



# Anglican Church of Australia

## Diocese of Gippsland

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

### **Parish of Wonthaggi & Inverloch**

**St. George's,**

**The Church of the Ascension**

**McBride Ave., Wonthaggi**

**4-6 The Crescent, Inverloch**

**Bunurong Country**

**ABN: 18 842 576 826**



## **Epiphany 2 – 16<sup>th</sup> January**



There is this old joke where a Priest gets pulled over by the Police and is questioned on whether he has been drinking or not, due to the smell of Alcohol.

The Priest fervently denies drinking alcohol, and when questioned about the bottles on the back seat he says they are filled with water.

The Police are suspicious and open one, and low and behold - out flows good wine, to which the Priest responds: **"O' Jesus you have done it again"**! (That is turned the water into wine.)

We may joke about this, but turning water into wine is a serious matter, not that it may promote alcoholism but rather because it is an outward sign of the work of the Holy Spirit made visible for all to see. It is His outward working that is made visible for all the world to see openly for the very first time.

**This has enormous outcomes for you and I.**

*Rev. Graeme*

**Sentence:**

Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. *John 2.11*

**Prayer of the Day:**

Bountiful God,  
whose Son revealed his glory at Cana of Galilee:  
help us to believe and obey,  
so that, as our Saviour promised,  
we may be filled with the wine of new life  
and show forth his joy and love;  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**Old Testament Reading**

**Isaiah 62.1-5**

<sup>1</sup> For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch.

<sup>2</sup> The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow. <sup>3</sup> You will be a crown of splendour in the Lord's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. <sup>4</sup> No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the Lord will take delight in you, and your land will be married. <sup>5</sup> As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.

This is the word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 36.5-10**

<sup>5</sup> Your unfailing kindness, O Lord, is in the heavens: **and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

<sup>6</sup> Your righteousness is like the strong mountains: **and your justice as the great deep; you, O Lord, save both man and beast.**

<sup>7</sup> How precious, O God, is your enduring kindness: **the children of Adam shall take refuge under the shadow of your wings.**

<sup>8</sup> They shall be satisfied with the good things of your house: **and you will give them drink from the river of your delights.**

<sup>9</sup> For with you is the well of life:  
**and in your light shall we see light.**

<sup>10</sup> O continue your merciful kindness  
toward these who know you: **and  
your righteous dealing to those that  
are true of hear.**

### **New Testament Reading:**

#### **1 Corinthians 12.1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to dumb idols. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, 'Jesus be cursed,' and no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. <sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

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

### **Gospel**

#### **John 2.1-11**

<sup>1</sup> On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, <sup>2</sup> and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no more wine.'  
<sup>4</sup> 'Woman, why do you involve me?' Jesus replied. 'My hour has not yet come.'  
<sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' <sup>6</sup> Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water'; so they filled them to the brim. <sup>8</sup> Then he told them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.' They did so, <sup>9</sup> and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside <sup>10</sup> and said, 'Everyone brings out the

choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.' <sup>11</sup> What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

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### **COVID RULES FOR THIS WEEK Re: Ministry**

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#### **1. Church Worship**

All are welcome to worship with no limits.

**Wearing of Face Masks indoors is compulsory.**

#### **2. Op-Shop – Open to all.**

All Op Shop Volunteers: are required to provide proof of double vaccination to the manager (Ray Smith).

*(This is a State Government requirement that the Diocese & Parish are required to comply with).*

#### **3. Church Workers:** are required to provide proof of double vaccination to work in the parish, this includes Food Rescue personnel.

*(This is a State Government requirement that the Diocese & Parish are required to comply with).*

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### **Looking Ahead!**

Warden's Meeting - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> 1:30 pm at St George's

ICC Meeting & AGM - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 7pm at Baptist Church

Bible Discovery Groups resume 1<sup>st</sup> week of February - Check with Leaders for details.

Ash Wednesday - 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Easter - 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April

**Thank you to all who assisted with the SUFM team while they stayed at the Church of the Ascension, Inverloch.**

## **On This Day:    Forced Religion Sinful and Tyrannical**



Some insurance policies award damages for lost fingers, eyes and other vulnerable body parts. What is a tongue worth in your contract? What are your ears valued at? For many centuries, people gave up their ears and tongues for their faith.

The problem was monopoly. A single denomination would control the faith of a country and everyone was taxed to support it. These established churches were often opposed to reforms, because they wanted to hang onto their privileges. Governments also preferred to have just one church because a single church is easier to oversee.

Authorities were severe with anyone who threatened church monopolies. A man might have his tongue cut off for preaching without a license. A citizen might lose his ears for listening to unapproved preaching. In the worst cases, rulers burned people to death for teaching children the Ten Commandments or the Lord's Prayer.

But above all, church monopolists were afraid of commoners having access to the Bible. For centuries, the Roman Church blocked ordinary people from laying eyes on Scripture. Even after the Protestant Reformation began, governments tried to keep the Bible away from commoners. For example, on this day, **January 16, 1543**, nine years after King Henry VIII became the head of the Church of England, Parliament passed a law making it illegal for any Commoner to read the New Testament in English."

Even after commoners won the right to read the Bible, established churches remained the norm. In Virginia, the Anglican Church was the established church until 1779. Anglican priests did not hesitate to demand the authorities jail Baptist preachers who competed with their monopoly.

Thomas Jefferson, then governor of Virginia, was disgusted. If you tell a man what to believe and punish him if he doesn't, you may not change his mind but you might make a hypocrite of him. You are guilty for putting bait in his path, said Jefferson. After a seven year battle, The Virginia Statute of Religious Liberty passed on this day, **January 16, 1786**, two hundred and forty three years to the day after Parliament passed its act making Bible reading illegal.

