

St Augustine's Hamilton PARISH PULLSE

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WELCOME TO PP#2 2014!



A MEMORIAL AND CELEBRATORY
EUCHARIST

FOR THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ST AUGUSTINE'S BELL TOWER SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2014

Joint Service 8:30am followed by light refreshments

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Bell Tower of St Augustine's Anglican Church, Hamilton. The church was built shortly after World War I as a War Memorial to those who fell in that conflict.

All three arms of the forces are recognised in the Church. The main body of the church commemorates the Armed Forces, the choir loft, the Navy and the Bell Tower, the Air Force.

The Bell Tower was the last section to be built and was dedicated on September 13th, 1964.

Dear friends.

In the last newsletter I reported the exciting news that we were hoping to secure a grant to install the last of our windows as an ANZAC centenary project. We have been fortunate to secure a State Government grant and the ANZAC committee and the Parish Council have been working hard with an artist to come up with a suitable design that we hope to have installed by ANZAC day 2015.

It is a year for reminding ourselves that ours is a War Memorial Church. In September the Bell Tower celebrates the 50th anniversary of its dedication. On that day we plan a joint service at 8:30am to mark the occasion. Our preacher will be Chaplain Robert Paget (Wing Commander) and our guests will include Air Commodore Tim Innes and Wing Commander Ross Wadsworth, The Honorable Tim Nicholls MP as well as Councillor David McLachlan. We hope that you will be able to join us.

At the time of writing, we are in the midst of reading from Matthew 13 – the parables of growth. I believe that they have much to say about how we as church might ensure the growth of the parish and the spread of the gospel. The parables of the sower, the leaven and the mustard seed all refer to extraordinary growth from unlikely beginnings – small amount





LITTLE-KNOWN PARISH FACTS:

Many would not be aware that the Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Advent began St Margaret's school (kindergarten and primary) in the hall in the early 1920's. It operated until 1927 with 20 – 30 students, both boys and girls.

After St Margaret's moved, St Augustine's Private School opened and classes were held in the hall and the undercroft until it outgrew its space and moved down the road to the Hamilton Town Hall for a while. The school offered French, elocution, ballet and classical dancing as well as normal subjects.

The school was closed at the start of the Second World War.

~ from "A Guide to the Jewel Box The Story of St Augustine's Church Hamilton, Brisbane 1920-2000"

of leaven, smallness of seed and unsuitable ground.

In every case, despite an unpromising beginning the growth is phenomenal. Properly understood, the parable of the sower is not about how the gospel is received but how widely it was spread to achieve harvests of 30fold, 60fold and even a hundredfold.

At a time when our churches are stable at best and in decline at worst, this is a timely message. It suggests that it is important to try a variety of ways of sharing the gospel – accepting that some initiatives will fail, but that those that succeed will bear fruit beyond our imagining.

The Report of the Church Growth Taskforce (UK) discovered that there were a number of stories of Parishes that are growing because they were prepared to take risks, to experiment with new ways of engaging people. Of course, it is not a matter of "one size fits all".

Every parish is different as are the communities that they serve. Success stories in one place may result in failure elsewhere. That is no excuse for not trying.

Just as the sower threw seed in all directions so that some would fall on good soil, so it is important to keep trying new things until we find something that works.

A new initiative at St Augustine's is the Kid's Club or (as it has turned out to be) the Toddler's Club. In an effort to make connections with families whose children are baptised here, Rodney is experimenting with a new model of family ministry. Families are invited to meet for a few hours around Sunday lunch-time. There will be a time for play, a time to eat as well as a time of Christian formation. It may work, or it may not, but at this stage we are heartened by the response.

It is my belief that we can be true to our Anglican heritage, while at the same time finding new ways to share it with others. May this initiative and others that we try bear fruit and encourage a new generation to connect with this wonderful Parish and the gospel that it serve.

Yours in Christ, Marian

Our thanks to the folks at Fergies and Masthead Design & Creative for helping produce this PP.









This issue's 'big question' ...

WHO IS RODNEY AND WHY IS HE HERE?



We welcome the Rev'd Rodney Wolff

In a nutshell, Rodney was born early in the decimal currency era on a sunny day in Kew, Melbourne. After being baptised in the Jindalee Presbyterian Church (yes, it counts), he learned how to knit at primary school and took Latin to senior.

He once debated against parishioner Bill O'Chee (and lost). After a doctorate in chaos theory at Magdalen College, Oxford, he traipsed around various lectureships in the UK and Australia, including having been Student Ombudsman at QUT.

