



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



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 19th October **Holy Communion**

THE POWER OF PERSISTENT PRAYER



It's tough in the Western World.

What an odd comment. We have so much and much is available to us.

It seems that we have all we need and life can't get much easier.

But it is tough, it's tough because many of us don't really know what it means to totally trust in Jesus. Many have never really hit rock bottom - where we have nothing, it's as though we have no need for God.

But we do need Him! We need Him; to show us how dependant we are on Him, to show us how spiritually poor we are, and to teach us how to pray without ceasing.

It's often not until we go to a war zone or a 3rd World Country, that we discover how rich we are and yet so poor spiritually, that we discover our real need and the need to be persistent in prayer like the widow who sought justice.

Take a moment to ask Jesus to open our eyes to the real spiritual need.

Rev. Graeme

Sentence

Will not God grant justice to those who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?

Luke 18.7–8

Collect

O Lord, tireless guardian of your people, teach us to rely, day and night, on your care. Drive us to seek your justice and your help, and support our prayer lest we grow weary, for in you alone is our strength. We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and 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 31.27-34

²⁷ ‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will plant the kingdoms of Israel and Judah with the offspring of people and of animals. ²⁸ Just as I watched over them to uproot and tear down, and to overthrow, destroy and bring disaster, so I will watch over them to build and to plant,’ declares the Lord. ²⁹ ‘In those days people will no longer say, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.” ³⁰ Instead, everyone will die for their own sin; whoever eats sour grapes – their own teeth will be set on edge. ³¹ ‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,’ declares the Lord. ³³ ‘This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time,’ declares the Lord. ‘I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, “Know the Lord,” because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,’ declares the Lord. ‘For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.’

“This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119.97-104

⁹⁷ Lord, how I love your law: **it is my meditation all the day long.**

⁹⁸ Your commandments have made me wiser than my enemies: **for they remain with me for ever.**

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers: **for I study your commands.**

¹⁰⁰ I am wiser than the aged: **because I have kept your precepts.**

¹⁰¹ I have held back my feet from every evil path: **that I might keep your word;**

¹⁰² I have not turned aside from your judgements: **for you yourself are my teacher.**

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my tongue: **sweeter than honey to my mouth.**

¹⁰⁴ Through your precepts I get understanding: **therefore I hate all lying ways.**

New Testament Reading:

2 Timothy 3.10-4.5

¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings – what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. ^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ² preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction. ³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather round them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

*This is the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.***

Gospel

Luke 18.1-14

¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ² He said: 'In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, "Grant me justice against my adversary." ⁴ 'For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, "Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!"' ⁶ And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?' ⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get." ¹³ 'But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner." ¹⁴ 'I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

*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, 5:45pm at The Esplanade, Inverloch, for dinner.

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 will be commencing a new group toward the end of October.

[Possibly Tuesday evenings at St George's - Day and time to be confirmed.]



Inverloch & Wonthaggi Church Working Bees

Church of the Ascension - The 1st Monday of the Month @ 10.00 am. The next is November 3rd.

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

@ 10.00 am the next will be Saturday November 1st.

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

PRAY FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT

Almighty and Everlasting God: thank you for your everlasting love. Thank you for the cease fire in Gaza, the return of Israeli hostages and for the release of Palestinian prisoners. We ask that peace will remain, terrorist organisations will be dismantled and that Israeli and Palestinian people will be able to govern themselves without threat or fear. Please empower your Church to bring healing to the wounded, relief to the suffering, and comfort to those who mourn, 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.**



<https://www.cms.org.au/event/summer-under-the-son-2026/>

ON THIS DAY: Birth of Abbot, Manslaying Bible Translator



Should a man who has killed someone be an archbishop? That question troubled England. George Abbot, was a prominent translator of the King James Bible and became archbishop of Canterbury. He was also guilty of manslaughter.

Abbot was born **on this day, October 19, 1562** in Guildford, England. His Protestant parents suffered persecution during the reign of the Catholic Queen Mary. Their boy grew into a Calvinist and Puritan. When he was fourteen, he went to Oxford University where he became a popular preacher. Twenty-one years later, he was master of University College. When King James I agreed to a new translation of the Bible, Abbot was appointed to the team responsible for the gospels, Acts and Revelation.

