



# WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

## INTERPRETATIONS OF THE DJOKOVIC SAGA

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Was Novak treated with justice and equality? He broke the rules and got what he deserved. Or was he a martyr standing up against chest-beating governments and group-think?

On his return to Serbia, Novak was greeted as a hero. One person said: "I think he made history, as a hero, as a man, as a fighter against this evil that is called corona circus".[1]

But that is not how the French are seeing things. A spokesperson for France's Ministry of Sport has warned there would be no exemption for unvaccinated players at the upcoming French Open in May.[2]

What is fascinating here is that there are two ways to interpret what has transpired. One group sees Novak as out of touch, believing he is above the rules. Novak has been foolish, and has only himself to blame. The other group sees Novak as a crusader, as a hero, who was done over because he stood up against the powers that be. In Serbia, this view prevails.

Which view is true? And how can you know?

I see a similar dilemma play at times in current church circles. One group argues like this: Jesus stood up for the truth against wrong, and he was persecuted. We are being persecuted for our stance because we stand up for (our view of X) which is right and true! Insert here (our view of women, SSM, abortion, etc.)

But there is another view that is plausible. If I made a vocal stand that the bible teaches the earth is flat, and stood up for that, I could expect ridicule. Persecution for my stance would not be evidence I am speaking truth.

The human mind, both individually and corporately, is given to interpreting the facts in ways that align with our pre-existing predispositions. Or as Solomon puts it: "All a man's ways seem right to him" (Prov 21:2). Persecution is a sign you are being like Jesus – sometimes.

# Gathering by the Creek

Connect Men are meeting up from 4pm, Saturday 29th January at William Beach Reserve, Prince Edward Dr.

There is plenty of space to spread out, bring a camp chair and your own food and drinks. There is a BBQ to cook if you'd like, and a play ground, so bring your kids if you like.

For more info chat with Warren Southwell.



## Weddings

Please join us in praying for Seb and Jael, along with Tom and Amy as they prepare for their weddings over the coming weekends.

Pray for good health for their friends and family, and for the couples as they establish their new families.



## Mid Week Service

Our 2pm service returns, 2nd of February, 2pm at St Luke's Brownsville. This is a weekly Holy Communion service. When you attend please make sure you sign in, and wear your mask.





# CAN YOU HELP?



Could you wash some cloths for the Cafe?

1-2 small loads of cloths, once a month or every 6 weeks (if we get enough people). Pick the cloths up on Sundays and return during the week.

Contact Sarah if you can help out. Email [thecafe@daptoanglican.org.au](mailto:thecafe@daptoanglican.org.au) or chat to her on Sunday at the 10am Service



## Introductory Pastoral Care Course

Anglicare are running an Introduction to Pastoral Care course. The course is ideal for people who provide pastoral care support within their church community, or who may like to volunteer at a hospital or aged care facility. It introduces the relational ministry of pastoral care and includes topics like listening skills, vulnerability, understanding the art of questions, boundaries and a Biblical foundation for pastoral care.

**Venue:** Kiama Anglican Church, 2 Terralong St, Kiama

**When:** Across five Fridays, 9am - 3pm. Feb 11th, 18th, 25th, Mar 4th, and 11th.

**Cost:** \$300 full or \$150 concession

Please do not let cost prevent your attendance. If this is a concern, please email [ACPD@anglicare.org.au](mailto:ACPD@anglicare.org.au) or call 1300 111 278.

Register at: Kiama Introductory Pastoral Care Course or search for:  
[anglicare.org.au/events-courses-training](http://anglicare.org.au/events-courses-training)

Enquiries, Questions: 'Is this course right for me?' Please express interest as early as you can by calling or emailing Ian Rienits on 0447 977 625 [ian.rienits@anglicare.org.au](mailto:ian.rienits@anglicare.org.au)

# PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

## PREGNANT WOMEN

Mel F and Erin S.

## HOSPITAL

Continue to pray as Tarj as he begins a long road of rehab and recovery following his accident.

## VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please pray for our people in Nursing Homes - Kath H, Elsie N, Diana M, Barbara L, Reg B (all in St. Luke's Village); Robyn K, Neville K (both at Diggers Rest, Corrimal); Gae and Allen Q (Castle Hill); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Graham S (Carino Care, Rockdale).

## 8AM

Audrey R - recovering well after having stitches removed from her broken ankle; David H - recovering well following surgery; Greg B - still struggling with bad back pain; Lyn R - still struggling with her health and waiting to see her doctor; Wendy R - still has pain in her knee; Arthur S - pray for freedom from pain; Daphne C's daughter, Joanna,, home from hospital and waiting for more treatment. They want to thank you all for your concern and prayers.

## 10AM

Vince A - recovering well; Sue B - coping with her condition; Phil P - waiting for more treatment.

## 6PM

Shaina's son, Roman - waiting for more scans.

## CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Lynne N's father and brother are both doing well. Thanks for prayers.

# PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: mercifully accept our prayers, and because through the weakness of our human nature we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, so that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# SAFE MINISTRY

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help. Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email [safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au](mailto:safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au) or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945

