

Anglican Parish of Woy Woy

Weekly Bulletin

17 February 2019

6th Sunday after Epiphany

In the coming week

Today

4.30pm. Messy Church-St Andrew's

Monday 18 February

3.00pm Home Group-Verna

7.00pm. Choir Practice-St Luke's

Tuesday 19 February

9.00am. Craft Group-11 Fleet St Umina

1.30pm Bible Study- 104 Gallipoli Ave

Wednesday 20 February

10.00am. Communion-Peninsula Village

7.00pm. Bible Study-Rosemary Bond

Thursday 21 February

8.30am. Communion-St Luke's

10.00am. Little Pelicans-St Andrew's

10.30am. Coffee&Chat-Ruby's Umina

4.30pm. Messy Church Team-The Cottage

Friday 22 February

Saturday 23 February

Next Sunday 24 February

8.00am Communion-St Andrew's

10.00am. Eucharist-St Luke's

5.00pm. Sunday Night Live-St Andrew's

Welcome to everyone visiting our churches!

Our services are all slightly different, but each offers a friendly space in which you can worship God and be part of God's community.

St Andrew's at 8am: Holy Communion, is a less formal worship service, each Sunday except the second Sunday of the Month when we observe **Morning Prayer**.

St Luke's at 10am: Holy Eucharist has a more formal style of worship. The Eucharist is also celebrated at St Luke's on Thursdays at 8:30am.

St Andrew's at 5pm: Sunday Night Live or 4:30pm: Messy Church (3rd Sunday of each month) is a space for families with children and the young at heart to join in informal and fun worship, discussion and activities.

At our Sunday morning services you will need the **middle pages of this booklet** to join in the prayers and the Psalm that we read together.

If you need a **gluten-free wafer** at Communion, please tell the person who welcomed you at the front door before the service.

We pray in silence before worship

Before worship speak to God.

During worship let God speak to you.

After Worship speak to each other.

Both of our churches are equipped with an audio loop. If you use a hearing aid, use the 'T' switch to connect.



Dear friends,

We tend to be more familiar with Matthew's Sermon on the Mount than we are Luke's sermon down on the Plain, or as the NRSV Bible has it, 'on a level place'. In the Bible, any reference to geographic location is significant given the divinely inspired authors of scripture believed in a theology of place. As a for instance, in last weeks reflection I stated that:

'the sea symbolises a world of chaos and darkness; a place ruled by the demonic, from which fish (people) must be caught for God's Kingdom. Hence the significance of the first disciples as fishermen, their occupation becomes something of a metaphor for that which they are called to become - fishers of people.'

The traditional location for divine and human encounter was atop mountains given the belief that they were the closest earthly point to heaven. We need only recall Moses' receipt of the Ten Commandments on Mt Sinai and the mount of Jesus' Transfiguration. Then there's the significance of the 'wilderness', sometimes referred to as the 'desert', a place of retreat from the corruption of worldly preoccupation, a place of prophetic call, a place of sojourn on route to the land of promise.

The location of Jesus' sermon 'on a level place' is likewise significant. Having prayerfully selected

twelve apostles atop the mountain, he now comes back down to earth with them to address a large group of followers and a great multitude in need of healing. In Luke's Jesus, we meet the 'down to earth' God, who meets humanity at their lowest point, and in their greatest need.

The 'level place' is a metaphor for the church - a place of mutual respect and radical equality, where all are one, and on the same level. The church might be described as a 'level playing field' - a situation in which everyone has a fair and equal chance of succeeding, not materially but spiritually.

Unlike Matthew's Beatitudes, Luke has only four, with corresponding 'woes'. It should come as no surprise that God favours the poor, the hungry, those who weep, and those despised; nor is it surprising that woes are pronounced on their opposites. Luke stated as early as Mary's Magnificat that the arrival of God's reign will be marked by a reversal of fortunes.

Luke illustrates this reversal of fortunes later in the gospel, in the very sobering story of Lazarus and the rich man (Lk. 16.19-31). It is a classic example of bringing down 'the powerful from their thrones, and lifting up the lowly', of filling 'the hungry with good things' and sending 'the rich away empty'. The God of the 'level playing field' loathes human disparity and desires a situation in which everyone has a fair and equal chance of succeeding in Jesus' name. May he bless the week that awaits us. - Fr Michael

From the Parish

Annual Report

It would be appreciated if all reports for inclusion in the Annual Report could be received in the Parish Office before Thursday.

