

May 2026

*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



**A: Maundy Thursday, St Margaret's;  
B: Good Friday, Christ Church;  
C: Easter Vigil, St Stephen's;  
D: Blessing parish Paschal Candles,  
St Stephen's; E: Easter, St Ann's.**

**CHRIST IS RISEN!**



## A Letter to the Diocese from the Administrator



15 April 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,  
Grace and peace to you.

I write to you with an important update concerning our Diocese. The Episcopal Standards Board has issued its determination regarding Bishop

Keith Dalby. The Board has found that Bishop Dalby is unfit to hold office and unfit to remain in Holy Orders and has directed that he relinquish Holy Orders within 21 days, or otherwise be deposed.

This is a serious and weighty matter. The full determination has been made publicly available on the Episcopal Standards Board website, and I encourage anyone seeking further detail to read it there carefully and prayerfully. Our Primate, The Right Reverend Dr Mark Short, has provided a national statement, which will help guide the wider church in its understanding.

It is important to remember that the Church has clear processes for matters such as these. There is a defined period in which an appeal may be lodged, and this must be respected. During this time, we allow the proper processes of the Church to unfold with integrity and fairness.

I want to reassure you that the Diocese of The Murray continues with clarity and stability. Our diocesan constitution and regulations provide a faithful framework for leadership in times such as this. As Administrator, I remain committed to ensuring continuity, pastoral care, and the ongoing life of our mission across every parish and community.

This is not an easy moment in the life of our Diocese. Let us never forget that Christ is Risen. We serve him. His Spirit is with us and will be until the end of the age.

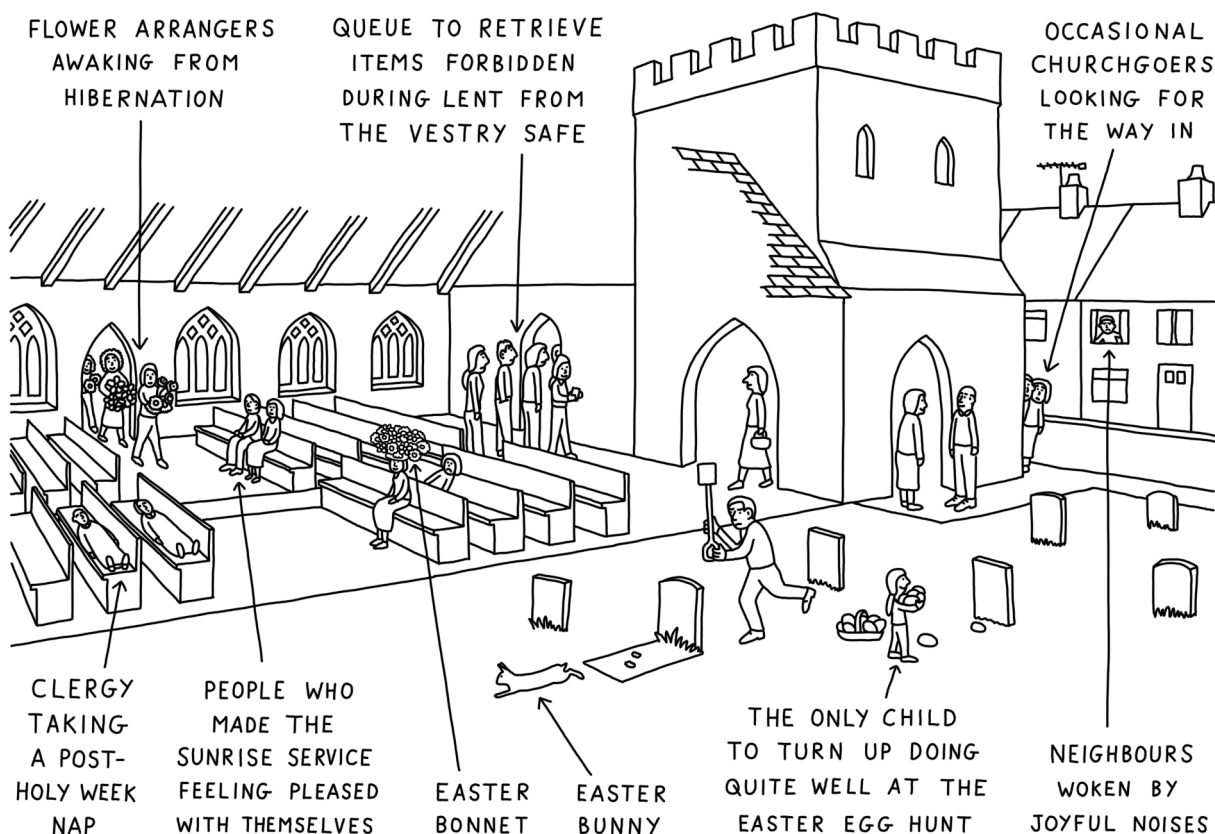
I encourage you to remain steadfast in worship, in prayer, and in your care for one another. Continue to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in your communities. Continue to be the Church, faithful and hopeful, even in uncertain times.

