



Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese of Gippsland

(Committed in Christ, Connecting in Service & Creative in Spirit)

Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

**St. George's,
McBride Ave., Wonthaggi**

**The Church of the Ascension
4-6 The Crescent, Inverloch**

Bunurong Country

ABN: 18 842 576 826



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – 31st August

Holy Communion



This Sunday we continue our look into the book of Romans.

So far we've looked into the letters background; Author, when and where it was written, to whom it was addressed and we discovered that it was perhaps more of an introduction of Paul and his purpose.

We then looked at the first of three principles found in the letter, and that was the 'Problem of Righteousness' (sin).

The problem is that none of us are righteous, we're all sinners.

Today we look at the second principle; 'The Provision of Righteousness' In this section that covers Romans 3:21 to Romans 5 Paul reveals how we can become righteous.

How do you think we can become righteous?

Rev. Graeme

Sentence

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Luke 14.11

Collect

O God, you invite the humble and the sinful to take their place in the festive assembly of the new covenant: teach your Church always to honour the presence of the Lord in the poor and the outcast, so that we may learn to recognise each other as brothers and sisters gathered together around your table. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hope Collect:

God of Hope, you call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world; by your Spirit awaken in us a true vision of your kingdom, a greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service; that through our words and actions the same Spirit may bring many who are lost to be found, and for them to celebrate the hope that we can only have in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 2.4-13

⁴ Hear the word of the Lord, you descendants of Jacob, all you clans of Israel.

⁵ This is what the Lord says: 'What fault did your ancestors find in me, that they strayed so far from me? They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves. ⁶ They did not ask, "Where is the Lord, who brought us up out of Egypt and led us through the barren wilderness, through a land of deserts and ravines, a land of drought and utter darkness, a land where no one travels and no one lives?" ⁷ I brought you into a fertile land to eat its fruit and rich produce. But you came and defiled my land and made my inheritance detestable. ⁸ The priests did not ask, "Where is the Lord?" Those who deal with the law did not know me; the leaders rebelled against me. The prophets prophesied by Baal, following worthless idols. ⁹ 'Therefore I bring charges against you again,' declares the Lord. 'And I will bring charges against your children's children. ¹⁰ Cross over to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and observe closely; see if there has ever been anything like this: ¹¹ has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.) But my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols. ¹² Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror,' declares the Lord. ¹³ 'My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring

of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 81.1,10-16

¹ O sing joyfully to God our strength:
shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.

¹⁰ **‘I am the Lord your God, who
brought you up from the land of
Egypt: open wide your mouth, and I
will fill it.**

¹¹ ‘But my people would not listen to
my voice: and Israel would have none
of me.

¹² **‘So I left them to the stubbornness
of their hearts: to walk according to
their own designs.**

¹³ ‘If only my people would listen: if
Israel would but walk in my ways,

¹⁴ **‘I would soon put down their
enemies: and turn my hand against
their adversaries.**

¹⁵ ‘Those that hate the Lord would
cringe before him: and their
punishment would last for ever.

¹⁶ **‘But Israel I would feed with the
finest wheat: and satisfy you with
honey from the rocks.’**

New Testament Reading:

Romans 3.21-31

²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. ²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, ³⁰ since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. ³¹ Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

Gospel

Luke 14.1, 7-14

¹ One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honour at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸ ‘When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honour, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹ If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, “Give this person your seat.” Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, “Friend, move up to a better place.” Then you will be honoured in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹ For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’

¹² Then Jesus said to his host, ‘When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbours; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

BIBLE DISCOVERY GROUPS



Davies' Group: Thursday, 1:30pm at St George's Hall. Contact John Davies for more details.

Liersch's Group: Tuesday, 4:00pm at Jill & Alan Price's, Inverloch.

Tonya's group: Speak to Rev Susan on 0427 099 391 for information on time and venue.

Interested in being part of a Bible Study Group?

Then let Graeme, Susan or Leah in the office know.

We're hoping to start a new group soon.

