

# Epping Anglicans

Parish of Saint Alban's, Epping  
with Saint Aidan's, West Epping

**Our Vision:** To be a city on a hill - a worshipping community,  
loving Jesus and the people around us.

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ANZAC Day Remembrance

28 April 2024

### 8.00am Eucharist

Reader: Margaret Foster  
*President: The Reverend Paul Weaver*  
*Preacher Bishop Ross Nicholson*

### 10.00am Sung Eucharist

**Also available by zoom**  
Reader: Meredith Lawn  
*President: The Reverend Paul Weaver*  
*Preacher Bishop Ross Nicholson*

### Join the 10am Service by Zoom:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516182389?  
pwd=VGpWNXRMcFilyXVWeVB3N0pzQnpsUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516182389?pwd=VGpWNXRMcFilyXVWeVB3N0pzQnpsUT09)

**Passcode 389867** if required. If you are dialling in, the number is: 8015 6011

Meeting ID: 825 1618 2389 followed by # (and another # - there isn't a participants number).

**Please keep your computer or phone on "mute" during the service.**

To mute/unmute your phone, press \*6

Please stay on line for a time of fellowship.

### Morning tea

Please stay for morning tea and fellowship in the Main Hall after each of the 8am and 10am services. Everyone welcome.



*In Covenant with the communities of the Roman Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford,  
Epping Uniting Church and West Epping Uniting Church*

## Ross' Letter

We once had a lemon tree in our backyard which only bore tiny emaciated fruits. It was a tangled mass of intertwining branches covered in scale insects. Around the trunk was hard packed soil over-run with grass and weeds. No one had cared for that tree. I finally acted, following the directions of a Gardening Australia presenter. I chopped out dead branches, anything growing vertical or crossing another branch. I sprayed the pests and fertilised the soil. The next season it was a mass of large, yellow lemons.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus says that it's fruit that shows whether you really belong to God or not. He warned that good trees bear good fruit and bad trees bear bad fruit and that you can recognise a tree by its fruit. In our gospel reading from John 15 Jesus pushes this metaphor further when he describes God's working in our lives like a gardener tending a grape vine, who cuts out the dead wood and prunes the fruitful branch to make it even better.

But the other crucial point Jesus makes here is that to bear fruit, we must abide in him, be connected to him for the life and sustenance that will produce fruit in our lives. Fruit is a popular metaphor in the Bible. John the Baptist called his disciples to produce fruit in keeping with repentance (Luke 3:7-8). Paul reminded the Romans that we belong to Christ in order to bear fruit to God (Romans 7:4). He told the Galatians that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

The promise Jesus makes is that if we do abide in him, we will bear fruit. He will do the work of cutting and pruning to make that happen so that day by day we will become more like him.

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*We remain committed as a parish to pray for the people of Ukraine, the people of Israel and Palestine, and all those caught up in the misery and dislocation of war, violence and oppression including those soldiers and citizens who have been drawn into a war not of their making.*

### **Prayer for the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine**

God of peace and justice, we pray for all the people caught up and drawn into wars and conflicts that are not of their making. The people of Ukraine, of Israel, and of Palestine – all who are suffering grief, violence, injustice and dislocation.

We pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. Almighty and Everlasting God we pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Soften the hearts of all those involved in these conflicts, that they would be led to work for justice and lasting peace. Empower your Church to bring healing to the wounded, relief to the suffering, and comfort to those who mourn. We pray these things in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

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### **Thoughts for Prayer and Reflection:**

The May *Thoughts for Prayer and Reflection* are available in the porch and on the website.



# FAREWELL



NEXT Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024

9:30am Farewell Eucharist for Bishop Ross and Jenny Nicholson  
(one service only in the parish)

All welcome.

The Eucharist will be followed by a  
**Luncheon** in the St Alban's Epping Parish Hall  
for those who have indicated that they are attending.

Soft drink & juice will be supplied. BYO wine.

