

WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

AGE OF LONELINESS

JAMIE MACKENZIE

We have been called 'The Age of Loneliness'. That people are increasingly feeling more and more lonely. Whereas in 1980 scholars estimated that about 20% of people felt lonely at any one time, 2 nationally represented surveys in 2013 discovered that the number now days is 40% of people at any one time.

Add to that that if you suffer from severe loneliness you are 45% more likely to die earlier (compare that to excessive drinking 30%, obesity 20%, bad air pollution 5%). We are more connected than ever before and yet more lonely than ever before.

And then, 2020 hit.

In a country which values so highly individualism – the truth of one of the first words God spoke, 'it is not good for man to be alone' has been felt all the stronger. With the coming of Christmas, many will experience a heightened sense of loneliness, of loved ones lost, of relationships broken, of family far away. Yet in Christmas, we also get the answer. We get hope. We get something, someone who meets us in our loneliness. A God who does not remain distant but draws near. God with us. Immanuel.

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CAROLS HAVE MOVED

Our Carols have been postponed 1 week!

Instead of this Sunday the 6th, we will hold the 4 Carols services on Sunday 13th December. The 4 service times will remain; 8 am, 10 am, 4 pm and 6 pm. There will be family activities after the 10 am service and from 3 pm before the 4 pm service.

This Sunday, the 6th December, will have our usual Sunday services; 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm and 7 pm.

We have made this decision to take the opportunities that Monday's lifting of COVID restriction will bring. We'll be able to have twice as many people with the 2 square metres per person AND we'll all be able to sing, with masks on.

We're grateful for these lifted restrictions and are excited to celebrate Christmas with you. It is also a fantastic opportunity for you to connect with friends and family and invite them along.

DAPTO ANGLICAN *Christmas* CAROLS

SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER
8AM, 10AM, 4PM AND 6PM

Join us for our 2020 Christmas Carols Services!
Held in our Auditorium
at the Ministry Center, Moombara St Dapto.

From **11am** and **3pm** we'll have family activities and food, including jumping castles, family photos, christmas craft and more.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written: grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, encouraged and supported by your holy Word, we may embrace and always hold fast to the joyful hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PREGNANT WOMEN

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

HOSPITAL

Alexis L - Spinal Surgery on Tuesday, Matt S's mum and Trinette S's dad.

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 and son, Antony and Antony's fiancé - all struggling with health issues. They are grateful for our prayers and well wishes. Colleen Y - having rehab twice per week, grateful for our prayers. Shirley S - struggling with health issues. Beth W, and Glad A - recovering and grateful for our prayers. Maureen (Op Shop customer) - terminal cancer, pray for pain management.

9:30AM

Robin B - pray for freedom from pain and discomfort. Reg Barker - at Woonona Chesalon, waiting for a bed in the care home at St. Luke's Village.

10AM

Ruth D - surgery on Friday, pray for good results. Carol A - recovering at home; Paul B - dialysis; Phillippa S - chemo treatment; Wendy E, Elizabeth L, RonnieVK, Micheal E, Janelle S, Michele S - all ongoing conditions and treatments.

7PM

Lina D recovering at home. Shaina J son, Roman - results in, with more tests in 6 months, pray for more answers and good health while monitoring and waiting. Pray for good results Billy H - chemo treatment. Gary M - ongoing health problems. David G - pain whilst recovering from surgery.

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

