

5TH MAY 2024, SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SURF REPORT



Hello Surfers!

Welcome to the Sixth Sunday of Easter. As is usual for us in the Easter season our readings are all from the New Testament except for the allocated psalm.

From the Acts of the Apostles we read today about Simon-Peter's interaction with the Gentile church where he had been sent to investigate the legitimacy of their faith (Acts 10:44-48). Not only was he convinced of their faith, but Peter also witnessed the impartation of the Holy Spirit upon those believers in such a way that was unmistakable. It is of theological interest that we find these believers able to praise God and exhibit the marks of faith before they had even been baptised. Much ink has been spilt on this point.

Our psalm today speaks to the singing to God in songs of praise for the marvellous things He has done, particularly His works of salvation, making His righteousness known to the nations, and His faithfulness to the people He calls His own (Ps. 98). Christians are to be jubilant in song and music, shouting for joy about His glory. Our God is the God who acts within the world, most keenly seen in Jesus' work on the Cross.

It is on this point that today's sermon will focus; that 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.' One of the key verses in today's gospel reading from the Apostle John regarding love (Jn. 15:9-17). Loving sacrificially, meaningfully and painfully is the way that God wants Christians to behave in this world. Praise God that we do not need to win every argument, or lean on our own righteousness, but rather the call on our lives is to spend what we have been blessed with in acts of love and kindness.

John continues this point in his first letter to the churches in Ephesus, which was our focus for the month of April. He puts it plainly in this way, 'This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out His commands.' Acting on injustice, relieving suffering, actively caring for those in need in whatever way we can is what it is to be Christian. This is how we both develop faith as a characteristic in ourselves and how we show that we truly believe about Jesus, the Son of God (1 Jn. 5:1-12).

Today we are joined by Greg Guerroero from Voice of the Martyrs and Greg will be sharing with us about the persecuted Church across the world. The numbers of Christians suffering for their faith is sadly increasing; more than 4,700 are martyred each year, which is an average of 13 Christians losing their life for their faith every day. Very sad to contemplate but something we should all be aware of.

Today also, 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.

Singing to God

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS

Acts 10.44-48 (page 895)
Psalm 98
1 John 5.1-12 (page 991)
John 15.9-17 (page 878)

MONDAY 6TH MAY

8.30am Morning Prayer
9.30am Craft Group
2.30pm Conversation English

TUESDAY 7TH MAY

8.30am Morning Prayer
9.30am Paintpots
3.30pm Pure Dance

WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY

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

THURSDAY 9TH MAY

8.00am Christian Meditation
8.30am Morning Prayer

FRIDAY 10TH MAY

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

SATURDAY 11TH MAY

8.30am Indoor Fitness
9.00am Music Practice

SUNDAY 12TH MAY

Mother's Day
7.30am Holy Communion
Swearing in of Parish Council
9.30am Holy Communion



READINGS FOR 12TH MAY

Acts 1.15-17,21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5.9-13
John 17.6-19



CHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Isabella Sutherland 08.05.2024
Sue King 10.05.2024
Jim Raistrick 12.05.2024

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the items that makes Anglicans distinct from other Christian denominations is our use of the Book of Common Prayer. It sets out the order for the conduct of church services in an orderly manner, standardises the process of Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, Prayers to say with the sick or dying, and Funerals, and was finally compiled in 1662.

Know someone struggling with English?
Invite them to
join Jim for our **Conversation English
Classes every Monday 2.30 pm**

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

Robert Towson 10.05.2017
June Dorothy Macintosh 11.05.2017
Anne Jackson-Prior 12.05.2021



**SUNDAY 12TH MAY
7.30 AM SERVICE**

**SWEARING IN OF OUR NEW PARISH
COUNCILLORS AND COMMISSIONING OF
THE CHURCH LEADERS**

**RENEWAL AND RECOMMITMENT DAY
25TH MAY 2024**

10.00 AM

**VENUE: MARGE & GREIG'S HOME
ADVANCETOWN**

REGISTRATION IN THE CHURCH FOYER
Or email the Parish office to register
your attendance.



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'd Jim Raistrick
M: 0499 773 570
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St John's Crisis Centre
36 Hamilton Ave Surfers
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