames/books, allowing families to place a photo of themselves or those interstate/overseas. Also handprints or families holding hands which can be framed.

Essential oil that can be used in wash bowls as an alternative to hospital cleansers.

Reed diffusers to create a memory scent or soften hospital sterile smells.

LED candles to soften harsh lighting

Notebooks/ memory keepers

Phoenix Fellowship have undertaken to make a kit of these items for the staff to provide for use with patients and families. We invite your contribution to help with this. It is our hope to have the kit gathered and presented to the hospital at the beginning of December.

Items can be left for the collection in the basket at the back of the church or parish office.

An important note: for clinical safety and hygiene reasons:

- All items must be wipeable
- Battery operated only
- No naked flame.



What's been happening?







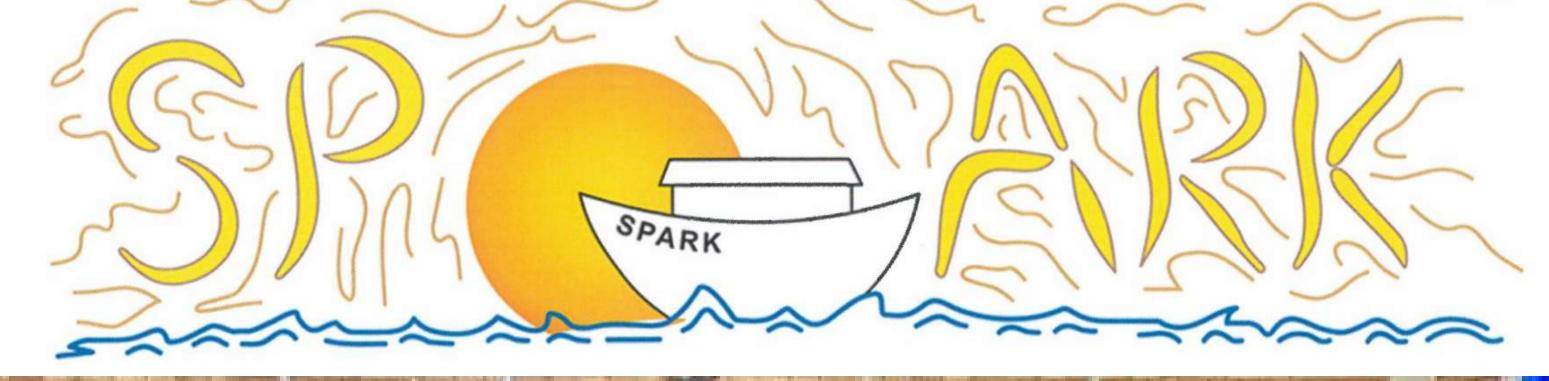


Wednesday 9th October
I attended the official unveiling of the

"National Defence Chaplains Memorial"

At ANZAC Park, Toowong







Photos courtesy of Ian Hollindale:

