

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Good Shepherd Sunday

21 April 2024

8.00am Eucharist

Reader: Anne Lawson

President and Preacher Bishop Ross Nicholson

10.00am Choral Eucharist

Also available by zoom

Reader: Corey Chen

President and 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

How many people do you think would put their own life on the line for you? Within your circle of family, friends and colleagues, who would die for you? Given the horrific actions that have occurred this last week the question may not be so hypothetical. We did see people placing themselves in danger's way.

Throughout the gospels Jesus makes some very exclusive claims for himself. In John 16:6 he says:

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14: 6

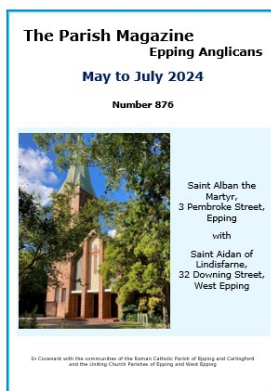
In our reading this morning Jesus makes another exclusive claim for himself to confront the offended Pharisees (you'll have to read John 9 and beginning of chapter 10 to see why they were affronted). Jesus said;

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."
John 10:11

To understand the uniqueness of this claim we need to leave behind our Christmas Card view of shepherds in Jesus' day. They were distrusted, outsiders who were more likely to steal a sheep than care for it. If Jesus is the 'good shepherd' he's the only one. But 'good' here is not a moral descriptor but an indication of attractiveness or appeal. And what is attractive, appealing or even beautiful about Jesus, the Good Shepherd? He lays down his life for his sheep.

But why does he do that? Because he knows the parlous state of the sheep. Human beings are not the cute and cuddly lambs of a nativity scene, we're the willful, ignorant animals that want to go their own way disregarding the danger of that course. It's for these sheep that Jesus died.

Isn't that a beautiful thing? To die for the undeserving, the unattractive, the rebellious? That is unique. No-one in all of history has ever claimed it or actually done it. But Jesus did and all who recognise his voice will respond to his call.



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

Upcoming services ...

Thursday 25 April 2024:

ANZAC Day and Saint Mark, Evangelist and Martyr.

At 10.30am there will be a Eucharist with Prayers for Healing
– all welcome.

The Parish Remembrance for ANZAC Day
will be included in the Eucharist of Sunday 28 April 2024
at both 8am and 10am.



FAREWELL



Sunday 5th May 2024

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

The Eucharist will be followed by a

Luncheon

in the St Alban's Epping Parish Hall

3 course lunch Soft drink & juice supplied BYO wine

Rsvp TODAY

For catering purposes, please leave your name and number of guests attending on the noticeboard sheet in the vestibule.

If you are able to help by providing a *salad or dessert*, would you please add your name to the list on the church porch noticeboard.

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.

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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**.

Church:

Kirribilli - St John the Baptist; Mowbray - Holy Trinity; Lane Cove - St Andrew;
Longueville - St Aidan; Epping Uniting Church; The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford
Anglicare Chaplaincies (Mission of the Month)

In our World and Community:

Pray for our community in this city as we and many mourn the deaths in the recent tragedy in Bondi Junction, and pray for the injured in this and the other recent stabbings. Pray for those who are still recovering from their injuries, and those who will suffer emotionally. Pray for God's peace and calm, pray for those providing counselling, including the Anglicare chaplains.

Pray for the Anglicare hospital chaplains and the volunteer chaplains caring for patients and staff in our public and private hospitals, that they may be able to provide pastoral care to patients, families and staff in their time of need.

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 teachers, students and school administrators that they may have a restful and refreshing break. Pray for those who are travelling at this time for holidays and relaxation that they may be kept safe in their travels and activities. Pray also for the leaders and children in holiday camps and programs.

Pray that leaders of nations may strive for peace instead of war, oppression, conflict and revenge. Pray that there will not be an extension of the conflict. Pray that all people will be treated, as Christ taught us, justly, fairly and with love so that God's justice and peace may reign. Pray for support and safety for those providing humanitarian aid – may they be enabled to continue to provide food, water, and medicines; comforting the bereaved; and calming the anxious.

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 Phil and Becky and their boys as Phil takes leave. Pray for God's loving hand to be on Phil as he prepares for his increased role in 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 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.

Prayer for the week:

God, our redeemer and sustainer, we pray for the survivors of violence. Give your power to the powerless, your fullness to the empty of spirit. Heal their wounds, free them from fear, and restore them to true health. Grant this through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Saviour. Amen.

Recently died:

Roy Wright on 14 April 2024

Anniversary of Death:

Chitranganie 21/4; Manie Dwyer 22/4; Florence Contini 22/4; Don McIntyre 24/4;
Beryl White 24/4; Marjorie Howe 25/4

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.



**Sunday School is in recess
for the school holidays and will resume 5 May.**

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 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.

Garden Working Bee

Next Saturday 27 April 2024.

Every 4th Saturday of each month from 9.30am to 12noon.

Extra hands would be so helpful.

Enquiries: Gill McLennon 0411 957 270.



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.

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 Darlinghurst.
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.

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.

WHAT'S ON...

Monday 22 April

Office closed

Tuesday 23 April

George, martyr

- 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 24 April

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

Thursday 25 April

Office closed

ANZAC DAY

MARK, EVANGELIST AND MARTYR

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

Friday 26 April

Rector's day off

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

Eastwood Uniting Church Musical Society presents

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

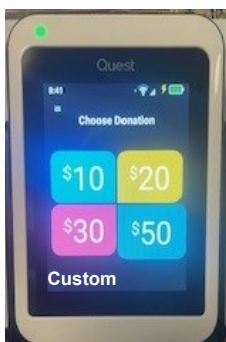
4-18 May 2024

Epping Baptist church

See noticeboard for more information

Bulletin notices

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



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.

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER and ANZAC Remembrance

28 April 2024

8am Eucharist with Hymns

President: The Reverend Paul Weaver

Preacher: Bishop Ross Nicholson

10am Sung Eucharist

(also available by Zoom)

President: The Reverend Paul Weaver

Preacher: Bishop Ross Nicholson

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

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 0402 063 133 youthstalbans@gmail.com
Music Director	Chris Czerwinski 0452 557 695 krzysztof_czerwinski@yahoo.com

Website - www.eppinganglicans.org.au