

Prayer Points

Thanksgiving

- God's provision during COVID19 restrictions.
- For the life of Geoffrey Kirkbride and Jonathon Bennett

Petitions

- Peter, Summer, Helen, Lorna, Debbie, Kaye, Chris the vulnerable in our parish, and their families.
- For Dorothy, Glynis and their family as they mourn Geoffrey's death and for the family of Jonathon Bennett, Gloria, Austin and Kendra.
- Those affected by COVID 19, especially the sick and dying.
- Justice and Compassion for all minority groups.



Up Coming Events

- Services—Small services are resuming at the usual times in all centres. Bible Study— Wednesdays, 11am, Apollo Bay
- Parish Council— Monday 13th July, 1 pm.

The Lighter Side of Life



Anglican Parish of the Otways Newsletter

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

14th June, 2020

Priest in Charge — Rev'd Jenny Brandon

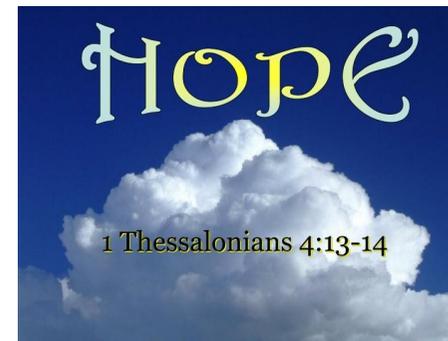
Contact Details

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.

Last Sunday Jack and Avis Coles celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Jack and Avis. We thank God that you have blessed our lives as you have served the Lord in this place.

For those of you who, like me, hadn't heard about the upgrades happening to our service station in Apollo Bay over the next three months or so, from June 18th there will be no fuel available in Apollo Bay. To help out residents, Halogo will be operating their home delivery service to Apollo Bay residents twice a week. In order to receive a delivery you need to book with them, either through their app or by phone. That number is 0431 105 200. Note there is a \$5 booking fee.

As most of you know, long time parishioner and parish Councillor Geoffrey Kirkbride, passed to his eternal reward on Saturday morning. I was able to be with Dorothy on Friday night and again with the family on Saturday morning. Geoffrey died peacefully and we can thank God he is now at rest with God. Please pray for the family as they lay his body to rest on Thursday morning.

Finally, the next edition of the Oracle is not far away. June puts a lot of work into this and expects no thanks, but thank her anyway. Without her it would not happen.

Blessings Jenny.



Prayer of the Week

All-powerful God,
in Jesus Christ you turned death into life,
and defeat into victory:
increase our faith and trust in him,
that we may triumph over evil,
in the strength of the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings. Romans 5:1-11 and Matthew 9:35-10:8

Reflection

Ever doubted your salvation? And ever wondered what makes you better than the person who might not get to heaven? I think we all have at sometime or another. These are genuine questions, and our reading from Romans goes a long way to answering these questions.

Paul is explaining to the believers in Rome that yes, they are saved and yes they are considered righteous by God, but it is none of their own doing, but God's alone. In Roman's 1:17 Paul explains that God has revealed his character as being righteous in the Gospel, and that he has given this gift of righteousness to people throughout the ages, not because they are better than anyone else, but because of faith.

IN fact in just the preceding chapter, Paul explains how 'Faith was reckoned to Abraham as righteousness.' (4:9) not anything he did or didn't do. He gained this undeserved privilege by Believing God and saying yes to him'

And the same is true for us. Paul says we are justified by faith. And faith alone. This is a fundamental truth in our lives. When Paul says this he is not discounting that we have a long journey in learning to be righteous, but it is God who empowers us to become righteous through faith and nothing else.

And what does this state of having been made righteous through faith accord to us? It gives us peace with God.

You see, its not that we were better than the next person, God treats everyone with impartiality. Even Jesus enemies knew that, what make us different is we believe God and have said yes to him.

We are recipients of a remarkable gift of undeserved privilege. We are no longer under the power of sin, we are in God's family and have gained entrance to the most wonderful place -- we have gained entrance to God's presence, a place of grace, where we stand, firmly and safely and securely. And we have done this not because we are worthy of it, not because we have forced our way in, but because Jesus Christ has made it possible for us.

So let us, in humility, thank God for his love and the underserved privilege he pours upon us freely, and seek to continue to grow in righteousness.

The Lord be with you.