



ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALICE SPRINGS

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2 September 2015 #10

Parish e-letter

The Alpha Course – What is it?

This is a eight weeks course that looks at the central message and basic teachings of who Jesus is, what the Bible is about, and how all this relates to our life today.



It is being offered in cooperation with The Apostolic Church and Pastor James Bertoli. It is an opportunity to come along and explore the meaning of life and the teachings of the Christian faith, in a friendly, open, and informal environment.

There were twenty-seven of us last week on 30th of August.

You will be able to participate during a meal and in a small group setting, where people can be free to ask questions and share comments or

insights with people from all walks of life.

The course began on Sunday 23rd August and will be run on Wednesdays from 6.00 PM—8.30 PM until 11th October. We meet in the Church of the Ascension, on 18 Bath Street. Please contact Rector Brian Jeffries 0417 724 417 for more information or to register your attendance.

The talks cover such topics as: "Who is Jesus?" – "Why did Jesus die?" -- The basics of the Christian faith are explored with opportunities for discussion and debate on some of those tricky questions of life.

As people meet together each week, lasting friendships are often made. All over the world, the Christian Church is experiencing remarkable growth. New shoots of life are springing up, giving fresh dynamism, hope and vision.

"Who is Jesus?"

"Why did Jesus die?"

Parish Council Members



Vera Lukic



Lynn Wollinski



Grant Butler



Margaret Marsh



Chamari Alaharuwan



Kevin Diflo

Farewell Dear Friends

Jane Bannister, Eileen Boocock and Enid Harland have loving and lasting memories of Bev Hawkes and John Strange.

Enid recalled that John worshipped at Sunday Services up until he no longer was able to attend. Enid is particularly grateful for John's faithful volunteering effort for 7 years as bus driver for family members visiting the prison. John and his wife, Pamela were the regular gatekeepers at the annual Harts Range Races. John Strange and Bev Hawkes each had large families. John had five boys and one girl and Bev had three daughters, ten grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Jane remembers Bev as a remarkable person — a real lady, quiet in demeanour, with beautiful manners and faithfulness to God and the church. Bev maintained a lively interest in world affairs to the end. Bev's husband, Ray, made-up a furniture polish that was used to refurbish the pews. Eileen recalls Bev's consistent organization of fundraising Lawn Sales in front of the church. Eileen reminded us about Bev's weekly attendance with Halcyon Lucas (with their walking sticks) always in the second row.



*Bazaar Bazaar
19th September
- very soon now -*

- /1. Messages have been posted to the Alice Springs Town Council Community Events Calendar and Southern Cross Television calendar.
- /2. The list of Stall Managers and Helpers is gradually being filled-in. More are needed. Check the big sheet near the kitchen in the church.
- /3. We are still working on having a celebrity to open the event and all the official paper work has been handed-in.
- /4. If you have not got room to store items you are donating for the stalls, there is some secure space in the garage at Kevin and Eleanor's place at 11 Kuhn Court, Sadadeen, (off Mallam). There is also space for more plants that will be watered every day.
- /5. Don't forget to have a Spring Clean to find items for the White Elephant stall. *Thank you very much.*

Our Finances - An Update

It is interesting to perceive that churches of the Sacramental mould, like us and the Lutherans, for example, seem frequently to be on the brink of running out of money to maintain stipends and the church's material things. Our correspondence archives are thick with letters to the Bishop and parishioners on the topic. However, low and behold, suddenly an offering is made that really helps out at the time.

God recently protected us in such a way. Someone, we don't know who but God does and we are thankful to God for leading that person, donated a large offering that helped us pay outstanding bills, right at the time we reported in e-letter #8 that the situation was 'serious'.

It also seems that the recent finance letter to all parishioners has born some fruit because Parish Treasurer Margaret, has reported a small increase in giving.

Rod Irving has written a book about, "*Resourcing Local Church Ministry*". He said, "*The biblical saying, 'as you sow, so shall you reap', is a general principal that indicates that the generous person will experience God's blessing. 'Our attitude to giving is vital. We do not give to get for ourselves. However, as we are blessed, we have further opportunity to give more so others benefit and God is glorified. God's blessings flow to us so they can flow through us'.*

Our bank balance at 31/07/2015 was \$1,765.82

St Mary's – More Good News

As planned, Fr Hiley and nine worshippers celebrated Holy Communion with prayer and song in St Mary's Chapel on Sunday 30 August 2015.

Our prayer is that this will become a regular occasion for people living in the area near and beyond The Old Timers Village as well as people who like the atmosphere of St Mary's. We celebrated a regular Anglican Service amid several more songs and hymns than usual. It was great. Jose Petrick and Helen Kevern said they enjoyed the spiritual feel of the Chapel. Samantha Kendal's dog,



Morgan, seemed to like the singing too.

Contact the Rector on 8952 1056 if you wish to participate in planning for the future route St Mary's is to follow.

*Five Points from Jesus
in Rector Brian's Sermon on
Sunday* [with acknowledgement to Rev'd Bruce Prewer]

"Listen carefully and understand: there is nothing outside a person that can corrupt them; it is the things which come out of them that corrupt."

[Mark 7:15]

In the name of Christ Jesus, I emphasise five main things:

- 1/ Be honest with yourself and know what is going on inside you. Forewarned is forearmed. The most dangerous thing you can do with yourself is to deceive yourself or pretend.
- 2/ Do not wallow in self-guilt, or mentally berate and beat yourself up as a wicked sinner for having these thoughts and feelings.
- 3/ Let the Spirit of Christ, who "in all points was tempted like we are, yet without sin," help you deal with these inner pressures.
- 4/ Accept the fact that at times some of these inner pressures may break out into our words and deeds. Then we must face up to what has happened, and accept the healing grace of Christ, allowing Jesus to forgive you and restore us.
- 5/ When others around you, including Christians, do succumb to negative emotions and feelings within and sin in ways that alarm you, be merciful with them even as God is merciful with you.

"Baked Beans" Project

The *Baked Beans* project started with the Victor Harbour parish in Victoria donating money towards canned supplies distributed from our church. It is now a general fund in our Budget for people in need.

Edited by Kevin Diflo 0427 295 367 - kerdiflo@internode.on.net