Please pray for all involved in this matter, for wisdom, for justice, and for healing. Pray also for our Diocese, that we may walk together in unity, humility, and trust in God's purposes.

Yours in Christ,

The Ven. Simon Waters  
Administrator  
Diocese of The Murray

## THE EASTER SERVICE



## For your Diary .

### May

|                        |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>    | Saturday Night Out (see p. 6)                                                                                     |
| Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>    | PHILIP & JAMES<br>Gold Coin Collection *<br>St Nicholas' shared luncheon                                          |
| Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>    | Mothers Union, Seaford Christian Churches,<br>9.30am                                                              |
| Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>   | ACH service, Yankalilla                                                                                           |
| Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>  | Ministry Team meeting, St Ann's 3pm<br>WFA Council, St Ann's 4pm                                                  |
| Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> | ASCENSION DAY<br>Prayers for Peace, St Ann's 11.15am                                                              |
| Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Society of St Francis service 10am and<br>lunch (see below R)                                                     |
| Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>   | Walking With Jesus 10am Christ Church                                                                             |
| Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>  | Friends of St Ann's 4pm                                                                                           |
| Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> | Biggest Morning Tea, Seaford Christian<br>Churches (see p. 5)                                                     |
| Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>   | Family Tea, St Ann's 6 for 6.30pm (see p. 9)                                                                      |
| Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>   | PENTECOST<br>Healing Service, Christ Church 11am                                                                  |
| Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>   | St Stephen's Contemplative service 5.30pm                                                                         |
| Sun 31 <sup>st</sup>   | Parish Combined Service, St Margaret's,<br>10.30am (This will be the only <u>Sunday</u><br>service in the parish) |

### June

|                        |                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>    | Mothers Union: Information Centre 9.30am                                                                                      |
| Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>    | Saturday Night Out (see p. 6)                                                                                                 |
| Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>    | Gold Coin Collection*<br>St Nicholas' shared luncheon                                                                         |
| Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>   | WFA Council St Margaret's 4pm                                                                                                 |
| Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> | BARNABAS<br>Prayers for Peace, St Ann's 11.15am                                                                               |
| Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>   | ACH service, Yankalilla                                                                                                       |
| Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Friends of St Ann's 4pm                                                                                                       |
| Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>   | Walking With Jesus 10am Christ Church<br>Prayer in all churches for the 150 <sup>th</sup><br>anniversary of the Mothers Union |
| Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>   | Family Tea, St Ann's 6 for 6.30pm                                                                                             |
| Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>   | Healing Service, Christ Church 11am                                                                                           |
| Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>   | PETER & PAUL                                                                                                                  |

\* for Pastoral Care Workers (Chaplains)

And also,

- \* each Tuesday, at St Stephen's, Willunga: Christian Meditation 9am
- \* each Wednesday, at St Margaret's, McLaren Vale:  
Holy Communion/Morning Prayer 9am; Bible Study 10am
- \* and each Friday:  
Christian Meditation at Christ Church, Yankalilla 9.15—10am



### St Margaret's Bottles and Cans

#### COLLECTIONS FOR MISSIONS.

Due to continuous generous donations we have another  
\$40 to add for the year— our YTD figure is already  
\$175.