He now uses his statistical background as professor of mine planning at The University of Queensland to research risk in mining operations, which occupies him during the week.

Some time last century, Rodney explored vocation to ordained ministry in the Scottish Episcopal Church, but ultimately a sooner-than-expected move back to Australia and other distractions put that on hold for quite some time.

While recently conducting a musical (it was either "Mack and Mabel" or "The Full Monty"), a double bass-playing-bishop in the orchestra suggested a visit to the Brisbane director of ordinands. The Archbishop accepted Rodney for ordination as deacon following formal training and taking a theology bachelor degree.

The ordination process requires assignment to a parish, and the council of St Augustine's accepted Rodney on to the team, and he is grateful for the gracious welcome of all in the parish.

Rodney assists at Sunday liturgies, in baptism and wedding preparations, in visiting house-bound and hospitalised parishioners, and in Bible studies. The call to ordained ministry is one which requires living the gospel, even though a minister may only work for a parish part-time.

There are interesting and exciting challenges in following a "blended" vocation not just for Rodney, but for all clergy and laity whose lives play out in different spheres of activity. Perhaps this is the case for you.

Do have a chat to Rodney if you would like to compare notes!

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS - a reminder for you

The book which the groups are currently studying is 'DOXA', focussing on the Eucharist – on "what we are doing as we worship and what this is doing to us."

You do not have to have been involved from the beginning but can join in at any time. Speak to Marian or Rodney for more information – or just turn up!!





At St Augustine's? Surely not ...

A taste of 21st Century church services ...

Minister: "Praise the Lord!"

ALL: "Hallelujah!"

Minister: "Will everyone please turn on their tablet, device, PC, iPad,

smart phone, and Kindle Bibles to 1 Cor. 13:13. And please enable

your WiFi or Bluetooth to download the sermon."

P-a-u-s-e

Minister: "Now, let us pray, committing this week into God's hands.

Open your apps, IM, RSS feed, Twitter and Facebook, and

have a chat with God."

S - i - l - e - n - c - e

"As we take our tithes and offerings, please have your credit and debit cards ready. You can log on to the church WiFi using the password 'Lord909887'.

"The ushers will circulate mobile card swipe machines among the congregation. Those who prefer to use iPads can open them. Those who prefer to make EFT transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church. Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your cell phones to transfer your contributions to the church account."

Beep-boop-bip-bip-bip-beep-beep-boop-bip-boop-bip-boop-bip-boop-beep-beep-bip...

Final Blessing and closing announcements:

Minister:

"This week's ministry device—meetings will be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Ensure you log in and don't miss out. Please note that a single "Like" is *not* regarded as being in attendance.

"Thursday's Bible study will be held live on Skype at 0900hrs UTC/GMT. Please advise one of the Wardens if you need assistance with the video link. They would like to remind you they are also happy to assist with calculating timezone differences in advance of the session ... rather than at 3.15am local.

"You can follow the Minister on Twitter this weekend for counselling and prayers. To avoid a repeat of certain 'incidents' last week, please refrain from re-tweeting others' specific prayer requests.

"May God bless you and have nice day."

The Minister's image suddenly disappears and the church is filled with an ethereal electric glow.

Attendants rush to take a screenshot of the blue screen error codes which appear over the pulpit.

An urgent job ticket is lodged with IT and the congregation departs.





PLAYDOUGH, PUPPETRY AND PRAISING GOD

St Augustine's parish is blessed to be able to baptise well over 30 children, as well as some adults, per year. Many have a connection with current or former parishioners, or with parents who themselves have been baptised or married here.

An important ministry for us as church is to keep in touch with baptism families and to support them in their Christian discipleship.

After all, the baptism liturgy asks the congregation if they will so support the candidates. (The prayer book tells us that the correct answer is: "We will.") We aim to do this in multiple ways at St Augustine's, not least through our Sunday school.

Another way is by running a Kids' Club, which will run 12:30pm-2pm on three Sundays each school term. It will involve a combination of play, craft, story-telling, singing, and prayer for children ... a kind of messy church, but church all the same.

Don't be surprised if you find some of the kids' craft appearing on the walls inside the church ... after the paint has dried, of course, being careful of the new carpet!

A decent number of our past baptism families are getting involved. Mums and Dads are invited to participate, to help discover ways of praising and learning about God which can be made accessible and fun for kids, to continue at home in between club meetings.

Some parents have expressed appreciation for this way to participate in the church, when it might be otherwise challenging to keep a young child engaged during a Sunday Eucharist.

