

April 2025

*Proclaiming
Christ in word
and action;
growing in care,
love and
service.*



The Grapevine

Newsletter of the Western Fleurieu Anglicans, Diocese of The Murray, SA



Easter Services:

- Sun 13th PALM SUNDAY**
9am St Ann's, Stonehouse Lane, Aldinga
10.30am St Margaret's, 99 Main Rd, McLaren Vale
10.45am Liturgy of the Palms, Seaford Christian Churches (SCC)
11am Christ Church, Yankalilla (Tea & coffee 10.30 in the hall)
- Thurs 17th MAUNDY THURSDAY**
7pm Christ Church, Yankalilla
7pm Washing of feet, Holy Communion: St Margaret's
7pm Ecumenical service, Washing of feet, Holy Communion: SCC
- Fri 18th GOOD FRIDAY**
9am Ecumenical service, SCC
10am Stations of the Cross, St Ann's
11am Christ Church, Yankalilla
- Sat 19th HOLY SATURDAY**
Lighting the New Fire, St Stephen's, St Andrews Tce, Willunga 7pm
- Sun 20th EASTER DAY**
9am St Ann's, Aldinga
10.30am St Margaret's, McLaren Vale
11am Christ Church, Yankalilla



Vale Fr Dennis Eales

Born in the UK Midlands, Fr Dennis migrated to Australia with Mary and their four children as "ten pound Poms" in 1968, and soon settled at Christies Beach. A toolmaker by trade, Fr Dennis worked for GMH and for Chrysler before feeling a call to ministry in the prison system and working at Pentridge Prison, Victoria. Returning to live at Christies Beach he was employed by OARS (Offenders Aid and Rehabilitation System) working with ex-prisoners with complex needs.

He was made a Deacon in 1991 and ordained priest in 2003, serving as parish priest at St Nicholas', Seaford. In 2004 he retired from secular work. He was appointed parish priest of Southern Vales (now known as Western Fleurieu) 2005-2009, and later served at Yankalilla. Fr Dennis will long be remembered for his loving ministry and his gentle sense of humour. AC



The countdown is on. With my retirement looming after Easter, I have barely had time to reflect on my time in this parish. As I mentioned in my report for the Annual Vestry, I will be retiring at the end of April. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their faith, love, support and friendship to Lyn

and myself. It has been an amazing journey of over six and a half years that started off a bit shaky (without the support and counselling from Br Simon it might have been short!) but you have put up with a different type of Vicar and I think that between us we have all kicked a few goals along the way by being open to new ideas and trying different things.

I am not quite sure that you knew what you were getting

in the way of a new shy priest coming from a small parish in the Tatiara. I guess I do things from the heart more than from the book. I remember when I was licensed at St Margaret's in July 2018, I said that I was here to serve, and I meant it. I think that our journey together in Christ has been a bit of an adventure, and yes, you can have some fun in church, and we did!

We as a parish still strive to provide a wide range of services to suit the needs of people in the Western Fleurieu. To keep your ministry fresh, try different things, and have fun. If things don't change they will stay as they are.

Our time with you has been a great joy and privilege. Keep up the good work.

Both Lyn and I look forward to a good break, and you just may see me around the parish from time to time.

Blessings to you all.

The Vicar and the Verger.



Hope 25 is a Great initiative supported by Anglicans all around Australia, reaching out to sharing in an Authentic way — Jesus offers us a real HOPE.



We are excited to run a whole of Diocese event along the River that gives our Diocese its name — The Mighty Murray!

To raise awareness of the Spiritual and Social Justice needs present in our Rural Towns, The Archdeacon of The Murray has 'volunteered' to paddle the length of the Murray in our Diocese. Others will assist by way of support crew, including the Administrator of The Murray!

Beginning at Renmark, and again in the towns listed (p. 17) the crew will stop for a free BBQ, fellowship and Communion service using the sacred vessels from the PS Etona. No need to bring anything except maybe a chair. Just come along!

*Members of the congregation in each town are encouraged to invite **one or two local people** who may be able to help us gain an understanding of the social needs of that community. We will ask them a few questions, record their responses and, after the trip, collect them all into a resource to help us conduct mission in a more informed way. It's a **'listening tour'**.*

All parishes in the Diocese might consider holding their own functions and ask these questions to their local communities. They are encouraged to send their results to the document through Church Office.

We will also produce a video of Morning and Evening Prayer in the Australian Outdoors each day. You will be able to access these on the Diocesan Website <https://murray.anglican.org>.

April

- Sun 6th Gold coin collection for PCWs*
St Nicholas' shared lunch
PCW Celebration Service 4pm (*see below*)
- Mon 7th Mothers Union 9.30am picnic in the park,
Willunga
- Tues 8th Making Palm Crosses (*see below*)
- Thurs 10th Prayers for peace St Ann's 11.15am
- Sat 12th Saturday Night Out, Willunga (*see p. 10*)

FOR EASTERTIDE SERVICES
see p.1

- Sun 13th ACH service, Yankalilla
- Mon 14th WFA Council, 4pm St Ann's
- Tues 15th Friends of St Ann's 4pm
- Fri 18th Stainer's "Crucifixion", St Margaret's -
(Good Friday) *see p. 5*
- Fri 25th ANZAC DAY
- Sat 26th Sunset Soirée (a St Ann's 160th celebration)
(*see below R*)