Thank you again to all the dedicated collectors and their  
friends, neighbours and mystery collectors for their  
generous donations. You are doing wonderful work for  
this worthy cause.

Most bags are returned—some are at the back of St  
Margaret's church and also some in the Sunday School  
Room so please take them as needed. Di Best

### T Society of Saint Francis

St Margaret's, McLaren Vale  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Service at 10am,  
followed by shared lunch.  
Everyone welcome.

If you would like to bring a donation  
it will be given to the Aldinga  
Christian Care & Support Centre

If you have news of coming events or happenings in the Western Fleurieu area to share with the rest  
of the parish, please contact the Editor, Anne Chittleborough  
at 23 Esplanade, Pt Willunga 5173, ph 85565078, or machit5@bigpond.com,  
preferably by 15<sup>th</sup> May.

And please notify the Editor if you wish to avoid the chance of being mentioned in the newsletter.

## News from St Nicholas', S.C.C., Seaford

Happy Easter Everyone,  
We hope you all had a joyous Easter Time rejoicing in the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services at SCC were both Ecumenical Services organized by the Lutheran Congregation. The Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday Service included the stripping of the Altar. As the readings reflected Jesus' trial and suffering, each item on the Altar was replaced with an item depicting the reading. The flowers were replaced by a Crown of Thorns, Candles were extinguished and replaced by a purple robe, Communion elements replaced by a whip, the Bible removed and replaced by a hammer and nails. The altar cloth was removed like Jesus' garments and the Cross was covered.



*At the ecumenical service, Maundy Thursday*

*Above: items removed from the altar  
R: those replacing them*

The Good Friday Service followed the Stations of the Cross, depicting Jesus' betrayal, trial, and journey to the Cross. Each reading from the Gospel was followed by reflection and prayer as we walked alongside Jesus on that fateful journey. The service began and finished in silence. Both were very well attended and moving services.

Several of us attended the "Lighting of the New Fire" at St Stephen's on the Saturday. From the lighting of the wonderful fire outside, the Pascal Candles were lit and blessed ready for our service on Easter Day.

Our Combined Easter Day Service on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April could have been challenging for us as Rev Beck was taken ill and hospitalized. Fortunately, Br Simon stepped into the breach and led us in a wonderfully joyous and uplifting service. It was great to celebrate the Resurrection with our brothers and sisters in the Uniting and Church of Christ congregations. Although it was an

Anglican service, the readings, some prayers as well as the intercessions were led by members of the Uniting Church, making it a truly ecumenical service of joy and thanksgiving. We all joined in the renewal of our baptismal vows and were duly sprinkled with water and enthusiasm by Br Simon. The singing was loud and the music with Ian Richter on the piano wonderful. Cathy More sang a beautiful moving solo during communion. The Easter eggs were duly blessed and given out as reminders of the stone that covered an empty tomb. A combined morning tea followed the service: a great time of fellowship for all who attended.

The Meeting with God service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of April saw 14 of us joining together to hear about "Doubting Thomas", who, despite having been told by the disciples, "We have seen the Lord!" was not satisfied. He needed to see for himself if he was to believe that Jesus had truly risen. The story of "Doubting Thomas" is not there for us to mock him, rather it is there to remind us that God works with us in our doubts and through this our faith can grow. He takes our weaknesses and turns them around, so that we, like Thomas, can truly confess Jesus as our risen Lord and Saviour. As the Easter story has been told and retold over the years many have come, like Thomas, to see the truth, a faith that is real. There was plenty of

discussion about trust and belief and what our faith was built on.

On Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, our Healing Service, Fr Brenton kindly stepped in as Rev Beck was still not well



enough to take services. The Gospel reading shared the story of two followers of Jesus travelling on the road to Emmaus. The last thing they were expecting was an encounter with Jesus. They did not recognise him even when he spoke on the scriptures as they walked along the road. It was only when they sat down to eat and Jesus broke bread with them that their eyes were opened, and they understood that they were not without hope. Rather than head away from Jerusalem, they needed to get back there, to share the hope which they had just witnessed. Whatever else the Emmaus Road story teaches us, we see a Christ who walks with us, even if we sometimes don't recognise Him, and a Christ who transforms our

## News from St Nicholas', cont'd

worldview of events and gives us hope for the future. Father Ted assisted Fr Brenton at the Healing Service with anointing and prayers. Our service followed with morning tea and a time for fellowship.

