



PARISH NEWS – Sunday 8th & 11th September 2024

8am & 9.30am services

Wednesday services 18th & 25th September at 10.00am

Parish Prayers Jill, Julie, Carol, Judith and Caroline, Nola and Brenton, Malcolm and Mary, Colin, Tony and Margie, Mark, Fiona, Jac, Keith.

Diary Dates:

- 15 September 2024 - St Theodores' Patronal Festival 9.30am. Reciprocal event with St Theodore's.
- 15 Sept 2024 All Souls 9.30am service cancelled 8am Service only.
- 3 November 2024 All Souls' Patronal Festival 9.30 am Service. St Theodores' to be invited
- 24 November 2024 Archbishops' visit, "Christ the King" 8am service and Brass Ensemble in attendance at 9.30am

SPIRITUALITY AND SPIRITUAL DIRECTION dtw

The mutual indwelling of divine Love with our humanity, the triune love of the Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Grace, is God's gift to those who would receive it and embrace it - and what a beautiful thing it is. Saint Irenaeus, in the second century, wrote, 'The Glory of God is a human being fully alive'.

Some years back, at a Clergy Conference, Bishop Stephen Pickard invited us to ask a quite arresting personal and spiritual question of ourselves: "Is the life I'm living the life that wants to live in me?" As you read this, I suggest that you ponder it yourself for a moment.

Spirituality has to do with the whole of life, living and moving and being in God. Baron Friedrich von Hugel called it 'the deepest experience of the deepest fact'; John Macquarrie saw it as a 'process of becoming a human being in the fullest sense'; Geoffrey Wainwright, a 'combination of praying and living'; Alan Jones, 'the art of making connections', Gabrielle Bossis, of 'going deeper, ever deeper into Love'. We are called to a life lived out as deeply and as fully as possible, searching for meaning, living creatively with our unanswered questions, and reflecting on the totality of the human experience. In biblical and Christian terms, ours is to be a graced response to the gift and initiative of God. Spirituality involves the exploration and articulation of what Jesus meant by "abundant life". (John 10. 10) To be fully alive is in the first place to be fully present with God, with others, and to be self-aware. "Who am I?" can be a frightening question for some people. "Here am I" can be an expression of humble but confident offering and surrender to a higher purpose and glory.

Deceptively simple, this process becomes a life's work. It involves both celebration and struggle. It celebrates our own giftedness, and each other's, while taking delight in the whole of God's creation. It includes the giving and accepting of values and principles in life. It does not fail to find significance in any genuine human pursuit. The world of politics, business, relationships and sexuality, and the pursuit of freedom and justice are not alien to this spiritual life. It necessarily involves the struggle to recognise and combat those forces which try to reduce or deny the intrinsic value and worth of the creation and all that would rob us of the abundant life promised by Jesus.

'Spiritual Direction' has other names, and no single name really defines it, for the true spiritual director is the Holy Spirit. 'Companionship', 'friendship', 'guidance', 'soul-friend' are other terms you will hear. They all acknowledge that we are persons-in-community. The Spiritual Director is a person making

his or her journey in Christ and whose discernment and support helps, encourages, challenges, cautions, teaches and points another person in their journey. A Spiritual Director is not there to 'fix you'. The person we choose to be our guide helps us notice inner issues and concerns; enables us to discover what is going on in our lives with God; to discern the hand or movement of God. Some basic questions that usually hover over the time spent together are: "What is God saying?" "Where is God in all this?" "What is God calling me to now?" It is an intentional activity, chosen and covenanted, between two people. Its focus is not problem solving or even vocational: it is concerned with a person's life and growth in relationship with God that they indeed may fully 'live the life that wants to live in them'. It is done within the context of hope and its goal is the intimacy, the indwelling unity and freedom that belongs to those who have made their home with God.

The Spiritual Director and the person coming for direction (directee) will first talk about expectations and hopes, clarifying the relationship, and if both parties are happy to continue seeing each other, they then covenant their relationship, agreeing to meet, usually once a month. Spiritual Direction is strictly confidential. Both David and Deborah are accredited spiritual directors and are members of the Ecumenical Spiritual Directors Association of South Australia. They would welcome any enquiries.

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Thank you Letter - Dear friends at All Souls', I have received this letter from Julie Moore, the wife of Fr Stephen Moore. They have been worshipping with us for a while since their arrival from the United States, and Stephen has now received a part-time posting to the Parish of Semaphore, where he started work on Monday 2 September. He will be commissioned on Thursday 12 September as Priest-in-Charge.

"Dear Father David,

When Stephen and I left Trinity to move home to Australia, there was much excitement and enthusiasm. At last! It was Stephen's time to retire. It would be a long way from home for me (only 30 hours!). But we knew that together and with much prayer and love, we could make a new and beautiful life in Australia, while still supporting, encouraging and loving both families.

