

Parish Prayers

Please pray for all those heading home from **Scripture Union** activities (camps, beach missions, including Mallacoota SUFM). Pray for good rest and recuperation—pray also for good debrief and follow-up.

Pray for **staff recruitment** and development at St Michael's

Please pray for **Jon, Deborah, Ollie and Simeon**, our CMS link missionaries as they adapt to Australia, prepare for SUTS, and organise a program for Ollie and Simeon.

Pray for **BCA** as they develop programs for culturally diverse Christian leaders, and support the ministry of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Christians, planting sustainable churches. Pray also as they remember almost 100 years of work! See page 4 of the Real Australian in the foyer for more information.

Pray for all the activities and ministries associated with the **CMS** Summer Under the Son event beginning 16 Jan.

Pray for **us all** as we travel, cope with ill health or loss, and pray for our witness in our communities.

There is more information about our prayer and mission partners in the foyer.

Contacts

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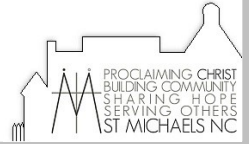
Online Giving

If you would like to give to St Michael's, please use the following account details:
Acc. name: St Michael's Anglican Church
Account No: 10078845
BSB: 063114

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This Week

January 13



Another Epiphany?

There are several reasons why it was fitting for John to baptize Jesus of Nazareth, even though the baptizer himself questioned the need (Matt. 3:14). Jesus was about to embark on His great work (Luke 3:23), and it was appropriate that He be recognized publicly by His forerunner. John is presented as the "voice crying in the wilderness" prophesied by Isaiah, calling people to repentance in preparation for the coming "Messiah" or "Christ" (Isaiah 40:3). By baptizing Jesus, John was declaring to all that here was the One they had been waiting for, He who would baptize not just with water, but "with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Lk. 3:16).

It's interesting to note that John was of the tribe of Levi and a direct descendant of Aaron, and so, of the Aaronic priestly line (Luke 1:5). One of the duties of the priests in the Old Testament was to present the sacrifices before the Lord, and this baptism foreshadows the Baptist's ultimate sacrifice for sins (John 1:29). Furthermore, Jesus' own reason for being baptized (Matt. 3:15) signifies that He identified with ordinary people, showing he was fully human, and showing the pathway to a right relationship with God—humility, faith in God's mercy, and hope for the new life by God's grace. His righteousness, in exchange for our sins, would offer true cleansing and new life for all who would follow in His way (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Jesus' Baptism & Ours

10am Holy Communion Service

Leading: Dianne Shay
Speaking: Steve Webster
Isaiah 43:1-7 Kathrine Houghton
Acts 8:14-17 Cindy Shay
Luke 3:15-22 Tony Jones
Music: Dianne Shay
Prayers: Peter Alsen
Welcome: Cindy Shay

5:30pm Prayer & Praise Service

Leading: Melanie Moore
Speaking: Steve Webster
Acts 8:14-17 Elizabeth Redman
Luke 3:15-22 Emilie Franklin
Music: Graham McCoy
Prayers: Amarachi Amah
Welcome: Steve Asquith
Afternoon tea: Fred & Catherine

St Michael's North Carlton

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Dates For Your Diary

16-19 January 2019 | CMS SUTS

SUTS 2019 is all about Seizing the Day! In the Bible, being ready is a persistent theme, but how do we as Christians do this? We'll ask ourselves how we're going to risk it all for Christ, we'll celebrate what we gain in Christ, and get inspired to seize the day! Each day will feature a talk from CMS Director, Wei-Han Kuan, followed by a talk from guest speakers. The afternoon will be a chance to hear from current CMS workers. Day tickets start at \$60 with lunch included, and the evening sessions, led by Anne Zaki, are free to attend. Anne works in Cairo and will speak about combining her faith and her passion for justice in the field. Tickets are now available from www.summerundertheson.org.

4 May 2019 | BCA Centenary Meeting and Dinner

Save the date! More information to come.

General Information

Stamps for ABM

Have you been receiving a lot of mail recently? Well, those used stamps are about to come in handy! The Anglican Board of Mission is asking for donations of old stamps. Please leave stamps in the container in the foyer.

Seeking Expressions of Interest!

Expressions of interest are now open for Bishop Genieve's Pilgrimage to the Northern Territory from 11 to 23 July 2019. The pilgrimage will focus on Indigenous ministry in Jabiru in Kakadu National Park and Gunbalanya in Arnhemland. Our Reconciliation **Action team** is looking for people at St Michael's who might take part in this pilgrimage to help further our commitment to reconciliation, so please let us know that you're interested to know more by indicating on a "contact" card in church or speak with the Vicar, or Denise Nichols, or a parish council member before February 28.

Collection for Lwin

Lwin Thida was a member of our congregation before returning to Myanmar to teach theology there. She is back in Australia after diagnosis and treatment for advanced lung cancer and requires financial help. If you would like to support Lwin and Charles to help pay for some of Lwin's treatment, a retiring offering will be taken on Sundays January 6, 13 and 20. For further info, please see Steve Webster.

Parish Council Update

1. Your **new parish council** was elected at the recent annual meeting to govern the parish alongside the Vicar, and now consists of: Chris

Reynolds & Ann-Michel Greenwood as the churchwardens, and council members Jack Verdins, Katja Wagner, John Sewell, Kenya Kala, Peter Summers, Gillian Baker, Barry McGaw, Mary Ann Lyttle and Emilie Franklin.

2. Churchwardens reported that **big maintenance repairs** on the properties are underway this month, and will exhaust almost all of the allocated budget for maintenance in 2019

- repairs to louvre windows in the church ceiling,
- repairs to slate roof leaks,
- investigation of bell tower leaks & structural deterioration,
- resurfacing the wooden floor of the Williams hall.

3. The Churchwardens appointed Peter Summers as the **new parish treasurer**. We're thankful to Julian McCoy for his work for the past 3 years.

4. The PC approved a **staffing plan** while the search to fill the position vacant of full-time *Assistant Minister* goes on as per our Vision/Action plans for 2019. In the meantime, Catherine Ward will be offered a continuing casual staff role as *Children's Ministry Assistant* and a student minister for a 12 hour per week placement will be sought through Ridley College. The Vicar and PC appreciate the prayers of the congregation during this recruitment phase of our vision/action plans.

10am	January 20	January 27
Leader	Roslyn L	Noelene H
Speaker	Steve W	Steve W
Front of House	Dianne S Kathrine H	Hilary T Audrey L
Welcome	Hilary T	Di A
OT Reading	N/A	Sam H
NT Reading	Viju A	N/A
Gospel	Kathrine H	TBA
Prayers	Di A	Sam H
Music	Chris A	Steve W
Flowers	Jacqui W	Susan S
Lawn	Su-Hsien K	Su-Hsien K
Kids' Church	N/A	TBA
Morning Tea	Anne W Gillian B Di A	Jacqui W Sharyn Y Margaret S

5:30pm	January 20	January 27
Leader	Steve W	Russell M
Speaker	Steve W	Steve W
Welcome	Leanne M	Rhonda E
Reading 1	Ali B	Steve A
Reading 2	Shelley Y	Rhonda E
Prayers	Russell M	Emilie F
Music	Sarah & Samuel	Sam E
Afternoon Tea	Elizabeth R TBA	Steve A Amarachi A
PowerPoint	Su-Hsien K	Lachlan W