



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



Second Sunday of Easter – April 7th 2024

Holy Communion



There are many 'Doubting Thomas's' in the World.

Many a time I've had people say to me: "*Show me the risen Lord and I'll believe*". Such statements shows a lack of faith in what Jesus did, even with the evidence that is before us.

What more do we need other than many eyewitness accounts that include Thomas.

Thomas, on the other hand, had little evidence other than what the few had told him. He had seen Christ crucified, thus for someone to rise after such a horrific death seemed naturally absurd to him.

That's the beauty of God's power; He can do the absurd, the impossible. Hence, **Jesus is alive - don't doubt, believe!**

We have more evidence of the risen Christ than the disciples had on that early first Easter morning; hence there is no reason to doubt.

Rev. Graeme

Sentence:

‘Peace be with you,’ says the Lord. ‘As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’
John 20.21

Prayer of the Day:

Risen Christ,
whose absence leaves us in despair
but whose presence is overwhelming:
breathe on us with your abundant life,
that where we cannot see
we may have courage to believe
that we may be raised with you. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

First Reading:

Acts 4.32-37

³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴ that there was no needy person among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. ³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means ‘son of encouragement’), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.

*Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God*

Psalm 133

¹ Behold how good and how lovely it is: when families live together in unity.

² **It is fragrant as oil upon the head, that runs down over the beard: fragrant as oil upon the beard of Aaron, that ran down over the collar of his robe.**

³ It is like a dew of Hermon: like the dew that falls upon the hill of Zion.

⁴ **For there the Lord has commanded his blessing: which is life for evermore.**

New Testament Reading

1 John 1.1-2.2

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete. ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

^{2:1} My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

John 20.19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.' ²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand

into his side, I will not believe.’²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.’²⁸ Thomas said to him, ‘My Lord and my God!’²⁹ Then Jesus told him, ‘Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

*For the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You Lord Christ.*

WIN MEETINGS

WIN Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at The Church of the Ascension at 1.30 pm unless otherwise advised. The next meeting is on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 11.30 followed by the Fashion Show at 1.30.

WIN Fashion Show

The next WIN Fashion Show will be on Tuesday the 16th of April, 1:30 pm
The Church of the Ascension, Inverloch. All Welcome!

Please register online using the QR code or phone either the
Church office on 5672 4590 or Wendy McBurnie on 0407574484



PRAYER GROUPS

Inverloch, every week, Tuesdays, at 11.30 am, and
Wonthaggi, every fortnight, Thursdays, at 11.30 am – (18th April)
For further info’, contact Rev. Susan

The Church of the Ascension is turning 100



From Sunday the 5th - 12th of May, we will be celebrating the Church's birthday by holding special events and a week-long mission led by SOMA Australia.

Please keep the week free and join with us in celebrating. For more details & to register for events, go to Events on our Website or speak with Wendy or Graeme.



DIOCESE OF GIPPSLAND


SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOPS 2024

(FULL AND REFRESHER COMBINED)

If you need or wish to attend a Safe Church Workshop, they will be held this year at various locations as below.


19 April 2024 2.00 – 5.00 pm: St Peter's Anglican Church, 2 Bruce Street, **Leongatha**. Online registration is essential:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CPHAX>



 10 May 2024 7.00 -9.00 pm: St Mary's Anglican Church, 6 Latrobe Street, **Morwell**. Online registration is essential:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CPHAY>

13 September 2024 2.00 – 5.00 pm: St Paul's Anglican Church, 3 Queen Street, **Korumburra**. Online registration is essential:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CPHBA>



 You can also continue to access this course online at
https://www.gippslandanglicans.org.au/assets/SMT_Ang_Gippsland_Sign_In_Info_1.pdf



PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CONFLICT IN GAZA AND ISRAEL

Almighty and Everlasting God:

Our days are in your hands;

we lift up all those in the Holy Land who are victims of violence and injustice, that you might empower your Church to bring healing to the wounded, relief to the suffering, and comfort to those who mourn; please soften the hearts of all those involved in the recent conflicts, that they would 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.

MAINLY MEN MUSIC

Led by Fiona McKenzie at St Georges, Wonthaggi.