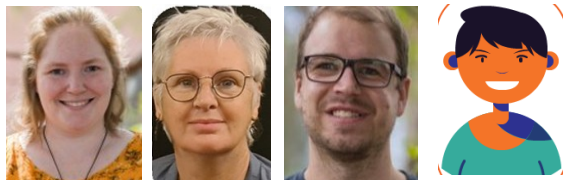
May

- Thurs 1st PHILIP & JAMES
- Sun 4th Gold coin collection for PCWs*
St Nicholas' shared lunch
- Mon 5th Mothers Union 9.30am St Nicholas'
- Thurs 8th Prayers for peace St Ann's 11.15am
- Sat 10th Saturday Night Out, Willunga
- Sun 11th ACH service, Yankalilla
- Mon 12th WFA Council 4pm, St Nicholas'
- Tues 13th Friends of St Ann's 4pm
- Sun 18th Walking With Jesus, Christ Church, 11am
- Fri 23rd Family tea, St Ann's 6.30pm
- Sun 25th Healing service Christ Church
- Thurs 29th ASCENSION
- Sat 31st Fifth Saturday Contemplative Service,
St Stephen's 5.30pm

*PCWs

Pastoral Care workers (Schools Chaplains) - *see below L*

**Southern Vales
Schools Ministry Support Group
PCW Celebration Service
4pm Sunday 6th April
Outpost Church UCA
262 Main Road McLaren Vale
Bring & share meal after the service**



Hannah Chris Luke Coming soon



*Here's what **we** can do!*

As we reach out to those who are not actively part of a faith community we ask all who are seeking to explore their spirituality to let us know if there is anything we can do to help their journey. We would love to receive feedback and suggestions. Send to the parish Secretary, email: admin@southernvalesparish.org, or text: 0476 754 772 — or talk to your Wardens.

Pass this on!

PALM CROSSES

Try your skill—and your memory!
Join the team at St Nicholas', 1pm on Tuesday 8th April, making palm crosses for Palm Sunday.
Or come earlier, for lunch at 12 noon in the café (bookings 7071 9237).
BRING A PAIR OF SCISSORS



Read *The Grapevine* in colour, with photo supplement, on our Parish website, southernvalesparish.org



**A Sunset Soirée
Saturday 26th April**



"Hays' House",
140 Little Road, Whites Valley
Bookings: 0422 817 169

\$40

AN ECUMENICAL EVENT DAWN SERVICE

Celebrate and worship with us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
April 20th, 6.30am
left of the Pt Noarlunga Jetty.
A fish and bread breakfast will be provided.
(BYO chair to sit on and maybe a hot drink)
Peter Chambers
Noarlunga Centre Church of Christ



As we write this instalment, the parish has just celebrated our combined service at St Ann's. It was wonderful to see so many from each centre commemorating our Lord's day, Mothering Sunday and a farewell to our Vicar, Fr Brenton, and his wife Lyn. Sitting at the front of the church allowed me to hear our voices raise the roof, as we sang the hymns Brian had so carefully chosen to fit the readings and themes of the day.

Fr Brenton's sermon on the "Prodigal Son", or, as he put it, "The Forgiving Father" was a challenge to return to God if we have strayed, and to see our God as the loving Father He really is.

I must admit, I wasn't prepared for parts two and three of his message—the second part being a story, and finally, as he said, "Now for the hard part" - his message of conclusion and farewell, which he spoke from the heart and with such sincerity. We will greatly miss his and Lyn's ministries to us, but are grateful they have chosen to live in the District after his retirement, so I imagine many will continue to catch up with them from time to time. Thankfully, we will have three more weeks before Fr Brenton officially retires. If the fellowship afterwards at morning tea and the BBQ was anything to go by, they will be in our lives for a long time. A thank you must go to everyone who made this day such a beautiful success.

Sunara's birthday celebration at the end of the service, the recognition of Mothering Sunday with simnel cake and a floral bookmark (real flowers being so hard to source from our drought-affected gardens), and the delicious food for morning tea and lunch, topped off a great day! (*More photos pp. 13-15*)

Other services through the month have gone well. A few people have indicated that they would like to give their testimony, so we look forward to seeing where and how God has been and is taking them.

As far as maintenance goes, the door to the hall will need to be rubbed back and re-painted as the paint is buckling badly. The painter will come back once the heat dissipates. New fly screens for the double doors are to be installed too. A big thank you to Bill, Barry and NZ Brian

who erected the "No Entry" and "One Way" signs to help with the flow of traffic around the church. The gardening team and helpers continue to keep the grounds and cemetery tidy.

A small group of us recently met with two members of the South Road Alliance to discuss the ground water problem. We have had the driest year in decades but it is noticeable that groundwater has been damaging the stonework of the church. Unfortunately, no solutions were provided, but they did say they will take our concerns back to those in a higher authority. We hope we will have a suitable resolution to this ongoing problem.

As a fundraiser to help repairs caused by this situation we are having a 'Sunset Soirée' at Brian McMillan's home (Hay's House) on Saturday 26th April. Dress code requires a fascinator for the ladies and a bow tie for the men. You can get tickets from Julianne Bates (0422 817 169) at a cost of \$40 each. They can be purchased with cash or via a bank transfer (BSB:105 071 Account no: 029112440). If you choose the latter you will need to add "Sunset Soiree" in the description so Margaret (treasurer) will know what the money is for. Please call or talk to Julianne to organise your ticket.