4 generations of the Will Hollindale family at St Hilda's

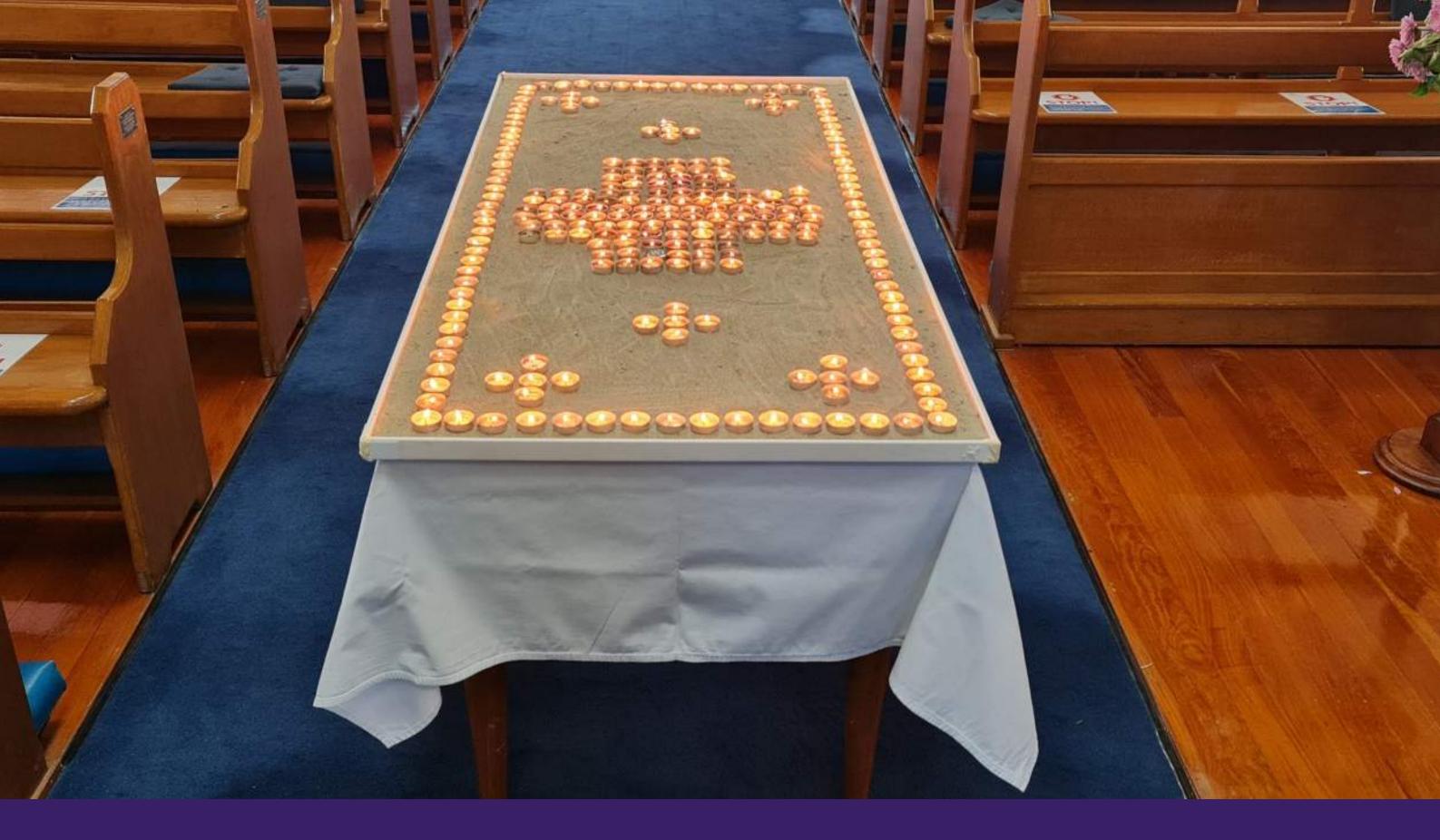


Forthcoming Events



Wine and Cheese before Sung Evensong this Sunday 20th October ~ 4:00 pm ~





All Souls' ~ Sunday 3rd November "Rest Eternal Grant Unto Them O Lord"

(Names for remembrance should be entered into the book at the entrance of the church)





"The horses are ready and the track is firm"

~ Tuesday 5th November ~

1200 noon Melbourne Cup Chicken & Champagne Lunch –
Parish Centre – \$10 per person