REM Teacher Visits

Today we welcome Craig Hunter to St Luke's. Next Sunday Jacq Bohr will visit St Andrew's

Anglican Women's Lenten Silent Retreat

A great opportunity to take time out to prepare yourself for Easter.

This year the Retreat Conductor is our own Rosemary Gillham.

Dates:

Residential Options

Friday pm 08/03 – Sunday 10/03

Tuesday pm 12/03 – Thursday 14/03

Day Options

Saturday 09/03

Wednesday 13/03

8.45 am to 5.00 pm approx

See brochures on table for further details

Electoral Roll

A copy of the Parish Electoral Roll is at the church entry. If your name is not on this Roll and you will be attending the Annual Meeting and intend to vote on any item you must have signed a declaration stating that you are eligible to be an elector. Copies of the Declaration are available.

Prayer for all in Newcastle Diocese

As the diocese considers future strategies maybe we can each pray this prayer

*Come Holy Spirit of God, restore the lives which, without you, are lifeless and dead;
kindle the hearts, which without you, are cold and dull;
enlighten the minds which, without you, are dark and blind;
fill the church which, without you, is an empty room;
teach us how to praise and pray that we may grow together in love and have courage to make wise decisions as servants, messengers and ambassadors of God's reign,
all this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen*

World Day of Prayer

This year the World Day of Prayer service is being held on Friday 1st March at 10.30am at St Matthew's Lutheran Church, 8 Jumbuck Crescent, Woy Woy. The country of Slovenia has prepared the service this year.

Any enquiries or transport help, please contact Penny Wheeler 4341 8510.

Xero Accounting

The Diocese intends standardising our accounts using the Xero Accounting system. If there is anyone in the parish with experience in this system we would be grateful for any assistance you can offer the Treasurer and office staff in helping us to work with Xero. Please let Geoff - 0405 328 135 or Denise - 0411 553 704 know.

We pray in silence before worship

As you prepare for this morning's service please pray for yourself and those around you. You might like to reflect on this thought for the week:

Blessed are you when people hate you on account of the Son of man. Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Luke 6.23

The prayer of the day

Righteous God,
you challenge the powers that rule this world
and you show favour to the oppressed:
instil in us a true sense of justice,
that we may discern the signs of your kingdom
and strive for right to prevail;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's readings

Jeremiah 17.5-10 Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15.12-20 Luke 6.17-26

8.00am	Rosemary Gillham	Denise Hammond
10.00am	Judy Campbell.	Barry Sale

This morning's hymns

745 Seek ye first
160 Father all loving and ruling
254 O changeless Christ, forever new
544 *Since the world was young*
416 Great God, your Spirit

For our prayers this week

Please pray for:

Staff of disability
residences at Jilliby,
Rothbury and Belmont.



Wider Community:

The First Peoples of the Diocese.
Organisations working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. All those who are suffering because of the drought, bushfires and floods.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Diocese of Guadalcanal. The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. Diocese of Perth.

Wider Church:

The Uniting Church in Australia.

In the Diocese of Newcastle:

Our Bishops, Peter, Sonia and Charlie. The priests and people of Cessnock, East Maitland and Maitland.

In the Parish of Woy Woy:

We pray for our ministry team, Fr Michael and Anthea, and we pray for ourselves and the work we do in the mission of this parish.

For those seeking God's help:

Olga Arkell, Joan Armstrong, Shannon, Brett Donnelly, Jean Doré, Carol Fraser, Jenny, Bill Gates, Sandra Heath, Elaine Rand, Lucy Roy, Lorraine, Mary, Rebecca, Joy Woodward.

Would those who wish to include names in the above list, please ensure that permission has been obtained from the person or their carer.

Readings for this week

Jeremiah 17.5-10

5 Thus says the Lord :

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord .

6 They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the
wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

7 Blessed are those who trust in the Lord ,
whose trust is the Lord .

8 They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

9 The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

10 I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Psalm 1

1 Blessed are they

who have not walked in the counsel of the
ungodly:

**nor followed the way of sinners,
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.**

2 But their delight is in the law of the Lord:

**and on that law will they ponder day and
night.**

3 They are like trees planted beside streams of
water:

that yield their fruit in due season.

