



ALL SOULS' PARISH NEWS

PALM SUNDAY



Palm Sunday 13th April 2025 - 8am & 9.30am services

Wednesday service 16th April 2025 at 10.00am

Wednesday 23rd April 2025: 10.00am Service CANCELLED

BREAKING NEWS - EASTER DAY

there will be two services on Sunday 20th April 2025 at 8.00am and 9.30am

Holy Week Services, please refer to Lent and Holy week diary dates in this newsletter

A WARM WELCOME TO VISITORS; PARISHIONERS
LONGSTANDING AND NEW

We acknowledge the Kurna people, their Elders and their spiritual relationship with Country.

Parish Prayers Jill, Julie, Carol, Judith and Caroline, Nola and Brenton, Malcolm and Mary, Tony and Margie, Mark, Fiona, Jac, Cathy, Vernon, Graham

Diary Dates

Saturday 12th April 2025: Working Bee 9.30am. Clean and decorate the church for Palm Sunday and Easter. Anyone having access to and delivering Palms, please leave at church between 9.30 and 11.00am on this day.

Saturday 3rd May 2025: Election Day market stalls - Democracy Sausage Sizzle, Plant and Food. Volunteers to man stalls, manage plants and bake goodies please.

Wednesday 7th May 2025: Windows Tour 3.30pm – 4.30pm. A light afternoon tea has been requested, 13 people confirmed, a few extra volunteers will be needed.

An Easter Reflection from David...

GREAT THINGS HAVE HAPPENED! Here is a piece with the same title by Alden Nowlan (1933-83)

We were talking about the great things that have happened in our lifetimes; and I said, "O, I suppose the moon landing was the greatest thing that has happened in my time." But, of course, we were all lying. The truth is the moon landing didn't mean one-tenth as much to me as one night in 1963 when we lived in a three-room flat in what once had been the mansion of some Victorian merchant prince (our kitchen had been the clothes closet I'm sure), on a street where by now nobody lived who could afford to live anywhere else. That night, the three of us, Claudine, Johnnie and me, woke up at half-past four in the morning and ate cinnamon toast together.

"Is that all?" I hear somebody ask?

Oh, but we were silly with sleepiness and, under our windows, the street cleaners were working their machines and conversing in Italian, and everything was strange without being threatening, even the tea-kettle whistled differently than in the daytime: it was like the feeling you get sometimes in a country you've never visited before, when the

bread doesn't taste quite the same, the butter is a small adventure, and they put paprika on the table instead of pepper, except that there is nobody in this country except the three of us, half-tipsy with the wonder of being alive, and wholly enveloped in love.

Great things have happened! Nothing is the same anymore. Easter changes everything. Darkness, Suffering, Death and Despair have lost their power. Your life and my life have a meaning and a glory and a wonder beyond belief. Mary Magdalene had a preview of it as the room filled with the fragrance of the precious ointment she had lavished upon Jesus for his forgiving love. Zacchaeus, a despised tax collector, didn't need to wait for the amazing confirmation Easter would bring. Salvation had come to his house when Jesus came to dine! – all his swindles to be repaid fourfold – all his sins washed away. The very soldiers who killed this man had forgiveness pronounced over them that dark Friday even as they crucified him. One called him the Son of God. The criminal who admitted he deserved everything that he had coming was told that very day he would be with Jesus in Paradise! And you and I think we have cause to worry and fret about life? They say that death and taxes are the most inevitable things, but Easter changes all that fatalistic thinking.

Neither Death nor Rome could hold Jesus; the spiritual fission of his amazing love was more powerful than any earthly force, more powerful than war or terror. This fission of *resurrection love* will always triumph. 'On the third day' the fearful disciples suddenly found themselves caught up in the most wonderful rumour the world has ever heard – He is not dead, He is risen! Go tell everyone – Great things have happened! This was no mere bodily resuscitation of a dead man as some Christians insist upon – what would that prove anyway? Indeed, all the accounts witness to a transformed Christ – unrecognized at first. And why? Because *life itself* was transformed on this day. Everything has changed – nothing is the same. Even the rocks and trees start to sing! The buttered toast never smelt so good, so good you had to give it away – all you needed was the smell. Now you could feed the poor! Jesus calls this transformation 'Eternal Life'. This is the gift he came to live, die and rise for, to give to a fallen world – to you and to me. In the Risen Christ, all things are made new and forever and for

everyone. People say that our brains don't do anything like what they could do. But what about the human *soul*? – the human *spirit*? You have within your soul, your spirit, such potential that you may not have even begun to grasp, to unleash upon this world in love.

Easter means this: Whatever has been dealt to you in life; whether you have found success in your pursuits or failure; whether you have found happiness in family life or only sadness; whether you have lived uprightly or you are so conscious of shortcomings; Easter means this: you are wholly enveloped in love, and you have the gift of eternal life. Let your life from now on simply be a response to love, amazing love, death-defying love. Nothing else matters. Seize this glorious day with all your hands, heart, mind and soul. Get half-tipsy with the wonder of being alive! Great things have happened. Go, tell everyone. Christ is risen!

May you and yours have a most holy and happy Easter.

David

Reminder

Lent and Holy Week Diary Dates

April 13	Palm Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Sung Eucharist with Procession
April 15	Holy Tuesday 7.30pm Stations of the Cross at St Theodore's
April 17	Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Mass of the Last Supper with Foot Washing, Stripping of Sanctuary and the Watch
April 18	Good Friday 9.30am Liturgy of Christ's Passion with Veneration of the Cross
April 20	Easter Day 8.00am Spoken Eucharist & 9.30am Sung Eucharist. Lighting of the New Fire and Baptismal Renewal

The Lenten Studies continue on Wednesdays in Lent at 10.45 after the 10am Eucharist "Exploring Symbols of Hope"

Hope 25: Being Fully Alive: Following our Lent Studies, and as our parish initiative for Hope 25 between Easter and Pentecost, David will be leading the 6-part series *Being Fully Alive: A short course in Christian Discipleship*. He is looking for 6 people who are prepared to find a colleague, friend or acquaintance, who is not a regular churchgoer, to companion in the quest to discover what the Christian faith is all about. David will have a preliminary meeting with this group during Lent to review this study book and make plans for the study-group venue and times, which will include refreshments and conclude with a meal after the final study. Please sign the list at the back of church if you are interested in joining this exciting venture, and further information will be forthcoming.

Parish Lunch: It was very pleasing to see so many people at the Payneham Tavern for this event. Good food, convivial company and a happy atmosphere made for a very pleasant lunch. Thank you everyone.



Reminder – **Working Bee on Saturday 12th April 2025:** Clean and decorate the church for Palm Sunday and Easter. General tidy up of grounds around the church, time permitting. If donating Palms, please leave at church between 9.30 and 11.00am on this day. Thank you.

Please note: Wednesday 10.00am Service 23rd April cancelled

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

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

2025 Parish Council

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 Brenton 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:

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