We aim to plan Kids' Club activities carefully, but it is still highly experimental, not least because of the diversity of ages of children who may attend each week.

If you feel that you can support this endeavour, either through assistance on the day, help in preparing craft activities in advance, preparing lunch, or by an offering, then it will all be very welcome.

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday 7.30am (said Eucharist) 9.30am (sung Eucharist)

Tuesday; Thursday 7am (said Eucharist)

Wednesday 10am(said Eucharist)

Sunday School during 9.30am service

Columbarium Service: First Saturday of month 7.30am

Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Tuesday 7.30pm: 1st, 3rd, 5th Thursday 2pm

ACTIVITIES

Meditation: Wednesday 5pm

Jumble: first Wednesday morning of month

Craft Group: 3rd Wednesday of month at 2pm in hall

Hall Hire: is available by contacting Maria in the Parish Office.

Office hours: Monday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm

(except the first Thursday of month when she is there on the Wednesday

corresponding to Jumble)





THE BASKET AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

For many years St Augustine's parishioners have been supporting Trinity Pantry in Fortitude Valley by placing grocery items in the basket at the back of the church. I collect the items and regularly deliver them to the pantry where they are distributed to people in need. The Pantry is run by Holy Trinity Church and a team of volunteers. It is open Monday to Friday



from 12 to 3pm and people who are short of food (they are usually referred there by other organisations like Centrelink) can drop in and the volunteers dispense food & grocery staples that they need.

They also offer financial assistance to people who are struggling with electricity bills, pharmacy costs and rental payments. Various parishes around Brisbane donate food and other items. One parish team regularly cooks meals & packages them for distribution. From time to time particular items are requested and this is announced in the pew bulletin.

Items that are suitable:

- Tinned food especially meals in a tin, tuna, baked beans, vegetables, soups
- Toiletries soap, deodorant, shampoo, shaving cream, toilet paper
 - Tea, coffee, long life milk, pasta, rice
- One of our parishioners donates cash and this is used to buy fresh eggs.

Please continue to be generous with placing groceries in the basket. It is important that they are new and in date (no used toiletries please). All the goods are very gratefully received. It is a very busy place and needs our support. Of course if anyone is interested, they are always keen for volunteers to work at the Pantry. Just let me know and I can put you in touch with the organisers.

Mary Perry



BUSH MINISTRY FUND

What is 'Bush Ministry'?

Within this diocese it is considered to be for those parishes within the Western Region, west of Dalby/Warwick.

What is the Bush Ministry Fund?

A fund to support bush parishes in this diocese only. BCA (Bush Church Aid) and other agencies support activities elsewhere. The Fund was established at the time of the Millenium Drought, and coincided with a period when many bush parishes were unable to support full-time clergy. Various models of shared ministry have been used subsequently, and continue to evolve.

In Roma for example, the Rector services not only Roma, but also Injune, Surat and (occasionally) Mitchell involving up to almost 800 kms of driving a week, for safety reasons in an [expensive] vehicle able to withstand occasional wildlife impacts (birds, roos, etc) with a 'thirsty'engine. The BMF assists the Bishop of the Western region by funding most/all of numerous vehicle purchases and running costs. For some extended parishes, the BMF provides supplementary support for operating costs, even part-stipends. In this way, God's mission is kept alive.

St Augustine's contribution.

We are not directly linked to a bush parish but support the Fund with our prayers, our coin collections and in other ways.



THE COLOURS FOR SEASONS OF THE CHURCH

- from Sr Joan, SSA

Thank you to Barbara Main for sharing this!





Purple

Advent will come in December, it always commences the Year. In Advent we all must remember the coming of Jesus is near. He came long ago as a baby it's true. He'll come in His glory to judge me and you.



White

Christmas is always so jolly with friends all around us, we know. with mistletoe, ivy and holly, and some countries even have snow. 'Twas just as the day was beginning to dawn

that Jesus our Saviour from heaven was born.



White

Epiphany too is the season when wise men ajourneyed from far to worship, for that was the reason they followed the wonderful star. They worshipped the infant the moment they came, and now as his followers we worship the same.



Purple

Lent of which days there are forty would bid us to fast and to pray and tell what we've done that we ought not

that Jesus may wash it away. A Christian never lets Easter begin until he is sure he's got rid of his sin.



Good Friday shows us the Saviour whom soldiers did mock and deride. So treat it with quiet behaviour for Friday's the day that He died. Look up at the cross and be covered with shame

for we it is certain are surely to blame.