There will be no charge for the lunch, however donations towards catering costs will be gratefully received. Donate directly to the St Alban's account, indicating **lunch**; in an envelope marked **lunch** into the Offertory Box; or by cash or eftpos on the day.

## Farewell Gift

Donations for farewell gifts for Bp Ross and Jenny will be welcome – please either place in an envelope, so marked, into the Offertory Box, or make a direct deposit to the St Alban's account, indicating **farewell gift**.

## A Concert of Piano Solos and Duets

Paul Weaver (Pianist) and Christopher Wagstaff (Duo-Pianist)  
Music by Mozart, Bach, Debussy, Schumann, Bizet and others  
to remind us of the WORLD OF CHILDREN

*Music composed by the young, for the young, about being young  
- a concert for the young at heart, and those who remember their childhood days.*

St Alban's Anglican Church Hall, Pembroke Street, Epping  
Sunday 26 May at 2.00pm - No booking required

Donations are invited to the "Rough Edges" ministry of St John's Church Darlington. Donations can be made on the day, or through the Rough Edges website.



*The Concert will also be presented at Alan Walker Village,  
Carlingford,  
on Sunday 2 June at 2.00pm.*

*Donations are invited to Christian Community Aid, Eastwood.*

**Church:**

Mosman - St Clement; Mosman - St Luke;  
Naremburn/Cammeray - St Cuthbert and All Saints';  
Neutral Bay - St Augustine and Cremorne Point;  
West Epping Uniting Church;  
Epping Baptist Church  
Anglicare Chaplaincies (Mission of the Month)

**In our World and Community:**

Pray for the Anglicare Chaplains – whether they are chaplains caring for patients and staff in our public and private hospitals, or working in the community, or with the police - that they may be able to provide pastoral care to patients, families, staff, workers and responders in their time of need. Pray also for Bp Grant Dibden and the chaplains of the defence forces.

As we remember the sacrifices made in wars past, pray that world leaders may strive for peace instead of war, oppression, conflict and revenge. Pray that there will no further extension of the current conflicts. Pray that God's justice and peace may reign. Pray for support and safety for those providing humanitarian aid in areas of conflict – may they be enabled to continue to provide food, water, and medicines; comforting the bereaved; and calming the anxious.

Pray for those who serve in the defence forces and police forces of this country. Give them courage and comfort in danger. Pray for their families – that God may support them in anxious times, and in times of absence.

Pray for teachers, students and school administrators as they come to the end of their break, and prepare to return to the places of learning. Pray for our school communities, all who teach and all who learn, that they may be places where all children and staff are treated with respect, and feel well supported and encouraged to perform to the best of their ability.

Pray for those in our parish community, and our families and friends, who are ill and in need, those undergoing surgery, and those in hospital or in care. Pray for the anxious and fearful, the dying and the grieving. Pray that all in need may know God's healing and calming spirit, and may feel sustained and supported.

Pray for our parish, for God's guidance in all we do in his name, and that we may each listen and respond to his call, committing ourselves to the ministry of the parish:

- Pray for Ross and Jenny as they prepare to leave the parish, and into the next stage of their lives, and their next ministry role. Pray for God's blessing on them, and give them calmness in the busyness of packing and moving.
- Pray for Phil as he returns and prepares for his increased role in the parish.
- Pray for the parish nominators, Bp Chris and the diocesan members of the Nomination Board as they seek to discern God's will for our parish. Pray that we may find a faithful pastor, and an encourager to equip us for our ministry.

**Anniversary of Death:**

Reginald Wright 28/4; Ralph Hindley 30/4; Alexandra Smith 30/4;  
Kate Newth 30/4; Adrian Newth 30/4; Frances Costello 1/5; Mark Sculley 2/5;  
Claire Chapman 2/5; Ronald Bolton 2/5; Max Aitchison 4/5

## Mission of the Month Anglicare Chaplaincies

Alongside its wide-ranging work with people in need, Anglicare provides chaplains and chaplaincy services throughout Sydney and the Illawarra - in hospitals, prisons, mental health centres, aged care services, and in the community, ministering to people in need of personal and spiritual support. Some funding support is given by the government for these ministries, but this falls far short of covering the actual cost.

