

This Week's Diary

Sunday August 26 13th after Pentecost	Holy Communion	7:30am
	Holy Communion	9:30am
	Confirmation Class	4.00pm
	Bible Study Group	5.00pm
Monday August 27	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
Tuesday August 28	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	Bible Study Group	7:30pm
Wednesday August 29	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Holy Communion	10.30am
	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	Choir Practice	7.30pm
Thursday August 30	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	OAGS Council	5.30pm
	Evening Prayer	5.30pm
Friday August 31	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Evening Prayer - <i>special prayers for the Parish</i>	5:30pm
Saturday September 1	Morning Prayer	8:30am
	Holy Communion	5:30pm
Sunday September 2 14th after Pentecost	Holy Communion	7:30am
	Holy Communion	9:30am
	Confirmation Class	4:00pm
	Bible Study Group	5:00pm

Readings: Song of Solomon 2:8-13, Psalm 45:1-2,6-9, James 1:17-27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

Parish Office:

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9.00am - 1.00pm Monday to Friday
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Associate Priest

The Rev'd Canon Margaret Finlay
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To:
Know Grow
Show Go
In Christ

Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Orange

To make disciples for Christ, who will make disciples

August 26, 2012

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

From the Rector,

After the mighty teachings on the life and person of Christ, "Ephesians" includes moral teaching and requirements of the spiritual life.

The writer suggests that humans may not have the strength to resist temptation as there are greater spiritual forces battling for human hearts and minds. Ancient culture personified evil in a variety of ways, such as the demonic power called Satan; "fallen" angels who had rebelled against God and powerful astrological bodies. These powers existed not only in the heavens, but also in the world.

In the original language, *pan* means "all" and *oplon* means "arms" in terms of armour or weaponry. *Panophy* refers to a complete suit of armour. This imagery describes how this new Christian community is to prepare for the struggles of wholeness, justice, and harmony.

The writer encourages people to find strength from God's strength. They are not merely in individual struggles with themselves and their own worst desires; but are to be prepared for external forces that have the power to subject them to its will.

What follows is a detailed metaphor for them to be well equipped as they put on

the whole armour of God. The belt of truth circles the wearer as God's truth and circles those who believe. A breastplate of righteousness is designed to guard the heart. Soldiers wore sandals that had spikes on them to help them stand firm. Shields were made of wood covered in canvas and animal hide. They were soaked before going into battle so that when the enemy's flaming arrows hit the shields they fizzled out. Helmets were made of skin and metal, while Roman swords were short and straight.

From the belt of truth to the helmet of salvation all the elements in this list are designed for protection rather than attack, except for one the sword of the Spirit - the word of God.

Here is a call to be both alert and patient in prayer, with the strength of God's power to protect, defend and strengthen.



"Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life."

To our visitors

Welcome to our parish community.

We hope you are refreshed by your worship here today.

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



Prayer Response

Living God,
hear our prayer.

In our Prayers:

- Christians persecuted for their faith
- The parishes of Gulgong, Kelso and Molong
- Bishop Richard, diocesan and parish leaders, the Independent Oversight Committee in the present challenges
- Places where there is conflict and violence, especially in Syria and parts of Africa
- Those who are undergoing surgery
- Victims of accidents

ABM Reflections

Today, St John tells us that there were many disciples who found Jesus' teachings hard to understand and so left him. Yet, the Twelve did not. Who else could they turn to, when Jesus was the one with the words of eternal life?

Today's questions: What do I do when I find one of Jesus' teachings hard or difficult to understand? Do I turn away, or do I stick with Jesus and pray for understanding?

Pray that the Church and every member of it throughout the world may proclaim that Jesus is the one to turn to

Give thanks for those who stay with Jesus even when their faith is tested.

Back to Church Sunday September 16.

