



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

GLADYS AND PRIVACY

REV DAVID RIETVELD

We all assume privacy is a right – a right everyone has, including Gladys. And yet it appears she has misused her privacy rights in ways that have ended her career, and may yet prove to be illegal. What do we make of privacy?

The use of the word privacy has increased tenfold since about 1940. It is a modern preoccupation. My mother was one of eight children and was raised in two and three-bedroom houses. Privacy was a luxury she was not afforded.

This is not to say the concept of privacy is new. The Greek philosopher Aristotle (384-322 BC) spoke of the public and private domain. His word for private was oikos – literally 'house'. For Aristotle, private means beyond the control of the state, not under the control of the individual.

I find it difficult to think of biblical passages to do with privacy. People keep secrets, but this is often hiding sin. Achan hides stolen goods in his tent in the OT, and Ananias and Sapphira do the same in the NT. Jesus often withdraws to a quiet place, but this was not about privacy from others, but rather about intimacy with God. Peter asks Jesus about what will happen to John, to which Jesus replies "what is that to you?" (John 21:22) Jesus is not protecting John's privacy, rather he is helping Peter focus on his own need to repent.

I suspect if privacy is a right, it is not an end in itself. The greatest commands in the Bible are to love God and to love your neighbour. At times, when I give to one person, it may be appropriate to not let the right hand know what the left hand is doing. Making charity public may engender pride, or shame, or jealousy. Privacy is then important, but only in as much as it serves a greater good.

Over-sharing can also be a problem. Sometimes revealing too much can lay a burden on others that is needless and unhelpful. Being understated can be wise, but I am not sure it is the same as being private.

The next time you find yourself feeling your right to privacy has been violated, you may wish to dig a little deeper inside your soul. Good and capable people can come unstuck when they overplay their right to privacy.

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Church this Sunday

This Sunday, 24th October, will be our first onsite service in almost 4 months. We will be holding the 8 am service, 10 am service and launching the 6 pm service. The 10 am service will be streamed online as usual.

All of our services will be held at the Ministry Center in the Auditorium, and you will need to sign in with the QR code and wear a mask when you attend.

There will be Morning Tea after both 8 am and 10 am services and dinner after the 6 pm service. For this first week back the 10 am service will not have a Children's program. Connect Sundays and Oxygen are due to return the following Sunday 31st.

We look forward to seeing you on-site and online.

Cafe Church

Café church ladies gathered this week in The Café for an informal catch up and morning tea. It was an encouraging morning having only seen each other over zoom throughout lockdown. We enjoyed delicious coffee and pastries, encouraging conversation and heard all about recent catch ups with family.

We look forward to gathering again on the 3rd November for Café church back in person. Over the few weeks we have this term we will be exploring the goodness of God. After a season of uncertainty and hardship its great to be remind of the character of the God we serve and reflect on what it means to be saved and serve our good God.

Sarah Doughton

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



Morning Tea

On Monday morning, 18th October, 25 people from the 8 am congregation gathered together in The Cafe for a most enjoyable Devonshire Tea. We enjoyed Jill's lovely scones, jam and cream and tea or coffee.

There was a palpable feeling of joyous fellowship as friendships were renewed, with the anticipation of continuing that fellowship when church services resume on Sunday, 24th October.

Once the masks were off, and the hair brushed back, we knew who we were! There is no greater fellowship than that of a shared meal, and the buzz of conversation and the associated laughter attested to that. Also, it was so good that Marianne and David were able to join us.

Neville and Carol Stumbles



Community Dinner

As we move out of lockdown and ministry activities resume onsite, Community Dinners will only take place on Wednesdays. The Cafe is open throughout the week, Tuesday to Friday, 10 am to 2 pm. We encourage you to book your table before you come in.

Wednesday 27th October

- o \$12 a serve of Roast Pork w/ roast potato, roast sweet potato, peas & carrots, gravy & apple sauce.

To order shoot an email to: thecafe@daptoanglican.org.au

Call the Cafe, 02 4260 9278, we'll take your call when we can, or you can leave a voice message and we will confirm your order later. Please order by 4 pm the day before. And remember when picking up to wear a mask & abide by current restrictions to keep each other safe. Deliveries to St Lukes Village - Other deliveries on special request.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Almighty and eternal God, grant that we may grow in faith, hope and love; and so that we may obtain what you promised, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

MOURNING

Continue to pray for Ruby D and family following the recent death of Gwyn

HOSPITAL

Elizabeth L is slowly improving and hopefully could be home soon. Please continue to pray for Elizabeth and Keith; Graham S still in Coledale Hospital.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Neville K has just been transferred to Diggers Rest at Corrimal for full time care; Gae and Allen Q are going okay at Castle Hill; Elsie N, Diana M, Kath H, Barbara L, Reg B (all in St. Luke's Village, Dapto); Robyn K (Diggers Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H (Warrigal Care, A.P.).

8AM

Lyn R - is waiting to hear what the doctors are suggesting as her next steps. Please pray for the doctors to have wisdom, for Lyn's health, and a good outcome in the next few months; Gail R - at home and being cared for by John; Shirley S - improving; Pat W and sons, David and Antony - they appreciate our continued prayers for them; Wendy R - Praise God for some injections in back, but still has problems with right leg; Daphne C's neighbour - Leukemia; Daphne C's daughter, Joanne - has a provisional date of 15th November for surgery. Please pray for Arthur S as his cancer appears to be growing again.

10AM

Jeanette B- recovering from shoulder surgery; Paul B - continues to have his health monitored; Sue B - pray for Sue as she has more tests; Phil P - pray for peace for decisions to be made; Joan D - pray for healing; Mary J - results all clear for heart, and pray that blood pressure will be sorted out. Pray also for Mike for his three monthly check.

7PM

Shaina J's son, Roman - still waiting to have scans; Gary M - ongoing health issues.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please continue to pray for peace for Janelle and Ken M; Lynne N's father is back in hospital. He has aggravated his cracked vertebrae; Pray also for Lynne N's brother, Steve as he has his treatment.