

# Anglican Parish of Woy Woy

## Weekly Bulletin

31 March 2019

4th Sunday in Lent

### In the coming week

#### Today

5.00pm Sunday Night Live-St Andrew's

#### Monday 1 April

7.00pm Choir Practice

#### Tuesday 2 April

9.00am Craft Group-The Cottage

1.30pm Lenten Study-16 Inkerman Ave, Woy Woy

3.00pm. Cursillo Group Reunion-St Andrew's

#### Wednesday 3 April

10.00am Communion-Peninsula Village

6.00pm. Lenten Service-St Luke's

7.00pm Lenten Study-Rosemary Bond

#### Thursday 4 April

8.30am Communion-St Luke's

10.00am Little Pelicans-St Andrew's

10.30am Coffee&Chat-Ruby's Umina

2.00pm Lenten Study-St Andrew's

7.00pm Lenten Study-St Andrew's

#### Next Sunday 7 April

8.00am Communion-St Andrew's

10.00am Communion-St Luke's

3.00pm. Liturgy Team-St Andrew'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 Communion** is a more formal style of worship. Holy Communion 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.

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.**



### Rector's Reflection

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Dear friends,

The parable of the Prodigal Son would have to be one of the best known stories in Luke's Gospel.

The name we ascribe it something of a misnomer, because there are two sons in the story and both are loved equally by their father. It is, however, the father who is essentially at stories centre, suggestive that 'The Parable of the Loving Father' might be a more fitting title.

Many struggle with this story, because they believe the father's love is wasted on the wasteful son. They sympathise with the dutiful and obedient older son who seems to get a raw deal. The story offends because it seems grossly unfair! Where's the justice? Should not the younger son be punished rather than rewarded for such flagrant disrespect?

However, this is not a parable about justice, it's a parable about grace which, more often than not, has nothing to do with justice. Justice is about righting wrongs - 'an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth'; grace is the extension of compassion and forgiveness to those responsible for wrongdoing. Grace desires reconciliation between the wronged and the wrongdoer - grace is restorative; justice is retributive.

In this parable, the Father loves both sons, goes out to both sons, gives inheritance to both sons.

It is not a love of either/or, it's a love of both/and. This parable epitomises Luke's genius for story-telling given its perfect illustration of the Father's (God's) unconditional love for all his children regardless of sin.

Luke invites us to identify with the parable's characters - I have been the rebellious adolescent who thinks he knows best. I've had to learn the hard lessons in the wilderness that come with abandoning the Father's love. I've had to swallow my pride and make the long, painful journey (of repentance) back to my Father (God), in search of forgiveness and healing.

I too, have to admit to being the older son, judgemental of others, because they didn't measure up to my moral standards and code of ethics. I too have been self-righteous and scandalised by leniency shown, by those more gracious than me, to those whom I felt to be undeserving.

Those of us with the ability to self-assess, recognise a time in our lives when we were the prodigal, and a time in life when we were the self-righteous older sibling. If we genuinely seek maturity in Christ, our aim should be to model our lives on the father's most gracious example.

In this parable, Jesus holds up the mirror to us and asks....'who, in the story, are you?'

Michael

### Easter Services

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#### **Maundy Thursday: 18 April - Washing of feet and stripping of the Sanctuary**

8.30am St Luke's, Woy Woy

7.00pm St Andrew's, Umina

#### **Good Friday: 19 April- Veneration of the Cross**

8.00am St Andrew's, Umina

10.00am St Luke's, Woy Woy

#### **Stations of the Cross**

3.00pm St Luke's, Woy Woy

#### **Easter Vigil: Saturday 20 April - Lighting of the New Fire and Renewal of Baptism Vows**

7.00pm St Luke's, Woy Woy

#### **Easter Day: Sunday 21 April - Celebration of the Resurrection**

8.00am St Andrew's, Umina

10.am St Luke's, Woy Woy

4.30pm Messy Church-St Andrew's,Umina

### Easter Sunrise Service

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The Brisbane Water Minsters Association invite you to a Sunrise Service at Umina Surf Club at 6am on Easter Morning.



### Prayer for our Parish

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*Heavenly Father, we bring before you our parish of Woy Woy.*

*We give thanks for what has been good in the past and ask for forgiveness for the things that have brought grief and pain to ourselves and others. Strengthen our faith and give us the courage to look forward to the future, depending on your Holy Spirit for guidance and wisdom. Unite us in the truth and fill us with your love so that we may love one another well. Give us a vision for the extension of your kingdom here on the Peninsular, and teach us to praise you in everything.*

*All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Saviour. Amen.*

### Mothering Sunday

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This Sunday is Mothering Sunday. Initially it was a time when people visited their mother church. Later it became a time when people in service visited their mothers. Now it is a time when we remember our mothers.

Mothers Union supports marriage families and children.

