

# Welcome Fr Peter Simmons!

Fr Peter Simmons will be welcomed to the Pastoral District of Southern Vales at the Ascension Day service on Thursday May 25th at 7.00 pm at The Peacock Farm, 65 Norman Rd, Willunga.

Bishop John Ford will be the celebrant.

Fr Peter will be licensed as a priest of PD Southern Vales & property development consultant for the Diocese.

The service will be followed by supper: donation \$20

For catering purposes it is essential to indicate your attendance by Friday, May 19th to: Southern Vales PD Office: 8323 9155, or email to: sanderwt@bigpond.com, or SMS 0410 548 040





oto: S Carthen



# Easter!

the lovely new Easter banners made by Julia Drought. B: Fr Jeff Oake, Trish Frith, Judith Wells and Adam Bleby watch the flowered cross being taken to the roadside by Peter Chapman and John Brown at St Ann's, to proclaim the joy of the resurrection to passers-by. C: The children made an Easter Garden at St Ann's, with Margaret Hooper and Gillian Clampett. More p. 4-5, and "A Word from Fr Peter..." (p. 2)

## A word from Fr Peter...

Fr Peter has found that the only time he can address all of us in the Pastoral District at once is through the medium of the Grapevine. He writes:

Dear Friends in the Pastoral District of Southern Vales,

It has been a privilege beyond words to be entrusted with this pastorate and to be able to journey with you through the marvellous Season of Lent culminating in Holy Week, with the special three days, (The Triduum) and now we have begun the Great Fifty Days of Eastertide. I realize not all of us were able to worship at the same times in the same places, but would like to outline some of the times I shared with you.

Most memorable was Palm Sunday, when the weather was kind enough for us to enjoy the Palm Sunday Procession at Aldinga, led by the beautiful white donkey, "Shadow".

There were other wonderful moments in our pilgrimage as well. For me, another stand out was when the Passion according to St John was read at the Good Friday Liturgy at St Stephen's, with different voices joining in. I have attended many Good Friday Liturgies during my lifetime, with wonderful musical cadences etched into the memory from my youth of the beautifully sung setting of St John's Passion by Vittoria, and at the Veneration of the Cross, the glorious Setting of *The Reproaches (The Improperia)* by Palestrina. (Incidentally, by the wonder of the Internet, you can hear fine renditions of those beautiful Settings on *Youtube*). The little church of St Stephen at Willunga came alive at the afternoon Liturgy, as two highly practised lawyers led the telling of the story and Pontius Pilate's cross examination of Jesus. It was as though we were really there with Him and felt the impact of his trial as if newly told.

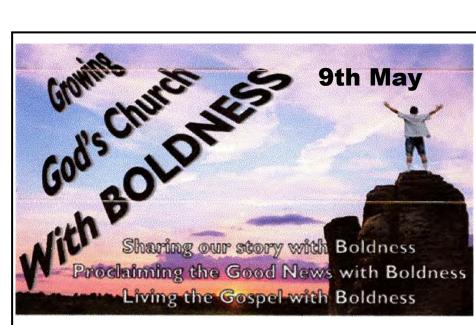
Then, another stand out moment was the prayer offered at the Blessing of the Baptismal Water (at the Easter Vigil, on Easter Eve). These prayers were slightly different from the ones I know so well, but struck me as being particularly beautiful, as the waters of the font were addressed in the second person: *And you, creature of water...*Jesus Christ changed you into wine... whose feet walked upon you...

Then, on Easter Day, there was the water feature, in the baptistery at St Nicholas', Seaford. Who could have thought that the sound of running, cascading water could have been the backdrop for the renewal of our baptismal vows and the words of the *Vidi Aquam*, "Lo I saw water, flowing from the right side of the temple. Alleluia!" (a reference to the healing stream in Ezekiel's vision).

And now we enjoy the Great Fifty Days of Eastertide which will lead us into Ascensiontide, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the Church's celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, (literally *fifty days* from Passover). Our Eastertide will be characterized by the wonderful Gospel accounts of the appearances of the risen Lord and the first apostolic preaching of the Resurrection (from *Acts*) and then take us, with passages from St John's Gospel, to the Great High Priestly Prayer (Chapter 17), Jesus' prayer for unity and his promise of mutual indwelling - the oneness of the Father and the Son, in which fellowship believers share, through the Spirit.

It is so good to be with you, to share the great themes of these days. God bless you all and thank you for your kindness and your faith.

Peter



Bishop John Ford and a team of trained laity will be offering valuable and interactive workshops, to equip people better and give the confidence to share our faith story.

