

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.

DAY OF PENTECOST

19 May 2024

8.00am Eucharist

Reader: Elizabeth Jenkins
President: The Reverend Phil Lui
Preacher: The Reverend Paul Weaver

10.00am Choral Eucharist

Also available by zoom

Reader: Sarah Weaver
President: The Reverend Phil Lui
Preacher: The Reverend Paul Weaver
Motet: God So Loved the World (John 3:16-17) Music by John Goss

10.00am Sunday School in The Loft

(above the Main Hall)
Amy Taylor, Children's Ministry Worker

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*

From Father Paul:

It has been a special week for a number of reasons. We had the visit from Bishop Chris Edwards, our local bishop, and shared with Phil as he conducted his first services as Acting Rector. We also had our first Ecumenical Service for the year, with a lovely service at West Epping Uniting Church, as well as a very enjoyable dinner.

This time of year has been for many years a regular time for us to gather with our brothers and sisters from other local churches for shared worship and fellowship. It marks the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and also the festival of Pentecost, which we celebrate today.

And how appropriate it is to make that connection at this time! For Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit in a new way upon Christ's followers: not just on specially chosen individuals, but on women and men, young and old - Christians of all kinds and backgrounds. This is brought out by Luke's account in Acts 2, where the crowd who witnessed the coming of the Spirit came from all parts of the known world.

As we celebrate what is often described as "the birthday of the church", we are reminded that right from the start, those who made up the church were a very mixed bunch of people. And as we read the Acts of the Apostles and the New Testament letters, we are reminded that the church in those days was far from uniform. Of course the truth of the Gospel and the path of discipleship must be maintained, but churches were not carbon copies of each other. And there was no central bureaucracy telling them exactly what to do in full detail, although letters from Paul and others sought to keep the church on the right path.

Part of the value of our ecumenical connections is that we can understand each other better, appreciate our differences - as well as all that we share - , and learn from each other. The church is a big and special family. Different churches have their different approaches and traditions as they seek to honour Christ in their worship and loving service. We at St Alban's value our own approach to worship, but there are other valid and helpful ways which other Christians find helpful. Let us love one another as members of our own branch of the Christian family, but let us always be ready to reach out humbly to other parts of Christ's worldwide and eternal family. No church is perfect, but as followers of Jesus, we **all** belong to the body of Christ.

Office helpers

Denise is looking for more helpers in the Parish Office. The duties include answering the phone, speaking with those who come in for help, deal with the clergy, pick up mail from the post office and general office duties including stopping at 10.30am for a well earned coffee break!

If you are available on a Tuesday or Thursday morning from 9am to 1pm (or part of these hours), please email her on office@eppinganglicans.org.au. or phone on 9876 3362.

St Alban's Bookmarks

In 2023 for the celebration of the Centenary of the church building, a set of bookmarks were produced depicting some of the windows in the church. These are still available. Please enquire at the Parish Office. \$2.50each or 5 for \$10.00

Church:

Beecroft - St John the Evangelist; Macquarie - St George and St Dunstan
Epping Presbyterian Church; Epping Church of Christ
Christian Community Aid (Mission of the Month)

In our World and Community:

On this Day of Pentecost pray for God's church: for a renewal of faith and commitment; for power to proclaim the gospel and for unity between Christians. Pray for peace in this troubled world. Pray that in the places where there is conflict, upheaval, war, oppression and danger God will be with his people in their sorrow, despair and fear, and pray for his calming presence to ease their suffering. Pray for support and safety for those providing humanitarian aid in areas of conflict.

Pray for Christian Community Aid, and other organisations serving those in need in our community. Pray for those who are struggling to provide for their families and pray that we may be a compassionate community providing assistance as we are able.

Pray for our parish community, particularly those who are ill, facing surgery, the frail, or confused, anxious and fearful. Pray for medical staff, nursing home staff, families and friends, those who provide care, those who sit with the dying, and those who comfort the grieving. May they each know God's healing and calming spirit, and feel sustained and supported.

Pray for God's guidance for our parish, for a renewed vision and commitment of ourselves to the ministry of the parish:

- pray for Phil as he undertakes his increased role in the parish as Acting Rector, and pray that we may support him in this;
- pray for Amy, our Children's Worker, her assistants, and our children in the Sunday School;
- pray for the parish nominators, Ruth, Meryl, Peggy, Glyn and James; and for 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 this week

O God, you hear our inmost thoughts and know the needs of our hearts. We your people are facing change here in our parish community, but like the sheep of the pasture, our lives are ever in your care, Lord. Remind us always of your unfailing love and your steadfast presence, through any kind of transition. Guide us with the wisdom to see new paths of possibility and the vision to move forward. Give us the strength to be unafraid of what is new. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary of Death:

Arlene Gellately 19/5; Lory Rutherford 23/5; Scott Jeffery 23/5;
Doris Thompson 24/5

Harvest Festival

in support of Christian Community Aid (Mission of the Month)

Please support the work of Christian Community Aid as our Mission of the Month, culminating in Harvest Festival to be held at Saint Alban's on **Sunday 26 May**.