Our Lenten Bible Studies have been going well, with some new members and good participation from all attending. We look forward to our Easter events: Palm Sunday, Stations of the Cross and, of course, the joy of Easter Day itself. We hope people attending on Easter Day might be able to find a flower in their garden to put on the cross.

Julianne Bates, Brian McMillan, Wardens

March is winding down and time has passed rapidly yet again. And with March came Lent; the flowers were taken out of the church and the banners behind the altar were changed. Ash Wednesday was on the 5th. Our usual Wednesday service was enhanced by 2 hymns and the imposition of ashes. In his address Fr Brenton warned us not to use our Lenten disciplines to benefit ourselves or achieve personal goals.

We continue to be grateful for Fr Brenton's ongoing support, and this month we welcomed Fr Bob Hupfield and Gerry his wife to our second Sunday Communion Service. His enthusiasm and delight in the service was encouraging and catching.

That afternoon our Annual Vestry Meeting was held in the hall. Due to the mini vestries held in each of the individual churches, the meeting passed smoothly. Following the meeting we organised afternoon tea, allowing parishioners from the different churches to catch up with one another. Thank you to all those people who assisted by providing food or assistance on the day.

On the 4th Sunday we celebrated Prayer, Praise and Proclamation and were fortunate to have John Strachan give us the address. Jac again provided mementos; figgy biscuits in honour of the parable of the fig tree.

The last Sunday of the month is Mothering Sunday and will be celebrated at St Ann's. Those of us able to go are looking forward to celebrating with them and enjoying the BBQ to follow.

Sadly, on the 25th of this month we celebrated the life and death of Fr Dennis Eales with a Requiem Mass. Fr Peter Simmons celebrated with Fr Brenton assisting. It was solemn and inspiring. Mary, you did him proud when you planned the service.

The work organised for the rectory - filling in the holes in the wall left by the removal of 3 air conditioners and repainting the walls, has been completed, as has the repair of the sanctuary lamp.

As April commences we look forward to Palm Sunday followed by the Passion and resurrection of our Lord. We wish everyone a Happy and Holy Easter.

As always, thank you to all those people throughout the parish who generously give their time to help us as needed.

May God continue to bless us all as we continue to step forward in faith.

Judy Wells for Julia Drought and the Congregation of St Margaret's

Several of us attended the wedding of Curtis Antram, our assistant organist, and Anifa, at St Augustine's, Unley. The ceremony included washing each other's feet as a sign of their service to each other—and a very long train!

Julia Drought



The Crucifixion:

**A Meditation on the Sacred Passion
of the Holy Redeemer
by John Stainer**

to be performed

at 3 pm on Palm Sunday, 13th April 2025

Seaford Christian Churches

Grand Boulevard, Seaford

and

at 3 pm on Good Friday 18th April 2025

St Margaret's Anglican Church,

Main Road, McLaren Vale

Choir: Cantate Dominum

Conductor: Sue Russell

Organist: Rosalind Gallasch

Soloists: Greg John - Baritone,

Curtis Antram - Tenor

If you have news of coming events or happenings in the Western Fleurieu Anglican area to share with the rest of the parish, please contact the Editor, Anne Chittleborough, at 23 Esplanade, Pt Willunga 5173, ph 8556 5078 or email machit5@bigpond.com.au, preferably by the 15th of April.

Please notify the Editor if you wish to avoid the chance of being mentioned in this newsletter.



Numbers attending the vestry this year were somewhat down on last year, but this may have been due to the sweltering 36 degree heat that day. Those attending were grateful to the St Margaret's team for putting the air conditioning on well in advance so the Sunday School Room was cool.

The reports for the meeting were circulated to all the faith centres before the meeting and so do not require repeating here. As this was Fr Brenton's last Vestry meeting as Vicar, a vote of thanks and appreciation was given for his time with us. Speaking to this, Brian noted that in all Fr Brenton's dealings with "unchurched" people who came to him, most of whom were dealing with situations involving births or deaths, he had a great gift of getting alongside them and bringing them to where they wanted to be. Lyn Dick was also thanked, for all the gardening work she had put in to the houses they had lived in.

Those who attend or work on the big annual event in Yankalilla will be delighted to hear that the Big Strawberry is likely to appear again this year!

A question had been raised about the longer term plan for the parish and the diocese, as it is now over a year since the Bishop was suspended from duties on 16th January 2024. The situation continues to be addressed by the Episcopal Standards Commission. Thus, the Diocese cannot undertake longer term forward planning until the situation with the Bishop is resolved, although Diocesan Council, and Synod at its meeting in June 2025, will deal with immediate requirements.

In answer to a question raised about our parish's involvement with the national church Hope 25 Programme (see p. 2), consideration was being given to our meeting up with the diocesan Murray River

Venture at one of its stopping points.

A local example of the church getting alongside others was the connection with the Aldinga-Sellicks Alliance, which addresses the social needs of the community. Margaret Cale is involved in their meetings and is regularly amazed at all she learns from them.

