

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.

PENTECOST

28 May 2023

8.00am Eucharist

Reader: Elizabeth Jenkins
Preacher: *Bishop Ross Nicholson*

10.00am Eucharist

Also available by zoom
Reader: Christine Murray
Preacher: *Bishop Ross Nicholson*

4.30pm 'All in church'

The Reverend Phil Lui

Join Zoom Meeting:

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

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

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 online for a time of fellowship.

Morning Tea

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



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

Rector's Letter

We celebrate today Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' disciples and empowered them to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Acts 2 describes the events around that coming of the Spirit and how his presence changed those disciples. The Book of Acts shows us how they fulfilled that command of Jesus to be witnesses to him. The anointing of the Spirit took place in Jerusalem and in the very last chapter of Acts we read of Paul's imprisonment in Rome, the symbolic 'end of the earth'.

In 1 Corinthians 12 Paul describes how all followers of Jesus have the Holy Spirit within their hearts. The presence of the Holy Spirit transforms all believers and gifts them for the task of serving God and his people, to carry on that ministry started by the apostles. He describes this in 1Corinthians 12:7;

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."
1Corinthians 12:7

A manifestation is a visible outworking of some inner or hidden reality. We cannot see the Holy Spirit within others' hearts, but we can see him in their lives as they exercise the spiritual gifts that are given by the Holy Spirit.

In 1 Corinthians Paul list these gifts as;

"The utterance of wisdom, the utterance of knowledge . . . ⁹ faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues." 1Corinthians 12:7-10

These could be seen as more 'supernatural' gifts, but in Romans, Paul is more pragmatic as he instructs his readers to exercise their gift;

"If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." Romans 12:6-8

Our society elevates the gifts or talents we have to affirm our superiority over others or bolster our fragile egos. But Paul wants followers of Jesus to know that the spiritual gifts we have are not for own ends but for the common good, the building up of the body of Christ and the glory of God.

Sunday School
is on TODAY 10am in The Loft

Harvest Festival and CCA

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection of food items and funds for CCA and for the wonderful Harvest Festival display. All has been delivered to CCA and they have expressed their thanks.

Thoughts for Prayer & Reflection

The June issue of Thoughts for Prayer & Reflection is now available. This has been produced by the Pastoral Care Committee, using the Lectionary as a guide. We hope you will find this helpful in your daily journey.

Church:

Northbridge - St Mark; Lavender Bay - Christ Church;
North Sydney - St Thomas; Anglican Youth Works
The Cathedral Parish of St Alban's Griffith
The Bishop of Bathurst and his Diocese
Anglican Aid (*Mission of the Month*)

In our World and Community:

Pray for our sisters and brothers suffering the miseries of war and other humanitarian crises: pray for an end to the conflict and violence, pray for those impacted by war, cyclones and flooding - remembering especially the young, the old, the hungry, the fearful, the homeless and the displaced. Pray that they will know God's grace and will find help and a safe haven. Give thanks for those who show generosity and courage in providing aid and support.

Pray for all God's people living in severe poverty, struggling on a subsistence living, with reduced employment opportunities and where health needs are high and educational opportunities limited. Pray for good government and a just sharing of resources. Pray for the humanitarian organisations and churches aiming to build healthy and self-reliant communities, giving people hope and opportunities to improve their lives and livelihoods.

Pray for those in our community who are ill and those undergoing surgery, and those in rehabilitation programs: pray for consolation for the sad and those who grieve, companionship for the lonely, and relief for those in pain. Pray for carers and all who work to alleviate the suffering of others: may they be blessed with the wisdom, strength, patience and grace.

Pray for all the parishes in our covenant churches, and unite us in fellowship. Pray that as we receive God's Holy Spirit there may be unity between Christians, so we may powerfully bear witness to Christ in our world, using our God given gifts.

