



The Link

The Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of St Luke's

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Our Vision

Every day
we all
must
make
God
the centre
of our
lives;
and
be
fearless
in
asking
God
what
to do,
and then
do it.



A Partridge in a Pear Tree?

For many people the season of Christmas and New Year is always busy. It's easy to become overwhelmed by schedules of events and expectations to be somewhere or do something. This makes it especially important to take time out for ourselves, to reflect, and just be still. In stillness we may find the powerful presence of God, anchoring us, reminding us that there is much more to life than busyness, than post Christmas sales, than rushing to get away on holiday.

It's good to slow down and take time. Our society gears us to look to Christmas and New Year as the great big finale. Yet traditionally Christmas Day is just the beginning of the festivities, the twelve days of Christmas. Decorations were put up just before Christmas Day, very unlike our contemporary culture in which many people have had their Christmas decorations up since November. Carols were sung through the Christmas period from Christmas Eve until Epiphany. For most of us now, we're fed up with carols by Christmas Day because we're inundated everywhere with them – all apparently geared to make us want to shop and buy things! If we take time to reflect on this rich time in our faith tradition we will learn that the day following the birth of our Lord, we celebrate St Stephen, apostle and first martyr of the church. This day, 26 December, is also known as Boxing Day, when traditionally the alms which have been collected and boxed up are opened and distributed to those in need. The folkloric good king Wenceslas followed this tradition. On 27 December we celebrate St John, apostle and evangelist, and on 28 December the Holy Innocents, who are all the little children slain in and around Bethlehem when the anxious King Herod was seeking the infant Jesus. Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, martyred in 1170, is remembered on 29 December, and St Egwin of Worcester on the 30th. The modern calendar remembers Josephine Butler, social reformer in the late 1800s, instead of Egwin. New Year's Eve was a big occasion, strangely recalling the early pope Sylvester, and on New Year's Day, Mary the mother of our Lord is remembered. St Basil is celebrated on 2 January and the naming and circumcision of Jesus on 3 January. On 4 January Simon Stylites, monk and ascetic, is recalled, followed by Epiphany Eve, or Twelfth Night, on 5 January. And of course on 6 January we celebrate the Epiphany, or the manifestation of our Lord to the gentiles. This is when the wise travellers from the east discover the young Jesus and bring him gifts.

So the traditions of the church at this time of the year are very rich, even if largely lost. There is much to reflect about, and I encourage you to make precious time to really celebrate Christmas – all twelve days!

And the partridge in the pear tree? A symbol shrouded in folklore, but traditionally meant to represent Jesus Christ who died on the cross, representing the 'true love,' not of the besotted lover who gives lots of presents, but of God who gave his Son. May God be with you and may you be blessed in this season.

Rev'd Joan.



“Integrity is
doing the right
thing, even when
no one is
watching.”

— C.S. Lewis

SAHMRI Tour

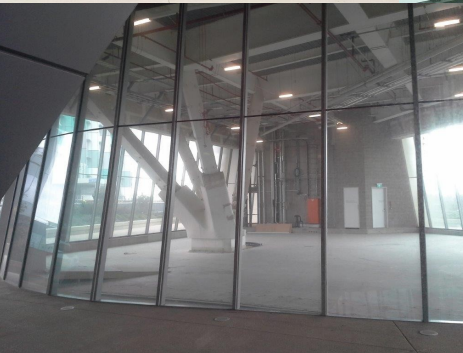
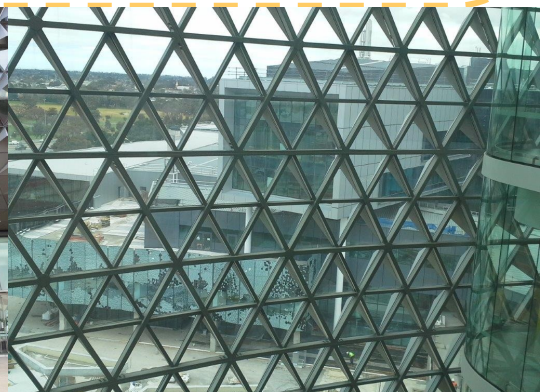
Is it a space ship, a pine cone or a cheese grater? No it is the most impressive South Australian Health and Medical Research building situated next to the new Adelaide Hospital. The building must be the second most iconic structure recently erected in Adelaide—The Adelaide Oval being the first. With companion research buildings already proposed SAHMRI will be the largest health and biomedical research facility in the Southern Hemisphere. Woods Bagot the architects and the builders have won an award for SAHMRI’s environmental sustainability.

