

## This Week's Diary

<b>Sunday February 22</b> First Sunday in Lent	Holy Communion 8:30am HTO@10:30 10:30am	
<b>Monday February 23</b>	Morning Prayer 8:30am Evening Prayer 5:00pm	
<b>Tuesday February 24</b>	Morning Prayer 8:30am Evening Prayer 5:00pm M.U Meeting 2:30pm Bell Ringers 6:30pm	
<b>Wednesday February 25</b>	Morning Prayer 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Choir Practice 4:30pm Evening Prayer 5:00pm	
<b>Thursday February 26</b>	Morning Prayer 8:30am Holy Terrors 10:00am Evening Prayer 5:00pm Parish Council <b>7:00pm</b>	
<b>Friday February 27</b> Ashleigh away	Morning Prayer 8:30am Evening Prayer 5:00pm	
<b>Saturday February 28</b>	Holy Communion 5:30pm	
<b>Sunday March 1</b> Second Sunday in Lent	Holy Communion <b>9:00am</b> <i>One Service only this morning followed by 'Brunch' in the Memorial Hall</i> Bible Study 5:30pm	

**Genesis 17.1-7; Psalm 22.24-32; Romans 4.13-25; Mark 8.31-38**

### Parish Office

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**9.00am - 1.00pm Monday to Friday**

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To: Know | Grow  
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in Christ

# Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Orange

**To make disciples for Christ, who will make disciples**

22nd February 2015

The First Sunday in Lent

*How do I enjoy life when things aren't going my way?*

*Please don't stop reading even though it might be uncomfortable.*

During the ethnic tension in the Solomon Islands in the early part of this century, several dramatic and appalling things occurred. In the latter part of the tension, the tide of this 'civil war' was turned when one of the sides kidnapped several Melanesian brothers. Each was kept in a separate village within hearing of the next. During this time they were hung upside down by their feet, waiting for what came next. What they didn't know was that several of their brothers of the church had already been martyred for their faith. What they did know was that they could hear what was happening to each of those in the surrounding villages, which quite frankly was unmentionable.

I had the opportunity to meet one of these brothers of the church when I was teaching in the Solomons at the bible college in Tasia. He was training to be a priest of the church of Melanesia when I met him and I was intrigued by his story. A story that was real and shocking, personal and intimate, in every way.

How does anyone come back from the point of hearing his friends being killed, waiting for his own death because he was a servant of the church, and become a servant of the church again? Yet that's exactly what he was doing. He was once again stepping into a position where he was giving his life into God's hands.

I couldn't help myself, I asked him the obvious question, 'what in the world are you doing this for?' 'Why would you put yourself into a position

where this could happen to you again?' I have to admit, there was a part of me that couldn't believe anyone would be so mad. So when I heard him answer the questions, I was in awe, yet couldn't believe the simplicity of his answer.

Simply put, he said; *I serve because he served, I love because he loved, I do because he did, I follow Jesus because he calls me too.* As a theologian this wasn't an adequate answer for me, I wanted to hear some great theological discourse about forgiveness and reconciliation, and all of those other great theological concepts so that I could use it in the classes I was running. In the end his simple response was so incredible, true and biblically correct, it made me stop and think about how far away from the truth we in the western world can become.

We look for instant answers, quick fixes, pain less responses, equitable outcomes where we have a win-win for everyone. Yet in 90% + of the world there is no such thing. The enjoyment of life is very much a western concept; we believe very strongly that we have the right to happiness and enjoyment, yet as believers of Christ we are told, that we are called to be servants to all, not a very enjoyable lot.

So how do we enjoy life when things aren't going our way as Christians?

We worship, and we serve Christ. Believe it or not they go hand in hand. Think briefly about what we say in our worship service – *To love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbours as ourselves*'. My friend Fr Johnson (who was Brother Johnson) was right, we do because Jesus said and did. Following Jesus is the only answer to the questions about 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 service if you are able.