The Treasurer reported a year of consolidation of finances, mainly due to our having to pay only one stipend. However, giving in 2024 was down \$6,000. With a cheerfully coloured graph Margaret illustrated how our parish finances were spent. In a question about the diocesan assessment we pay annually, she explained that the diocese required that to cover administrative functions such as payroll, insurance and the like which are delivered by the Diocese on behalf of the parishes.

As we are still in the triennium there were no elections needed except those required through resignations. Steve Banner will be away at the time of Synod. Peter Filsell was appointed a Synod Representative and Christi Banner and Anne Chittleborough as substitutionary reps. Synod 2025 will be at Seaford Christian Churches, June 20-21st.

A splendid afternoon tea and a chance to mingle and catch up with friends from other centres concluded the Vestry meeting. AC

A good way to support the ministry of our parish is to arrange a weekly offering as a direct debit. This gives a steady commitment to our church even when we miss a Sunday.

*The Anglican Parish of Southern Vales BSB: 105 071,
Acc no. 029112440*

News from St Stephen's, Willunga

March was an eventful month in many ways, starting with the return of Jo Parsons and her husband Neil from the UK. Although their stay in Australia will only be a temporary one, we were all very happy to see them both and made sure they received a very warm welcome back into our congregation.

Given that March falls during a period of the year when the weather is changing from one season to the next, we usually expect a bit of unsettled weather activity in our town that includes rain and strong winds. Even though the rain decided not to make anything other than a short cameo appearance, Windy Willunga lived up to its reputation to the extent that the wooden fence on the northern side of the church property was blown over. The photo shows how things looked after the storm, but at the time of writing this piece, the fallen fence had been removed entirely. In other words, several days after the storm it appears that someone took offence, (but where that fence was taken to I do not know)! Fortunately, the collapse of the fence took place some distance away from the new plants that our faithful team of gardeners has installed and thus no damage was

done to the new plantings. Our gardening team in fact has shown themselves to be an example of the gospel of the fig tree from Luke that we read during the month, where the gardener made it clear that plants must be cared for and attended to on a regular basis if we are to expect them to thrive and bear the fruit of which they are capable. Of course, the same principle applies to ourselves, where we must continually feed and nurture our own faith to become truly fruitful Christians.

During the month we continued our preparation for “life after Brenton” with a lay-led Evening Prayer service on the first Saturday and Prayer, Praise and Proclamation on the third. Meanwhile, Fr. Brenton conducted a Holy Eucharist service on the second and fourth Saturdays, and a Contemplative Prayer service on the fifth Saturday. And rather than relying solely on Fr Brenton, our weekly Tuesday morning Meditation services are now being led by a different member of the congregation each week.

Late in the month we were saddened to hear the news of the passing of our long-time parishioner Geoff Pridham at the age of 94. It appears that he had been in ill health for some time, and we had seen less and less of him during recent months. Nevertheless, it was a shock to us all to hear of his passing away. (*More on this next month—Ed*)

As a reminder, all are invited to join us on Saturday April 12th for our monthly Night Out as we visit the Hotel Willunga (alias the “middle pub”) for dinner at 6.30pm, immediately after our weekly service at 5.30pm. An invitation to the dinner will be sent out via email earlier that same week, but if you’re not on my mailing list and would like to attend the dinner, please feel free to contact me by email at LMESTBA@YAHOO.COM or by phone at 0404 163 940. Everyone is most welcome to join us.

Steve Banner, Warden



When the sun shines (gently) and the wind stops, what could be more delightful than refreshment outside after the Service, next to the newly established garden! Clockwise from L: Steve Banner, Stephen Carthew, Andrew Strout, Philip Duguid, Fr Brenton, Wendy Sandercock, Christi Banner, Joan Lunn, Anne Duguid, Trish Frith, Jo Parsons.



Heritage Grant Application for Christ Church

At the March Council meeting it was decided that we would apply for a State Heritage Grant for the following work –

- * Repairs to the cracks in the main room of the Hall and repair of plaster work above the veranda by the door.
- * Repairs to cracks and damaged timber in various parts of the Church.
- * Painting the interior of the Church.
- * Painting the roof of the Church.

We have received quotes totalling about \$24,000, so we will be applying for a grant of about \$12,000.

If we are successful with our application, we will have 12 months to complete the work. This would allow us to get Peter Russell to do the plaster work early in the process and allow it to cure before we paint the interior.

If we are successful with our application, we will need to work out how to fund our share of the work. (If we are not successful, we may still be able to do the repair work, at least, as the quote for this was \$3550.)

Since our Sunday services have changed from 9am to 11am, we are now missing out on our post-service fellowship over a cuppa. So we have introduced a once a month opportunity to catch up at 10.30am on the second Sunday of each month in the hall. Though this is a brief time, we would love to see everyone pop in and let us know how you are.

On Sunday 30th March a number from Christ Church were able to join the Combined Service at St Ann's and contribute to and enjoy the day's celebration and farewell to Fr Brenton (*photos pp 4, 13-15*).

EAT TOGETHER, PRAY TOGETHER

On Sunday March 2nd, a meeting called "Eat Together, Pray Together" was held in the Yankalilla Community Church at 5.30pm. Denominations represented were the

Jesus Community Church, Christ Church Anglican, Yankalilla Uniting Church, and the Yankalilla Lutheran Fellowship. It was organised by the Yankalilla District Interchurch Council.