Inverloch & Wonthaggi Church Working Bees



Church of the Ascension - The 1st Monday of the Month
@ 10.00 am. The next is tomorrow September 1st

St George's –The 1st Saturday of the Month

@ 10.00 am the next will be Saturday September 6th.

If you would like to help give the church a freshening up and enjoy morning tea together this would be most welcome.

Please speak with Ray & Liz for more details at Inverloch.

Please speak with Leah for more details at St George's.

CRAFT GROUP

A ladies craft Group meets at St George's, Wonthaggi, 2.00 pm on the last Wednesday of each month. Next craft day is the 24th of September. **All Women Welcome!** Come along and work on your crafts and have a chat.

PRAY FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT

Almighty and Everlasting God: thank you for your everlasting love toward us; we thank you for the present cease fire in Gaza and ask that it will continue. We lift up those in the Holy Land who are victims of the current conflict, and ask that you might empower your Church to bring healing to the wounded, relief to the suffering, and comfort to those who mourn; please bring an end to terrorism, and that all will be led to work for justice and lasting peace in the land where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, first came to bring hope and abundant life to all people; these things we ask in his Holy Name. **Amen.**



You can now pay for books and other items purchased through the church by using Pay ID

Parish Pay ID Identifier: angparish3995@gmail.com

Please insert your name as reference and email address if a receipt is required.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE – OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Christmas Shoeboxes are still available.

Boxes are \$1.00 each and Cost to send is \$12:50

Put your name & number of boxes required on the list at the back of the church.

Note! - No Soap Please

Please read instructions carefully.

Boxes need to be returned by 13 October, thank you.

Memory Cafe Inverloch Uniting Church

Inverloch Uniting is holding a monthly Memory Cafe: Cuppa, Chat & Music

Wednesday 17th September 10.30-11.30 am (3rd Wednesday of the month)

The cafe is a Dementia friendly and safe space. All are welcome. Let your friends and family know about this new supportive environment.

Enjoy a delicious morning tea - Gold coin donation.

Enquiries: Janet 0455 028 949



Psychological First Aid/Emotional Spiritual Care – Wonthaggi – 11 October 2025

The training course is a 2-stage process involving;

1. Self- paced learning and completion of the workbook.

*This material must be completed at least 3 days prior to
attending the training day.*

2. Face to Face Practical Training

This training will be face to face from 9:00 – 4:00 with
multi learning modes including practical scenarios



Note! Completion of the workbook and attendance at the training are
essential prerequisites for application for registration with VCC
Emergencies Ministry.

*Successful registration will require the completion of safety checks
including a National Criminal History Check, WWCC and referee reports
and will occur after the training has been completed.*

ON THIS DAY: Bonaventura Preached before the Pope



Next to St. Francis of Assisi, St. Bonaventure may have been the most eminent of the Franciscan friars. He was not only Governor General of his order, but the man who gave them their definitive doctrine and only the sixth person to be named a primary doctor of the church. At that time he was given the name "Doctor Seraphicus."

His theology teaches that God cannot be known rationally but must be apprehended mystically. To be pure of heart is a truer way to God than to have a razor-sharp mind. Love, he said (following St. Paul), supersedes knowledge. Bonaventure's teaching was strongly Christ-centred, even his biography of St. Francis, who taught men "to conform their lives to the life of Christ."

Bonaventure was no arid scholar as three examples will show. **First**, to learn the needs of the Franciscan order he went out and visited his friars, winning such love from them that there was much weeping at his death. **Second**, his theology is not dry but mystical. He did not load his work down with tedious digressions into subtle points but made every effort to teach plainly. **Third**, his biography of St. Francis is an example of good investigative reporting, for he interviewed many brothers still living who had known the great saint.

He was zealous for souls and preached much. An extensive collection of his sermons remains in existence. Bonaventure taught that man needs grace in order to stand straight. Only through Jesus Christ can he be put right with God. Christ as the word incarnate was an important theme in his preaching. The grace of the sacraments heals the soul of accumulated effects of sin, both deliberate and inherited.