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April was our lay-led Prayer Praise and Proclamation service. As part of our PPP we began our service with a tribute for Anzac Day. Fr Ted read special prayers and also recited the Ode which was followed by the Last Post and 1 minute's silence broken by the Rouse. The lovely wreath made by Sunara was centre stage on the altar as we remembered all those who have sacrificed for our freedom and those who continue to put their lives in harm's way to protect us. This was also Good Shepherd Sunday and our reflection read by Helen echoed this theme. In the Gospel Jesus tells his disciples that He, as the gate, gives access to life in all its abundance; and as the shepherd, knows each of us by name and calls and leads us as individuals to

abundant and eternal life. We all enjoyed singing the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm as another form of reflection on the message.

Our prayer chain has been especially active over the last month, with several prayers for healing as well as thanksgiving for prayers answered.

Blessings *Helen Cook and Jane Cuthbert, Wardens.*



- **Where:** Café at SCC
  - **When:** May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, at 11.00am
  - **Cost:** \$20.00, including Lucky Door Prize
  - **Other Raffles on the morning so bring your change.**
- Bookings and prepayment at the Café prior to the day please.**



### Southern Vales Mothers' Union Branch

There was no meeting in April, the first Monday being Easter Monday, but it is a pleasure to share the following from our Diocesan newsletter, *The Contributory*:

#### A Daily Survival Kit

**A toothpick** – to remind you to pick the good qualities in everyone, including yourself.

**A rubber band** – to remind you to be flexible. Things might not always go the way you want, but it can be worked out.

**A Band-Aid** – to remind you to heal hurt feelings, either yours or someone else's.

**An eraser** – to remind you everyone makes mistakes. That's ok, we learn by our errors

**A Chocolate** – to remind you everyone needs a hug or a compliment every day

**A mint** – to remind you that you are worth a mint to your family and Me

**A pencil** – to remind you to list your blessings every day

**A tea bag** – to remind you to take time to relax daily and go over that list of God's blessings.

This is what makes life worth living every minute, every day.

*Our next meeting will be on May 4<sup>th</sup> at St Nicholas', Seaford, at 9.30am.*

*A reminder to bring items for the Domestic Violence Necessity Bags.*

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June, all Anglican Churches in Australia are asked to include a prayer for the Mothers' Union. This will be the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its founding.

*H Cook, Secretary*



For the parishioners of St Stephen's the month of April did not begin with a bang, but rather with a quite satisfying *whoosh*. Our first service of the month took place on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Holy Saturday. As has been the tradition in the Western Fleurieu parish where the various services of Easter are celebrated in different churches, St Stephen's was the location for the Easter Vigil service. This service marks the end of the Lenten season and begins the Easter celebration, commemorating Christ's death, his descent into hell, and his triumphant resurrection. The service symbolizes the passing from darkness to light, sin to salvation, and death to life. The Easter Vigil is also a traditional time for baptisms and confirmations, representing the spiritual rebirth of the individuals who receive Christ through these sacraments.

The Easter Vigil service usually consists of four main parts, beginning with the Service of the Light. The vigil begins outside the church with the kindling of the Easter Fire (*above*) and the lighting of the Paschal candle, symbolizing Christ as the light of the world. The Easter Vigil does not commence until well after sunset so that the Easter fire can have the dramatic visual effect of bringing light into a darkened world. After the lighting, the worshippers proceed into the darkened church, bringing the light of Christ with them in the form of the Paschal candle.

The Service of the Word then follows, with a series of scripture readings from the Old and New Testaments that recount salvation history, including stories from creation, the Exodus, and prophecies of the Messiah. The Service of the Baptismal Covenant is next, in which water is blessed and baptisms and confirmations may be conducted. In our case the congregation renewed their baptismal vows. The final part of the Easter Vigil is the celebration of the Eucharist.