White /

Easter, the day of communion the food that can strengthen and save. For there we have beautiful union with Him who arose from the grave. And everyone makes their Communion today

and feeds upon Jesus, the Food of the way.



White

Ascension is Christ's coronation when Jesus returned to His thone. To finish the work of salvation He went up to plead for his own. He went up to send us His strengthening grace. He went to prepare us a beautiful place.



Red

Whitsunday you're sure to remember for then, on the church that we love, the church of which you are a member, the Spirit came down from above. And this is the day we think her birth The Spirit hath made her our mother on earth.



Green

Trinity shows us the glory of God who is one and yet three. We think as we ponder the story how gracious and good He must be. So right through the Seasons we study each one - of all the good things that our Saviour has done.





NEW PARISHIONER PROFILES: We thought it would be helpful to introduce some of our newer parishioners occasionally.



Greg
Henderson
(and Amanda
– we'll profile
her another
time!)

Greg Henderson has been a member of St Augustine's for

18 months. Greg works as an Education Officer for the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) which involves inspiring Australian Anglicans toward a deeper engagement and understanding of mission, grounded in ABM's relationships with its partners.

Greg's role sees him work closely with Anglican Schools around the country and leading pilgrimages for Australians to visit ABM's Partners overseas.

"I think true partnership is vital for our contemporary understanding of mission these days," Greg says.

"Partnership says that we (in Australia) are equally in a position to be transformed by God's love as others around the world. It also reminds us that we are not only partnering together with our sisters and brothers, but we are actually partnering with God in God's mission of love, hope and justice for the world."

Greg is marrying his fiancé Amanda in August and enjoys travel and adventure sports in his spare time.





The Moores

The Moore Family began attending St Augustine's several years ago and since then has greatly enjoyed worshipping and sometimes assisting at the 9.30am service.

Natasha and Darren have been married for twenty years. Natasha is a teacher at Clayfield College and Darren is a Partner in a small law firm in the city.

Madeleine is in Year 12 at Clayfield College and next year hopes to study a combined Arts and Law Degree. Alastair is in Year 9 at BBC and is interested in IT, music and marketing. Madeleine is the Community Service Captain at Clayfield College and is in the Senior A debating, the Canzona choir, string ensemble and other groups.

Alastair is in three choirs at BBC including the Camerata and plays school cricket, football and rugby as well as playing club cricket for Toombul. Both are involved in their schools' Inter School Christian Fellowship groups.

The Moores enjoy spending time as a family and with their extended families, eating out, lazy holidays at Mooloolaba and travelling overseas.

They say that they immediately felt very welcomed at St Augustine's and continue to enjoy the friendships and fellowship on Sundays and at other church events. They hope to continue worshipping at and be involved with St Augustine's for many years to come.







The Brisbane Mission to Seafarers offers a "home away from home" for seafarers visiting Brisbane – it is with the support of parishes like St Augustine's that sailors visiting Brisbane have somewhere to go and someone to care for them. Parish support, combined with the generous support from the Port Authority and major industry houses, enable the volunteer work force to deliver a much appreciated service. Pastoral care is organised on an "as needed" basis using retired personnel. In the last year 13,900 sailors visited the Brisbane Mission to Seafarers - up 900 on the last 4 years average of 13,000 visitors

The original Port Of Brisbane building was provided by the Port Authority, and extended in recent years using Mission funds. The funds from the sale of the Hamilton facility (a financial bequest from the St Augustine parish) have recovered from the lows of The Global Financial Crisis, and with better canteen sales management, the Mission is well on track to post its 3rd profit year. This has taken much committee work, and allows the Mission to work on many projects to sustain the Mission facilities. Those of us that are currently associated with the mission are only the caretakers – we aim to pass the baton to someone else, with the mission in the best condition possible.

The continued support St Augustine's plays an important part in our Mission's Family, with:

- Regular donations of clothing, books, beanies and other items compliments of your jumble sales.
- Donations.
- Regular volunteers supporting the Mission opening hours. I especially
 appreciate your volunteering commitments, as I do sometimes need a
 break from our humble mission. "Your Volunteering, Keeps Me Sane"!
- Annual Brisbane River cruise that allows us to meet those that support us, and likewise (In 2014 expect to meet some of our volunteer family on your cruise).

Seafarers appreciate the existence of seafarer's centres and value the service of volunteers that ensure these centres exist.

Thank-vou & regards.

Adrian, Manager, The Mission to Seafarers, Brisbane - AUSTRALIA

Anyone interested in volunteering please contact Graham Pascoe

A very gracious lady was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments," she answered.