**Prayer Response:**  
Lord, we trust in you.  
**Deliver us from all evil.**



**In our prayers:**

- The Diocese
- Bishop Ian Palmer and Liz - for good health and rest
- Parishes of Mudgee, Narromine, Nyngan and Oberon.
- Father Mal and his family
- Canon Margaret
- The preparations for the Parish Annual Meeting
- Peace around the world; a safe outcome for hostages
- Rain on parched lands
- Those who are lonely or depressed; all who are unwell
- The Wright and Nixon families in their grieving

**ABM Reflection**

Genesis 9.8-17; Psalm 25.1-10;  
1 Peter 3.18-22; Mark 1.9-15

Jesus rejects the temptations of the devil and as a righteous man is immune from the attacks of wild beasts. He is fed by angels and is victorious over the powers of evil. So, confirmed as God's Son in baptism and strengthened in resolve, Jesus begins his ministry in Galilee with clear purpose.

Pray that the powers of evil in our world will be overcome by Christ.

Pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa, giving thanks for the work they do to further God's mission in the world.



**Holy Week & Easter**

**Palm Sunday, 29 March:** usual  
worship times

**Maundy Thursday, 2nd April:**

Passover Meal:  
6:00pm  
Worship: 8:00pm



**Good Friday, 3rd April:**

Morning Prayer:  
9:00am  
Evening Prayer: 5:00pm

**Easter Eve, 4th April:**

Pascal Candle Service: 8:00pm



**Easter Day, 5th April:**

Worship: 7:30am  
9:30am  
9:30am at Borenore

**Nomination Forms**

Nomination forms in preparation for the Annual Meeting are in the back of the Church and at other entrances. Please note that a separate form is needed for each individual nomination.

**Completed forms are to be returned to the Parish Office prior to 8th March.**

***Donations are being sought for a retirement gift for Canon Margaret Finlay.***

***Please contact Ann Holden (63623 399) or Marcia Thorp (6361 1181) for further details.***

**The flowers at the pulpit this weekend are in loving memory of David Pattinson**

**Dates for the Diary**

- **World Day of Prayer Service:** 10:00am, 6th March: Salvation Army Citadel, Kite Street.
  - **Parish Annual Meeting:** 2:30pm, 8th March - in the Parish Centre.
  - **Daylight Saving ends:** 5th April
  - **Blessing of the Harvest:** 10:30am, 12th April, at Mortimers' Vineyard, followed by a picnic lunch - in place of the 'usual' fellowship luncheon.
  - **Solomon Islands Mission:** 21st September - 7th October  
More details will follow over time, together with other events.
- Lenten Studies:** yet to be arranged.

**Ministry Rosters for March**

If not out to-day, these will be available next week-end. Please do collect yours, and deliver another if you are able to.

**Parish Annual Meeting**

2:30pm, Sunday, 8 March, 2015,

**This is election year for Parish positions.** Please give thought to who you would like to nominate for the respective positions.

The **Annual Reports** are available to-day. Please take a copy home and read carefully in preparation for the Annual Meeting.

Regretfully, due to circumstances beyond our control, the **Audited Financial Statement and proposed Budget** will not be available until next week-end.

**Next Sunday (1st March)**

**Worship will be at 9:00am**

**Please note: there will be one Service only**

on this, Canon Margaret's last Sunday before her retirement from the Parish. It will be in the church, and will be **followed by brunch in the Memorial Hall.**

**From the Trinity Foundation:**

The final stage in addressing the critical rising damp issue for the church, involves creating new walkway access to the **two northern doors - which will be closed** for most of the project.

**Please note the only exits from the church are via the main south door and the bell tower during this work.**

*Please also be aware of the distance to walk from the Church to the toilets.*

- The Wednesday and Saturday Congregations will worship in the Parish Centre during this time.
- Some other Services may do also at different times.

Thank you all for your patience.

Due to the difficulty of access to the Church during this work period, flowers in the Church will be minimal, except on special occasions.

**HOLY BAPTISM**

We welcome into the Church of God

**Hannah Merrilee Wotton**