We were introduced to the process of Visitor Welcoming in which Church teams visit new folks coming into the district and present them with a Welcome Pack containing information about our churches. A new magazine is being developed for inclusion.

"Walking with Jesus"

"I am the Truth" study led by Wendy Lindsay

Our Bible study text was John 18, 28-38, where Jesus was tried by Pilate after being handed over to him by the Jews. Jesus explained to Pilate that his kingdom was a spiritual one and was not of this world. He said that the reason he came into the world was – "to testify to the truth". Pilate's cynical answer to this was "What is truth?" after which he tried one last time to have Jesus released since it was the custom at the time of Passover; but the crowd chose Barrabas.

We remembered the experience of Jesus in the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil to bow down to him in exchange for "all the kingdoms of the world". Jesus resisted with the words of scripture; "Worship only the Lord and serve Him alone".

In another place he said, "The kingdom of God is within you". This was the truth that he wanted to reveal. We contrasted this with two world leaders who are presently trying to extend their kingdoms by invading other countries with little appreciation of true greatness.

Discussing Pilate's question about the nature of truth we found that sometimes it is indeed very difficult to discover the truth about our world. Think of a jury which is trying to determine the truth of accusations against the defendant. Or scientific truth, where concepts of the nature of our world may be limited by information based on the technologies available at the time. Think of light, which has been described as both a wave form and as particles. Which is it? In this case we cannot presently know the real truth, but over time more investigations can refine our understanding.

We often hear people justify their beliefs based on what they call "my truth". This is fair enough since we all have different experiences. So how do we discover The TRUTH that Jesus was talking about?

It is what we read in holy scripture with the help of the Holy Spirit, who was sent to "lead us into all truth".

The "Walking with Jesus" gathering will not be held in April, as the third Sunday (20th April) is actually Easter Day. For the Eastertide services at Christ Church see p. 3.

Peter Filsell, Warden; Elizabeth Gordon-Mills

Our Family Service on March 2nd took the Gospel as its inspiration. The Transfiguration can be a tricky topic to cover and explain well enough to the young people at our service. We found a great YouTube video <https://youtu.be/K7rq18BbbwA> which explained it very well, using the image of a homemade tent as the special place we can keep Jesus and the prophets, so we could all see and worship their glory. The speaker also thought we should all look at moving outside the tent and letting others see the wonder and splendour of God's glory and let Christ shine for everyone, not just us snug in the tent! The young people also saw how to make things appear and disappear, a mystery just like the disciples saw with Jesus and the prophets revealed. We used lemon juice to write messages on paper and these, as we all know, are mysteriously revealed when the paper is heated. Unfortunately, modern technology let us down a bit with the video, and we had to improvise part of the service until we could get things running again. Helen came to the rescue, finding hymn books and adding to the story of the transfiguration.

On the 9th of March our Round Table Service marked the beginning of Lent. Our theme was "Surviving the Wilderness", reflecting on the temptation of Jesus in the desert. We discussed how "desert" for us might mean a difficult life experience, rather than somewhere physical, and sometimes we may retreat to a remote place inside ourselves to survive. We looked at the tools Jesus used to survive in the face of difficult circumstances (being tempted by the devil). These were his security in his identity as the Son of God, his knowledge of Scripture, and God's instructions on how to live. Filled with the Holy Spirit and secure in the Word of God, Jesus had what he needed to survive and grow. Could we apply these same tools to our own experiences and learn and lean on Jesus' response?

Jesus quoted from the scriptures: Deuteronomy 8:3, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God"; Deuteronomy 6.13



L-R: Sunara, Helen, Ann, Rosie, Gail. To see the "tools" see p.16 online

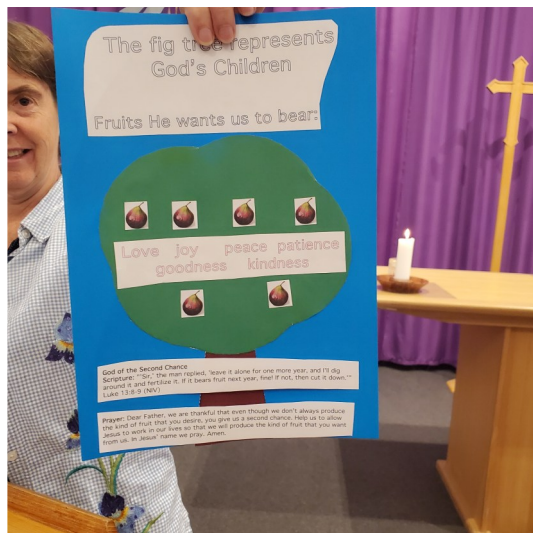
"Fear the LORD your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name"; Deuteronomy 6.16 "Do not put the Lord your God to the test as you did at Massah". We made paper rucksacks to which we added quotes from scripture, prayers, thoughts and people who could be part of our collection of "tools" to aid us in our continuing journey of faith

At our healing service on the 16th of March we were again blessed with the presence of Fr Ian Young. During the service Fr Ian anointed and prayed for those who came forward following communion. He preached on the Gospel (Luke Chapter 13) with Jesus crying over Jerusalem and the lack of understanding of the Prophets, as he foreshadowed his entry into Jerusalem.

