

# 28TH APRIL 2024, FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## SURF REPORT



SURFERS PARADISE  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Hello Surfers!

Welcome to the Fifth Sunday of Easter. I love the words of this week's allocated prayer, particularly: "help us so to proclaim the good news of Your love, that all who hear it may be reconciled to You." It can be difficult for us to share the gospel with others, but this is the prime role of all Christians and a task we must take seriously.

Our Psalm reading today is a portion of King David's poem, the beginning of which Jesus proclaimed while He was nailed to the Cross (Ps. 22:26-32). These recorded prophetic words from King David state that the poor will be satisfied, the ends of the earth will turn to the Lord, and future generations will be told about Him. Surely this speaks to our sharing of the gospel with everyone.

Today's gospel reading comes again from the Apostle John, in which he records the 'farewell discourse' from Jesus before His arrest (Jn. 15:1-8). Jesus' analogy of Himself as the vine, God the Father as the gardener/pruner, and His followers as the branches is one that has been reflected in art and music across the centuries. Christians are empowered by Jesus to 'bear good fruit', but with the warning that those who do not will be burned. Shocking words, but unmistakably recorded as coming from our Lord as the imperative for Christian evangelism.

In the first of our New Testament readings we contemplate the interaction between the Apostle Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch on the road to Gaza (Acts 8:26-40). This man was an important official, meaning that Philip's approach of him may have been dangerous. However, compelled by the Holy Spirit, Philip ran near his chariot and listened as he read out loud the words of the Prophet Isaiah. Emboldened, Philip shared that this reading spoke about Jesus and told him the gospel.

We complete the sermon series of April today on the Apostle John's first letter to the church in Ephesus, with a particular focus on the love that comes from God (1 Jn. 4:4-21). If we were to fall into the trap of thinking sharing the gospel is a cold conveying of knowledge only, this reading sets us right. The gospel is nothing more than letting people know that God loves them, wants a genuine relationship with them, and – once we understand that – we are compelled to share this 'good news' with others.

Next weekend we are joined by Greg Guerroero who will be sharing with us the work of Voice of the Martyrs, which I am very much looking forward to hearing about. Empowering the persecuted church abroad is one of the most important things we can do with our resources. Also, next week is the Commemoration of the Battle of the Coral Sea and I will be heading off straight after the service to preside over their memorial.

I pray you have a blessed week.  
Jim Raistrick,  
Priest-in-charge.

God is Love

### TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS

Acts 8.26-40 (page 892)  
Psalm 22.26-32  
1 John 4.7-21 (page 991)  
John 15.1-8 (page 878)

### MONDAY 29TH APRIL

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.30am Craft Group (HC)  
2.30pm Conversation English

### TUESDAY 30TH APRIL

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.30am Paintpots  
3.30pm Pure Dance

### WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY

8.00am Indoor Fitness  
8.30am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Holy Communion  
3.00pm Pure Dance  
6.30pm Alpha

### THURSDAY 2ND MAY

8.00am Christian Meditation  
8.30am Morning Prayer

### FRIDAY 3RD MAY

(Jim's day off)  
9.30 am Mainly Music  
11.00 am Pure Dance

### SATURDAY 4TH MAY

8.30am Indoor Fitness  
9.00am Music Practice

### SUNDAY 5TH MAY

**VOICE OF THE MARTYRS**  
7.30am Holy Communion  
9.30am Holy Communion

### READINGS FOR 5TH MAY

Acts 10.44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5.1-12  
John 15.9-17



# CHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

HAPPY  
*birthday*

Colin Peardon 02.05.2024

**RENEWAL AND RECOMMITMENT DAY**  
**25TH MAY 2024**  
**10.00 AM**  
**VENUE: MARGE & GREIG'S HOME**  
**ADVANCETOWN**

Please do email/phone the Parish office to register your attendance.  
Thank you.

Know someone struggling with English?  
Invite them to join Jim for our  
**CONVERSATION ENGLISH CLASSES**  
Monday's at 2.30 pm

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**  
Thursday's at 8.00am  
in the old Sunday school room. For more information 0437859784

**A NEW BIBLE STUDY / HOME GROUP**  
Commencing at John Buchanan's home.  
Date: Wednesday 8th May 2024  
Time :2:30pm.  
The group will be lead by the Rev'd George Stuart, should you wish to join, please contact Rev'd George 0407741669

## *Rememberance*

Iris Brown 29.04.2012  
Paul Edouard Faes 04.05.2019  
Catherine Cloak 'Kate' 05.05.2013



Thanks for all involved in allowing me to travel to Melbourne to marry my son, Hayden, to his fiancé, Sharnhi, in St. John's Anglican church in Healesville. It was a great day.



**JOIN A BIBLE STUDY GROUP in 2024**  
Please phone/email the contact person to join a group:

## **TUESDAYS**

12.30 pm Jane Parry 0403 369 467  
3.15 pm Jim Raistrick 0499 773 570

## **WEDNESDAYS**

10.00 am George Stuart 0407 741 669  
11.00 am Judith Atkins 5532 0798  
11.00am Jim Raistrick 0499 773 570  
6.30pm ALPHA Barry Doyle 0412 818 083

## **THURSDAYS**

7.00 pm Sandra Uptin  
sandrauptin@icloud.com  
7.00 pm Robert Kelly 0439 339 395

## **ST JOHN'S CRISIS CENTRE, AN APPEAL FOR THOSE IN NEED.**

Warm jumpers and coats are most welcomed and appreciated, as we move into the colder months.

**THANK YOU for your ongoing generosity and support, to fund the ministry and mission of Surfers Paradise Anglican Church.**

Please continue your kindness as we seek to make Jesus known across our city.  
You can do this electronically - BSB : 704-901 Account : 00000630  
Anglican Parish of Surfers Paradise OR ...if you would like to arrange a direct debit contact the office—we will email you the ANFIN Parish Direct Form  
or for one-off donations use our QR Code or EFTPOS machine (come in or over the phone).



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Priest-in-Charge  
The Rev Jim Raistrick  
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Surfers Paradise Anglican Crisis Care Inc. trading as St John's Crisis Centre  
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