

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.

EASTER DAY

31 March 2024



5.30am The Vigil of Easter

Preacher: Bishop Ross Nicholson

Followed by the Easter party

8.30am Festival Choral Eucharist

Preacher: Bishop Ross Nicholson

Both services will be available on Zoom.

8.30am Sunday School in The Loft

(above the Main Hall)

Amy Taylor, Children's Ministry Worker

Join Zoom Meeting:

[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.

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

Ross' Letter

One of the most popular genres on TV, in books or at the movies, is the detective story. The structure is a simple one, there's a crime or mystery of some description, a detective is called in, they slowly assemble the facts, sift through the evidence and try to harmonise the eyewitness's accounts of what they saw, with all the seemingly conflicting information.

Over this Lenten period we have heard Jesus tell his disciples and enemies that he would die and rise again. On Good Friday and Easter morning we are presented again with those facts by each of the four gospel writers. Each of the four gospels have an account of Jesus' followers discovering the empty tomb that first Easter morning. Each are highlighting different aspects of this astounding discovery that, just as Jesus said, he would rise from the dead. But there are differences.

Our task when we read these accounts is to recognise the different perspectives of each of the main actors. Like a detective in a crime novel, our task is to weigh up all the facts to come to a conclusion that aligns with those details and the claims Jesus made for himself.

Then there is only one issue left, it's not whether you believe that Jesus rose from the dead, but what will you do about that? Jesus didn't just die to be Saviour, he rose to be Lord. We've seen throughout this Lenten period that John has encouraged his readers to:

“. . . believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:31

Jesus came that we may have life. His death and resurrection makes that life possible, so that all we need to do is set aside our doubts and believe that that life is now open to us.

Easter Party

The Easter Party will follow the 5.30am service. If you are attending the 8.30am service, come early and join in the Easter Party (there won't be a celebration after this service).



The memorial flowers in the church today are in loving memory of Betty and John Chapman from Julie and Glyn Evans and their family.

Thoughts for Prayer and Reflection:

The April *Thoughts for Prayer and Reflection* is available in the porch and on the website.

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.

Parish AGM – Wardens and Parish Council

Thank you to all who attended the AGM of the Parish on Sunday 24 March, 2024. It is important that parishioners attend such meetings as the Wardens and Parish Council seek to represent the parish in all that they undertake.

The following were elected at the AGM:

Wardens (2): Noel Christie-David; David Tait
Parish Council (6): Margaret Cummins; Glyn Evans; Elizabeth Jenkins;
Christine Murray; Peggy Sanders and Gillian Taylor.

Subsequently the Rector appointed Elizabeth Jenkins to the position of Rector's Warden.

The Rector has made the appointment of Ken Bock to Parish Council.

The casual vacancy created by Elizabeth's appointment will be filled shortly by the Parish Council, as provided for in the *Parish Administration Ordinance 2008, Chapter 2, Part 2, Clause 2.8*

The commissioning of the Wardens and Parish Council will take place on Sunday 7 April 2024 during the 10am Service, prior to the first meeting of the Parish Council which will be held on Monday 29 April 2024.

We thank all these members of the parish who have agreed to serve in these roles, and we urge your prayerful support of all they will undertake to serve God and to serve the parish community over the next 12 months.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU!

There are so many people who played their part in making Holy Week and Easter a very special time. Thank you to all who helped in so many different ways:

- those who collected and set up Palm Branches in the churches, and all who made Palm Crosses;
- Ted Chang, Amy Taylor and Jenny Nicholson who shared thoughtful reflections at our Evening Services;
- those who set up the church for our varied services, especially the Easter Dawn Service;
- all who worked hard and happily to get the church sparkling for Easter;
- those who provided and so beautifully arranged flowers for our Easter Day services;
- those who generously fed people at the Holy Saturday clean-up, and those who served in the hall on Good Friday and Easter Day;
- those who helped around the office;
- Chris Czerwinski, whose playing of the organ was greatly appreciated; and the choir, who sang so beautifully, under the direction of Chris; plus our other organists, Chris Wagstaff, Isabel Li and Enoch Pan.
- Lachlan Roots for singing; Ken Bock for narration; and those who assisted with the presentation on Good Friday;
- those who greeted and assisted at the door;
- those who served and assisted in the sanctuary at services;
- Peggy Sanders, and Sacristans Ross Beattie, James von Stieglitz and Mark Taylor who made special contributions to ensure that the services went smoothly and meaningfully;
- and all who helped in a multitude of other ways. So many parishioners gave their time and gifts to help us all to commemorate and to celebrate.