Our Service on the 23rd of March was ably led by Fr Chris Talbot. He spoke about the importance of love and kindness to each other, forgiveness for those who, for

whatever reason, hurt or harm us, our call to see Christ in everyone and treat them accordingly, without judgement.

On the 30th of March there will be a combined service at St Ann's. At the



"God of second chances"; the fig tree.

service we will farewell Fr Brenton and Lyn, giving thanks for their service to us all over the past 6 years. They will both be greatly missed, for their caring, love and support to us all.

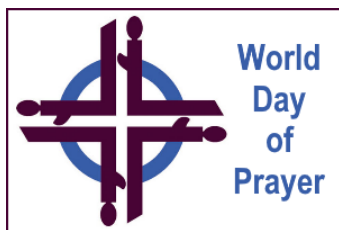
Our Lenten Bible Study has been a little different this year. Each Week an SMS is sent to all members of our Congregation, giving a Bible reading, a short reflection and prayer. We then spend a few minutes reading, then a time of meditation and quiet prayer. The readings are for the coming Sunday, which gives everyone an opportunity to reflect on them before the Sunday Service.

The prayer chain continues to be active with Helen SMS, emailing or ringing as needed with the names of those asking for prayers, or giving thanks for prayers answered, and these are included in the weekly pew sheet so all can join in this form of pastoral care.

St Nicholas' will join with St Margaret's on Easter day.

Blessings ,

Helen Cook and Jane Cuthbert, Wardens



Steve and Christi Banner, Anne C, Fran Pettigrew enjoying the hospitality

The

World Day of Prayer 2025 was celebrated this year at the McLaren Vale Uniting Church and was attended by several from our parish. The WDP is a global ecumenical movement inviting people of all denominations to gather annually for prayer. The service is prepared by a different country each year, and locally the churches take it in turns to host the occasion. This year's service had been prepared by women of the Cook Islands and was based on the words of Psalm 139, "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know right well."

"Kia orana", we greeted each other when we met for worship. The hall was decorated with fruit and foods, island-style. The singing, opening with "I danced in the morning when the world was begun", led by Paul Bagshaw on the saxophone and Rosemary Nairne on the keyboard, was a spirit-lifting introduction to stories told by women of the Cook Islands, and prayers for them and for women everywhere.

Snippets from WFA Council, 17th March

St James' Delamere: Two objections to the sale had been received. Both were analysed and consideration given to all issues raised, but they were both considered to be without foundation.

Hope 25: The canoe trip down the Murray by Archdeacon McDougall would initiate discussions with the riverside communities on what the church could do for their community. Locally, we could be asking people in our communities – what do they want from the church? Julia to draft a survey which could go on facebook and also be put in local Community Pages. (See p. 3)

The Secretary reported that legislature requires all public buildings to have a defibrillator. The Diocese was offering a grant to assist parishes. Defibrillators are required for St Margaret's, St Stephen's and Christ Church

Finances: See Vestry report.

St Stephen's was working out how to manage the two months that the Banners would be away, and were meeting with St Margaret's Pastoral Assistants to make plans. Steve would be away for Synod. Instead of working with powerpoints they planned to have printed services for the Communion, PPP and Evensong services. Steve had led their first Evensong, from A Prayer Book for Australia, and it had been well received.

St Nicholas' would no longer hold combined services with the Uniting Church on the fifth Sundays of the month, since they have no priest. This would mean that they could join the rest of the parish on those days. Their services were being well received, especially the Round Table service, and the Family Services are enjoyed by all. St Nicholas' may not be able to have a priest for their Easter service, but could transfer their people to St Margaret's. (see p. 9)

They have no maintenance issues, only financial ones!



Our fellowship began informally with tea/coffee chocolate biscuits and the opportunity to catch up, with visitor Jo Parsons being welcomed back after 6 months in England.

Takoohi Baban (Queenie)

was in our thoughts as we wondered how she was faring in her new home in Sydney at Alexander Aged Care, Brookvale, NSW which specialises in Armenian Culture.

It had been announced that King Charles has appointed HRH Princess of Edinburgh (Sophie, wife of Prince Edward) as the Royal Patron for Mothers Union World-wide. Her Royal Highness is known for her "experience and commitment to championing the most marginalised, particularly those who are impacted by violence and abuse in conflict".

Susan Skowronski, a Social Action & Issues Co-ordinator for MU, had written in the latest *Mia Mia* how her recent time in hospital had given her the opportunity to better appreciate the glory of God's creation, particularly the birds and flora she could observe from her hospital bed. Following the lighting of the candle, our need to appreciate our environment was echoed in our MU service, as was the task of the MU in seeking to love and serve the most marginalised and vulnerable in our communities.

Discussion after the service included reflection on Sally Shaw's message on "mountain top experiences" at St Ann's. Julianne Bates' message was also discussed, noting on our need to grow "deeper roots" networked with others for spiritual nourishment that will grow our faith so we can be God's Light in the world.

With the parish having had two baptisms in the past month it was proposed that the anniversary of the baptisms be noted, and a card of acknowledgement and encouragement be sent to the families of those children recently baptised.

At the close of the meeting we joined hands and prayed for Helen and Colin Cook and the medical and institutional challenges they were facing.