4 Their leaves also shall not wither:

**and look, whatever they do, it shall
prosper.**

5 As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:

**they are like the chaff which the wind
scatters.**

6 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up
at the judgement:

**nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous.**

7 For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:

but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. 17 If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. 19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Gospel: Luke 6.17-26

17 He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. 18 They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. 19 And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. 20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 21 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 22 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. 23 Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 24 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 25 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 26 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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For next week

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 45.3-11, 15 Psalm 37.1-11, 40-41
1 Corinthians 15.35-50 Luke 6.27-38

Hymns

143 Immortal, invisible, God only wise
217 Love divine, all loves excelling
MP1072 In Christ alone
607 Make me a channel of your peace
675 Shine, Jesus, Shine

Notices

Spirituality in the Pub

Tuesday 5th March, 2019, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

The Grange Hotel Function Room

Cnr: Renwick St & Pacific Hwy, WYOMING

Bistro opens at 5-30pm.

Inquiries: 4328 2596 or 0498 588 261

Theme 2019: "Reflections on my Spiritual Journey"

TWO SPEAKERS:

Rabbi Jeffrey Kamins: Senior Rabbi at Emanuel is involved in interfaith dialogue and committed to social justice projects, particularly concerning refugees, the environment and animal rights.

Paul McFarlane: Trained nurse and Anglican Pastor with Masters' Degree in Loss & Grief, currently leads a team of volunteer chaplains, trains paramedics and is a community ambassador with "RU OK?".

Movie - Indivisible - 28 February

The movie is based on the extraordinary true story of Army Chaplain Darren Turner and his wife Heather. With a strong, faith-filled marriage, the Turners are ready to follow their calling: serving God, family & country.

All All funds raised will go towards the ADF Chaplaincy Ministry to provide Bibles to serving men and women.

Can you help place a Bible in the hands of serving men and women of the ADF?

Event details:

Movie: Indivisible

When: 28th February 2019

Where: [Avoca Beach Picture Theatre](#)

Time: 6:30pm-Nibbles prior to film

Tickets: \$20

Book Online - <https://www.avocabeachpicturetheatre.com.au/bible-society-fundraiser/>. - OR Contact the Parish Office to arrange the booking. 4344 1347

Thank You

Samaritans would like to thank you for your generous donations during 2018. Our Advent drive collected two car loads of donations of all kinds food, toiletries and clothing which were very gratefully received by the staff of the Emergency Relief Centre.

Please continue with your generosity. Donations are always needed as the ER sees increasing numbers of people needing help. ANY donation is always very welcome no matter how large or small it is.

Derek and Elizabeth

Generosity

Thank you

This week we say thank you **to those who work in our parish office** and who so generously give of their time and talents to keep our parish running smoothly. Thank you for your cheerful presence for those who visit or phone our office.

Samaritans

Please remember to bring non-perishable food items and place them in the baskets provided near the door of the church for the work of the **Samaritans** organisation in our diocese.

Direct giving

Thank you for your generous financial giving to the mission of our parish. We encourage parishioners to give directly to the **'Anglican Parish of Woy Woy'** account: BSB 032-527 ACCOUNT 228059.

Reminder

If you would like a notice in the bulletin please give information to office staff by Thursday for inclusion in the bulletin the following Sunday.

Parish Churches

St Luke's: 151 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy (opposite Park Rd)

St Andrew's 360 Ocean Beach Rd, Umina (near Albion St)

Ministry Team

Parish Priest:

Rev Canon Michael Davies

Mobile phone: **0417 650 805**

Email: mdavies0968@gmail.com

Day off Monday.

Children & Family Worker:

Anthea Haughain

Mobile phone: **0421 779 305**

Email: ahaughain@gmail.com

The Cottage: parish office, op-shop and community space

151 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy 2256

PO Box 709, Woy Woy 2256

Phone: (02) **4344 1347**

Website: www.woywoyanglican.org

E-mail: woywoyanglican@gmail.com

9.00 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday

Refreshments are served after each of the services. We would love you to join us! At St Andrew's, refreshments are served in the foyer, and at St Lukes in the church hall.

At the end of the service, please introduce yourself so that we can welcome you properly. Ask for our Welcome Pack, which offers more information about who we are and what we do.