As we explore ways of growing God's Church many ask "Where do we start?" "What do we say to others?" "How can I make a difference?" "How do I share the story of Jesus?"

This is the workshop that will address these questions and many more. Support this wonderful training opportunity on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 2 pm at St Nicholas', Seaford or 7.30 pm Christ Church Yankalilla. (Or if these aren't possible for you, ask Ted Sandercock where other sessions will be held in nearby districts.)

May

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Mothers' Union St Ann's 9.30 am Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Friends of St Ann's 6.50 for 7 pm

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> ST PHILIP & ST JAMES

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> JOHN

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Gold Coin Collection for CPS workers\*

Family Service, St Ann's 9 am

Shared lunch, SEM

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea & Mass for Breast Cancer,

Christ Church, Yankalilla

Discover Willunga Fair 10 am - 4.00 pm

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Bp Lindsay Urwin visiting Yankalilla (next column)

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Evangelism Workshops 2 pm SEM, 7.30 Yankalilla (opp page)

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Colton Court sing-along 10.30-11.30 am

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Jumble Sale, St Ann's 8.30-12.30 (next column)

Willunga Night Out (next column)

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> (Mothers' Day)

Family Service, St Margaret's 10 am

St Nicholas': prayers for healing at the Eucharist

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Friends & Guild of St Margaret's 1.30 pm

**Pastoral District Council** 7 pm

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> St Nicholas' Prayer Group 11.30

**St Nicholas' Lunch** 12.30 (bookings 8392 4508)

& Fellowship 1.30 pm

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Diocesan Thanksgiving Sunday

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> ASCENSION

**Installation of Fr Peter Simmons,** Peacock Farm, 7 pm (p. 1)

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Family Tea, St Ann's 6.30 pm

26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Synod, Woodcroft College

Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Synod Eucharist

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Youth Service, St Nicholas' 10.30 am Wed 31<sup>st</sup> VISITATION of the Blessed Virgin Mary

June

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Gold Coin Collection for CPS workers\*

Family Service, St Ann's 9 am

Shared lunch, SEM

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Mothers' Union St Nicholas', 9.30 am
Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Friends of St Ann's 6.50 for 7 pm
Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Colton Court 10.30-11.30 am

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Willunga Night Out

Sun 11<sup>th</sup> TRINITY SUNDAY

St Nicholas': prayers for healing at the Eucharist

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> BARNABAS

Queen's Birthday

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Community of Sts Barnabas & Cecilia service,

St Margaret's 12 noon

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> St Nicholas' Prayer Group 11.30 am

**St Nicholas' Lunch** 12.30 (bookings 8392 4508)

& Fellowship 1.30 pm

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Family Service, St Margaret's 10 am

Tues 20th Friends & Guild of St Margaret's 1.30 pm

Pastoral District Council 7 pm

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Family Tea, St Ann's 6.30 pm

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Youth Led Service, St Nicholas' 10.30 am

Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> PETER & PAUL \* CPS: Christian Pastoral Care

# Lamily Services

Informal family services next on 7<sup>th</sup> May & 4<sup>th</sup> June, St Ann's, 9 am 14<sup>th</sup> May, St Margaret's, 10 am

Youth Service

28th May, St Nicholas', Seaford, 10.30 am

## Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 10.30 am.

Christ Church, Yankalilla will host a visit from Bishop Lindsay Urwin who has had great experience with the Shine of Our Lady of Walsingham and will be sharing his experience.

Bring something to share for morning tea.

# Jumble

Sale

St Ann's, Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> of May

8.30-12.30

Quality

saleable goods wanted

> —and helpers

Enquiries: Pat Roper 8386 2470

# Saturday Night Out

13<sup>th</sup> May

at the Willunga Hotel

following the 5.30 Vigil Mass at St Stephen's

(Bookings: Ted 8556 4535)

# On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7 pm

our neighbouring church,

**Coast and Vines** 

(12-14 Aldinga Rd, Willunga) will

celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their establishing in 2007.

They invite us to join them to celebrate the past, party in the present and look forward to the future.

Delicious and abundant supper!

## Family Tea @ St Ann's Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of May, 6.30 pm



An informal occasion—all welcome. Bring your friends.
Bring food to share
—or just come!



# Easter 2017

Learning (again) how to make palm crosses for Palm Sunday challenged not-sonimble fingers and made for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at SEM. Fr Peter nobly joined the band of workers.

Palm Sunday was celebrated at St Ann's this year and we were delighted to have Shadow the donkey, led by her owner, Jim Lekkas, to lead the procession once again. In spite of unsettled weather, with gusty winds, it was a lovely day and a moving Service, with morning tea in the Room to follow. The Seaford Ecumenical Mission also held a Palm Sunday service.