On 25th March the MU service for the Annunciation will be held at Mt Barker.

Next meeting 7th April, 9.30 in the Willunga rose garden park.



This Month's Readings: Year C, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT—6th April—Isaiah 43:16-21—Psalm 126—Philippians 3:3-14—John 12:1-8

SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT (PALM SUNDAY)—13th April—Isaiah 50:4-9a—Psalm 31:9-18—Philippians 2:5-11—Luke 23:1-49

MAUNDY THURSDAY— 17th April—Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10), 11-14— Psalm 116:1-2, 11-18— 1 Corinthians 11:23-26—John 13:1-17, 31b-35

GOOD FRIDAY— 18th April—Isaiah 52:13-53:12—Psalm 22—1 Corinthians 1:18-31 or Hebrews 10:16-25—John 18:1-19, 42

EASTER DAY—20th April—Acts 10 ;34-43—or Isaiah 65:17-25—Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24— 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, or Acts 10:34-43—John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER— 27th April—Acts 5:27-32—Psalm 118:14-29—Revelation 1:4-8—John 20:19-31

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER—4th May—Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)—Psalm 30—Revelation 5:6-12—John 21:1-19

Western Fleurieu Anglicans

(A parish of the Diocese of The Murray)

Visit our website!

<http://www.southernvalesparish.org>

SCAN ME



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Priest in Charge, Western Fleurieu Anglicans

Fr Brenton Dick (*until Easter*)

0417 831 880

dickscot@bigpond.com

Priests' Warden: John Strachan

0407 605 152

Service times & contact details

St Margaret's, 99 Main Road McLaren Vale

Sunday: 10.30am

Wednesday: 9:00am

Wardens:

Judith Wells 0411 502 218

Julia Drought 0432 366 899

St Stephen's, St Andrews Tce, Willunga

Saturday: 5.30pm

Warden:

Steve Banner 0404 163 940

St Ann's, 7 Stonehouse Lane, Aldinga

Sunday: 9am

Wardens:

Julianne Bates 0422 817 169

Brian McMillan 8557 6984

St Nicholas', Seaford Christian Churches

cnr Main St and Grand Blvd, Seaford

Sunday 10.30am

Fifth Sundays in the month: a 10am

combined Ecumenical service with the
Uniting Church and the Church of Christ.

Wardens:

Jane Cuthbert 0407 651 606

Helen Cook 0427 679 787 or 8386 3689

Christ Church, Yankalilla

1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays – 11.00am

3rd Sunday – 10.00am Church Hall

"Walking with Jesus"

Wardens:

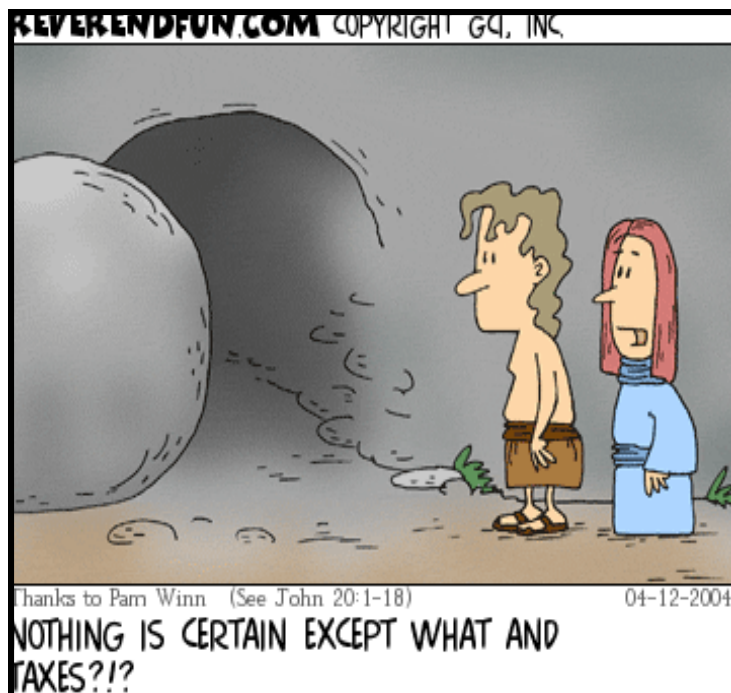
Peter Filsell 0427 534 095

St James', Delamere

No scheduled services.

For information contact

Peter Filsell 0427 534 095



*Where there is a 5th Sunday in a month,
as there was in March,
service times are likely to be different.*

*Watch "For Your Diary" (p. 3) and/or
check pewsheets/noticeboards/website
for details.*

April 2025

Colour Photo Supplement



Fr Brenton's farewell

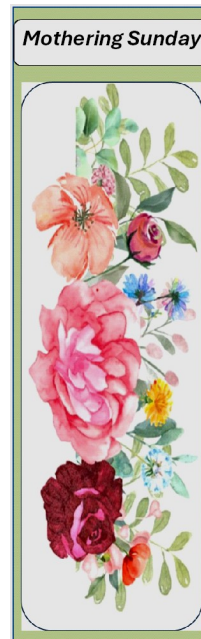
(see p, 4)

L: "A little something"

St Nicholas' gave Fr Brenton and Lyn a beautiful farewell card, and (R) a painting from Christ Church was made into another card, too, to remember us by. Below L: a pot plant gift for Lyn; thanks for the support she gave him and us.