One sermon he preached was **on this day August 31, 1264**, before Pope Urban IV and his council. This was on the "Blessed Sacrament." We are made complete by partaking of the Eucharist with appropriate contemplation. By contemplation he means a generous, prayerful and even mystical mindset that results in losing oneself in the adoration of God.

As his apology for varieties of religious orders, Bonaventure notes that no one order can capture the fullness of Christ although each tries to capture something of his perfection. Hence there are many ways of serving Christ and approaching his perfection. Vows are aids to living a life which imitates Christ. Because of the warmth of his religious feeling, Bonaventure is highly regarded as a theologian, who managed to avoid the pitfalls of pagan philosophy. It is owing to him that Franciscan thought is largely Augustinian in orientation. Aristotle and Augustine were the two strongest influences on his thinking.

Dan Graves. www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/1201-1500/bonaventur

Intercessory Prayers:

Please pray with us for:

Our Bishop: Richard Treloar & Leanne

Our Rector: Graeme & Susan

All clergy who have permission to officiate in the Diocese.

All retired clergy and their families

Our Link Missionaries – BCA, Topher & Chica Hallyburton – ‘Alice Springs’
CMS, Lauren Raiter – ‘Spain’

Please comfort and heal all those suffering in Spirit, Soul or Body.

Please give people the courage to face their illness head on and to be assured of their salvation in Jesus Christ.

Please bring healing and strength to those we have been asked to pray for:

Bill Peters, Paula, Chris Peters, James, Murray, Doug, Ron & Pam Lawson, Jeffer & family, Simone, Mark, Don & Cecily, Murray & Vickie, Robin, Tania, Russell, Elijah, Rodney W, Luke M, Terry, Micah, John G, Phil, Elizabeth H, Jenny Rivers, Marnie Fletcher, Matt Fletcher, Barbara Manns, Valerie & Graeme Reid, Susan F, Florence H, Pauline, Jenny, Rita, Peter, Elizabeth M, Jill, Robert, Dianne B, Dianne, Alison, Ian & Wendy, Julie Hartnett, Brett, Kym, Stephen, Brad, Lia.

We give thanks for the faithful departed. We thank you Lord for the lives of Leila Batten, the 2 Policemen who lost their lives..... and all those who have gone before us. Please comfort all families & friends who are grieving the loss of loved ones, especially the families of Leila Batten and the 2 Policemen.

SAVE THE DATE!

soma A combined initiative **ARNA**
SHARING OF MINISTRIES ABROAD Anglican Renewal Network Australia

Anglicans Ablaze Australia

14-16th November 2025

National Conference

St Columb's Anglican, Hawthorn, VIC Anglicansablaze.org.au

A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the poster.

INFORMATION

<u>Readings</u> Sun 7th Sept Pentecost 13	Jeremiah 2.4-13 Romans 3.21–31	Psalm 81.1, 10-16 Luke 14.1, 7-14
Tuesday Sept 2nd	10:00 am – Ascension – H.C. – Rev Graeme 11:30 am - Prayer group – Inverloch	
Wednesday Sept 3rd	10:00 am – St George’s - H.C. – Rev. John	
Friday Sept 5th	10:30 am – Rose Lodge Service – Rev Graeme	

Rosters: September 7th – Pentecost 13 – Holy Communion

<u>Activity</u>	<u>St George’s</u>	<u>Church of the Ascension</u>
Bible Reader	Jude	Mal Fletcher
Sides Person	Alan Price	Ray Smith
Prayers	Renee Chan	Marcia Smith
Service Leader	Rev John	Liz Watkins
Eucharistic Assist	Robert/Susan	Liz Watkins
Musician	Jan Kershaw	?/Elise
Children’s Ministry	Rev Susan	Rev Susan

If you are unable to fulfil your roster position, would you please organise for someone else to take your place.

CONTINUING WAR IN UKRAINE

Please continue to pray for Alison Giblets (CMS UK) and her safety.

Her Prayer Requests:

- An end to the War and deliverance for Ukraine.
- Protection for those who are defending the country.
- Protection for electrical power stations.
- For both physical and spiritual strength.
- That Schools will continue to function well.
- That many will hear and accept the Word of God for salvation.

