

## Prayer Points

### Thanksgiving

- For the ever reducing cases of COVID19 in our state.

### Petitions

- Peter, Summer, Helen, Lorna, Debbie, Kaye, Chris, Rita, Julia & John and their families.
- Those affected by COVID 19,
- For our healthcare professionals (who are working ridiculous hours at the moment.)



## The Lighter Side of Life

JUST LIKE THAT,  
PETER FALLS FLAT  
ON HIS FACE.  
( YEAH. )



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

BUT IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE.  
THE THOUGHT OF JESUS  
BEING CRUCIFIED  
IS HORRIFIC!  
( )



SURE, BUT PETER SHOULD  
HAVE KNOWN IT WOULD  
ALL WORK OUT, I MEAN...  
( IT'S JESUS! )



MATTHEW 16:21-28

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## *Anglican Parish of the Otways Newsletter*

### **13th Sunday after Pentecost**

30th August, 2020

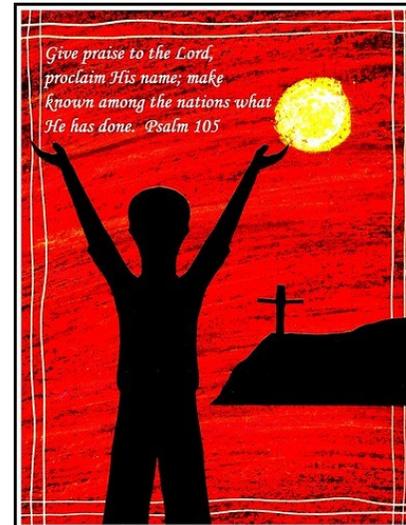
**Priest in Charge — Rev'd Jenny Brandon**

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**Anglican Parish of the  
Otways**

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

Hasn't the weather been a bit wild lately. I do hope you are all keeping safe and warm.

This year has been a year of many challenges. Unfortunately, with alarming stories constantly in the news and all of us faced with personal challenges it can all become a bit daunting and sometimes, overwhelming. However, I have heard many stories from people who continue to find blessing in their lives and it is on this we should focus.

As St Paul tells us, "Whatever is true, whatever is worthy of respect, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if something is excellent or praiseworthy, think about these things. and the God of peace will be with you.

So what is good in your life at this time? For some it has been meaningful reconnection with family, some have enjoyed renewing long lost past times, some have enjoyed learning a new skill (computer skills have been high in this list) and for some it has been the opportunity to take time out (even if forced) from busy schedules. But for a lot of people it has been the opportunity to reconnect in a much deeper and meaningful way with God. I hope this is true for you.

We have had another birthday this week. Richard turned 66 this week and had a lovely day enjoying his garden in Linton. Happy birthday Richard.

I have also been talking with Rita and she tells me Chris is making positive but slow progress. Please continue to hold them in your prayers and pray for Chris's specialists that God will show them the way forward to insure Chris's healing.

May the Lord bless you with peace and joy.  
Jenny



## Prayer of the Week

O God, whose Son has shown the way of the cross to be the way of life: transform and renew our minds that we may not be conformed to this world but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Saviour; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Reading. Matthew 16:21-28

## Reflection

Last week we read of Peter's confession that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah. In this weeks reading Jesus tells the disciples just what that will mean. Jesus was so single-minded, he knew very well what putting love as the greatest commandment and being close to the poor would mean. Yet he did not shy away from his mission; on the contrary he scolded his closest friend very fiercely, regarding his desire to prevent. The cross as the work of Satan. He then calls us to follow him on his way to the cross by carrying our own cross, that is following our vocation or calling, every day.

If we are to be followers of Jesus, we need to let him lead us, accepting that he will not always lead us away from suffering, pain or difficulty. Instead of seeking our own benefit and gain, we must allow every experience – even in moments of distress – to draw us into closer relationship with Jesus who invites us to lay our burdens on his shoulders.

What traps of Satan do we allow to distract us from our true calling.

Pray that God may give you an ever greater desire to be his faithful disciple, that you may let go of your desires for worldly trappings and grow in trust of God's love for me. As he challenges us to be ready to lose our lives to be able to save them, let us ask ourselves what this means in my life, here and now, whether I feel called to let go of something precious to me to be able to live more fully for Christ.

The Lord be with you.