The Maundy Thursday service at St Margaret's was a commemoration of the Last Supper and Jesus' washing of his disciples' feet. As Fr Peter pointed out, the name "Maundy" comes from the Latin mando, to command, and on this evening we remember his two commands: "do this in remembrance of me" and "love one another".

New hangings made by Julia Drought provided a beautiful backdrop, with the shadow of the cross falling on the splendour of purple and gold fabric.

R: Assisted by Greg Roberts (kneeling) and Peter Chapman, Fr Peter washes the foot of Maria Pulkkinen while Margaret Cale and Julie Bennett await their turn.



The **Stations of the Cross** were commemorated at St Ann's on Good Friday. In glorious autumn sunshine the congregation wended its way through the pine trees of the cemetery to the appointed Stations, to end up back at the church for prayers and a final hymn.

Coffee and hot cross buns followed, in the adjacent Room.



Left: At 3 pm on Good Friday Fr Peter led a service of the Veneration of the Cross at St Stephen's, and the story of the Passion was read from the Gospel of John. Greg Roberts, Trish Frith and Ted Sandercock assisted, and the Gospel was read by John Strachan and Brian McMillan.

Below: At the Easter service at St Ann's Fr Jeff Oake gave a special blessing to little Izabelle Elliott, masked as protection from infection during treatment for leukaemia. The congregation was overjoyed that she and her family were able to be with them once again.



Below: The **Easter Vigil** at St Stephen's on Easter Eve began outside the church with the blessing of the Easter candle and the ceremonial bringing of the New Light into the church. The liturgy included the renewal of baptismal vows. *R: Eucharistic Assistants Wendy Sandercock, Susan Smith (hidden) and Judith Wells with Fr Peter*.



### News from St Stephen's, Willunga

Thank you to Fr Dennis & Fr Peter for celebrating over recent weeks. Please keep Fr Bob in your prayers during his recovery. The two Easter services were well attended and moving occasions. See Fr Peter's account in his Pastoral letter. Thank you to Fr Peter, Fr Dennis, the servers and the readers, and Jac Bishop for the flowers and Joan & Wendy for their preparations.

Fr Peter Simmons conducted the funeral service for Muriel Hopgood on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, followed by a burial service at the Willunga Cemetery.

The Willunga churches and Schools Ministry will have a stall at the Discover Willunga Fair on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 4 pm. Help in the afternoon will be gratefully received. Visit the Fair anyway!



Baby Noah Woodford was baptised by Fr Peter Thomson at St Stephen's on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. L-R: parents Jarrad & Claire Woodford and godparents Violetta Gibbons and Bryce Watson. Trish Frith presented Noah with a gift from the Mothers' Union. Photo: T Sandercock

On Ascension Day, Thursday May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm, Fr Peter Simmons will be licensed by Bp John and installed in the PD of Southern Vales. This will take place at the Peacock Farm, 65 Norman Rd, Willunga. The service will be followed by the Peacock Farm's super supper. Drinks available at their bar. Donation: \$20 per person. See p. 1 and the flyer in your church. Come along to welcome Fr Peter.

At the Church vestry it was suggested that the PD hold a stall at the front of St Stephen's on a Saturday morning to attract the people who walk past or park in the grounds to attend the Willunga Farmers Market. Open to suggestions of the type of stall.

You are always welcome at our Vigil Eucharist on a Saturday at 5.30 pm. It also provides a Eucharist for those unable to attend a Sunday Service. Refreshments afterwards with bubbly or wine & nibbles (cheese, dips and biscuits).

The next **Saturday Night Out** will be on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Willunga Hotel at 6.45 pm after the 5.30 pm service

John Strachan & Ted Sandercock, Wardens

# Car Boot Sale, St Margaret's



raised \$662 on Saturday 29th April. Dean and Elizabeth Abbott's sausage sizzle was a Grea Pettman, Anne

great drawcard. Some chose to have a peaceful Devonshire tea in the Sunday School Room (L:

Chittleborough, Nancy Fraser, Trish Frith). Super-saleswoman Judith Wells managed to sell empty port bottles and old church kneelers! Lorna & Peter McGaffin's table included plants and mandarins.

#### Who is Jennifer?

Sometimes names stay on our prayer list for a long time, until the person we pray for is no longer known by many people—but we still offer them to God's loving care. One such is Jennifer Burnard, who now heads our prayer list.

Jennifer is the daughter-in-law of much loved parishioner of St Ann's, Gordon Burnard, now himself, unfortunately, in care and also on our prayer list. Jennifer suffered a stroke seventeen years ago and since then has been unable to speak or move. Her family say they have great admiration for Jennifer's strength in the face of adversity. It has taught them a new perspective on life and suffering, and not taking life for granted.