The Triangulated grid facade covers the entire surface which responds to sunlight, heat load, glare and wind while maintaining view and daylight the triangular sun shades have been designed for optimal thermal light efficiency relieving head load and glare. The construction of the interior is designed to encourage connectivity and collaboration between researchers. The construct also minimizes the use of energy, provides for rainwater harvesting and reuse of processed water. No potable water is used in cooling towers, or toilet flushing. The plantings around the building are medicinal type plants such as Aloe Vera, Lavender etc.

Eighteen interested people from both St Luke’s church and the University of the Third Age visited three floors of the facility and saw the auditorium, the Aboriginal Health Unit and a research laboratory. One of the research staff gave a talk about the interest in the detection and treatment of Prostate cancer. We were not able to visit the basement where the Cyclotron which manufactures radioactive isotopes is housed and we were not invited nor did we wish to visit the floor where the animals used in research are kept. The research interests of SAHMRI include healthy mothers and babies, children’s health, heart health, infection, immunity and metabolism. You may have seen some research results published in the local paper recently.

This is a cheese grater well worth a visit.

Ngairie Stichbury





A Christmas Day Prayer

Give us, O God, the vision which can see thy love in the world in spite of human failure. Give us the faith to trust the goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness. Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts, and show us what each one of us can do to set forth the coming of the day of universal peace. Amen.

Christmas Day Prayer by Apollo 8 Astronaut
Frank Borman, 1968



Name these Christmas Songs from Freda

1. Oh, member of the round table with missing areas.
2. Boulder of the twinkling metal spheres.
3. Wanted in December: top forward incisors.
4. The lad is a diminutive percussionist.
5. Sir Lancelot with laryngitis.
6. Decorate the entry ways.
7. Cup-shaped instruments fashioned of a whitish metallic element.
8. Oh small Israel urban centre.
9. Far off in a hay bin.
10. Duodecimal enumeration of the passage of the yuletide season.



Spotlight On Rev'd Joan



It's great to be with you all at St Luke's. I feel very excited about ministry here. There are so many wonderful things happening, and so much potential for development. I have been heartened by the work of many people who are devoted to this church. I think it is a great place to be! A little bit about me...

I've been a priest for ten years in the diocese of Adelaide. I was assistant curate in the parish of Salisbury, then associate priest, first of the Cooperating Parishes of the North East (which then included Modbury when the Rev'd Mark Sibly was here, Hillcrest, now closed, Ingle Farm and Para Hills). After Hillcrest was closed I became priest in charge of Ingle Farm and Para Hills. I then became parish priest of St David's Burnside before being called to St Luke's.

I'm married to Trigg and we have three adult children, Chani who is married to Andy, Cassi who is mother to our beautiful granddaughter Summer, and Zenon, who will be married to Claire in January. Trigg is a CNC machinist who works at Stramech Engineering in Cavan. We live in a house we've just bought in Para Hills with our rottweiler dog Louka and black and white cat Dexter. We both support Port Power, and we follow our son Zenon who plays amateur A grade each week during football season. I'm a postgraduate student in biblical studies at Flinders University. I sometimes teach biblical Greek, and I really love teaching in parishes (not just Greek!) I look forward to our time together here and thank you for welcoming me so warmly.

Rev'd Joan



'Our father, we have entered in the holy place, as you have invited us. Be close to us. Open our hearts to understand your word. Remove the darkness that surrounds us and give us your light'.