Ministry Team

Bishop: Rt. Rev. Dr. Richard Treloar, Sale 5144 2044

Rector: Rev. Capt. Graeme Liersch 0417 513 390 (*Monday-Day Off*)

graemel@basscoastanglican.org.au

Youth & Young Families

Minister: Rev. Susan Liersch 0427 099 391 susanl@basscoastanglican.org.au

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Leah Mesley

Parish Council +

Retired Clergy: Rev's John Davies 5672 4710, Liam Matthews 0411 339 344,
& Rev. Canon Amy Turner 0412 727 711

Rector's Warden: Alan Price 0407 343 876

People's Wardens: Robert Mesley 0416 246 349

Liz Watkins 0404 379 005 Ray Smith 0419 315 198

Parish Treasurer: Geoff Boer

Parish Office Worker: Leah Mesley 0407 337 236 (2 mornings/week–Wed & Thurs)

Parish Postal Address: PO Box 201, Wonthaggi 3995. Phone: 5672 4590

Welfare Support: Rev. Graeme

Food Rescue: Ron Osborne

Prayer requests for prayer chain: Jill Price 0409 745 554

Parish E-mail: admin@basscoastanglican.org.au

Parish Website: <http://www.basscoastanglican.org.au>

Direct Debit: Would you please, if you haven't already, consider giving to the ministry through setting up a direct debit from your account. Thank you!

Our Bank Details: Anglican Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch

BSB: 083-975 **Acc No:** 51 612 6552

Thank you to all who have already set up this means to support the Parish!



Next Men's Breakfast

Saturday the 6th September 8am at St George's
Please let Graeme know if you're coming or
register online at

**[https://www.basscoastanglican.org.au/event-
details/mens-breakfast-2025-05-03-08-00](https://www.basscoastanglican.org.au/event-details/mens-breakfast-2025-05-03-08-00)**

Or use the QR Code.



MAF FUEL FOR FATHER'S DAY

We will again this year be participating in the MAF Fuel for Father's Day Program and all the information is on the table at the back of the church.

When the equivalent of one jerry can (just \$50) gets poured into our aircraft, we are fuelled for a flight that replaces days of travel on foot. For isolated communities, these short flights have saved many lives.



THE ABBEY WINTER FEAST 2025

Come and celebrate with other Friends of The Abbey as we enjoy the chefs' gourmet creations - a 3 course meal, with wine: \$60 per person.

Musical Interlude – Harpist Dr Cath Connelly

12 noon Saturday 30th August 2025

Funds raised are for the operation The Abbey

1-25 First Parade, Raymond Island 3880

To book or further information Phone: The Abbey on (03) 5156 6580 or

Email: info@theabbey.org.au



RESERVE A DATE!

BCA Spring Gatherings - With Topher Hallyburton

Glen Waverly Anglican Church Monday 20 October: 12pm – 2pm

Warragul Anglican Church Thursday 23 October: 6pm – 8pm

Gossip, just hearing the word raises negative pictures in my mind and no doubt it does the same to many others.

Gossip in today's world is not good, we use it to undermine and pull down people, it is destructive, yet we all do it, sometimes without realizing.



But not all gossip has to be negative, it can in fact be positive, it's something we call positive gossip.

Want to hear some positive gossip, well have I got a good one for you.

I know of this roughly 15 year old girl who became pregnant in an unusual way. They say the Holy Spirit came upon her and after 9 months she had a baby boy. Apparently her boyfriend, who was planning to marry her, decided that he would bug out and not go through with it. But for some strange reason he changed his mind and married her anyway.

Rumour has it that they named the baby boy Jesus and that He is the Son of God. Come on, seriously, how can that be?

Why would God do something like that?

They say God loves us and wants a personal relationship with us.

Now that is interesting!

Have you heard anything about this? Do you have some up to date gossip on it?

What I've heard lately is that this baby has had a huge impact on many people's lives. I've even heard people want to follow Him, because they feel so safe and secure when with Him.

Have you heard anything about these people? Or are you one of them?

Anon!