



GUNNEDAH ANGLICAN CHURCH

In Touch // 13 September 2020

EUTHANASIA: What gives us dignity?

Bible Readings

Psalm 8:1 – 9

1 Peter 1:13 – 21

Pre-reading for next week's Sermon

Isaiah 29:13 – 21 | 1 Corinthians 6:9 – 20

Mission Statement

Love God, Follow His Word, Seek the Lost,
Equip them for His Kingdom.

Senior Minister:

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WELCOME

Welcome to all who are with us today!

VERSE FOR THE MONTH

“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.” **1 Peter 1:18-19**

We can measure how much something is worth to a person by what they are willing to pay for it. So we must be incredibly precious to God, because he bought (i.e. redeemed) us at great cost – ‘the precious blood of Christ’.

Is there someone in your life you can encourage with this verse this week?!

COVID MATTERS

Hotspots – a clarification

If you have visited out of town, what counts as a ‘hot spot’? We are using the NSW Government list provided at the website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates#increased-testing-and-surveillance>. This will be printed and provided at the church entryway.

To clarify: there are three parts to the list, and they apply in different ways:

1. *‘Areas and suburbs with increased testing’*: if you have been to one of these areas, then you are allowed to come to church.
2. *‘Self isolate and get tested immediately’*: As the name implies, you cannot come to church (or anywhere) for 14 days, even with a COVID test.
3. *‘Monitor for symptoms if you’ve been to these locations’*: Please do not come to church if you have been to one of these locations in the time specified. If you have been tested and received a negative result, then you may come.

NEW PARISH COUNCIL

We give thanks for those who are serving on our Parish Council! We have several new members.

The wardens are: Wayne Langdon and Pete Thomason (a third will be left for appointment by the new vicar)

The Parish Councillors are: Wayne Anderson, Jamie Chaffey, Leon Cupples, Alice Gerty, Paul Gruber, Adam Ortiger, Gae Swain, Geoff Swain, Alex Wharton and Tim Wilson.

Our next Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 21 October 2020 at 7pm.

The Minutes of the AGM are on display in the foyer.

SPRING HOSPITALITY SUNDAYS!

Spending time together is precious for our fellowship together. We cannot gather for meals on the church site, but we can still gather off-site in groups up to 20! Please sign up today if you would like to be part of a group next 2 weeks. When you sign up, please indicate:

- Whether you’d be a host or a guest. If you ‘host’, it can just mean gathering in a park.
- Whether you’re willing to bring food (simple is good!), either as BYO or to share.

We want to keep these gatherings COVID safe! So, that means:

- Meeting in a space large enough to physically distance.
- If sharing food, then one person only distributes it after washing hands.
- No sharing of cups, plates etc.
- Recording who came to the gathering.

WORKING BEE

The Maintenance Committee is calling out for help to clean up the vicarage on Saturday 19 September, before Simon and Jenny arrive. If you can help out in any way, please put your name on the sheet on the back table or contact Leon Cupples for more information.

WALLER WELCOME HAMPER

It's not long now until Simon, Jenny and Alex arrive! To show our love on their arrival, the Pastoral Care Committee have put a basket on the back table. If you would like to donate non perishable pantry / other items, please do so by Sunday 27th.

A WORD FROM THE TREASURER

From Leon's report to the AGM:

"This year, the Parochial Council has put forward a budget of \$235,302, approximately \$20,000 per month. This is the minimum cost of running the parish with two full time ministers for a year. Last year's average monthly offertory was \$15,133. This indicates that we require an increase in income of 32% to cover this shortfall.

"To this end, I would like to urge each of us to review our giving according to our ability to do so. I would also remind those of us who use electronic banking, that it is quite easy to have clicked and forgotten this matter. I urge each of us to remember that Christ cautioned us not to store up treasures on earth, but in Heaven."

CHURCH ONLINE

The 10am service is posted by Sunday evening. You can find it on the church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/GunnyAnglican/videos>.

If you are watching on Facebook, then **please like the video**, which gives us an idea of how many are watching. Note that the service will be automatically deleted after about a week. The sermon is still available in print and audio form on Wednesdays.

THANK YOU FROM NORTH KIGEZI

The North Kigezi Diocese Partnership committee sincerely thanks the many people in the Armidale Diocese who have generously supported our brothers and sisters in North Kigezi. The books donated for the Bible college library in North Kigezi arrived on 7 August 2020. Your generous support for the food appeal was gratefully received and has supplied food to many families. The food appeal is now closed. However we currently have an appeal for a Pastoral Support Fund (ministry worker support). This appeal is aiming to support ministry workers in North Kigezi Diocese up to Christmas this year. It is wonderful the way in which people across the Armidale Diocese are prayerfully and financially supporting the partnership. If you would like to Connect, Pray and Support a ministry family please talk to your Vicar or call Simon Carter on 6761 7271.



Diocesan Development Fund

Offering investment accounts to members of the Anglican Diocese of Armidale.

Attractive interest rate, no fees and no minimum investment amount.
Supporting the ongoing gospel work of the Diocese.

This is not an online account. 31 days' written notice required to withdraw funds.

or contact the Administrative Officer,
Mrs Samantha Brennan on
02 6772 4491

For more information,
terms and conditions:
armidaleanglicandiocese.com/ddf



Parish Vision Prayer No 3

Heavenly Father,

Please be at work in our community opening many hearts to the gospel and using us to shine as a light for you, that many would be drawn to Jesus in repentance and faith, and become established among His people. Please compel us with Christ's love, strengthen us in our prayer and witness, give us courage to speak and faithfulness to persevere.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

Sickness – pray for Joan Eyeington, Nancy Sharman, Brian & Lorna Thompson, Betty Brady, Bob Groth, Julie Gosper, Marj Holton, Geoff Swain, Joy Pearson, Kaye Morrison, Malcolm White, Judy Baker, Rev Greg Peisley and Reena McIntosh (Phil & Tina's granddaughter)

Prayer Support available – please see Wayne Langdon, Robyn Sommerlad, Helene Anderson or Sandra Price.

FOR PRAYER

* For our ministry to those in Maclean care – we can't visit, but Sharon Etheridge and others continue to write notes of encouragement to pass to residents.

* Give thanks for those who serve us by cleaning and caring for the church property.

Diocese: Pray for the Parish of Moree

Vacant

Lay Pastoral Worker Michael and Kietta Allen

SERMON NOTES

EUTHANASIA – Part 1

Psalm 8 | 1 Peter 1:13 – 21

Definition: "A medical practitioner intentionally ending the life of a person, at that person's voluntary and competent request, for reasons of compassion."

What the world says about our value

- Usefulness
- Freedom / independence
- Pleasure

What God says:

- 'Do not murder'
- Psalm 8
- Good Samaritan – 'go and do likewise' (Luke 10)
- Valued – 1 Peter 1:18

Some consequences

- If we value life, we care for life.
- If we devalue life
- Do you treat everyone as precious?