R: Sunara holding a Mothering Sunday card she made and (below) helping Kay De Vries hand out simnel cake.



April 2025
Colour Photo Supplement



Combined service BBQ
(see p. 4)

*Fr Peter and Heather Randle, Liz
Gordon-Mills, and (background)
Barbara Walter*



John Morgan, Dawn Kingston



Chris & Kay DeVries



*Wardens Peter Filsell (Christ Church)
and Julianne Bates (St Ann's)*



*Enjoying the sunshine (clockwise from L) , Lyn Dick, Felicity Warrington,
Rupert Best, Judith Wells, Lorraine & Mike Colliver*

April 2025
Colour Photo Supplement

Combined Service BBQ (cont'd)



The salads and the desserts (L) were delicious. Thank you everyone who contributed. And a big thankyou to all who helped with the washing up, including Gerry Brown and Gail Filsell (above).

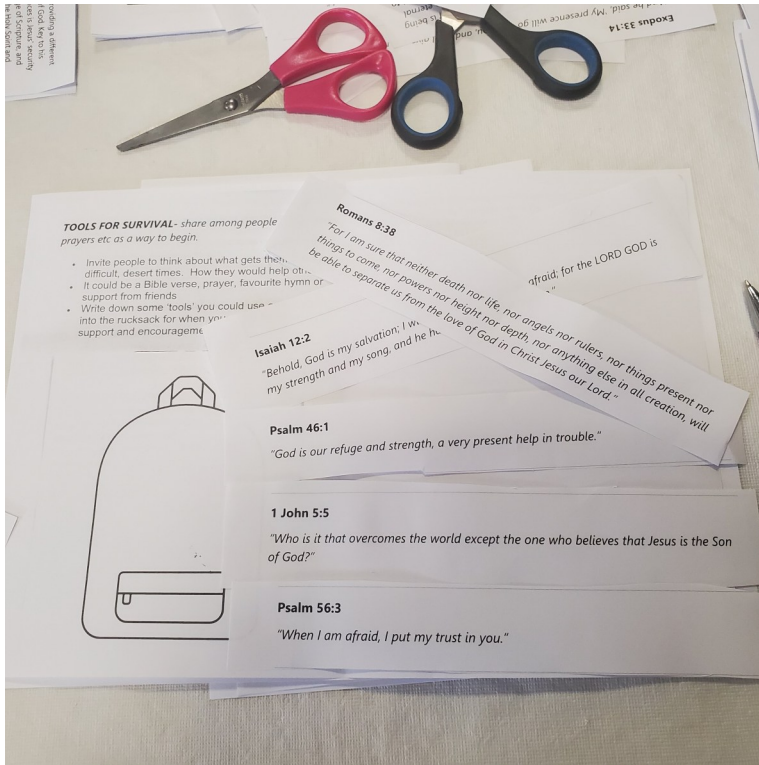


Trish Simon, Julianne Bates

*The sun was a bit bright for some! Above, Lorraine Eyles, De Badgery.
Below: Irene Gallarde, Brian McMillan, Brian Perry, Colin Lehman, Trish Frith*



St Nicholas', Seaford
(see p. 9)



The "Tool Box"



Sherillee and Liv leading the hymn



Fr Ian: the healing service



HOPE25
HOPE IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

diocese of the murray

Hope 25 is a Great initiative supported by Anglicans all around Australia, reaching out to sharing in an Authentic way — Jesus offers us a real HOPE.

We are excited to run a whole of Diocese event along the River that gives our Diocese its name – The Mighty Murray!

To raise awareness of the Spiritual and Social Justice needs present in our Rural Towns, The Archdeacon of The Murray has 'volunteered' to paddle the length of the Murray in our Diocese. Others will assist by way of support crew, including the Administrator of The Murray!

Beginning at Renmark, and again in each of the towns listed the crew will stop for a free BBQ fellowship and Communion service using the Sacred vessels from the PS Etona. No need to bring anything except maybe a chair. Just come along!

*Members of the congregation in each town are encouraged to invite **one or two local people** who may be able to help us gain an understanding of the social needs of that community. We will ask them a few questions, record their responses and, after the trip, collect them all into a resource to help us conduct mission in a more informed way. It's a **'listening tour'**.*

All parishes in the Diocese might consider holding their own functions and ask these questions to their local communities. They are encouraged to then send their results to the document through Church Office!

We will also produce a video of Morning and Evening Prayer in the Australian Outdoors each day. You will be able to access these on the Diocesan Website <https://murray.anglican.org>.

20/4/25	Renmark
21/4/25	Berri
22/4/25	Loxton
25/4/25	Waikerie
27/4/25	Morgan
4/5/25	Mannum
5/5/25	Murray Bridge
8/5/25	Goolwa

**EACH BBQ WILL BE FROM
4 PM – 6 PM**

**THE RIVERSIDE RESERVE IN
THE TOWNS LISTED.**

**ALL LOCALS AND THOSE
FROM FARTHER AWAY ARE
WELCOME TO JOIN US.**

**IF YOU FIND YOURSELF A
BIT LOST, WHEN YOU COME
INTO TOWN, YOU CAN CALL
THE CREW ON 0407 636 247.**