Our Mission of the Month encourages you to support these ministries with your gifts and your prayer, and perhaps to consider the opportunity of serving as a volunteer, working in this ministry of listening and loving support. Fr Paul Weaver is a former Chaplain at Concord Hospital and can advise you on how to find out more about this important ministry.

Many of us have benefited from the ministry of Chaplains at Anglicare Retirement Villages, as well as hospitals. For further information about Anglicare Chaplaincies, please refer to the display on the narthex board or visit website <https://www.anglicare.org.au/community/chaplaincy/>

There are a few ways you can financially support the Anglicare Chaplaincies.

- Donate funds directly at <https://www.anglicare.org.au/donate> - use the pull-down menu under Designation and click on Chaplaincies.
- Transfer funds electronically to the St Alban's account – please ensure that you use the tag 'Anglicare Chaplaincies'.
- Place your gift in the 'Beyond the Parish' side of your offertory envelope, or in a plain envelope marked Anglicare Chaplaincies, and deposit the envelope in the collection box at Saint Alban's.
- Drop off your monetary donation to the Church office or leave it in the Church office letterbox; or mail a cheque to the church office at PO Box 79 Epping 1710 – please make the cheque payable to the St Alban's account and attach a separate note that the funds are intended for the Anglicare Chaplaincies.



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### The Ecumenical Pentecost Service

*for the Covenant communities of*

The Roman Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford;  
the Epping Uniting Church the West Epping Uniting Church  
and the Anglican Parish of Epping

will be held on

**Tuesday 14 May 2024  
at 5pm**

to be followed by dinner

West Epping Uniting Church  
Cnr Carlingford Road and Orchard Street Epping

All welcome



There is no charge for dinner, although a financial contribution will be welcomed.

## Sunday School is in recess for the school holidays and will resume next Sunday, 5 May.

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The next meeting of the **RLT Women's Discussion Group** will be held at Judi's home on Thursday 2 May at 12noon. Please bring your lunch as usual.

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### **BRUNCH (free)** Saturday 25 May 2024 St Alban's Main Hall at 10am

Speaker: Suzanne Coleman, who works with Umthomobo Wempilo (Well of life in Zulu). Wempilo is seeking to make the Gospel known to sex workers and other vulnerable women. This is an Anglican Aid project.

This is an outreach to all women, organized by St Alban's Mothers Union.

Come and join us and bring a friend.

If you are attending, please put your name on the list on the church noticeboard.

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### **Day of Pentecost at Saint Alban's - Sunday 19 May**

We will be seeking volunteers for reading in any language other than English.

At both services on the Day of Pentecost during the reading from Acts 2 when the disciples were 'filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages...' it has been our practice at Saint Alban's to have members of the congregation join in part of the reading in languages other than English. All join in at the same time from their seats – and the effect is a wonderful sound of a mixture of languages.

We will provide the details of the reading (Acts 2: 5-13) and a link where you will be able to access an online a version of the reading in a chosen language. From next Sunday there will be a sign up sheet on the noticeboard. If you would like to discuss this please be in touch with Peggy Sanders 0413 481 854.

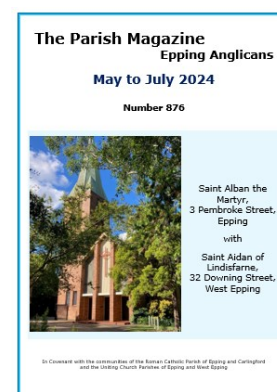
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### **The Parish Magazine**

The May-June-July edition of *The Parish Magazine* will be available in church on **Sunday 12 May**.

This is a week later than usual in order to include a report and photos of the Farewell Eucharist and Lunch for Bishop Ross and Jenny Nicholson to be held 5 May 2024.