Prayer for this week:

O God, who taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Anniversary of Death:

Rhett Campbell 28/5; Kevin Lee 28/5; Denis Dwyer 28/5; Peter Hauff 29/5;
Martin Hardman 29/5; David Deall 30/5; Doris Cummins 30/5;
Miriam McWhite 31/5; Benjamin Taylpr; George Daniels; Maude Arnold;
Merle Lawlor 1/6; Kathleen Preston 1/6; Percy Evans 1/6; Jameson Read 1/6;
Buller Lambert 3/6; Olive Lambert 3/6

Ecumenical Pentecost Service

THIS Tuesday 30 May

7.45pm Our Lady Help of Christians

29 Oxford Street Epping

Preacher: The Reverend David Reichardt

Mission of the Month Anglican Aid

Anglican Aid is the relief and aid agency of the Sydney Anglican Church. It provides support to domestic and overseas activities including community based benevolent and welfare programs, school education, Christian leadership programs and emergency and relief programs.

Anglican Aid is currently involved in 142 long-term development projects across 39 countries. Christians in local partner organisations and churches are putting their faith into action and caring for the vulnerable.

For further information about Anglican Aid and its projects, please refer to the display on the narthex board, or visit website anglicanaid.org.au

There are a few ways you can financially assist Anglican Aid.

- Donate funds directly at anglicanaid.org.au/donate
- Transfer funds electronically to the Saint Alban's account – please ensure that you use the tag 'Anglican Aid'
- Place your gift in the 'Beyond the Parish' side of your offertory envelope (please write 'Anglican Aid' next to the stamped date) or in a plain envelope marked 'Anglican Aid' and deposit the envelope in the collection box as you arrive for a service at Saint Alban's.
- Drop off your monetary donation to the Church office on Tuesday morning or Thursday morning; or deposit it in the Church office mailbox anytime; or mail a cheque to the church office at PO Box 79 Epping 1710 – please make the cheque payable to the Saint Alban's account and attach a separate note that the funds are intended for Anglican Aid.

We remain committed to pray for the people of Ukraine, and all those caught up in the misery and dislocation of this war.

Prayers for the people of Ukraine, Russia, Turkey and Syria

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

We also recognise the suffering of Russian soldiers and citizens who have been drawn into a war not of their making. May they display courage in their convictions and calls for peace. May they look to you as a source of comfort in the face of tyranny and the hardships that will flow from their government's actions. Amen.

Lord we pray for all affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria: for those working to make safe we pray for your strength; for those bereaved or injured we pray for your comfort; for those made homeless we pray for your provision. Just as you heard the Psalmist's cries for rescue, please answer our prayers for your people in crisis. In your mercy and grace. Amen

The next meeting of the **RLT Women's Discussion Group** will be held at Jill's home on Thursday 1 June at 12.30pm. Please bring your lunch as usual.

Piano Concert
TODAY 28 May at 2pm - St Alban's Parish Hall

Paul Weaver will be presenting a Piano Concert and Bruce Wilson will join him for a number of piano duets.

The concert this year is called "Music Across the Atlantic", with a range of enjoyable pieces from Norway, France, Spain, the British Isles, the Americas, and even Morocco in Africa. Donations will support the "Rough Edges" ministry of St John's Church, Darlinghurst. The concert will be repeated on **Sunday 4 June** at Alan Walker Village, Carlingford, with donations supporting the work of Eastwood Christian Community Aid.

Foundation Stone Centenary
100 Years Since Commencement of Construction
of the Current Church Building
TICKET BOOKINGS CLOSE THIS WEDNESDAY
(for catering purposes)

On the 16th June 2023 the Parish will celebrate the Foundation Stone Centenary - 100 Years Since Commencement of Construction of the Current Church Building. Events to mark this anniversary include:

- 6:30 pm Friday 16th June 2023 – Choral Evensong followed by supper. The Reverend Dr Daniel Dries, Christ Church St Laurence Sydney will preach.
- 9:30 am Sunday 18th June 2023 – St Alban's Day Choral Eucharist, The Reverend Canon Dr Ben Edwards, St Paul's Manuka ACT will preach. The service shall be followed by lunch.

The invitation to these events are available at the back of the church. Please pass this invitation on to anyone you feel would be interested.

Tickets for the supper and lunch are now on sale through TryBooking:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CHIRI>

You can also pay for tickets at the Parish Office.