Jefferson's act argued that "to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves, is sinful and tyrannical." If you make an office available only if people will hold or renounce certain ideas, you encourage men to betray themselves for money. "Truth," he said, "is great and will prevail if left to herself..." Jefferson did not argue that religion should be suppressed but only that the state must not make any form of it mandatory.

So proud was Jefferson of his role in obtaining this piece of legislation that he asked that his tombstone record it as one of his three great achievements. "Author of the Declaration of Independence, Founder of the University of Virginia, and Author of the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom."

*Dan Graves*

## **Intercessory Prayers:**

**Please pray with us for:**

### **Diocese:**

**The Bishop:** Bishop Richard & Leanne

**Our Rector:** Graeme & Susan

**Locum Tenens – Cathedral** (Dec' 21 – Mar' 22): Liam Matthews & Madeleine  
**& Trafalgar** – Greg Jones

Please give Liam wisdom as he leads the parish of Sale and Greg as he leads the parish of Trafalgar through their transitional periods and please keep them safe in their travelling.

**Parish of Moe/Newborough** Sathi Anthony, Sandra

Ordination Candidates

Growth in Ministry – Ordination Training: Graham Knott

Those in discernment for ordination

**Missions** Bible Society

**Diocese of North Queensland** Bishop: Keith Joseph

## **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC)**

### **Special Focus**

Service Clubs in our towns; St John's Ambulance Service

Workers who maintain our Essential Services – Gas, Electricity, Water,  
Fire-brigades, CFA, SES and all Emergency Service Workers

**Please comfort and heal all those suffering in Spirit, Soul or body,** especially those affected by the COVID 19 virus. Please give people the courage to face this pandemic 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:**

Amy Davis, Chris Peters, James, Murray, Doug, Ron Lawson, Jeter, Beth & family, Simone, Mark, Marie Wilson, Cecily, Robin, Barb Bickley, Trish, Ross Smith, Tania, Wayne, Russell, Hayley, Barbara Manns, Mary Anderson, Meredith, Richard B, Mary B, Lee, Paul Butterfield, Dr Paul, Matt F, Alasdair, Bev, Stuart, Vladimir, Erika, Rita, Elijah, Rodney & Geoffrey W, Luke M, Terry & Jessica.

**We give thanks for the faithful departed:** John Oldham



## INFORMATION

<b>Readings 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan</b>	O.T. - Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10. Psalm 19
<b>Epiphany 3</b>	N.T. - 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 Gospel - Luke 4:14-21
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	10am – Church of the Ascension Inverloch - H.C. Rev. Graeme
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	10am - St George's, Wonthaggi – H.C. Rev. John Davies 11-11:30am Food Rescue @ St George's, Wonthaggi
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	11-11:30am Food Rescue @ St George's, Wonthaggi

### Rosters 23<sup>rd</sup> January, Epiphany 3.- M.P

<u>Activity</u>	<u>St George's</u>	<u>Church of the Ascension</u>
<b>Bible Reader</b>	Pam Davies	Pam Lawson
<b>Sides Person</b>	Robert Mesley	Ray Smith/Ted Cross
<b>Prayers</b>	Jennifer Boer	Ray Smith
<b>Service Leader</b>	Susan Liersch	Susan Liersch
<b>H.C. Assistant</b>	X	X
<b>Musician</b>		Ian McBurnie
<b>Children's Min'</b>	X	X

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

### Notices:

**Bible Discovery Groups: (Check with group leaders for details)**

Beischer's - *In Recess until late Jan' 2022*

Davies' - *In Recess until late Jan' 2022*

Liersch's - *In Recess until late Jan' 2022*

Boer's - *In Recess until late Jan' 2022*

Alycia/Tonya - *In Recess until late Jan' 2022*

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**Food Rescue - Wonthaggi  
Has Resumed - Wednesday & Friday 11-11:30am**

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## **Ministry Staff**

**Bishop:** Rt. Rev. Dr. Richard Treloar, Sale 51442044

**Rector:** Rev. Capt. Graeme Liersch 0417513390 (*Monday-Day Off*)  
[graemel@basscoastanglican.org.au](mailto:graemel@basscoastanglican.org.au)

### **Ministry Team:**

**Youth & Young Families Minister:** Rev. Susan Liersch 0427099391

### **Parish Council +**

### **Retired Clergy:**

Rev's Anne Perryman 0438345349, John Davies 5672 4710, Greg Jones 0402437329 (Locum – Trafalgar), Liam Matthews 0411339344 (Locum - Sale), Amy Turner 0412727711

**Lay Reader:** Sue Lester 0418529662

**Rector's Wardens:** Alan Price 5674 5554, Ray Smith 56741373

**People's Wardens:** David Beischer 0408629494, Robert Mesley 0416246349  
Liz Watkins 0404379005, Wendy McBurnie 0407574484

**Parish Office:** PO Box 201, Wonthaggi 3995 (03) 5672 4590

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

**Welfare Support – Rev. Graeme**

**Food Rescue - Ron Osbourne**

**Prayer requests for prayer chain:** Jenny Rivers 0417287355

**Parish E-mail:** [admin@basscoastanglican.org.au](mailto:admin@basscoastanglican.org.au)

**Parish Website:** [http://: www.basscoastanglican.org.au](http://www.basscoastanglican.org.au)

**Direct Debt:** 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 setup this means to support the Parish!*

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### **A Weekly Prayer Group.**

*In recess until 2<sup>nd</sup> February.*

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