As can be seen from the above, the flow of the Easter Vigil service follows a logical sequence of steps that build upon one another, starting with the lighting of the fire outside the church.

That's how its supposed to work, but I must confess that over the last few Easters we at St Stephen's have had great difficulty in navigating our way past the first hurdle of

lighting the fire. Well, actually, it was not so much lighting the fire, but keeping it lit long enough for the 3 minutes or so it takes to say the opening prayers and light the Paschal Candle. And even if we did manage to keep the flame alive, our next problem was dealing with the blinding cloud of smoke that enveloped the circle of worshippers outside the church and sent the priest into a coughing fit. With the unfortunate absence of Rev Beck due to her unexpected illness, Br Simon stepped in to take the Easter Vigil service for 2026. As they say, every cloud (of smoke) has a silver

lining, and Br Simon not only conducted a beautiful worship service from start to finish, but also brought his own reliable method of creating a fire to start the Service of the Light, in a stainless steel mixing bowl. The resulting fire came to life very easily with a resounding *whoosh*, had no risk of going out until we decided to put it out, and above all, was blessedly smoke-free.

The Paschal candle procession into the church was accompanied by beautiful organ music played by Brian McMillan as members of the congregation lit their candles from it. As the well-attended service unfolded, it was punctuated throughout by Brian's thoughtful selection of 6 hymns, and a series of scripture readings by worshippers from the other churches within our parish. From the Paschal candle, lit from the New Fire, candles from the other churches were lit, the candles together symbolising the unity of the parish (*more photos p 14 of supplement*).

The service was indeed a lovely celebration of Easter as we commemorated Christ's resurrection and the fulfillment of salvation history. Meanwhile we continue to pray for Beck's recovery.

Candles are often used as a sign of prayer in our worship. L: Philip Duguid leads grandchildren Jimmy and Ella in Prayer.



Our monthly Saturday Night Out takes place on the first Saturday of the month at the middle pub in Willunga, immediately following the 5.30pm Evening Prayer service. Our next dinner events will be on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome. For bookings contact Steve 0404 163 940

Steve Banner, Warden

## News from St Margaret's, McLaren Vale

Holy week and Easter remain, as always, very busy and very meaningful times in our Church's year. We were privileged to have Rev Beck celebrate both the Palm Sunday and the Maundy Thursday services with us and for us. Both services a mix of joy and grief.

We commenced the Palm Sunday service in the baptistry with its introductory reading and psalm along with the blessing of the palm crosses before processing in joy to the Sanctuary. The service then segued into the grief and horror of the Passion of Christ as read by members of the congregation. Beck was narrator, with set individuals reading the parts of Jesus and Pilate, and the remainder of the congregation divided into groups as the crowd, the High Priests and the soldiers.

The Maundy Thursday service commenced quietly, progressing through the washing of the feet with Beck washing the feet of many members of the congregation and Br Simon washing hers. We then celebrated and remembered Jesus' gift to us of the first Eucharist. The service ended with the stripping of the altar and sanctuary; the candle over the aumbry was extinguished to indicate that no reserved sacrament was held, the priest's chasuble was left draped over an upturned chair. The lights were turned off and the congregation left in silence.

The church was left as it was, quiet and empty over Good Friday. The Good Friday services and the Lighting of the New Fire service were held at other churches within the Parish. The Pascal Candle from St Margaret's, along with those of St Ann's and St Nicholas', were taken to be blessed at the Lighting of the New Fire service at St Stephen's.

Our Easter Day Service was celebrated for us and with us by Fr Ian Young. Again the service commenced in the baptistry. Fr Ian placed the nails in the Pascal Candle to represent the wounds of Jesus. The candle was then processed to the front of the church, where it will stay for the full season of Easter. The font had been placed at the front of the church for the renewal of our baptismal vows and the congregation was invited to dip their fingers into the blessed water as they came up for

communion, if they so wished. The service was full of joy, with wonderful Easter hymns selected and played by Greg John. The service ended with Fr Ian blessing Easter eggs, representing new life, for members of the congregation to take home.