In 2009 Gordon Burnard and his son Bob spoke to the congregation of St Ann's, saying how much they appreciated our prayers in this tragic and ongoing situation. and today Bob and their daughter Alice re-affirm their gratitude for our concern.

AC



Yankalilla & Delamere's involvement in the Fleurieu Festival included Ann Ryan's knitted contribution to the Festival's "any old chair". Her sign read "Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud".

### News from St Nicholas, Seaford

Pastoral Care: We have celebrated several birthdays and anniversaries this month and presented Christine Gunn

with a rose bush for her backyard and a gift card, with thanks from the St Nicholas congregations for her 15 years as a Warden.

Services: Our services in April included a combined Palm Sunday liturgy of the Palms and Evensong on Tuesday of Holy Week and an Ecumenical combined Maundy Thursday service with washing of the feet. It was great to see so many people at the services during Holy Week, a fitting end to Lent and a great preparation for our Easter Celebrations. Our Easter Day service was presided over by Fr Peter with the service beginning in a darkened church with the blessing and lighting of the Pascal Candle by Fr Peter. From this candle the others were lit and the church lights undimmed as we all joined in singing Alleluia to the Risen Lord.

**Our Youth Worship** The young people in our congregation have given us another wonderful and thought-provoking service. This time the theme was "Peace" based on the gospel reading of the day when Jesus joined his disciples in the upper room following his resurrection and said "Peace be with you". They performed a drama on the theme, using a play of the words *Peace and Piece*. This was followed by a short message on what this peace really meant and how in passing the peace each week we are not just saying, Hello or How are You, but, in fact, focusing our complete attention on the person to



whom the peace is extended, sharing the reconciliation, unity, and love that are in Christ. It expresses an openness to the power of God's love to heal our brokenness and make us agents of that love in the world. Or as they put it God's peace can make our broken pieces whole again.

**Fellowship group:** We had a wonderful array of flowers for Easter Day, many thanks to those who purchased and arranged the flowers. The fellowship is supporting Lyn Hann in collecting toiletry items and handbags to make up bags for homeless women in the area. Next Meeting Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30pm. but if you want to come to lunch you must book in early at the Café - ph 83924508 or contact Jane or Helen.

**Congregation Meetings**: Our representatives from the Mission and Ministry Team, the Advisory and Management Committees at SEM bring everyone up to date on what is happening at SEM, others add information from Mothers' Union and the Pastoral District.

**Time of Prayer:** 11.30 am on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May in the Baptistry. These monthly prayer meetings have proved very successful with 10-15 people attending each session.

**SEM:** Now we know we are here to stay in one form or another we can get back to our primary focus of Mission in the Seaford Area. Wardens Jane Cuthbert and Helen Cook

St Philip & St James' Patronal Festival was celebrated at St Margaret's on Sunday 30th April, with all the



churches bringing
banners . L-R: acolyte
Judith Wells , crucifer Ted
Sandercock, Trish Frith (St
Ann's), Margaret Ray (St
Nicholas'), acolyte Susan
Smith, Stephen Wells (Sts
Philip & James'), Bob
Smith (St Stephen's) and
Greg Roberts (St
Margaret's), Fr Peter
Thomson.

A beautiful postlude "It is well with my soul" was sung by the choir.

"The church on the hill", although closed at present, , was represented by a model. A marvellous morning tea was shared afterwards.



# News from St Ann's, Aldinga

Celebrations have been the order of the month! The Friends of St Ann's were asked to cater for the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday for Isobel Stock, local lady and mother of Beverley Miller. The day and celebration were just perfect.

**Palm Sunday** was celebrated at a combined service starting with a procession led by our local donkey Shadow. We had a very pleasing attendance of about seventy people who enjoyed the service led by Fr Peter Thomson.

**Holy Week** at St Ann's included a lay-led **Morning Prayer service on Maundy Thursday** and an outdoors service on **Good Friday** of **Stations of the Cross in the cemetery and church grounds** on a beautiful Autumn morning.

**Easter Day's service** led by Fr Jeff Oake was attended by 105 people who joyfully celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord. The children were engaged in their own special lesson in the Room after an interesting children's talk by Jeff.

**Our thanks** go to the continuing dedication of our clergy and the tireless efforts of all our people who make worship and fellowship at St Ann's such a special and treasured part of our daily lives.

