

**ST LUKE'S MODBURY
and
ST MARK'S GOLDEN GROVE
WORSHIPPING TOGETHER**

Sunday, 26th March, 2023

.... WELCOME

**OUR SERVICES TODAY
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

8.00am Holy Communion (First Order)

9.30am Holy Communion with hymns (First Order)

John 11.1 – 45: The death and raising of Lazarus

Suffering and death are a constant challenge to those who believe in the love and faithfulness of God. If you don't believe in God then while you still have to deal with suffering, you don't have to wrestle with why a loving God would allow it to happen. Even in Australia, where we are somewhat insulated from the harshness that characterises life in most parts of the world, suffering and death occasionally shatter the wellbeing that we often take for granted. This is particularly true when people die before their time. The death of a child, a brother or sister, a partner or a dear friend is particularly hard to take. In addition to the gut-wrenching sense of loss that we experience there is also, for Christians, the question of what seems to be a contradiction of God's promised love and faithfulness. We might ask ourselves, 'How could the God who has pledged love to us and to whom, Sunday by Sunday, we pledge our faith, allow this to happen?' While it cannot give us a complete understanding, the account, in John chapter 11, of the death and raising of Lazarus can offer some insights that might help us deal with such questions, and it does so by underlining the greater purpose of God, the deep love of God and the reliability of the promise of God.

Today at 11am: St Luke's Annual Vestry Meeting. Copies of the agenda and reports that have been received to date are available at the back of the church.

Proposed Merger: Special Vestry Meetings

Special Vestry Meetings to decide on the proposed merger between St Luke's and St Mark's will be held on **Sunday 16th April at 11am (for St Luke's)** and **Sunday 23rd April at 11am (for St Mark's)**.

St Luke's Vestry, since it is the first to meet, will debate the following motion:

That this Vestry resolves to amalgamate with the Parish of Golden Grove, that the new parish be named the Parish of Modbury and Golden Grove, and that the Parish Councils of the two parishes be authorised to commence work to this end with Synod Office.

If this motion (or an amended version of it) is carried, it will then go to St Mark's Vestry on the following Sunday.

Both Vestry meetings will include opportunity for questions and answers prior to debate on the motion, and an explanatory text will be provided in the weeks before the Vestry meetings. This text will seek to explain the rationale for the proposed merger and, if both Vestries approve it, the steps that will be involved prior to its implementation.

Easter Combined Services (at St Luke's)

6 th April	Maundy Thursday:	5.30pm	Passover Meal
		7.00pm	The Lord's Supper
7 th April	Good Friday:	9.00am	Good Friday Reflection
9 th April	Easter Day:	6.30am	Easter Dawn Service (with Holy Communion)
		9.00am	Easter Celebration (with Holy Communion)

Maundy Thursday. St. Luke's and St. Mark's Passover meal will be held at 5.30pm in St. Luke's Balcony room. It is important to know numbers for planning. Please indicate your wish to attend on the list at the back of the church. Roast lamb will be provided. A gold coin donation is sought and a donation will be given to the Zahra Foundation.

Food for Opshop. We have an increasing demand for food. Donations of goods/money will be gratefully received. Thanks for your support of this valuable ministry.

Bush Church Aid (BCA). Please leave your boxes at the back of the church. If you consider online giving please speak to Deb Travis. The money goes to general ministry supporting gospel ministry and field staff.

Easter flowers. Please place donations in envelopes clearly marked "Easter Flowers" and leave in the collection bowls or give to Helen Bradshaw or office staff. Thank you.

Please join us for morning tea in the Balcony Room after the service

FOR PRAYER



- * *Globally, all countries to have access to clean water and sanitation.*
- * *Sufferers of family violence.*
- * *People to be kind and caring of others.*
- * *Our stressed hospital system and medical staff.*

The health and well-being of those needing immediate prayers:

Caryl Walker, Kathy and Simon Fennell, Iliya Khanzade, Michaela Kinnoch, Susan Restell, Diane Thiele.

Those who need ongoing prayers for healing and well-being: Eveline Robinson, Sadie, Carol Aitken, Helen Gummow, Barry Connell, Betty Mugg, Ian Archer, Jessie Waters, Donald & Marjory Prince, Richard and Beth Morgan, Emily Cahill, Emmett Bollen, Chris Landden, Adrienne Wright, Bryan Shillabeer, Cathie, Faith Drodge, Catherine Cooling, Christopher Allen, Christopher Richmond, Malcolm Mayes, Mia, Naomi and Roland Barker, Russell Blore, Vicky Pattie, Jake Drury, Samantha Drury, Nerida Fidock, Brian Gummow, Cynthia Hendriks, Jeanette Leister, Peter Cooling.

Cycle of Prayer. This week we keep before God in our prayers the following members of St. Luke's family: Don & Elizabeth Owers, Margaret Palin, Jeanette Pfitzenmeier, Max Pontifex, Donald & Marjorie Prince and Foodbank.

Those who have died and whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Blue Jenkins, Ivan Leonard, Mervyn Watkins, Frederick Lamb.

+ *Rest in peace and rise in glory.*

Requests for prayer should be made to Deb Travis 0450 950 112 (8am service); June Hindmarch 0402 138 694 (9.30am service); or speak to Jean Rechner (Thursday service).

Next week's readings

Zechariah 9.9&10

Philippians 2.5-11

Palm Sunday

Psalm 118.19-29

Matthew 21.1-11

ROSTER REMINDER for 9.30am service next Sunday

Reader 1: Kim Lawes

Reader 2: John McIntosh
Sidespersons: David Datson & Keith Lane
Welcoming: June H & Heather Lane
Morning Tea: Colleen Cleland & Ann Dixon

ST. LUKE'S PARISH CONTACTS

LOCUM TENENS	The Rev'd Dr Don Owers donaldowers@iCloud.com 0432 330 818
PRIEST'S WARDEN	Lyn Ho; 0411 111 758; lynhelenho@gmail.com
DEPUTY PRIEST'S WARDEN	Antony Bown
PEOPLE'S WARDEN	Margaret Curd; 0423 205 140; curdm@bigpond.com
PARISH OFFICE	25 Smart Road, Modbury Phone: 8396 1407 Email: stlukesmodbury@outlook.com Web: www.stlukesmodbury.com
PASTORAL CARE TEAM & OP SHOP CO-ORDINATOR	Colin Fidock; 0417 819 938; colin.fidock@bigpond.com
COMMUNITY GARDEN CONVENOR	David Datson; 0413 278 180; dd@edtcomputers.biz
PROPERTY COMMITTEE CONVENOR	Darryel McLean; 0447 508 609; macfuddled@gmail.com
WEEKLY PEW SHEET	Please forward information to the church email or put a note under the office door by Wednesday.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT ST. LUKE'S

Monday	Bible Study	10.00am
Tuesday	Holy Communion	8.30am
	Community Garden	9.30am
Wednesday	Foodbank (fortnightly)	10.00am
Thursday	Holy Communion	10.00am
Friday	Community Garden	9.30am
Community Garden BBQ	1 st Tuesday of the month	11.30am
Men's Group	2 nd Thursday of the month	7.30pm
Bari Worship	1 st & 3 rd Sunday of the month	11.30am
Parish Council	3 rd Saturday of the month	9.00am