Please make a note of the date and continue thinking about people you may wish to invite. Invitation cards and prayer cards are available at the entrances of the Church today. **There will be only one service that day, at 9am. Please note the time change.**

A New Youth Activity:

Rachel Budden is leading **students in years 6 to 10 in a new group** that will meet on the last Sunday of each month with a view to participating in the family service the next week. Please speak to Rachel for more information.

40 Hour Famine

Heather Cummins wishes to thank all who supported her in the 40 Hour Famine Appeal

Trivia night at St Barnabas Church, Friday, August 31, 7.30pm

Tables of 8, \$10 a head;
Contact 6362 5349 for tickets.

Spring Fair:

Saturday, November 10, 2012

Old cups & saucers, pots & pans,
Glassware, spoons, artwork and fans....
Open up those cupboards, drawers & shed -

Don't be afraid to clean where angels dread!

The trumpets call for "White Elephants",
Put Ray & his team into a trance!

Ray Norman (7.30am) is heading up the team to round up all the White Elephants. If you have a few, some, or lots, send them into the Parish Centre or give Ray a ring on 6361 4385.

Please, no electrical goods. They cannot be resold without an electrical inspection and a warranty!

The Rev Jane Chapman

Jane rang last Thursday to say that a place has been found in a Mosman Nursing Home for her frail and aged father, Lindsay. As his primary carer, Jane feels that she must be near him, and is planning to move back to Sydney in early September. Please remember them both in your prayers.

Ordination Service:

10.30am Saturday, September 29

Bishop Richard has asked us to host this service. Lots of helpers will be needed as sides-persons, altar servers, choristers, and to help serve food for a light lunch afterwards. Please add your name to one of the lists if you are able to help.

Please set the date aside.

Licensed Lay Minister, **Tim Fogo, will be made Deacon at that service.** A gift is being planned for him. Cash donations can be placed in envelopes and given to the parish office or at the offertory.

A Prayer for use at the time of choosing a bishop.

*Eternal God, shepherd and guide,
in your mercy give your Church in this
diocese a shepherd after your own heart
who will walk in your ways,
and with loving care watch over your
people.*

*Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your
truth.*

*So may your church be built up
and your name glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

A Women's Cursillo is being held at the end of September. If you would like further information about the Cursillo movement, please speak to Heather Cummins on 6362 6882.

September rosters are available today. Please do take yours home with you.

Friday Prayers

Friday at 5.30pm - seeking God's wisdom, guidance and direction in these difficult days for both our diocese and parish. We use the Friday Evening Office concluding by 6 pm. **All are welcome.** You might like to come along, or join us from your home.

If you help deliver the **Parish Papers**, please take home the bundles with you today, and get them to their homes as soon as possible. **Thank you.**

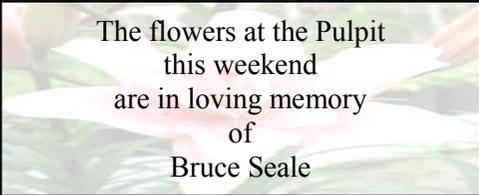
Thank you from Marilyn Hetherington and her family for all the food, cards, flowers and generous messages of condolence which have been received at the Rectory in the last week. They have been a great sign of loving supporting in this time of great sadness.

Appointment of Diocesan Archdeacon

Last Wednesday, Bishop Richard announced that Fr Frank had been appointed as Diocesan Archdeacon, following the death of Archdeacon Robert Howell. His immediate responsibilities include chairing the Bishop Election Board, of which he is already a member. Canon Margaret Finlay will now join the panel, to replace Archdeacon Howell. The election process is under way.

From Bishop's retirement on 10 November, Fr Frank will also be the Administrator. Financial assistance will be provided to support the parish while he serves as Administrator, to assist in supporting pastoral needs here. It is anticipated that this role will take one day per week. Parish Council and other staff were consulted before this responsibility was accepted.

Archdeacon Robert's funeral will take place next Thursday at 11 am in the Cathedral. We give thanks for his life and ministry.



The flowers at the Pulpit
this weekend
are in loving memory
of
Bruce Seale