Brian McMillan & Pat Roper, Wardens

PD Finances, March 2017	\$	Overall finances to March 2017	\$
Nett monthly income	8,431	Income	30,617 (Budgeted \$30,250)
Monthly expenditure	8,517	Expenditure	27,110 with part stipend (Budgeted \$40,003)
Operating profit	-87	Operating profit/loss	12,795 (Budgeted \$-12,893)
Missions	954	Total donations to missions	1,311
Special Purpose Funds	Mar. 2017	Overall SPF Funds Jan. – Mar.	2017
Income	21,630	Income	24,261
Expenditure	2,186	Expenditure	3,235
Net profit	19,444	Surplus	21,026

# Weighty matters on the agenda...



On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April Bishop John met with wardens of Southern Vales, Fr Peter Thomson (part-time locum at Southern Vales to the end of July), Fr Max Bowers (parttime locum at Yankalilla/ Delamere also to the end of July), Lyn King representing Yankalilla and Fr Peter Simmons (who will be halftime parish priest in the Ministry District from Ascension Day, 25<sup>th</sup> May) to discuss future ministry in our Ministry District. It is sincerely hoped that we will

have a priest by the end of the year, but even so, as a district with seven worshipping centres (although one not open at the present time) and up to two priests, we will not be able to have a main service in each centre each Sunday, and will have to work out different ways of doing things. This may involve holding services on different days of the week.

The Bishop noted four areas we need to consider in our strategic planning:

- Pastoral care of people (not just our congregations)
- •Teaching the faith—including to newcomers and enquirers
- •Evangelistic strategy—how do we reach out?
- •Our liturgical plan

These four are linked together.

Bishop John emphasised that while some retired priests have indicated a willingness to be involved with us, these are a gift and a bonus. we must not depend on them as part of our mission strategy.

Not for the first time, those present recognised that we need to think outside the box about what opportunities we have and what new ventures could be tried. Some thinking had already been done on this, and it was good to hear from the priests present about what had worked elsewhere.

AC

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April was the occasion of the much anticipated **30<sup>th</sup> birthday** of special parishioner **Tristan Simon**, celebrated at St Ann's with family and friends, and with a cricket match afterwards.



Tristan writes: Thank you all for being a part of my special day and making it even more special. I am so fortunate to have you all in my life. I had an awesome birthday because of you all.

Blessings, Tristan



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Advance notice:

#### **Child Safe Environment Training**

A Child Safe Environment course will be held at St Margaret's on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> of July, and a refresher course on the Sunday afternoon, the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Check whether you need to attend.



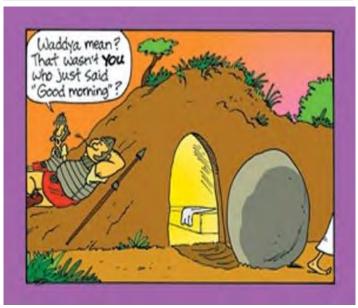
#### **East African Famine**

One million people could die of hunger without urgent aid.

Act for Peace's partners are already on the ground distributing emergency food and water supplies and providing other lifesaving support.

The international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia www.actforpeace.org.au

Locked Bag Q199, Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230, Australia.



People with news of coming events or noteworthy happenings in the Pastoral District of Southern Vales to share with the rest of the parish, please contact the Editor, Anne Chittleborough, at 23 The Esplanade, Pt Willunga 5173, Ph 8556 5078 or email machit5@bigpond.com.au, preferably by the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. Please notify the Editor if you wish to avoid the chance of being mentioned in this newsletter.

# Southern Vales Pastoral District Contact information:

Parish Secretary: Ted Sandercock
Ph 8556 4535; email sanderwt@bigpond.com

The McLaren Vale Parish Office is not regularly attended but messages can be left on the message bank 08 8323 9155 and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

## Visit our website!

http://www.southernvalesparish.org

To contact your church wardens:

St Philip & St James, Old Noarlunga Judith Wells 8186 1296 Stephen Wells 8326 7114

St Margaret's, McLaren Vale Julia Drought 7009 7705 Greg Roberts 8323 9331

St Stephen's, Willunga Ted Sandercock 8556 4535 John Strachan 8186 3372

St Ann's, Aldinga
Pat Roper 8386 2470
Brian McMillan 8557 6984

St Nicholas', Seaford
Jane Cuthbert 0407651606
Joan Dare 0413 258 987

# Pastoral District Service times

St Stephen's, St Andrews Tce, Willunga Saturday: 5.30 pm

St Margaret's, Main Road McLaren Vale
Sunday: 10 am with Sunday School
(St Philip & St James' congregation joining
in this service)
Wednesday: 9:00am

St Ann's, 7 Stonehouse Lane, Aldinga Sunday: 9 am: bring the children.

St Nicholas', Seaford Ecumenical Mission, Sunday 10.30 am