News from the Wardens

Since our last Link, [August] life in our Parish has been busy with so much happening that we are both looking forward to less hectic times in 2016! God may have other plans for each one of us!

Fr Peter was farewelled with a final Eucharist and a 'sausage sizzle with trimmings' on September 25th. The parish presented him with a cheque as he plans to purchase a study desk for his new home in Balmain.

Rev'd Yvonne attended his commissioning at St John's on October 2nd on behalf of all of us and wished him well. He has settled in and at the time of this report, Karolina has now left us and will join him in his new ministry.

In the midst of all this change, the nomination committee under the chairmanship of the Archbishop was encouraged to proceed with the task of filling the vacancy. We were grateful, during what turned out to be a relatively short time, to be supported by Fr. Malcolm Mayes and Rev'd Yvonne who both kindly ensured that all ministry needs were met.

Fortunately, we were [with God's guidance and many prayers] to invite the **Rev'd Joan Riley** to be our Parish priest. Joan was commissioned on the 29th of October, at a service which was attended by many of the clergy, friends and the parish family. It was a most joyful occasion with St Luke's vibrating with voices in both song and prayer.

The **Parish Fair** followed close upon the commissioning on November 7th. The day was perfect and we as a parish family thoroughly enjoyed the day. Monies raised [as is our belief] were allocated towards mission and needs perceived in our community. Special thanks to those who convened stalls. The terrible fires in the Mallala area have received support from our Parish as has the Brawn family in South Sudan.

Outreach and commitment to mission is a main focus of our church, as is evidenced by the response to the **Samaritan's purse boxes** prepared and donated from this parish this year (Operation Christmas Child).

The **Progressive dinner** on November 14th was again a great opportunity to meet and celebrate with our brothers and sisters associated with the Uniting church, Salvation Army and Churches of Christ. Funds raised from the event were given to the Modbury Hospital. Thanks must go to our catering team who provided the entrees and nibbles for the evening.

This leads us to thank the many members of the parish who are committed in many ways to search out others in the name of our Lord. So many tasks to be done and carried out from large to small but each significant in the life of this family and parish life at St Luke's.

A special thank you must also go to **Rev'd Yvonne** for her many years of service in a variety of roles to this parish family. We wish her well in her new role as priest at Ingle farm and Para Hills.

Finally we must thank the Op shop team for the sterling effort in ministry and outreach to our customers, to the servers and sorters, those who price and those who ensure that the shopfront is welcoming and presentable. Funds raised have exceeded expectations for the year and have enable our parish to focus more on our mission to others.

We, as Wardens wish each one of you and your families all the joy, peace and blessing this Christmass will bring.

Margaret and Colin

May God's Blessing Be On You All

May the feet of God walk with you
And his hand hold you tight
May the eye of God rest on you
And his ear hear your cry
May the smile of God be for you
And his breath give you life
May the Child of God grow in you
And his love bring you home

Words: Aubrey Podlich;



Holy Creator of Trees, bless with your abundant grace
this our Christmas tree as a symbol of joy.
May its evergreen branches be a sign of your
never-fading promises. May its colourful lights and
ornaments call us to decorate with love our home and
our world. May the gifts that surround this tree
be symbols of the gifts we have received from the Tree
of Christ's Cross. Holy Christmas tree within our home,
may Joy and Peace come and nest
in your branches and in our hearts. Amen.



Take Time

Take time to read; it is the foundation of wisdom.
Take time to play; it is the secret of staying young.
Take time to be quiet; it is the opportunity to see God.
Take time to be aware; it is the opportunity to help others.
Take time to love and be loved; it is God's greatest gift.
Take time to laugh; it is the music of the soul.
Take time to be friendly; it is the road to happiness.
Take time to dream; it is what the future is made of.
Take time to pray; it is the greatest power on earth.