Beginning in 1609, James rewarded him with rapid promotions. He had made himself useful to the king, persuading Scotland to adopt modified episcopal arrangement for its churches. In less than two years, Abbot became Archbishop of Canterbury. Critics said he was made *"a shepherd of shepherds before he had been a shepherd of sheep."*

Yet Abbot was no toady to the crown. He opposed James when necessary. When the king pushed for sports laws that would have defiled Sunday, Abbot firmly resisted. He spoke out against a scheme to marry Prince Charles to the infanta of Spain. In spite of his opposition, James always liked him and had him at his bedside when he was dying.

On his doctor's orders, Abbot hunted as a form of exercise. In 1621, the same year that he founded a hospital at his own expense in Guildford, he killed a man. He was hunting and his arrow glanced off a tree. Enemies, led by William Laud, who would later lose his head for cruelty, said Abbot should no longer serve as archbishop: he was a man of blood. James appointed a commission to decide the question, but they were evenly divided. The king ruled in Abbot's favour.

Abbot never overcame his sorrow and shame. He seems not to have learned to cast his care on Christ. To the end of his life, he kept regular fasts for the accident and he made the best amends he could to the man's widow. But he could not live the incident down. Once he grumbled when a group of women gathered around his coach to stare at him. He was cut to the heart when one of them taunted him that perhaps he should shoot at them, too. Dan Graves

www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/1501-1600/birth-of-abbot

Update from Alison Giblett, CMS (UK), in Ukraine.

Dear friends,

Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting us, particularly over the last four years during the war. It has not been easy, though through the challenges our faith in God is growing. Repeatedly we have heard testimonies of God's miraculous answers to prayer for protection and provision. At the same time, however, some we know and love have died and many more have been wounded in battle or from the rocket and drone attacks. Many have lost everything but still found God to be faithful in providing them with new homes and communities.

As we visit soldiers and people living near the front line, many confirm that they now know that God is real and answers prayer. However, sadly, others who previously had a traditional faith, say they have seen so much horror that they can't believe there is a God who is in control. Please pray for all those involved in trauma response ministries. Several of us in TLG have been training in trauma response. All Ukrainians have experienced some level of trauma but many in the south and particularly the east have had their homes and lives torn apart.

Chaplains from our church and other churches have been active in visiting the soldiers on the front line and in the hospitals as well as their families. From the beginning I have been involved in family support, where we have the joy of seeing a few choose to attend church. Last winter I was also invited to be a full chaplain, so have been participating in the training and activities. The need far outweighs our resources in terms of people and finances for this huge and growing task.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity God gave me in August to have a family holiday specifically to participate in reunions with both sides of the family. These were prompted by my sister Cynthia and her husband Andrew's first visit to the UK in 16 years (they haven't been since before they got married). Both reunions were very special times to build good relationships and memories. I returned to Ukraine in time for our three days of prayer and fasting.

The translation and dubbing of the Genesis (inner healing) process videos is progressing gradually. I am really looking forward to having these videos made available to people who would like to run groups in their own locations. Please pray for the completion of this process and in particular for a new team of facilitators to serve many people who need support.

Alison Giblett

Intercessory Prayers:

Please pray with us for:

Our Bishop: Richard Treloar & Leanne

Our Rector: Graeme & Susan

Children/Youth Workers & Volunteers

Safe Ministry Authority: Chair – Brian Norris

Missions Gippsland Home Mission Fund

Diocese of Perth Archbishop: Kay Goldsworthy, Jeri
Bishops: Kate Wilmot, David Bassett, Hans Christiansen

Special Focus All in Rural Industry, Primary Producers, Farmers' Organisations,
Young Farmers' Groups, For seasonal weather.

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:

Paula, Chris Peters, James, Murray, Doug, Ron & Pam Lawson, Jeter & 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, Valerie & Graeme Reid, Susan F, Florence H, Pauline, Jenny, 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 life of Bill Peters and all those who have gone before us. Please comfort all families & friends who are grieving at this time the loss of loved ones, especially the family of Bill Peters.

