



Parish Prayers

Please pray for **S** who is finishing up as a worker overseas. Please pray for her as there are lots of decisions to make.

Pray for all the **governments and community leaders** in Australia and around the world dealing with coronavirus.

Pray for the development of new **vision/action plans** for our parish after the recent Parish Council discussions.

Praise God that **Scripture Union's** end of year budget was met through donations and JobKeeper! Pray for ability to adapt to change and praise God for online training for summer missions and camps. Pray for the process of national integration, current State Boards decision making about process and timing of proposed merger.

Pray for **CMS** as they adjust to stage 4 restrictions. Continue to pray for Jon Deborah Ollie and Simeon as St Peter's is slowly starting to have meetings again on site. Pray also for Jim and Tanja and their kids who are in Spain—Pray for healing for Tanja and for the children to be able to attend school face to face next term, and for Silas starting a new school for a kind friend that will ask him to play at recess. Pray also for Jim's work at the drug rehab centre, for language/cultural learning.

Contacts

Vicar Steve Webster (Rev'd)
0411 471 838 | Day off: Wednesday
Assistant Minister Kim Messieh (ASLM)
0474 442 615 | Days off: Fri/Sat
Child Safety Officer - Catherine Ward
Pastoral Visiting - Greg Davies (Rev'd)
Missions partner sec. - Roslyn Loader (ALM)
Wardens - Anne West and John Sewell

Administration Assistant - Emma Sugars
12:00-3:00pm Mondays
12:15-3:15pm Tuesdays
9.30am-4.30pm Thursdays
Email: office@stmichaelsnc.org.au

Online Giving

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

The Anglican Church values a safe environment for all people. Complaints of any kind can be made to the independent Director of Professional Standards on 1800 135 246.

BELLS, Bell tower, Beirut, and Blessing others

In the message sent via email to church members on 6 August you'll see that we have revived the 5 missional habits known as B.E.L.L.S. that were our focus in Lent in past years. Mike Frost's book *Surprise the World* calls for the Gospel to "ring out" in a different way in the 21st century, in words and deeds that reach out with grace to the community. Let's be active, even during the lockdown, in blessing others as God has blessed us in Christ.

It's purely coincidental that we are also having restoration work done on our church bell tower over the Williams Hall. While it we no longer ring the bell as in older days, as a matter of safety for the public who will one day use our hall day by day again, we are obliged to repair and waterproof it's deteriorating cover. Thankfully, the J.M. Smith Trust has come through with 75% of the costs and the works can be done while the hall is not able to be hired out to the public.

Lastly, you may know some of Melbourne's many Lebanese-born citizens. Beirut is a city with many churches and many refugees in close proximity to the devastating blast that flattened the port area on Wednesday. Those wanting to add to the financial aid flowing in from international governments (\$2m from Australia) might consider a one-time donation to the [Lebanese Red Cross](#) and add your prayers online with #PrayForLebanon.

Steve Webster

Viral: Good News Spreads Fast #8—Open to Question

10am Prayer and Praise Service

Leader: Dianne S
Speaker: Steve W
Acts 17:1-15 Hilary T
Matthew 13:1-9 Matthew D
Prayers: Tony J
Music: Graham M
Tech team: Catherine W

5:30pm Prayer and Praise Service

Leader: Kim M
Speaker: Steve W
Acts 17:1-15 Alex P
Matthew 13:1-9 Julian M
Prayers: Hannah Y
Music: Graham M
Tech team: Peter S

Upcoming Initiatives

August 12 | Contemplative Prayer

Every Wednesday night during this 6 week lockdown, Kim will be hosting a meditative and reflective prayer session on Zoom in the Christian tradition. We will take time to pause, breathe, and meditate on some music, Bible verses or poems for individual silent reflection. 7:50pm on Zoom. See the weekly email for more information.

August 30 | Guess Who's Coming To Afternoon Tea?

We cannot let stage 4 lockdown cancel our annual winter meal together! Instead of zooming off to member's homes for lunch, we plan to enjoy Afternoon Tea on Zoom on Sunday 30 August. So, put that date in your diaries and watch for further information from Hilary on how we plan to make this Zoom event as much fun as our lunches.

September TBC | COVID Community Concert

With the new restrictions, we will delay this concert until September sometime. Stay tuned! Join us online to watch live performances by the St Michael's community of popular songs that take us *Around the World in 80 Minutes*. We'll offer an opportunity to make donations to a good Christian cause. Stay tuned for more info!

September 27 | St Michael's Day

St Michael's Sunday (Sunday nearest September 29) will be set aside as our next Vision Sunday.

General Information

[August TMA—now available online](#)

This month's issue includes:

- some of the ways Anglicans are supporting people in need during the pandemic
- A number of book reviews, including a review by the Revd Dr Sarah Bachelard of the Revd Canon Professor Scott Cowdell's *René Girard and the Nonviolent God*, and the Revd John Carrick's review of *A Lot with a Little* by Tim Costello

New Restrictions

Under current stage 4 restrictions no-one is permitted to travel to the church site to undertake any voluntary tasks such as gardening, printing etc., unless they hold a permit for Sunday live-streaming.

Morning and afternoon tea on Zoom

Each Sunday after the 10am service and before the 5:30pm service, we will be meeting on Zoom to say hi and catch up with each other. So grab your cup of tea or coffee and join us! Check the weekly email for the links to these catch ups.

Parish Council meeting postponed to September

The churchwardens, treasurer and vicar will meet on 11 August to prepare a draft ministry budget and vision/action plan to put to the parish council in September. Please pray for wise planning in these extraordinary times as we seek to look ahead with faith, and make plans with short-term review built in for the present.

NAIDOC week service

This significant week in our national calendar has been postponed to 8-15 November. On 8 November our Reconciliation Action group will lead our Sunday services with a focus on our commitment to learn from, partner with, and to serve needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.

Helping the ASRC

After an ASRC staff member tested positive to COVID-19 last week, the Footscray Centre has temporarily closed. However, support for vulnerable people continues by providing Telehealth, Tele-legal services and last week texting \$65,000 worth of digital grocery vouchers to families in need. So, at present, financial donations are the best way to support the ASRC. Please donate here: asrc.org.au/donate

Scam Emails

Please be extra careful when viewing emails sent from the St Michael's staff team. There have been some scam email floating around.