With Rev Beck unavailable we welcomed Fr Brenton back as our celebrant for the second Sunday of Easter, and as usual the third Sunday of the month (and in this case, of Easter) was Prayer Praise and Proclamation. Fr Alex Bainton is taking the service for the fourth Sunday of Easter and we look forward to seeing him and his wife again.

For the Wednesday Morning Service in Holy Week, the Litany was said by all in front of the altar. All the other Wednesday services this month have been Morning Prayer, a quiet contemplative service followed by Bible Study.

At this time of the year, quite a bit of time is spent preparing services, and both cleaning and preparing the church. Thankyou to all who give their time in this service. We continue to research methods to repair and/or patch the west wall of the hall: the issue is finding both an appropriate method and one that is cost effective and affordable. This is an ongoing issue, but in addition the hall developed a leak on the southern aspect of the roof. This was fixed by patching the hole, tightening the roofing nails and sealing them with silicon.

In May we will have a fifth Sunday, and St Margaret's will be hosting the Combined Service at 10:30am with lunch to follow. Further details will be available nearer the day.

And as always may God continue to be with us in all we do and say and thankyou to all those who continue to help us as needed, not just physically but in prayer and advice.

*Judy Wells on behalf of Julia Drought  
and the Congregation of St Margaret's*

## News from St Ann's Aldinga

This Easter season has been a busy one with preparations that delivered inspiring and moving services. All services were well attended, especially on Good Friday, when the Stations of the Cross were read and contemplated, and Easter Day where ninety five



people worshipped with us, many from other parts of our state and country. As usual, a cross was covered with greenery on Holy Saturday, and then on Easter Day decorated with flowers and after the service carried out to stand outside the church. (*More photos p. 16 online*). This year our cross was the wooden cross from St James', Delamere.

Many thanks must go to Br Simon for standing in for Rev Beck who was hospitalised on Easter Saturday. One of her Facebook posts said it all: "Not where I expected to be on Easter Saturday morning." For those of us who have her as a friend on FB, we were privileged to have updated information on her prognosis and recovery which we were able to share with our congregation. Thank you Beck, for allowing us into your sanctuary to give us the opportunity to pray for you.

For those who are keen to follow up Rev Beck's Sunday sermons, which have been an inspiration, she offers them on her blog, [revbecknewell.blog](http://revbecknewell.blog).

Another unexpected but most welcome treat was Fr Brenton coming out of "retirement" to lead a service for us. It was wonderful to hear him preaching the Gospel and putting a different spin on Thomas's reaction to the resurrected Christ, addressing doubt directly—not as failure, but as part of the journey. He even managed to join aspects of his Camino walk seamlessly into the message, ending with the following summary:

"The Camino de Santiago is a physical embodiment of the spiritual camino in John 20: fear - encounter - wounds - doubt - revelation - belief - mission. Pilgrims walk the same arc that the disciples and Thomas walk in the Gospel. The Camino becomes a living Gospel, a road where Christ meets people in their fear, their questions, their wounds and their longing for peace."

God has certainly blessed us with people who love to share the good news. Not all are ordained. Sally Shaw's recent message was masterly, linking us to a painting titled "kitchen scene with Christ at Emmaus" by the Flemish artist Joachim Beuckelaer (c. 1550-65). One statement that jumped out was that Christianity isn't a religion or a way of life, but a relationship with God through Christ, developed through reading and inwardly digesting His Word and making Him a priority in our lives.

A testament to this and a delight for us is having much younger people come and worship with us. When asked what draws them to St Ann's we get comments like: "the service sets me up for the week", or "I have the chance to reflect and ponder what is being taught or said".

On day to day matters, the Friends of St Ann's (formerly "the Guild") had their AGM and elected to reinstate those already holding positions. Many thanks for the great work they do.

With ANZAC Day just over, thanks are due to those who brought sprigs of rosemary for the local commemorations



in Aldinga; to Julianne who made a wreath of pine needles from Willunga South and red roses (Memorial Rose) from Trish Frith's garden, and Wayne Osborne for laying the wreath (*photos p. 16*). Thank you, Anne for organising this. Fr Peter Chapman, a former parishioner, was the officiating clergyperson for the service, giving a fully Christian message.

