

ST JUDE'S

Newsletter

Sunday 17 April 2022

EASTER DAY

“CHRIST ALONE” - vital and challenging

"Christ Alone" was one of the great slogans used by Christian leaders in the 16th century as they sought to define clearly the message of the gospel. It is to say that Christ alone is the necessary, sufficient, universal and unique way to be saved and brought into right relationship with our God and creator.

When Jesus bowed to his knees in the Garden of Gethsemane and prayed to his loving Father, "everything is possible for you... take this cup from me... yet not what I will but what you will", the only response he received was silence. Silence because there was no other way to deal with our real problem – the just anger of God against universal human rebellion.

The cross was absolutely necessary for God's plan of salvation. 'Christ alone' also tells us that Jesus' work on the cross is sufficient. The perfect, sinless Son perfectly paid for the sin of his people. It is universal – if there was any other way, other religion, other spirituality, that was adequate, then the Father would have spared his Son. But he listened in silence to Jesus' prayer.

This makes Christ the unique means of salvation for all people. He reconciles us to God, and this is the only way we can know God as a loving Father instead of a wrathful judge. Now this exclusivity all sounds extremely arrogant and even dangerous. If you asked people fifty years ago "what's the main barrier to peace in the world?", they would have answered, "political ideology". In the middle of the Cold War that was the thing that divided us. Now if you asked the same question, people will most likely say "religion", especially religious people who believe that they alone have truth from God. How do we believe 'Christ alone' and yet not become arrogant or dangerous? It is surely because the seemingly foolish message of the cross must humble us before people who do not agree with us. We are not saved by our own wisdom or righteousness, and this should lead us to humility rather than prideful arrogance.

The message of the cross enables us to live at peace with others, for there is no more powerful reason for accepting those different to us, even our enemies. At the heart of Christianity is a man dying for his enemies. God forgiving us rather than destroying us. A Saviour who looks down upon those murdering him and calls out "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they do."

Warmly, Gavin

DIARY DATES



- Friday 22- Sunday 24 April** KYCK (Youth Convention Katoomba)
Thursday 05 May Mothers Union 10am
Friday 6 May CMS Southern Highlands Lunch
Friday 27 May Take a Break & RMG Combined 10.30am
Saturday 04 June Southern Highlands Women's Conference

PRAYER

Pray for Judith Baxter, Catherine Job, Gordon Hopkins, Gladys Davids, Alan Key, Rosemary Thomas, Jenny Maffey, Dorothy Nesbitt (Sister-in-Law of Carmelo Venturini) and David Sutherland.

Please pray for family of the following people who have died: Audrey Hawkey, June Graham, Sarah Dasey, Ross Coventry Barter and Reg Marsh.



MISSION PRAYER

Sam and Marinka

- Pray for Muslims during this month of Ramadan that, through all the pious observation, all the worries about the spiritual world and all the exhaustion and family time, they will find rest in Jesus Christ. Pray for the Peace Tent ministry that good connections will be made in the community.
- Pray that Sam will have precious time to talk about Jesus with his Muslim friends.
- Give thanks for new partners who are eager to pray and support the ministry in the Middle East.
- Thank God for full recovery from Covid and time with Marinka's sister from overseas.
- Pray for energy and engagement as they continue to visit churches.



CARE

We encourage those of you who are experiencing challenging situations where Christian Care might be helpful, to contact Kate or the Church office. Our first point of Care is within our Connect Groups. However, for those not in a Connect Group, we'd love you to contact us in the office, so we can pray for you and offer assistance where possible. Our desire is to Care for our members and reaching out is a very helpful step in order for us to love and care for our church family.

kate@bowralanglican.org.au or office@bowralanglican.org.au 02 4862 4383

CONNECT & WELCOME!

Are you new to St Jude's or are you a regular member who would like to update your details with us?

Please use this QR code to give us your details or use this link <https://bit.ly/3FnBt0u>

Paper contact cards are also available in all services. We would love to have your details to keep in touch!



Scan this QR Code
to give us your details



TAKE A BREAK & RMG

Great news, the next speaker for Take a Break is Dr Andrew Browning, from the Barbara May Foundation. As we feel lots of people would love to hear Andrew speak we are combining the event with the Retired Men's Group*. All people are welcome.

We feel this will be a wonderful opportunity for you to invite friends and family along to hear about Andrew's work. Come along at 10.30am for a light morning tea, then hear our speaker at 11am, Friday 27 May 2022,

*RMG will return to regular scheduling soon.

OFFERTORY

There are many ways to give at St Jude's: Credit card, paypal, cash and by direct debit.

The "tap" and go device for those that would like to give their offertory with a debit/credit card, similar to a square reader that you would have seen in shops. It gives you the option to tap and give your offertory easily with set amounts on your chosen card. Please try it if you normally give via cash.



The easiest and most secure way to give is by regular online giving via direct debit:

Account Name: St Simon and St Jude's Anglican Church

8am Service BSB 082-476 Account Number 84-659-6063

9.30am Trad Service BSB 082-476 Account Number 84-659-6127

9.30am Aud Service BSB 082-476 Account Number 84-659-6194

4pm Trad service BSB: 082-476 Acct No: 50-956-2559

5.30pm Service BSB 082-476 Account Number 84-647-9289

PayPal. You are now also able to give via PayPal click [here](#) to go straight to the PayPal site.



PayPal: If you have a PayPal account use this QR code or you can give online

<https://bit.ly/33ESTEw>

STAFF

Senior Minister	Rev Dr Gavin Perkins	0425 287 249
Assistant Minister	Rev Graham Schultz	0439 298 518
Youth Minister	Rev Matt Jacobs	0422 084 571
Children's Minister	Mr Jaryd Hoffman	02 4862 4383
Care and Support Minister	Mrs Kate Pearse	0402 801 445
Pastoral Visitation Assistant	Mrs Sarah Bull	02 4862 4383
Organist & Classical Music	Dr Allan Beavis	0448 009 434
Safe Ministry Coordinator	Rev Dr Gavin Perkins	02 4862 4383
Office Manager	Ms Felicity Ray	02 4862 4383