When? Each Sunday, @ 7.30 pm

If you would like to join this group or have any questions for Fiona, please contact her on Phone: 0434 601 835 or Email:

fionamckenzie@vicbar.com.au.

Intercessory Prayers:

Please pray with us for:

Our Bishop: Richard Treloar & Leanne

Our Rector: Graeme & Susan

Co-operating Parish of Croajingolong Jude Benton, Andy

Diocese

Chancellor Roger Blythman, Alison

Missions Church Army

Diocese of Bendigo

Bishop: Matt Brain

Special Focus

Theological Colleges and Ordination Candidates that God will raise up people for ordained ministry.

Universities Colleges, Schools, Teachers and Students

National Council of Churches

Victorian Council of Churches

Our Link Missionaries:

Lauren Raiter: CMS – In Spain and studying Spanish.

Topher & Chica Hally Burton & Family: BCA – Alice Springs

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, Theo, Pat Delacy, Chris Peters, James, Murray, Doug, Ron & Pam Lawson, Jeter & family, Simone, Mark, Marie Wilson, Don & Cecily, Robin, Tania, Russell, Hayley, Meredith, Richard B, Lee, Bev, Stuart, Elijah, Rodney W, Luke M, Terry, Micah, June R, John G, Amanda, Elizabeth, Jenny Rivers, Marnie Fletcher, Matt Fletcher, Ron Osborne, Barbara Manns, Valerie & Graeme Reid, Susan F, Glenda, Merridee, Florence H & Robert M.

We give thanks for the faithful departed. We thank you Lord for the life of those who have gone before us. Please comfort those families & friends who are grieving at this time.

ON THIS DAY -The Prodigious Labours of Francis Xavier



Born into a noble family, Francis Xavier showed brilliant promise and at a youthful age became a professor at the College of Beauvais.

While in Paris he met Ignatius Loyola. This encounter transformed Xavier's life and propelled him into a life of prodigious labour for

Christ. Loyola's enthusiasm was contagious, and Xavier, abandoned his professorship, bound himself to evangelism, poverty, chastity and obedience. With a few other companions, they founded the Society of Jesus, (*the Jesuits*). At first they hoped to carry the gospel to Islam. This did not develop. The Pope however, employed the Jesuits throughout Europe in responsible positions. True to their mission, they laboured in prisons, among the needy, and with the sick. It was at this time that King John III of Portugal asked the Pope for missionaries to evangelize his Far Eastern possessions. Xavier was chosen. Immediately he departed for Portugal. There he met the king, who asked Francis to visit all his foreign possessions, report on the state of religion, and to do all he could to bring Christianity to the lost. For three weeks, contrary winds kept Xavier from sailing. Finally all were commanded aboard. It was on this day April 7, 1541, Monks brought out a pulpit and Francis preached to the people on the shore, many of whom were there to say farewell to loved ones. As he finished, word was brought him of a youth mortally wounded in a duel. Francis hurried to the young man's side and pleaded with him to forgive the man who had wounded him. The dying duelist was unwilling. "Would you pardon him if God granted you life?" asked Francis. "Yes," whispered the dying youth. "Then you will recover," said Xavier. The young man did.

Francis, who was 35, never saw Europe again. Obedient to his promise to Portugal's King John, he travelled throughout Asia, preaching the gospel. His labours were herculean. In ten years, he travelled 9,000 miles, a considerable feat in those days of primitive transportation. He brought the gospel to more than 50 kingdoms, and baptized over one million converts. Japan was one of the nations in which he ministered. The church he planted endured three centuries of persecution without Bible or priests, parents passing the word to children. In the nineteenth century 25,000 Christians remained on the islands.

His holy zeal attracted converts wherever he went. Hundreds of churches sprang up in his path. He died at 46, worn out from his labours. Gregory XV named him a saint. He is remembered as The Apostle of the Indies.