COMBINED SERVICE

There will be a combined service at Wonthaggi on Sunday 26th October 2025 followed by lunch. It is the 175th Anniversary of ABM and Bishop Richard will be attending along with the Rev. Tim Gaden. Wonthaggi Parishioners please provide a main course and Inverloch Parishioners provide desert. There is a form at the back to add what you are intending to bring. Thank You.



INFORMATION

Readings Sun 26th Oct Pentecost 20	Joel 2.23-32 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18	Psalm 65 Luke 18.15-30
Tuesday Oct 21st	10:00 am – Ascension – H.C. – Rev Graeme 11:30 am - Prayer group – Inverloch	
Wednesday Oct 22nd	10:00 am – St George’s H.C. - Rev Graeme	
Thursday Oct 23rd	10:30pm – Staff Meeting, St George’s	

Rosters: October 26th – Pentecost 20 – Prayer, Praise & Proclamation

<u>Activity</u>	<u>St George’s</u>	<u>Church of the Ascension</u>
Bible Reader	Merridee	X
Sides Person	Rev John	X
Prayers	Rev John	X
Service Leader	Rev Graeme	X
Eucharistic Assist	X	X
Musician	Renee Chan	X
Children’s Ministry		X

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

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 29th of October. **All Welcome!** Come along and work on your crafts and have a chat.

ST GEORGE’S FOOD PANTRY

A big thankyou to all those who have recently donated goods for the ‘Food Pantry’, it is greatly appreciated by the food relief team and the recipients. The pantry is currently full but we are turning it over quite quickly, so please don’t hesitate to donate.



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 1st November 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.





Please Consider Attending.

Friday 10am-5pm is for Clergy and Ministry Leaders

Friday 7pm–9 pm and Saturday 9am–5pm – Sessions inclusive for worship, teaching and practical workshops for everyone.

This is a great opportunity to learn from and to experience the Holy Spirit Working mightily in your own life as well as others.



The season of Hope25 is officially over however both our Diocesan and Parish facilitation teams have decided to carry on facilitating the essence of Hope25, that is sharing our hope in Jesus, into the future. With that in mind our parish team have changed their name to Good News Facilitators (GNF for short) and are working on getting ‘**Taste and See**’, a 4 week hospitality and outreach opportunity, up and running plus other outreach activities. We are looking for some men who have a passion for seeing the good news reach the community to join our team. If that is you please talk to Susan.

Carols by Candle Light!

Yes, it is that time of year again. We’re looking for volunteers to help with the annual Carols by Candle Light in Wonthaggi & Inverloch.

We need help with the Fairy Floss machine, Popcorn distribution & crowd control. If you are able to help then please let Rev. Graeme know.

A Story of Hope!



In a small village in Frigiliana, Spain, Maria faced a relentless storm of challenges. Her family struggled on the brink of poverty, and in the midst of the situation her husband, John, fell ill. Maria began to question God in her heart. As their faith wavered, they received a glimmer of hope.

One day, a compassionate neighbour shared an inspiring Bible verse, reminding them that with God, all things are possible. Encouraged, Maria and John prayed fervently, seeking strength and healing.

Miraculously, a long-time childhood friend of Maria, Maltida comes to visit. She is very knowledgeable about herbs, she administered some extracts from the leaves she plucked in their garden. After the third day, John's health took an unexpected turn for the better. The local doctors were astounded, unable to explain the sudden recovery. The village saw this as a testament to the power of faith.

United in gratitude, they thanked God for sending Maltida their way.

This story illustrated that even in the darkest moments, faith and prayer could lead to miracles. It also strengthened the Christian faith of the villagers, transforming despair into a powerful testimony of hope and divine intervention.¹

Hope for the Hopeless!

On Susan's and my recent mission trip to the Solomon Islands, we were made aware of the lack of medical care in remote villages.

It is hard for the villages to get to medical care when needed, so they usually have 2 options, either go to the witch doctor or to the village Priest.

Going to the village Priest seems to be their favourite option, because they not only receive healing through prayer, but they also receive hope, a hope that passes all understanding. It was for this reason and others that we were asked to teach the clergy about Spiritual Healing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Graeme

¹ <https://medium.com/@ilupejuayokunnumi/5-short-stories-of-hope-and-miracles-ac50066bba6d>