Prayer for Easter Week 5: Saving God, who called your Church to witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself, help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be reconciled to you; through him who died for us and rose again and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



EASTER BROADCASTS ON FREE-TO-AIR TELEVISION

St Paul's Cathedral

The Dean Andreas Loewe shares with us the following: We may be in isolation, but we have the technology to reach out to one another like never before in history. Though our Cathedral held no congregants this Easter, Anglicans across Melbourne and beyond nevertheless gathered to celebrate the Risen Christ – without leaving their homes.

In addition to our Facebook and YouTube broadcasts, we made arrangements for the broadcast of our Good Friday and Easter Day services free-to-air on C31, meaning that our congregants who were unable to access the services we were streaming on our Facebook and YouTube channels could join us. Additionally, our Good Friday service was also streamed to the ABC Religion and Ethics Facebook page to help amplify our Easter message. We are very grateful to our friends at C31 and the ABC for their generous support.

Following the success of the Easter broadcasts, having received some very encouraging feedback, we are investigating the possibility of continuing to broadcast services on free-to-air television. Until we are able to once again gather in person we will continue working to maintain fellowship remotely.

PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

Holy Trinity Balaclava

The Reverend Kathryn Watt shares with us the following: At our Parish Council meeting this week, we agreed to start preparing our beautiful sandstone church for when we can return there and worship together, with a garden project. We're inviting parishioners to contribute \$30, which will buy a rose bush, with the 'change' being put towards a big pile of mulch. These will be planted in our existing garden beds, alongside our healthy plants, (with some careful thinning out of odd things.)

The roses we've chosen are Peace, Dove, Joyfulness, Heaven Scent, Wedding Bells, and Mother's Love.

Our volunteer gardeners and I will do the required digging ahead of our re-opening.

Below photo from my commissioning in Feb 2019 pre-stage 3 lockdown restrictions shows part of the garden bed at the entry which will be part of our work.



IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Archbishop Meeting Clergy - Archdeaconry Days

The Archbishop will be joining clergy via Zoom for the below upcoming Archdeaconry Days. For Zoom details contact your Archdeacon directly:

- Kew Archdeaconry Meeting | 13 May → 12 noon 1pm
- Stonnington Archdeaconry Meeting | 16 June \rightarrow 9:30am 10:30am
- Essendon Archdeaconry Meeting | 14 July \rightarrow 12 noon 1pm
- Melbourne Archdeaconry Meeting | 11 August →12 noon 1pm

Thy Kingdom Come 2020

Thy Kingdom Come is on again between Ascension and Pentecost (21-31 May) across the Anglican Communion. Its aim is to pray for people to know the saving love of God in Jesus Christ and be renewed in this suffering world. Resources are available here and we encourage people in your parish

to "Pray for Five" – that is, pray from Ascension to Pentecost for five people who are not yet following Christ. A digital Beacon Event will be streamed from St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, on Sunday, 24 May, at 6pm. If your parish would like to contribute a pre-recorded segment, please contact Archdeacon Heather Patacca via email.

A REGULAR TELEPHONE MINISTRY TO VOLUNTEERS AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE

"The great strength of our parishes lies in our people"

We want to encourage parishes to continue using established networks with community outreach ministries, to check in by telephone or web-based platforms and to care for those at risk of social isolation, unemployment, poverty, homelessness, family violence and poor mental health. It is equally important to check in with our regular volunteers, many of whom volunteer in part for the social contact. Further, these volunteers may appreciate the opportunity to care for others in this way while they are in social isolation. We may already have contact details for clients or may be able to offer a phone call when distributing material aid. Please ensure that the following procedures are adhered to:

- Callers must have relevant clearances for church workers (as do our volunteers in Parish Op Shops / community meals)
- Provide a regular call just to say, "How are you going?"
- If specific problems emerge these are to be referred to the Vicar
- Our partner Anglican agencies provide many relevant services: Anglicare Victoria, Benetas, The Brotherhood of St Laurence & Relationship Matters
- If you are unclear which agency is most relevant contact Anglicare Victoria (1800 809 722) whose reception staff are trained to help you make correct referrals to the relevant welfare agencies and support services.

The great strength of our parishes lies in our people.

Providing material aid to vulnerable people in partnership with established welfare agencies and a regular telephone ministry to volunteers and vulnerable people are two ways we can be part of a compassionate and collaborative response in our community in this time of need. Click here for details.

Click here for this weeks' Video message from the Archbishop

ABC RELIGION AND ETHICS PUBLICATION

The Right Reverend

Brian Rosner

For some helpful reading click here for an article published via the **MABC** Religion & Ethics page on 'Coping with coronavirus anxiety: Four lessons from Soren Kierkegaard' by The Reverend Dr Brian Rosner.