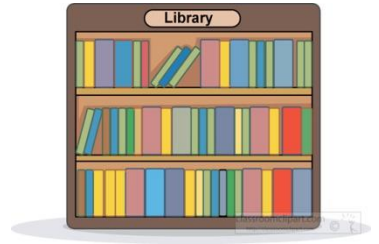
Dan Graves

www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/1501-1600/the-prodigious-labors-of-francis-xavier

ST GEORGE'S LIBRARY

As Christians it is wise to look to the wiser for guidance on the journey towards a deeper understanding and walk with the Lord.

St George's library covers most aspects of the Christian life.



Conditions of use

Borrowers please enter details in exercise book on the bookshelf.

Book Borrow Limit: No limit **Borrow Time Limit:** No limit

Please return books as soon as you've finished reading them.

For further information contact Vivienne McInerney.



soma
SHARING OF MINISTRIES ABROAD

Does your heart need rekindling?

**Anglican parish
Inverloch & Wonthaggi**
Missional activities:

- Visiting speakers
- teaching on Holy Spirit
- Bible studies
- healing services
- moving in gifts of the Spirit

5-9 May | Cost: FREE
Entire program available at
Somaau.org/Gippslandmission

admin@basscoastanglican.org.au
somaau.org basscoastanglican.org.au
contact@somaau.org



ARNA
Anglican Renewal Network Australia

**Anglicans
Ablaze
Australia**

10-12 May | Cost \$35 pp
(including lunch)
\$30 Conc. or Clergy

Anglicansablaze.org.au
info@Anglicansablaze.org.au



BIBLE DISCOVERY GROUPS

Please check with leaders for further details.

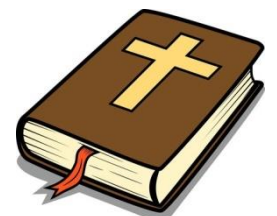
Liersch's: Tuesdays 4:00 pm – Alan & Jill Price's, Inverloch.
Phone 0417 513 390 for '**On Break this Week**'

Davies': Thursdays, St George's Hall – 1:30pm. '**On Break this Week**'

Women of Faith: Fridays 1:30pm – Liz Watkin's, Inverloch '**In Recess**'

Contact Alycia on 0408 100 068 or Susan on 0427 099 391

Renee & Sari's: Monday's - Contact Fiona on 0434 601 835 for details.



INFORMATION

Readings Sun April 14 3rd Sunday Easter	Acts 3.12-20 1 John 2.15-17. 3.1-6	Psalm 4 Luke 24.36b-48
Tuesday April 9th	10:00 am – Ascension – H.C. – Rev Graeme 11:30 am – Ascension – Prayer meeting.	
Wednesday April 10th	10:00 am – St George’s - H.C. - Rev. John	
Thursday April 11th	7:30 pm Parish Council - Wonthaggi	

Rosters 14th April, Morning Prayer

<u>Activity</u>	<u>St George’s</u>	<u>Church of the Ascension</u>
Bible Reader	Leah Mesley	Ian McBurnie
Sides Person	Robert Mesley	Ray/Ted
Prayers	Alan Price	Mal Fletcher
Service Leader	Fiona McKenzie	Rev Susan
Eucharistic Assist	X	X
Musician	Laren/Fiona	Sue/Elise
Children’s Ministry	Jill Price	Liz Watkins

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

Inverloch Church Working Bee

To be held regularly on the 1st Monday of the Month
@ 10.00 am. Next one - tomorrow (due to Easter Monday)

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 Alycia & Liz for more details.

MISSION BOXES

Mission Boxes have finished for this period.

Any further boxes will be held over until September 2024.

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: (Vacant)

Parish Council +

Retired Clergy: Rev's John Davies 5672 4710, Anne Perryman 0438 345 349,
Liam Matthews 0411 339 344, Amy Turner 0412 727 711

Lay Reader: Sue Lester 0418 529 662

Rector's Warden: Alan Price 0407 343 876

People's Wardens: Robert Mesley 0416 246 349
Liz Watkins 0404 379 005

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

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

Parish Op Shop: 114 Cashin St, Inverloch 0438 248 397

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!

The Church of the Ascension is Turning

100

Looking Back yet Looking Forward



DEAR

**YOU'RE INVITED!
PLEASE JOIN US ON SUNDAY THE 5TH
MAY AND/OR THE 9TH OF MAY**