

He teaches, he guides, he supports, he consoles, he comforts as we try to be faithful in our following of Christ's Way.

This has links back to Jesus statement, "I am the Way: I am Truth and Life." Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth. This is the Spirit who reveals to us the truth of who we are - a child of God, within whom God lives. Think about that for a moment. We hold within us a spark of the Divine! The questions for us are;

"How does this knowledge make me feel about myself?
How does it affect my relationships –
because within everyone is that same spark of the Divine.
How does it affect my relationship with God?"

Talk to God about this because this Truth of our identity represents a deep understanding of what life is really about. It combines the ideas of wholeness and integrity, a total harmony between the inner and outer self and between the self and God.

The Lord be with you.



Prayer Thanksgiving and Requests

Thanksgiving

- For the privilege of worshiping together again.
- For the lack of COVID19 in our district.
- For those who are working hard to keep us safe.

Petitions

- Peter, Summer, Helen, Lorna, Debbie, Kaye, the vulnerable in our parish, and their families.
- Those affected by COVID 19, especially the sick and dying.
- For Frs Ryan, Martin and Chris who have had to begin their first placements as priests during the lock down.



Anglican Parish of the Otways Newsletter

The Season of Easter

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Priest in Charge — Rev'd Jenny Brandon

Contact Details

Phone: 5237 6615

Mobile: 0488 433 023

Email: otwayanglicans@gmail.com

Web: otwayanglicans.com



**Anglican Parish of the
Otways**

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

Welcome to life with some relaxation of restrictions. What does that mean for us? Well as most of you will know by now, we can hold small private services with no more than 10 people present but NO WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS. As a result I have tried to contact everyone to invite them to a small private midweek service but if I haven't spoken to you yet please ring me and we will try to organise a time for you. Of course social distancing rules will apply and services will be short 30 minute services, but we can gather for worship! Alleluia!

Please also do not come to church if you are unwell. We need to be quite vigilant about this to ensure the health of all parishioners.

The other joy is I can resume visiting parishioners. If you would like me to pop round don't hesitate to call.

A little birdy told me that our treasurer celebrated his 80th birthday recently, so a big happy birthday to David. We hope your family celebration was a happy affair.

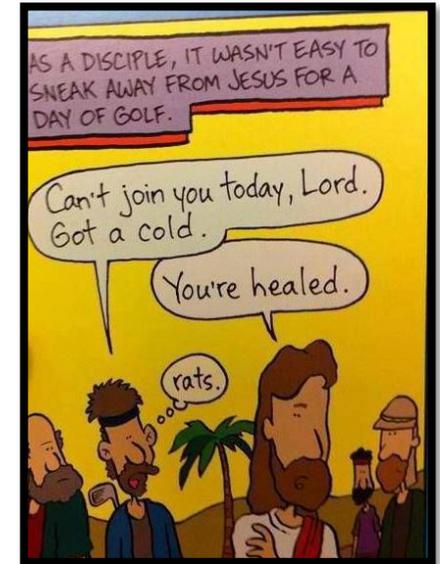
Some of you have noticed that some work has been done to St. Aidan's. This is thanks to Leo and Jannick, Jenny and Richard's two German friends who have been stuck in Apollo Bay as a result of the COVID crisis. As a thank you for our hospitality they have done some major maintenance work on the church and rectory. Thank you boys.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon

Blessings Jenny.



The Lighter Side of Life



Prayer of the Week

Everliving God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
give us grace to love one another,
to follow in the way of his commandments,
and to share his risen life;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings. **Acts 17.22-31** and **John 14:1-14**

Reflection

There are two themes running through our Easter readings. One of course is Jesus defeat of death and the promise of eternal life, the other that, although Jesus returned to the father, he is still with us, just in a different way. Today's gospel begins to explain that difference.

Jesus is telling his disciples at the Last Supper that, through the Spirit, he will continue to be with them – and us – forever. He calls the Spirit an 'Advocate', someone who will stand by you, give you support, advice and comfort, especially in difficult situations where you need help. That is precisely the role of the Spirit in our Christian life.