### Co-location Survey

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Surveys have been distributed. Please complete and return them to the boxes in each church by next Sunday 7th April.

### Offertory Envelopes

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Envelopes for April-September are available near the entry to the church.

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## 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:

While he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Luke 15.21

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## The prayer of the day

God of compassion,  
you are slow to anger, and full of mercy,  
welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts: receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you, and seat them at your bountiful table, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## Today's readings

Joshua 5.2-12 Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5.16-21 Luke 15.11-32

8.00am. Elizabeth Corless Derek Corless

10.00am Neville Gilbert Ann Compton Martin

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## This morning's hymns

129 Amazing Grace

MP1099 Oh, the mercy of God

233 I will sing the wondrous story

407 *Breathe on me breath of God*

351 Lift high the cross

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## For our prayers this week

Please pray for:

Disaster Recovery-trained volunteers provide assistance in case of flood, fire or other disasters. Teams in Bateau Bay, Wyoming and Kincumber.



### Wider Community:

The First Peoples of the Diocese. United Nations and the International Court of Justice. All those who are suffering because of the drought.

### Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Diocese of Guadalcanal. The Outback Fund. The National Home Mission Fund. Other mission agencies. Mothers Union.

### In the Diocese of Newcastle:

Our Bishops, Peter, Sonia and Charlie. Fresh Expressions and new ministries around the Diocese.

### 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, Hendrina Collison, 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

### Joshua 5.2-12

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At that time the Lord said to Joshua, 'Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites a second time.' So Joshua made flint knives, and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath-haaraloth. This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the warriors, had died during the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt. Although all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people born on the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. For the Israelites travelled for forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the warriors who came out of Egypt, perished, not having listened to the voice of the Lord. To them the Lord swore that he would not let them see the land that he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way.

When the circumcising of all the nation was done, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna

ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

### Psalm 32

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*(To be said by alternate half verse)*

1 Blessed are those whose sin is forgiven:  
**whose iniquity is put away.**

2 Blessed are those to whom the Lord imputes no blame:  
**and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

3 For whilst I held my tongue:  
**my bones wasted away with my daily complaining.**

4 Your hand was heavy upon me day and night:  
**and my moisture was dried up like a drought in summer.**

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you:  
**and my iniquity I did not hide;**

6 I said 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord':  
**and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.**

7 For this cause shall everyone that is faithful make their prayer to you in the day of trouble:  
**and in the time of the great water-flood, it shall not come near them.**

8 You are a place to hide me in,  
you will preserve me from trouble:  
**you will surround me with deliverance on every side.**

9 'I will instruct you, and direct you in the way that you should go:  
**I will fasten my eye upon you, and give you counsel.**

10 'Be not like horse or mule, that have no understanding:

**whose forward course must be curbed with bit and bridle.'**

11 Great tribulations remain for the ungodly: **but whoever puts their trust in the Lord, mercy embraces them on every side.**

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and be glad:

**and shout for joy, all you that are true of heart**

## 2 Corinthians 5.16-21

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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. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 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. 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. 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 Gospel: Luke 15.11-32

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Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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## For next week

### ***Fifth Sunday in Lent***

Isaiah 43.16-21

Psalm 126

Philippians 3.3-14

Luke 20.9-19

### **Hymns**

349 In the cross of Christ

580 Lead us, Heavenly Father

684 Love will be our Lenten calling

703 *As the deer pants (MP 37)*

MP1209 My heart is filled with thankfulness

## Notices

### Spirituality in the Pub

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Tuesday 2nd April, 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:

**Rachel Willis:** Rachel started as CEO at Coast Shelter in July 2018. She is driven by a passion to make a difference in the community she grew up in.

**Hilary Wong:** Born and raised in the UK Hilary moved to Australia in 2018 with her Australian husband and young son and became the Rector of Wyoming Anglican Church.

### First Wednesday Service -

### Tenebrai

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Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ's suffering. Readings trace the story of Christ's passion, music portrays his pathos, and the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of this momentous day. As lights are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death; we remember the cataclysmic nature of his sacrifice as we hear the overwhelming sound of the "strepitus"; and through the return of the small but persistent flame of the Christ candle at the conclusion of the service, we anticipate the joy of ultimate victory.

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## Generosity

### Thank you

This week we say thank you to **the retired priests of our parish** for the work they do in service of the parish. Thank you for the services you take and the pastoral ministry that happens in so many different ways.

### 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)**

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## 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](mailto:ahaughain@gmail.com)

### Safe Ministry Officer

**Sandy Wyatt**

Mobile phone: **0417 233 296**

Email: [sandywyatt@bigpond.com](mailto:sandywyatt@bigpond.com)

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## 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](http://www.woywoyanglican.org)

E-mail: [woywoyanglican@gmail.com](mailto: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.**