REMINDER: the closing date for tickets for the supper and the lunch (not the services) is **Wednesday 31 May 2023**.

We have produced a range of keepsakes that you will be able to purchase to remember the event. If you would like to assist with the celebrations in some way, please contact Bp Ross or David Tait.



ENC Gospel Outreach Conference is a conference to help everyday people to consider how to engage and reach out to the communities around them.

Saturday 3 June
9am to 4pm
St Annes Church, Ryde

Becky and Phil Lui will be running a seminar on "Raising up Evangelism Coaches".

One of our guest speakers is Professor Gordon Menzies, Economics at UTS, he will be sharing about how to reach people in a secular context.

If you are interested, please speak to Phil or Becky for more details.

National Reconciliation Week

From the Primate:

May 27 marks the beginning of National Reconciliation Week. It also marks the 6th anniversary of the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The Anglican Church is grateful for the witness and service of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC) which supports and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry and mission.

This National Reconciliation Week please pray for the members of NATSIAC and their prophetic witness to their local communities and to the wider church.

From NATSIAC:

Australia is moving steadily closer to the referendum on the Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution. What are we being asked to vote on? A Q & A from NATSIAC is on the noticeboard, alongside the informative poster on the Uluru Statement from ABM.

We are invited to inform ourselves and go on this journey in prayer.

Advance Notice:

A Forum on the Voice is being sponsored by the Epping Uniting Church, Chester Street Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 7pm to which we will be invited.

Is Peace and Democracy possible in Myanmar?

A lecture on the movement for democracy in Myanmar with keynote speaker Aung Myo Min, followed by the awarding of the Sydney Peace Foundation Gold Medal for Human Rights.

Friday 2 June at 3.30 - 5pm

Social Sciences Building (A02) Science Road Lecture Theatre 200

Leading human rights advocate Aung Myo Min will discuss the movement for democracy in Myanmar and the role of the National Unity Government of Myanmar in laying the path for the country's transition to a liberal democracy. For more information and to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/is-peace-and-democracy-possible-in-myanmar-tickets-632957110757>

NSW Council of Christians and Jews

Jewish Scriptures and Christian Scriptures

What do they have in common, and what are the differences?

Tuesday 13 June 2023

6pm

The Great Synagogue, 166 Castlereagh Street Sydney

Speaker: Rev'd Paul Weaver

Response: Rabbi Dr Benjamin Elton

See noticeboard for more information

WHAT'S ON...

Monday 29 May

Week of Prayer for Reconciliation/Ember week

Office closed

Tuesday 30 May

9.00 am Staff meeting

10.00am Ladies Bible Study led by Jenny Nicholson via zoom (*link below*)

7.45pm Ecumenical Pentecost Service at OLHC

Wednesday 31 May

THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH

Phil's day off

7.15am Prayer meeting via zoom (*link below*)

10.00am ESL classes

7.45pm Choir practice

Thursday 1 June

9.30am Reading, Reflection and Prayers for Healing by Zoom (*link below*)

10.30am Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

12.30pm RLT at Jill's

Friday 2 June

Rector's day off

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516182389>

Bulletin notices

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

"All in Church" Is on TODAY

4:30pm-5:30pm in the Lower Hall

with casual play and fellowship starting at 4:10pm. Dinner is included.

All people, from all ages are welcome to participate.

Office arrangements

Advance notice

Denise will be away from **Friday 9 June and returning on Friday 16 June** .

The office will still be open on Tuesday 6 June and Thursday 8 June.



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

**Next Sunday Services
TRINITY SUNDAY**

4 June 2023

8am Eucharist at St Alban's

Preacher Bishop Ross Nicholson

10am Eucharist at Alban's (also streamed)

Preacher Bishop Ross Nicholson

4.30pm 'All in Church'

The Reverend Phil Lui

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, we are including the offertory made to the Parish by direct transfer.

Otherwise, the offertory box is located in the aisle at each service and brought forward for the blessing of the gifts.

Parish Directory

Parish Office (at St Alban's)

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

Phone - 9876 3362

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

Website - www.eppinganglicans.org.au