CCA is a non-denominational not-for-profit community service organisation that has been delivering services in the Epping and Eastwood area for over 58 years. Its focus is to be “problem solvers and game changers combating against poverty, violence, discrimination, and inequality. United we work for the health, wellbeing, education, safety, and financial stability of every person in our community.”

For more information about CCA, please refer to the display on the Narthex board, or visit website www.ccas.org.au

There remains high demand on the **CCA Community Hub's Pantry** by families in need. Donations of **non-perishable food** are welcome for the Parish's celebration of Harvest Festival on Sunday 26 May. Tinned and packaged food (no glass bottles or jars please) may be left at the office or in the church narthex **until Thursday 23 May**. Following the Festival all the donated food will be transported from the church display to Christian Community Aid.



So that CCA can make bulk purchases and buy perishable food as required, **cash donations** are also welcome. Use the 'Beyond the Parish' side of your weekly offertory (please write 'CCA' next to the stamped date) or a plain envelope marked 'CCA'. Alternatively transfer funds electronically to the St Alban's account (please use tag 'CCA'), or donate funds directly at <https://ccas.org.au/make-a-donation/>

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.

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 TODAY.

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.

Garden Working Bee

THIS Saturday 25 May 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 Deirdre's home on Thursday 6 June at 12noon. Please bring your lunch as usual.

Candles

Did you know around 50 votive candles are lit per week at St Alban's? This is approximately 200 per month and 2,600 per year!

We also use many candles to enrich our worship.

If you would like to contribute to the costs, the bank details are on the back page. Please indicate 'candles' on EFT, or cash can be placed in the offertory box or handed in at the church office.

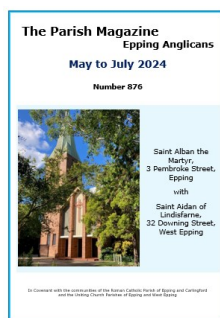


Mission of the Month donations received for January to May

\$865 = Bush Church Aid for January/February
\$682 = Anglican Board of Mission for February/March
\$295 = ABM Easter gift
\$430 = Anglicare Chaplaincy for April
\$80 = Christian Community Aid for May (so far)

BCA March Box Opening

\$308.65 was raised in the last box opening.



The Parish Magazine

The May-June-July edition of *The Parish Magazine* is available. This great edition includes a report and photos of the Farewell Eucharist and Lunch.

There are plenty of copies available in the church foyer.

CCSL Day of Prayer for Vocations – Saturday 25 May

A Day of Prayer for Vocations, Mission and Ministry in the Church will be held at Christ Church St Laurence from 8am to 5.30pm on Ember Saturday 25 May 2024.

You are invited to attend for all or part of the day.

There will be three short addresses by Fr Daniel Dries - 9am Lay Vocation, Mission and Ministry of the People of God; 12 noon Vocation to the Consecrated Life (Monastic/Religious); 3pm Vocation to the Ordained Ministry (Diaconate/ Priesthood).

Please bring your own lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided. For further details please contact the CCSL parish office office@ccsl.org.au or 9211 0560.

Pew
Reflections
REFLECTIONS

Acts 2.1-21; Psalm 104.26-36; Romans 8.22-27;
John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15



EGM Ezekiel's well-known prophecy shows us that without breath, there is no life. We need that breath literally as well as metaphorically: we need the Spirit to vivify us, we need inspiration to really exist, endure and flourish. Otherwise, we are merely skeletons with no life in us. Pray that the Holy Spirit may enliven and inspire us so that we may truly live.

- Holy Ghost, dispel our sadness, Pierce the gloom of sinful night; Come, thou Source of sweetest gladness, Breathe thy life and spread thy light!
- Give thanks for the two dioceses of the Church of Ceylon, which covers most of Sri Lanka, remembering their ministry in a multi-religious context.

Text: Robert McLean © Anglican Board of Mission 2024.

WHAT'S ON...

Monday 20 May

Office closed

Tuesday 21 May

9.00am Staff meeting

Wednesday 22 May

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

7.30pm Choir practice

Thursday 23 May

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

10.30am Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

Friday 24 May

John and Charles Wesley, evangelists

Phil's day off

Saturday 25 May

Bede of Jarrow, priest and teacher

9.30am Garden working bee

10.00am Ladies Brunch

Bulletin notices

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

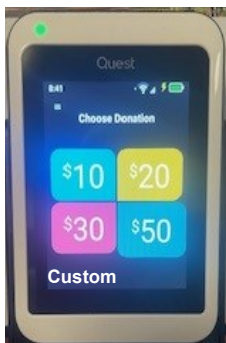
A booklet '*Guidelines for Funeral Service*'
has been produced as a caring initiative
by our Pastoral Care Committee.

If you would like one,
copies are available at the back of each church.



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.



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.

Next Sunday Services

TRINITY SUNDAY

First Sunday after Pentecost and Harvest Festival

26 May 2024

8am Eucharist with Hymns

Preacher: The Reverend Phil Lui

10am Sung Eucharist

(also available by Zoom)

Preacher: The Reverend Phil Lui

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

Acting Rector

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