

This Week's Diary

Sunday April 15	Holy Communion <i>Blessing of the Harvest</i>	7:30am 10:00am
Monday April 16	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	8:30am 5:30pm
Tuesday April 17	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	8:30am 5:30pm
Wednesday April 18	Morning Prayer Bishop in Council Holy Communion Evening Prayer	8:30am 9.30am 10:30am 5:30pm
Thursday April 19	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer Parish Council Meeting	8:30am 5.30pm 7.30pm
Friday April 20	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	8:30am 5:30pm
Saturday April 21	Morning Prayer Holy Communion	8:30am 5:30pm
Sunday April 22 Third Sunday of Easter	Holy Communion Holy Communion	7.30am 9.30am

Readings: Acts 3:12-20, Psalm 4, John 2:15-17; 3:1-6, Gospel Luke 24:36b-48

Please note that children's activities, including Holy Terrors and OAKS, are in recess during the school holidays. Colouring sheets and activities are available for children attending worship on those Sundays.

Parish Office:

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9.00am - 1.00pm Monday to Friday
Cnr Anson & Byng Streets, Orange 2800

Rector

The Rev'd Canon Frank Hetherington
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Associate Priest

The Rev'd Canon Margaret Finlay
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Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Orange

Growing, loving and serving God in the Community

15 April 2012

The Second Sunday of Easter

From the Rector,

When Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, he brought them more than proof that he was indeed alive. He gave them a new life. John 20:19-23 describes Jesus breathing on his disciples and imparting to them the Ruach, the Holy Spirit.

This Breath of Life was present and active in the beginning of creation, just as it is now. The Spirit of Creation is the Spirit of creativity which reshapes and changes the followers of the risen Christ.

After their experience, something new is expected of the disciples. They are to be new people, new creations. This act of breathing the Holy Spirit brings about new life for them, one in which they follow vocationally the Christ who is Life, Spirit, and Breath.

With each breath, we too can take in the glory of God and be reminded of the Spirit that fills, sustains and changes us.

Elie Wiesel, in *Five Biblical Portraits* says:

“Who is a prophet? Someone who is searching - someone who is being sought. Someone who listens - and who is listened to. Someone who sees people as they are, and as they ought to be. Someone who reflects his or her time, yet lives outside time.

A prophet is awake for ever, for ever alert - never indifferent, least of all to injustice, be it human or divine, whenever or wherever it may be found. God's messenger to us, the prophet, somehow becomes our messenger to God.”

The prophetic vocation is vital as we celebrate both Easter and the Blessing of the Harvest. Not only is the Church to proclaim the creative breath of God, the gift of the resurrected Jesus to all people; but also to be alert to, and speak of, the power of the Spirit of God active in the creation itself.

The breath of Christ is alive amongst those who are sustained through the gift of new life at Easter. It is also alive amongst those who respond to the earth with gentleness and justice.

Each vocation informs the other. Let us live vocationally as people of the Spirit.



To our visitors

Welcome to our parish community.

We hope you enjoy your worship here today.

Please stay for a cup of tea after the services if you are able.



Prayer Response

Risen God, bring new life to your creation, and, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In our Prayers

- The Church in the Philippines
- Bourke-Brewarrina, Canowindra and Cobar
- Give thanks for God's blessings
- Pray for a just and equitable use of the earth's resources
- All who work for peace
- Those battling with illness, and the dying
- The Griffith family in their loss

Please remember that Bush Church Aid money boxes should be returned this month.

Blessing of the Harvest

A special welcome to those attending this special service today, and to all who are have worked in the background preparations.

Today's Guest Preacher is the Rev Dr Howard Smith, Chaplain to the Orange Hospitals before his retirement.

Music will be led by the Cantar Singers, a local women's choir with a wide repertoire.

A Devonshire tea is available for \$5. Proceeds of the morning tea will be used for church maintenance.

Visitors are invited to bring a picnic lunch and stay on after the service.

The Australian Voices presents "Choral Classics"

Monday, April 23, 2012; 6:30 pm
at Holy Trinity Church.

This group is recognised as one of the finest classical a capella ensembles in the world, with multiple international awards. See noticeboard for details.

ABM Lectionary Reflection

- Acts 4.32-37; Psalm 133;
1 John 1.1-2.2; John 20.19-31

Frequently in the Gospel narratives we are presented with the thought that the opposite of fear is not 'courage' but 'peace'. In the Infancy narratives Angels give messages 'do not fear' and in the same breath announce God's presence and peace. We find the same link here – the disciples had gathered together in fear and into their midst comes Jesus with the gift of peace. This Gospel passage anticipates both the 'Great Commission' given by Jesus before he left the earth and the extraordinary outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. The disciples are told by Jesus to go out to teach and forgive in the name of Jesus and in the power of the Spirit. At a time when the disciples are feeling at their weakest they are entrusted with the work of God. Surely this is Jesus telling the disciples that what matters is their willingness to respond to his call, the outcome will always be the work of the Spirit.

- Let us pray that the Spirit will have greater freedom to work in and through the lives of all the baptized.
- Give thanks for the Episcopal Church in the Philippines, for Prime Bishop Edward Malecchan, and for his clergy and people.

There will be no **Choir practice** on April 18 or 25.

Pilgrim Books, 131 Summer Street, Orange, is offering a free slice of cheesecake and a coffee with every purchase of Kate Brack's new cookbook, ***The Sweet Life***. Kate was the winner of Channel 10's Masterchef 2011 competition.

Reality Event May 3-6

Will Graham, grandson of the world famous American evangelist, Billy Graham, will be the guest speaker at a number of gatherings in early May, including:

- **A Civic Luncheon,**
May 4, 12.30pm - 2.00pm
(Orange Ex-Services Club), tickets \$30, for a two course meal, available from Shelley Taberner, 0413638797 or Greg Barnes, 0412928821
- Gather a group of friends together and go as a group.
- **Youth Night, Friday**
May 4, 7:30 pm
- **Saturday,**
May 5, 6.00pm
- **Sunday,**
May 6, 4 pm

These three events will take place at the Orange Function centre.

Three of Australia's best known Christian youth bands will be playing at the youth night. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to invite youngsters to attend.

Central West Christian Woman's Conference: 12 May - the focus is on Proverbs 31 - at The Orange Function Centre; \$35 includes lunch. Brochures are available at the back of the church. For further information, please contact Rachel Budden or Margo Clarke.

Sets of offering envelopes for 2012 will be made available soon. If you would like to order a set, please contact the Parish Office. Many people find them a convenient way of giving to the parish regularly. Others use Direct Debit, arranged through the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst at no cost. Information sheets are available on the table at the back of the church.

Poems on Autism

Melinda Smith, has released a book poems on the subject of autism. If you would like a copy, please contact Howard or Joan on 6362 3375; books are \$20 each.

Mercia McNulty, wife of the Rev Alan McNulty, died last Monday and was buried at St Barnabas on Friday. We offer Alan and his family our love and prayers at this time.

Hospital Visitation and Home Communion

As there is no hospital chaplain, it is a great help to our clergy if people notify the hospital on admission if they would like a visit. But please also contact the Parish Office to inform our clergy of your request. Under privacy laws, the hospital is unable to give lists of names to pastoral visitors unless that permission has been given.

If people are housebound and would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office so that arrangements can be made.

Copies of **a pastoral letter from Bishop Richard** regarding the development of a Diocesan Income Account are available at the back of the church. Please give serious consideration to supporting this project if you are able.

Thanks to Jack McDonald and his team of helpers for the restoration work on the southern doors of the church. The doors look terrific in their "ox blood" colour!