Author: Unknown



To be on
God's side as
God works
often involves
suffering, or
even rejection

News From Schools Ministry

Two new Pastoral Care Workers have been appointed in the Tea Tree Gully region, so that we now have PCWs in 13 schools. We continue to receive very positive feedback from the school communities; one of the PCWs ran a 40 hour famine with a team of students in years 10, 11 and 12, another helped a junior primary student, whose grandfather had died, to create a Memory Box filled with special mementoes. The Christian Options Programme has been invited to take the Christmas Story into 6 primary schools in the area.

The major fundraising event to support all this work is the bi-annual Christmas Tree Festival which has become very much a community event in the Tea Tree Gully area. Please note the dates in your new diaries - **Thursday 24th, Friday 25th and Saturday 26th November 2016** so that you are available to help.

Finally, a call to our knitters, the PCWs need a supply of Trauma Bears to give to distressed children when the need arises. Patterns are available from Denise Robinson, Yvonne Brumley and from me. More news about this in later editions of The Link.

June





Real growth happens when we have to deal with the different. What is unfamiliar will stretch us more than the familiar.



Did you know?

The “Big Basket “ located near the Sanctuary is for the weekly collection of non-perishable food items and goods. These items are given to Anglicare to help those in need. Special collections are invited during winter and the Christmas season.

Flowers in memory of a loved one can be organised. A calendar is located in the Balcony Room on which you can write your details for the relevant date. As no flowers are used in church during Lent and Advent, flowers for this period will be included in the Easter or Christmas arrangements.

Rosters for the first half of the year will soon be drawn up, if you can help in any way please let the wardens know in writing or email the office. We have rosters for: readers, OP Shop, Teas, Sides-person, Welcomers, Liturgical Assistants and Servers to name a few.

Once a month a working bee and general clean up of the church occurs— if the date of the working bee does not suit then work at any other time would be greatly appreciated. Don't forget that the church is generally open between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday, so a key is not necessary. Thelma can let you know where the cleaning aids are kept.

We are making a St Luke's Recipe Book based on the tried and trusted menu items of the congregation. We always have plates of scrumptious food supplied for shared lunches etc so this should be a great collection. Let's have any last minute recipes, (for copyright reasons these must be your recipes, see Helen Mayes for more information). Recipes can be left in the office pigeon hole. Helen will be organising collating these very soon.

Blankets for Anglicare

Many thanks to all those who knitted squares or gave wool for blankets to be made up, or those who provided made blankets. 47 were given to those in need.

Thanks to Denise Robinson for taking them to the Magdalene Centre where they were very much appreciated. Squares can be knitted all year. Enquiries to Yvonne Brumley. Grateful thanks for your help.





Quiz Answers

1. Holy night
2. Jingle Bell Rock
3. All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth
4. Little Drummer Boy
5. Silent Night
6. Deck the Halls
7. Silver Bells
8. O Little Town of Bethlehem
9. Away in a Manger
10. The Twelve Days of Christmas



Operation Christmas Child

Thank You

We are overjoyed to share with you all at St Luke's – that 143 shoe box gifts were packed and sent from our Parish for the children overseas.

Gifts were received for these boxes in different ways; namely :- cash donations, a wonderful variety of different necessary items e.g. stationery, toiletries, clothing – (sewn shirts, t-shirts and shorts and book bags), balls, skipping ropes, knitted hats and toys etc etc.

With the wonderful generosity of Parishioners and their friends, we packed and filled extra boxes and had the costs for freight covered too. Thank you for sharing your love and blessings to these special children overseas who will probably be receiving their first ever gift. God bless you. We are thrilled to say that from South Australia/NT a total of 24,708 boxes are on their way to Cambodia and Thailand. A little hint from us, when shopping in January watch the special prices for stationery and you can start preparing for next year's boxes.

Many blessings to you all

from Yvonne Brumley and Denise Robinson.

Loaves, Fishes and Used Stamps

Each one of us is familiar with the story recounted in the Gospels of the five loaves and two fishes, how Jesus took these and fed the five thousand. A small contribution and through Jesus many were fed. Quite regularly members of the congregation bring their used stamps and put them in the designated stamp box. I am often asked 'What happens to these stamps?'