Then there is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation:

"I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is it's still out there in your pockets."





A RETREATANT'S RESPONSE

'Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.' Corinthian's 6 Verse 13

For some time, I had been contemplating my faith and a chance conversation with Jo Mould was the leverage I required to attend a Spiritual Retreat.

Earlier this year, along with Jo and six other Lay Folk from various parishes, I attended a three days, two nights retreat at the St Theresa Spirituality Centre at Ormiston. Our leader on this journey was the Rev. Jan Crombie. The Centre overlooks Morton Bay and is a truly beautiful, peaceful and calming space.

The time was spent in discussion and then silence descended! I quickly assessed that it was easy to still the body but the mind took much discipline.

During the stillness I prayed and reflected on my faith in God and the possibility of a greater infusion of God's love in my life. Rev. Jan was a true ambassador of Christ and led us down pathways which allowed us to affirm our commitment and connection with God.

Thankfully the evening meals with the other retreatants were rich in communication as we shared a sprinkling of life's stories. Food was abundant, delicious. AND wine was served as well!

As the retreat drew to a close, I truly felt stronger in God's presence and quietly empowered that I had met the challenge I had set for myself.

To take the time out from the hustle and bustle of life and to sit in God's presence was uplifting. I thoroughly recommend the experience and will sign on again next year. To walk in the light of God gives us strength to meet the complexities of life.







CRAFTIES' INAUGURAL MEETING

"Are you a craft lover or someone who wishes you could do something like that? Amongst our parishioners and their friends we have many 'crafty' people who would enjoy sharing time, skills and a cuppa. On the third Wednesday of each month at 2pm, commencing July 16, Jill Manahan (craftie) and Jo Mould (hopeful learner) hope that you will come and bring your knitting, tapestry, crochet, sewing etc — or just your enthusiasm — to join us in the hall for an hour or so. Come and have fun!!

"Any queries to Jo Mould oldymouldies@hotmail.com or phone: 3630 2070."

This appeared in the Pew Bulletin for a couple of weeks before eight of us met in the hall in July. It was a great time of learning, sharing, talking and laughter as we decided what we would do. Knitting was the activity of the day and we decided to concentrate for a little on making some rugs for the stall at the Faire.

We shall also continue the donation initiatives already in place through Anglicare, Red Cross and any other charity in need. Comfort Teddies, a task lovingly undertaken by MU for the Children's Hospital, is another project under consideration as well as beanies for the seafarers visiting the Mission to Seafarers centre. Marjorie modelled a most fetching number! I am sure we are all now inspired to do our bit.

There is also interest in tapestry, embroidery and other craft work which we shall get to a little later. The group is open to all who have any interest in craft and we'd love to see you there at future meetings – 2pm the third Wednesday of each month (next one: August 20th).



A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you *'know'* what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father, "what does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy," the young boy replied excitedly. "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth'."







MARRIAGES

Shai Gabrielle Dean Michael Border Lawn Anthony Noel Weder Linda Rae Carlson Michael Edward John Anapo Wilhelmina Begum Ali William Robert Ness Prior Michael Ross Gifford Johnston Sonia Jane McLean Anthony Michael Perry Hannah Josephine Smith Glenn Lee Daye Helen Margaret McKeering Giovanni Sorbello Jodie Ellen Fuller

BAPTISMS

Edward Donaild Gotting Georgia Louise Swan Haafkens Oscar Timothy Jack Taylor Sophie Emily Hollis Carter Jackson Hamilton James Brennan Eastaughffe Poppy Mae Scott Brooke Amanda Burton Thomas James Casson Elena Omany Eva Grace Achiena Reid Joshua Harley Hancock Reid Lachlan Philip James Isabella Leona Alabama Aubree-Rae Palazzi Reid Julietta Harley Zoe Elizabeth Statham Hersant Dylan Zane Balfour James Lear Hersant Zara Elle Walker Ava Lila Playford Harrison Simon Oliver François Bamford Akhurst (ADULT) Elizabeth Anne Whybrow Violet Eliza Tomlinson Cameron Mark Lederhose Seth Matthew Keane Ruby Stella

DEATHS

Lawrie Bruce Davis Dorothy Lois McIntyre **Douglas James** Smith Ruth Janice Briggs Dakota May Rosa Veal Beverley Joan Whyte Meredith Anne Rolls Enda Fav Main

Main Marie Jeanette George Roderick

McLeod Cooper

These pastoral services were celebrated during January – June 2014