"Winners are grinners" at the races



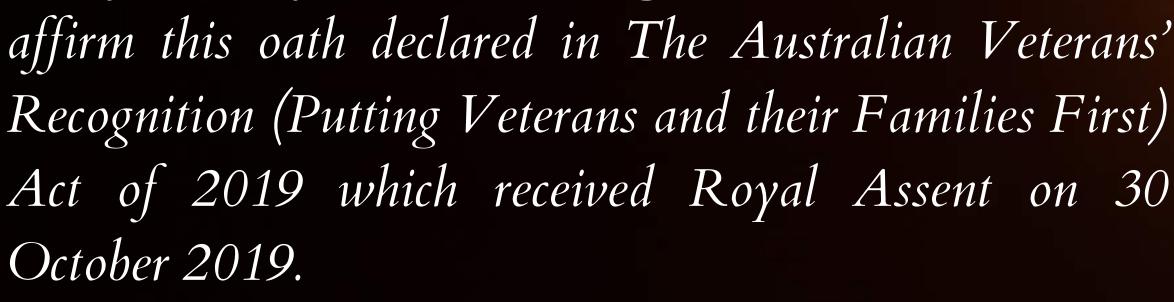






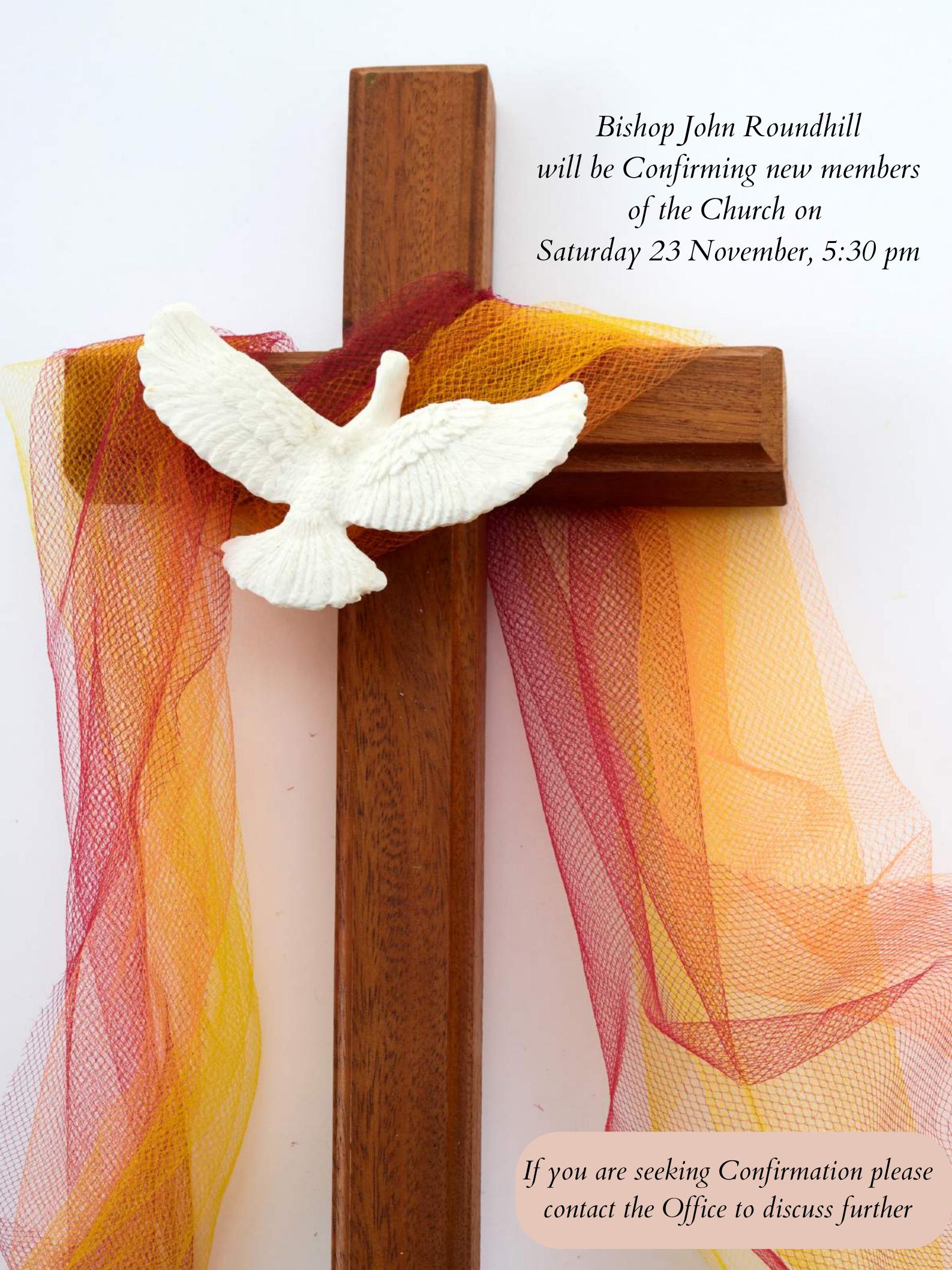
We, the people of Australia, respect and give thanks to all who have served in our defence force and their families."We acknowledge the unique nature of military service and the sacrifice demanded of all who commit to defend our nation."We undertake to preserve the memory and deeds of all who have served and promise to welcome, embrace and support all military veterans as respected and valued members of our community."For what they have done, this we will do."

The family of St Peter's Anglican Parish, Southport, affirm this oath declared in The Australian Veterans' Recognition (Putting Veterans and their Families First)





CONFIRMATION



INQUIRER'S HOUR



Thinking about the BIG questions of your Faith?

Join us on Sundays at 4:00pm for an hour of discussion on the deep matters of our Christian faith.

Currently in hiatus: recommences on Sunday 3rd November

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?

"St Peter's Church Southport, is a welcoming and 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

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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

Mr. Luke Sharpe luke@stpetersgc.org.au