Mr John Inkster of St Martins Parish, Campbelltown, who is a keen philatelist and a fair assessor of stamps, has been quietly taking these stamps and raising funds for missions. He sorts them through – discarding the damaged ones and grouping them into countries. They are put into recycled Christmas card boxes and taken to philatelic meetings. The stamps are then auctioned off or sold privately. Sometimes there is great excitement which John finds a valuable stamp which is cleaned and mounted. Discreet enquiries are made, a reserve price is found and the stamp is sold. This has sometimes happened when a collection from a deceased estate is donated.

In recent decades in South Australia, \$71,000.00 has been given to Missions with \$57,000.00 to A.B.M. Hundreds of people from Outback Australia and overseas have been helped by these funds. The Good News has been spread, projects for clean water, crops and education have become a reality for so many people.

St Luke's has continually donated stamps (John is very grateful for our support).

Used stamps are just as important as those loaves and fishes and, like Jesus we must give thanks.

Margaret Palin



**Advent is a season
of hope and
expectation. We
are invited to
prepare joyfully
for the coming of
Christ.**



Farewell Reverend Yvonne

When Yvonne's children were small she answered a call from the nuns at Calvary for volunteers to work in the hospice. So began her ministry to the sick and dying. 25 years ago Yvonne and Peter began worshipping at St Luke's Modbury and the priest Fr Stephen Clark was instrumental in involving Yvonne in a new chaplaincy ministry being developed at Modbury Hospital. She had received a lot of training at Calvary and attended many courses in the field of hospital visiting and chaplaincy. Initially Yvonne was one of a small team of Anglicans at the hospital and in 2003 was appointed Anglican chaplain; she was ordained to the Diaconate in 2008.

Yvonne has been involved in pastoral ministry from many years within this parish, visiting the sick and housebound and taking services to local nursing homes. Her life was further enriched in 2010 when she was called to be ordained to the priesthood and her service of ordination on the 10th of April at St Luke's Modbury was one of the most significant events in the life of St. Luke's.

Yvonne was then able to celebrate at services at St Luke's and to help out other local churches. When not presiding she was available during communion for private prayer at the side altar; many of us have spent time with her there and deeply appreciated her loving concern and prayers.

The annual Pet Service was put in her capable hands and has been an outreach service to the local community. She has also been instrumental in bringing a choir to our annual 9 Lessons and Carols service and this service has become a lovely start to our Christmas season.

During her time with us we have valued her sewing skills and she leaves behind some lovely examples of her work. Yvonne we bid you a gracious farewell, we have been blessed by your ministry here and you leave us with our love and heartfelt good wishes for your future ministry. Yvonne and Peter thank you for your many contributions to the life of St Luke's, you will be missed.

June

World Vision Sponsorship

Parish Council decided earlier in the year to commit some of our budgeted mission funds to support four children through World Vision. We saw this as a long-term commitment to enable the children and their communities to develop over a number of years. Sokly is an 8 year old boy living in Cambodia with his parents and three sisters. His parents are farmers. He attends school and is in grade 2, his favourite subject is learning the local language. He enjoys playing with toy cars, and carries water to help out at home. Vanessa is a 6 year old girl, living with her parents and sister in Burundi. She enjoys ball games and helps out at home by carrying water. She is due to start school soon. Tadiwa is a 10 year old boy living in Zimbabwe with his parents, both of whom are unemployed. He enjoys ball games and cares for animals to help at home. He attends school, (grade 4), with his favourite subject being mathematics. Rambu is a 5 year old girl from Indonesia. She lives with her parents, both farmers, and 3 siblings. She enjoys playing with dolls. She receives non formal education and enjoys singing. World Vision works through various projects based on local community needs. We will arrange for a speaker from World Vision to visit us next year, to inform us of the projects in these communities and how our support is assisting the children and their families. Please keep Sokly, Vanessa, Tadiwa and Rambu in your prayers.

Wendy

