



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

AUTHENTICITY AND SINCERITY

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Don't you hate it when something you love, becomes over-used, common, perverted, and loses its aura? Maybe a favourite food you ate too regularly? An item of clothing you wore too often? A return trip to a special place that's no longer special.

For me, I have that experience around the word 'authentic'. Early in my ministry, it was an ideal that I appealed to regularly. Sermons needed to be biblical and real. Youth and young adult gatherings needed to have an authentic vibe. Dynamic faith was not about playing charades or rehearsing tired old routines.

For me, the word 'authentic' has become toxic. Bastardised. I can't stand its new meaning. 'Authentic' now means something like "being true to who I am". Inauthentic, the opposite, is about me conforming to your expectations. Me changing so you will like me more. That is not genuine. It's not real, not authentic. 'Authentic' is now self-referential. I measure the true me against me. I am not meant to be shaped or influenced by you, or others. I am at my best when I am being me.

We read in 1 Corinthians 9 that Paul is a Jew to Jews, Gentile to Gentiles, and weak to the weak. How fake is that? Paul is, by modern measures, a people pleaser. A chameleon. He is not authentic.

And yet he is on to something. A person is not measured against themselves. It is a higher calling, a higher blessing, to become all things to all people to save some. People are their best selves when they trust and reflect God.

Calvin puts it like this: "For, until men feel that they owe everything to God, that they are cherished by his paternal care, and that he is the author of all their blessings so that naught is to be looked for away from him, they will never submit to him in voluntary obedience; nay, unless they place their entire happiness in him, they will never yield up their whole selves to him in truth and sincerity." — Institutes, I.2.1

Sincerity towards God, not authenticity of self – now that is a virtue.



DAC UNITED FINAL

As some of you would know, DAC's soccer team, DAC United, competes each year in the Illawarra Churches Soccer Association. DAC United's inaugural season was 2011 and has fielded two teams since 2015. In 2020, the B's bowed out in their semi-final last weekend while the A's progressed to the grand final. The A's will be competing for their first Division 1 title after finishing runner-up for Division 2 in 2018 and 2019.

Come along and watch the Illawarra Churches Soccer Association finals this Saturday at Macedonia Park from 10:45 am. DAC United A's will be kicking off Division 1 at 2:45 pm.



DAC UNITED B'S. BR: Nathan Duffy, Antonio Kincaid, Blake Bailey, Michael Fletcher, Maxwell Mannix, Daniel Marskell, Daniel Mack, Dominic Stevenson. FR: Manny Fourtounis, Liam James, Simon James, Brett Wilson, Jesse Curtis, Timothy Curtis, Hugh Vaughan-Floyd (C)



DAC UNITED A'S. BR: Sebastian Siegl, Travis Fogg, Tom Stratton, Brendan Langley, Simon Swan, Blake Bailey (C), David Rietveld, Liam Marsh. FR: Liam James, Harry Ashley, Simon James, Andrew James, Matt Stratton, Brandon Lam



THE HSC STARTS NEXT WEEK

It is that time of year again! The HSC exams are here. This year we have three students sitting the HSC exams; Olivia Quick, Micah Sullivan and Owen Donohoe, and their exams start next week, Tuesday 20th Oct.

This can be a time of extreme stress and pressure, but we are constantly reminded of our God who loves us in everything! No mark on an exam, or score on an ATAR, will be of any worth to God! He loves us unconditionally and calls us to put our trust in Him.

We would love and appreciate if you would join with us in praying for Liv, Micah and Owen. Pray that they would know the love of God and feel peace during their exams. Attached is the timetable for their exams. Please join with us in praying for them over the next month!

1 John 3:1 says this, 'See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him'.



RISE IS BACK

RISE is back for Term 4! We're meeting Wednesdays fortnightly, 6:30-8pm.

Our first night back was great fun! This term our series is called #BeKind. We are learning about Jesus' kindness and how we can be kind to others.

Just as exciting, we have a new RISE team member who started this week. Dave Cunynghame has joined the RISE team which is a great blessing to our team. Dave's energy, enthusiasm and passion will be a fantastic addition to the RISE community.

Please continue to pray for the RISE community; for safety & good health, for adjustment to changes and for a deepening understanding of God.



PRAYER FOR TODAY

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look on our weaknesses; and in all our dangers and needs stretch out your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PREGNANT WOMEN

Amy M (10am), Loren A (7pm), April A (7pm), Katie C (7pm) and Kasey D (10am).

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Helen S, Bruce M, Diana M, Kath H, Ella H, Jean D, Lorna B-W, Glenys N, Barbara B, Barbara L.

8AM/2PM

Pat W son Anthony and Anthony's fiancée, Sue K - all struggling with health. Molly B - recovering after a fall. Shirley S - having health problems and would appreciate your prayers. Beth Weston (wife of Trevor) had a fall and was in hospital.

9:30AM

Pat McK - recovering from surgery.

10AM

Wendy E - had a fall and injured her back. Pray for healing. Joan Ch, Elizabeth L, Ronnie V.K., Michael E, Janelle S, Michele S - all ongoing conditions and treatment.

7PM

Shaina J son, Roman - Scans are booked in for 19th November. Pray for good results Billy H - chemo treatment. Gary M - ongoing health problems.

HSC STUDENTS

Micah S, Olivia Q and Own D. Please pray for these students.

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 or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945

