

Prayer Points

Thanksgiving

- For God's redemptive work that allows us to live lives that reflect the life of Christ.

Petitions

- Peter, Summer, Sylvia, Helen, Lorna, Debbie, Kaye, Chris, Rita, Julia & John, Bishop John Stewart, Fr Alan, Fr Tom and their families.
- Those affected by COVID 19 and all those struggling with current regulations.
- For our Federal and State leaders and healthcare professionals



The Lighter Side of Life

The other day I found this cartoon on Facebook. With all the issues we have had in Apollo Bay in regard to the proposed roundabout in front of the church, I simply had to share it with you!



Anglican Parish of the Otways Newsletter

17th Sunday after Pentecost

27th September, 2020

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**Anglican Parish of the
Otways**

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

I hope you are all well and enjoying the more relaxed restrictions. I must apologise that last week I was a bit brain dead when I came to doing the news sheet and forgot to mention a couple of things. If you have a look at our website we have a music page where we put links to performances of various sacred songs. So, what are your favourite sacred songs? If you let me know we can put them on this page and it will give you a place to go and listen to some worship songs. Thank you Kerry for setting this up.

With the reduced restrictions I can now allow people to use the churches for private prayer. If you would like to pray in the church, let me know and we can arrange a time. We can also gather outside in groups of 10. Would you like to participate in a time of prayer and reflection on the lawn of your church? Once again, if people are interested, this can be arranged, weather permitting. With the current roadmap of the easing of restrictions it could be the end of November before we can worship inside our churches again

I have been participating in the “Companionship and the Church of the Future” web seminars Fr James from Warracknabeal has facilitated. We are having a very interesting conversation asking some very hard questions about the future of the church. I hope to share some of this conversation with you soon.

May the Lord bless you with peace and joy.
Jenny



Prayer of the Week

Grant, O merciful God,
that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus,
who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant,
and in humility became obedient even to death.
For you have highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
Jesus Christ, the Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in everlasting glory. **Amen.**

Reading. Philippians 2:1-11

Reflection

We live in a society that exalts individuality and selfishness. Everything is directed at self-centredness. Individual rights are demanded even if it is to the detriment of others; great value is attached to wealth, glamour, power and prestige, and many find it quite acceptable to dominate others in order to achieve their goals.

The incarnation of Jesus represents the complete opposite of this self-centeredness and drive for domination. Although he had access to all the privilege and power of God, Jesus considered his deity an opportunity for service and obedience. His deity became a matter not of getting but of giving, not of being served but of serving, not of dominance but of obedience. It is to this example Paul urges us to imitate. We must have within us the mind of Christ, do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but regard others as better than ourselves.

If we are to let the mind of Christ be in us, then the hallmark of our lives and of our life as individuals and as a witnessing community should be giving rather than getting, service rather than being served, obedience instead of dominance. We must learn to think of others first and put the will of the Father above everything else. Our whole way of thinking must be reversed to understand that we belong firstly to Christ and not to ourselves. We were bought with a price, and our primary duty is to find out God’s will for us and then get on with it. In the hundreds of ways in which our lives touch the lives of others every week, we are to have this attitude of Christ. That is how we show our communities and the individuals who live in them God’s love for them, our primary purpose in life!

Can you think of things you do, or have done, from ambition, conceit, or looking to your own interests? How are you feeling about those in the light of this text? How should you allow the principle of having the same way of thinking as Christ apply to all areas of your life? Ask the Holy Spirit to come into your thinking, and show you his will for these areas of your life, and praise God for his redemptive work that allows us to live lives that reflect the life of Christ.

The Lord be with you.