So, we arrived in Adelaide, tired and me needing to fix the jet lag. Stephen was all get up and go! So happy and thrilled to be home! We could not clearly see the road ahead, but we trusted in God. We started unpacking and settling in. And, being a city slicker from NYC, I was

thrilled again to see your beautiful blue skies, to hear the laughter of the kookaburra and to see the beauty of the fig trees. First things first, we were going to find a church where we could worship and hear God's word and to feel His presence. Stephen walked around the neighborhood to find a church. And, that is how we found All Souls and St. Theodore's.

Father David, we were so warmly welcomed! We found an instant connection, community and friendship at All Souls. It felt like coming home!

And, as seldom happens, we could not see all that was happening. God had a bigger plan for Stephen. And, it had nothing to do with retirement. LOL I am so proud of Stephen. He will use his gifts to serve God and the good people at St. Bede's. We look forward to getting to know everyone at St. Bede's and falling back into Parish Community.

Father David, we have truly enjoyed worshiping at All Souls. We have learned so much from your sermons. Although only 4 weeks, in that short time, we were made to feel like we belonged. As Stephen and I begin anew at St. Bede's, we thank you and the Parish for your support, kindness and love. It is the true foundation of the church along with the will and desire to celebrate and affirm each person.

With heartfelt thanks to you and Deborah, we thank you again for your prayers and good wishes, and for all that All Souls has come to mean to us. You are an extraordinary Parish!

Together we grow stronger in our faith by our unique expressions of love for all people.

Peace and blessings,

Julie“

Windows Tour - another successful tour; this time for the Burnside Combined Probus clubs held on 22nd August. Admission fees and sales of windows memorabilia \$184 plus donations to the building fund \$170.55.



Missing Vestry and PC Minutes - Minutes have been provided for May, June and July 2024, and the special Vestry meeting held 30th June 2024. Minutes for 15th February 2011, 28th July 2011, 23rd February 2012, 21st Feb 2013, 21st Feb 2013 (revised), 20th June 2013, 15th August 2013, 10th October 2013, 28th November 2013, and January 18th 2022 have also been provided. No PC meetings were held in the months March, July and December 2013, January 2014 and July 2017.

The Minutes are an important part of our history so if anyone has copies of Minutes from other years, months or dates, please contact Pauline Parfitt on 0421 382 358

News from St Theodore's

Patronal Festival - **15 September** - Our Patronal Festival this year will be amazing.

- We have as our preacher and presider Archbishop Geoff Smith
- We will have the blessing of our beautiful new icon, donated by the estate of the late parishioner Judith Lang
- Lots of relatives and friends of Judith will be attending, plus members of the St Luke's Icon School, who prepared the icon
- Parishioners from All Souls will be joining us (and we will do likewise, for their Patronal on November 3).
- We will have a wonderful Produce Sale, with jams, chutneys, marmalades and more!
- We will have a special lunch afterwards

Badminton news – We welcomed Stephen last Parish News, however we now have to say farewell, blessings and congratulations as he takes up his new post at St Bede's.

New members are always welcome to the Multicultural Badminton Group, who meet on the 1st & 4th Saturday of each month 1 to 3pm. This is an outreach programme and facilities are available free of charge.

REMINDER There will be no 9.30am Service on Sunday 15th September.

All Souls' parishioners are invited to attend St. Theodore's Patronal Festival, at 46 Prescott Tce., Toorak Gardens to be held at 9.30am.

The 8am Service will be held as usual on the 15th September.

Locum Tenens: The Ven David Thornton - Wakeford

Fr. David can be contacted on **Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays**, he will also be available outside of his usual working hours in the case of emergencies
Email - daviddtw76@gmail.com Phone 08 7112 4945.

Priest's Warden - Pauline Parfitt 0421 382 358

or

People's Warden - Emma Robinson 0412 002 123

can be contacted for information concerning worship or parish activities.

For news items or information regarding Parish News please contact
Ann Peisley 0417 810 549

2024 Parish Council

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| Peoples Warden Emma Robinson 0412 002 123 | Priests Warden Pauline Parfitt 0421 382 358 |
| Pastoral Assistance Elizabeth Westphalen 08 8362 5238 | Secretary Denise Kirk |
| Member Sara Blunt 0400 028 537 | Member Lorraine Gormly 0412 712 916 |
| Member Benton Brockhouse 0437 162 197 | Member Chris Brockhouse 0413 667 469 |
| Member Vernon Lewis 0403 090 355 | Member Ann Peisley 0417 810 549 |

Bank account details

Parish of All Souls St Peters - BSB: 105 169 - Account: 759 245 140