# WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

# OVERESTIMATED POWER

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**REV DAVID RIETVELD** 

It's election time again, and politicians are making promises. At Labour's 1987 election launch, then Prime Minister Bob Hawke famously said: "By 1990, no Australian child will be living in poverty".

Hawke was re-elected, and children continued to live in poverty. As powerful as Politicians are, they often overestimate their capacity to shape history. In truth, history shapes us more than we shape it. Poverty is a greater problem today than it was in 1987.

Pilate too is prone to overestimating his power. When Jesus fails to answer Pilate's questions, Pilate announces "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" Jesus' response is to say "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above."

Of recent humanity has been reminded again how powerless we are. Our capacity to control pandemics, weather, supply chains, or bring in a new world order of peace has been demonstrated as beyond us.

Jesus is the man with the greatest power at his disposal – more than 12 legions of angels! And he fails to access that power. Instead, he loves and trusts his father, and then submits to his will. And the outcome is the most glorious and decisive victory. In the first Easter, we see Isaiah's words fulfilled – God's ways are higher than our ways. (Isa 55:8)

Trusting God is far more than just intellectual assent to the notion that in theory, he knows better than we do. Belief in Jesus is far more than just understanding Jesus' teaching.

Easter is a time to lay down our imagined whims that we have power, influence, control, and wisdom that can see us through any predicament. It is about dying to self so that we might be born again, and only then do we produce manyfold.

## **Easter Services**

## Tenebrae Service

#### 7:30pm, Thursday 14th April

St Luke's Anglican
Brownsville

Our Easter services begin tonight with Tenebrae. Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ's sufferings. Readings trace the story of Christ's passion, the music portrays his anguish, and the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of this momentous day. As lights (candles) are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death. The service concludes with the veiled but persistent flame of the Christ candle at the conclusion of the service, we see a glimmer of hope and anticipate the joy of ultimate victory in 3 days

## Good Friday Service

9:00am, Friday 15th April

Ministry Center

Next is our Good Friday Service. During this service we commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. We will re-examine years of ministry leading up to his crucifixion. The service is followed with hot cross buns in the cafe.

## **Easter Sunday Services**

Sunday 17th April at the Ministry Center We conclude our Easter Services with three Sunday services, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus.

8am Tradition Service

Our 8am Traditional service will be a Holy Communion service.

10am Family Celebration The 10am Service will be a big family celebration of Easter with food, jumping castles and activities after the service.

6pm Evening Church

6pm will conclude our easter services, also with communion.

We look forward to seeing you this long weekend, giving thanks to God for the sacrifice of Jesus.

## Cafe Church

The women at Café Church wrapped up Term 1 last week with a fun activity, Easter cookie stamping! We had lots of fun creating different styles and colours with the reminder that "He is risen". Big shout out to our resident 3D printing team who created the stamps for us to use!

Café Church returns in Term 2 on April 27th 9:30am, in the Main Hall. We will be looking at how we are "Now Alive in Christ" through studying the book of Colossians.

If you have musical skills and would like to serve at Café Church, we are seeking some people to play an instrument or lead us in worship. Please speak to Sarah Doughton or Lisa Speelman for more info.





## Connect Men Breakfast

On Saturday 30th April, Connect Men are having a breakfast at St Aidan's Mt Brown. Start your Saturday well will great community and food, from 7am till 9am. Cereal, toast and drinks are provided for a Gold coin donation. There will be a BBQ provided for you to bring your own eggs and bacon. For further inquiries chat to Warren Southwell.



## **Positions Vacant**

We are currently advertising for two positions:

- Op Shop Coordinator
- Children's and Family Minister

For details see sydneyanglicans.net/jobs or contact the office.

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

#### **PREGNANT COUPLES**

Lisa & Michael S; Mel & Michael F.

#### **HOSPITAL**

Pray for Shirley M (8am) in hospital, unwell; Pray for Trevor W (10am) as he is in hospital waiting to have knee surgery; Continue to pray for Tarj as he is still in Randwick Children's Hospital completing a rehab program. Hopefully will be able to go home once that is done.

#### **VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES**

Please pray for our people in Nursing Homes: Gae & Allen Q; Kath H; Elsie N; Diana M; Barbara L; Reg B (all in Piper House, Dapto); Robyn & Neville K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H (Warrigal Care, AP); Graham S (Carino Care, Rockdale).

#### MA8

Audrey R - still struggling with pain in her ankle. Please pray for healing; Wendy R - recovering slowly; Lyn R - medication going well and surgery possibly not needed. Unwell at the moment.

#### 10AM

Carl C - will be having eye surgery soon; Amanda - pray for her and her children as they attend court this month for a family matter; Elizabeth L - praying for good results from MRI on her hips, and her surgery has been postponed due to her surgeon having Covid; Suzanne W - having daily sessions of physio at Shellharbour; Phil P - going to hospital tomorrow (Thursday) for further surgery - pray for healing and peace; Sue B - continue to pray for Sue as she copes with her condition.

#### <u>6PM</u>

Seb R is grateful that his hand has healed; Shaina J's son, Roman - pray for continued healing for him.

#### CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Continue to pray for Lynne N's brother, Stephen; and for all those at Creative Connections who have Covid, families with Covid, or in isolation.

## 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

