



# ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALICE SPRINGS

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## Parish e-letter - 19 August 2015 #9

### *Towards a Parish Vision - JESUS IN THE CENTRE*

Prayer	CHURCH	OUTREACH
*Jesus spent quiet time in prayer	* Make people aware of Jesus	* Social * Multicultural * Evangelism * Services
My Life: Values in my life / work	Environment: Glorious scenery that He made	

The development of a parish vision is gradually taking shape. Last Saturday a small group of us each contributed our ideas. The creativity and straightforward in-put of our group was encouraging.

As a starting point, we asked what our tagline, "Jesus in the centre", means to us. We asked what can this look like? We also asked, how we can be equipped to be, "Jesus at the Centre".

Yes, we are in the centre of Australia. We considered

Jesus to be in the centre of our lives. We looked at the example of his life, his ministry of teaching, his healing and the Good News he shared.

From there we shared our thoughts on the Diocese of the NT Mission Statement and Vision and agreed it is a useful guide. We wish to align ourselves with the wider Diocese, but we wish to develop our own unique Mission and Vision. Below is an example of our contribution:

**Mission:** "We will be a welcoming community with Jesus in the centre, celebrating our faith through worship, in Gospel living, and engaging creatively in renewing and growing in faith and actively working in sharing our faith with others"

**Vision:** As Christians in Central Australia we seek to worship and serve Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit through: Caring for each other - Sharing our Christian faith - Creating and bringing hope to the community in all its multicultural diversity - Actively working for social and environmental justice for all.

### *Bazaar Bazaar – Names and Thanks so far*

- Devonshire Teas/Strawberries & Cream: – Manager: ? / Helper: Clare T.
- Cakes, Jams& Pickles: – Manager: ? / Helper: Jane B.
- Preloved Books, DVDs and Things - Manager: ? / Helper: Kevin D
- Food: Baked Potato/Gourmet Hot Dogs/Curry/Mexican/ -Manager: David B / Helper: Vera L.
- Basket & Bottle Stall: - Manager: ? / Helper: Nicki S.
- Music& Entertainment: - Manager: Paul / Helper: ?
- Plants: - Manager: Eleanor D./ Helper: Helen D.
- Craft& Sewing: - Manager: ? / Helper: ?
- General Help: - Lynn W, Trevor S, Harry M.

**David is looking for more helpers and for you to let him know what you are planning to contribute for the stalls. – Call him: 0417 267 088**

Church of the Ascension – the Centre of so Much Community Activity

## Quiz Night – You should have been there

By Nicki Smith:

Last Friday night (15<sup>th</sup> August) was a total celebration of all things Australian. Quiz Night comperes, Patti



and Harry, had a range of activities and questions and some were quite tricky, in categories to suit everyone, from sport to music. They acknowledged some palms for greasing, handed-out plenty of



spot prizes and occasionally had to deal with suspected cheating. However, all through the night there was much laughter. The four teams, which included the somewhat incongruously named, *Frolicking Phantoms*, fought furiously in every round. Champions of the evening, by a teeny margin, *The Young Ones* (by-and-large a misnomer of a moniker), were happy to share in generously donated prizes. The other teams, *The Bushrangers* and *The Wombles* managed to score a few prizes too. Supper was up to the usual ACOTA standard, and appreciated by all participants. Thank you to everyone who helped organise, attend and participate. Success can be measured in both community and financial ways. This event was a success for parish fellowship.

## Australian Church Women Inc. – Fellowship



Representatives of Australian Church Women Inc. [ACW] met in the Church of the Ascension on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015. Guest Speaker, Bishop Greg Anderson, addressed the gathering on the theme, *“Building in Line with God’s Design”*. The proceeds of the offering were applied to the *Winifred Kiek Scholarship*, honouring the first woman to be ordained in Australia. The fund is used

for further training and studies in theology and related fields. Members of the Lutheran, Anglican and Uniting Churches delivered the Readings, prayed the dedication of the offering and led prayers for the people. ACW was established in 1965 when Women’s Interchurch Councils came together and formed the organisation. Their aim was to foster ecumenism and undertaking action on behalf of the churches across national boundaries.



## Diocesan Council – Managing the Diocese

The Diocesan Council (D.C.) carries-out the work of Synod between sessions. The DC met in our church on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015. The Synod functions as a forum for all parts of the Diocese to consider and determine matters of common interest in the affairs of the Church. At the NT Synod, held earlier this year, the Bishop, in his Charge to the gathering, outlined why we meet like this. He said, “... we are a fellowship of churches that belong together and that work together. We belong together for at least four reasons.



**First**, we are followers of Jesus. This is the most important thing that unites us. **Second**, we come from Anglican churches. **Third**, we have the shared heritage of being

together in this diocese that has existed for nearly fifty years. **Fourth**, we belong together because we come from the Northern Territory. We have certain differences from other places – we are still a frontier, a growth edge. Our business as churches is to celebrate what God is doing in the world, and to draw attention to it.” There is no representative on Diocesan Council from Alice Springs or the Centre. On 1<sup>st</sup> August, the D.C. members discussed Administrative and Management matters to do with land; Diocesan Legislation; Compliance matters; Strategic Risk Register; Accounting Processes in the Diocese. The Marsh’s, Diflo’s, Wollinski’s and Martin’s generously provided billets.