Make sure you collect your copy



### **Communion – Bread and Wine.**

We receive bread in the form of a wafer, and gluten-free wafers are available. Wine, or non-alcoholic grape juice, is offered in a small individual disposable cup. If you prefer, you may receive wine from the chalice. Please indicate to the clergy as they approach you at the Altar Rail.

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# WHAT'S ON...

## Monday 29 April

Catherine of Siena, spiritual teacher  
*Office closed*

## Tuesday 30 April

9.00am Staff meeting  
10.00am Ladies Bible Study led by Jenny Nicholson via zoom (*link on front page of bulletin*)  
7.45pm Evening Bible Study with Bishop Ross.  
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84072186575>

## Wednesday 1 May

**PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES AND MARTYRS**

7.15am Prayer meeting via zoom (*link on front page of bulletin*)  
7.30pm Choir practice

## Thursday 2 May

**Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, teacher**

9.30am Reading, Reflection and Prayers for Healing by Zoom (*link on front page*)  
10.30am Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

## Friday 3 May

**Rector's and Phil's days off**

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**Office arrangements** - Phil is currently on leave until tomorrow, 29 April.

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*Eastwood Uniting Church Musical Society presents*

### **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF**

4-18 May 2024

Epping Baptist church

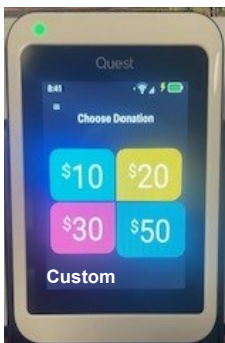
See noticeboard for more information

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### **Bulletin notices**

Please send items to be considered for next Sunday's bulletin by  
**WEDNESDAY at 2.30pm** to the office.

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### **EFTPOS Terminal**

St Alban's has now made it even easier to make a donation by installing a 'Tap and Go' machine which is placed at the back of the church. Simply select an amount for your once-off donation and tap your debit or credit card. There are four set amounts - \$10, \$20, \$30, \$50 or a custom amount where you can choose your own number (up to \$99). If you would like to donate more than \$99, please tap twice.

Pick which amount you would prefer then tap your card.

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**FAREWELL EUCHARIST  
for Bishop Ross and Jenny Nicholson**

5 May 2024

**9.30am Choral Eucharist**

*(also available by Zoom)*

President and Preacher: Bishop Ross Nicholson

*One service only in the parish.*

At the back of St Alban's  
are enlarged service sheets and bulletins.  
If you would like a copy, please ask the duty parishioners.



**Please consider paying your offertory directly into the church account.**

The details are:- St Alban's Account, BSB No: 032 081, A/c: 000024

Please indicate which service you attend. If you wish some of your giving to go to the Mission of the Month or any other specific cause, please indicate it on your direct transfer.

During the blessing of the gifts of the people, we are including the offertory made to the Parish by direct transfer; handed in to the office, and the offertory made using the EFTPOS Terminal at the back of the church. Otherwise, the offertory box is located in the aisle at each service and brought forward for the blessing of the gifts.

We also have an EFTPOS terminal at church for a once-off donation.

**Parish Directory**

**Parish Office**

**Address** - 3 Pembroke Street Epping 2121 (PO Box 79 Epping 1710)

**Phone** - 9876 3362

<b>Rector</b>	Bishop Ross Nicholson 0407 916 603 rossnicholson@eppinganglicans.org.au
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	The Reverend Philip Lui 0433 456 987 phil@eppinganglicans.org.au
<b>Honorary Senior Associate</b>	The Reverend Paul Weaver 0408 285 776 paul@eppinganglicans.org.au
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Mrs Denise Pigot 98763362 office@eppinganglicans.org.au
<b>Children's Ministry Worker</b>	Amy Taylor 0402 063 133 youthstalbans@gmail.com
<b>Music Director</b>	Chris Czerwinski 0452 557 695 krzysztof_czerwinski@yahoo.com

**Website** - [www.eppinganglicans.org.au](http://www.eppinganglicans.org.au)