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 Wednesday 17 April

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

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:

St Ives - Christ Church; Asquith/Mt Colah/Mt Kuring-gai; Berowra - St Mark;
Chaplains at Hornsby Kuring-gai Hospital; Barker College
The Cathedral Parish of St Alban's Griffith;
The Bishop of Bathurst and his Diocese
ABM (Mission of the Month)

In our World and Community:

Pray for peace in the world: for those suffering in the places where there is war, conflict, danger and upheaval. Pray for all those who are mourning; facing malnutrition and starvation; and all the innocent who are struggling with the disruption to their lives. May the innocent receive the aid that they need. May God's justice and peace reign throughout the world.

Pray for the global church and for faithful Christians everywhere who share the Good News with others. May we as Christ's servants share the love, as he has commanded us to do, in practical ways. Pray that we may follow Christ's teaching and treat others justly, fairly and with love, even though we may speak, live and pray in different ways.

Pray for our parish and for God's guidance as we seek to do his will in our parish, and to further his kingdom here and in our communities. Pray for those who were elected or appointed at our Annual General Meeting, and give thanks for those willing to serve the parish as wardens and parish councillors.

Pray that we may each open ourselves to God's guidance for our personal stewardship: contributing our financial resources, sharing our talents, our skills, our time and our energy for his people.

Pray that the man of God's choosing will be found to be the next Rector of our parish. Pray for God's guidance and for wisdom, discernment and patience for the parish nominators Ruth, Meryl, Glyn, James and Peggy, and for Bp Chris and the diocesan members of the nomination Board.

Pray for family, friends and our parish community who are ill and in need, the lonely, those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit. Pray for those who are dying and those who are grieving. Pray for God's healing and calming spirit to be upon them – giving them patience and hope, and the ability to endure challenges and pain with grace. Give thanks for all who care for them – families, the medical staff, carers, volunteers and chaplains.

Prayer for the week

Everlasting God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son to take our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross: in your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Anniversary of Death:

Joyce Rogers; Fred Rogers; Diana Bowman; Edward Carden; Lenore Carden;
Gladys Ranyard; Valerie Woodman 1/4; Sheila Dummer 2/4;
Grahame Doggett 4/2; Jack Guthrie 5/4; Betty Chapman 6/4;
Bill Greenhalgh 6/4; Don Down 6/4

ABM Easter Gift 2024

Anglican Board of Mission

This Easter, ABM invites you to contribute to the vital work of the Anglican Board of Mission's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants. These are small grants, usually less than \$20,000, that are overseen by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Commission.

Recent grants have supported ministries as varied as a women's bible camp in the Northern Territory, school chaplaincy in a Western Australian Aboriginal Community College, teenage pregnancy support in central New South Wales, and help with transport for Aboriginal ministry in the Diocese of Willochra.

For further details, please refer to the Missions display on the narthex board, or visit www.abmission.org/Easter2024

There are a few ways to financially support ABM and AID during Easter:

- Donate funds directly at www.abmission.org/Easter2024
- Transfer funds electronically to the Saint Alban's account – please ensure that you use the tag 'ABM Easter Gift'.
- Place your gift in an ABM 2024 Easter Gift Giving Envelope, or in the 'Beyond the Parish' side of your weekly offertory envelope, or in a plain envelope marked 'ABM Easter Gift' - 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 or Thursday morning; or leave it in the Church office letterbox any time; 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 ABM Easter Gift.



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 1 April

Office closed

Tuesday 2 April

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 3 April

7.15am Prayer meeting via zoom (*link on front page of bulletin*)

10.00am ESL classes

Thursday 4 April

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

10.30am Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

Friday 5 April

Rector's and Phil's days off

Taizé

Taizé will take place on Sunday, 14 April, at 6pm. All are welcome to join in this time of reflective worship. Future Taizé services will be on the second Sunday of June, August, October and November at 6pm.

For further information please contact Paul Weaver on 0408-285776.

THE WORLD OF CHILDREN - A Concert of Piano Music Paul Weaver (Pianist) and Christopher Wagstaff (Duo Pianist)

St Alban's Parish Hall - Sunday 26 May at 2.00pm

Music written for children and by children, and music about children's games, toys and lives

Bach, Mozart, Schumann, Bizet, Debussy and more

Donations invited to support "Rough Edges" ministry of St John's Darlinghurst

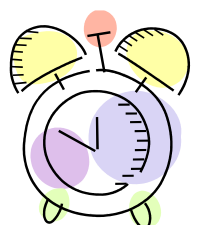
All welcome.

Bulletin notices

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

Daylight Saving

ends NEXT SUNDAY (7 April) at 2am.
Don't forget to put your clocks BACK one hour.



2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

7 April 2024

8am Eucharist with Hymns

President: Bishop Ross Nicholson
Preacher: The Reverend Paul Weaver

10am Sung Eucharist

Commissioning of Wardens and Parish Council
(also available by Zoom)

President: Bishop Ross Nicholson
Preacher: The Reverend Paul Weaver

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