Family teas continue to be well patronised. If you haven't been to one, please consider coming along. They occur on

## News from St Ann's Aldinga (cont'd)

the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month starting at 6pm for a 6.30pm start. Bring along a savoury or sweet and your preferred beverage. There's usually plenty to go round! This month we were glad to welcome grandchildren Harvey and Hugo, and Fiona and Ryan with their baby Hope, to join with us. Less welcome was a beautiful but seriously hungry kitten which decided that St Ann's Room was the place to be, leaving us in a quandary as to what to do with it. (It has since been found a home thanks to Julianne and Patrusca.)

We are always glad to catch up with old friends, and it was a lovely surprise on Sunday to welcome back Jo Parsons on a visit from the UK.

Our church and hall doors and vestry windows have been fully prepped and repainted by expert painter Joseph (R). Other works are also coming to completion or have been finalised. We understand that a sealed car park in front of the church, promised as part of the road works, will soon be begun. The noise attenuation works are done, with a seal attached to the base of the main church doors and thicker glass installed in the vestry, the carpets in the hall have been beautifully cleaned by Margaret and Patrick, Trish has asked us to pray for rain so the garden team can ease up on watering, and Bill is attending to the mouse problem!

*Julianne Bates & Brian McMillan, Wardens*



### ALDINGA HART ROAD WETLAND PICNIC AREA



#### NATURE CRAFTS & NATIVE BEE NESTS

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2pm—4pm 17 May

RSVP  
sallyashaw@gmail.com  
0418 154 195

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### Easter at Christ Church

Holy Week was preceded by our Palm Cross service with the exterior lights and porch doors festooned with Palm Branches. This service was taken by Fr Peter Randle and we were fortunate that he was also able to take the Maundy Thursday service with the washing of the feet and stripping of the altar. Whilst we only had 6 people attend it was a very symbolic service.

Rev Beck joined us on Good Friday for a short service in the Church followed by the Stations of the Cross, where we ventured out into the grounds around the church and walked to each of the stations, where different members of the congregation did the readings. We were sorry to hear that Rev Beck encountered health issues following this service and, along with the rest of the Parish, we wish her a healthy and complete recovery.

Easter Sunday was a very well attended service with over 40 people in the church, with a mixture of locals, returning visitors and holiday makers. Once again Fr Peter Randle officiated. We are very grateful for the ministry work that he does in our area.

*Peter Filsell, Warden*

### Vale Lyn Gardiner

(2/11/1943 – 2/4/2026)

Doc Gardiner passed away on Maundy Thursday and his funeral service was held at Christ Church on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Over the 40 plus years that they lived and worked in Yankalilla Lyn and Ann were devoted parishioners at Christ Church. Lyn was a Church Warden at one time, and was the Mr Fix-it man around the church and the grounds, in addition to his many other community activities.



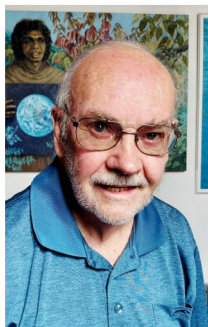
### WALKING WITH JESUS

The topic of this month's gathering was COMFORT and CALM. As part of our "Year of the Hymn", Belinda chose the beautiful hymn "Comfort, comfort, all my people" by South Australian composer, Robin Mann. As background to the discussion, we read Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God" to gain the "peace that passes understanding". We discussed times when we were not calm, which often resulted in fractured relationships with others. It is all too easy to lash out when someone is hurtful in their remarks, or even just plain thoughtless. It can come in many forms including being the parent of a child who is misbehaving. Our mistakes are the result of being human, but as the song says, "All your sins are taken away": we do need to repent and perhaps apologise if we over-react.

We also looked at the story of Jesus calming the storm while the disciples were out fishing, noting his close dependence on his Father in Heaven. How do we calm ourselves? We can do it by regular meditation and prayer in our daily lives, preparing ourselves for difficult moments. Pope Leo's calm responses to criticisms were mentioned. Another effective technique can be singing. Belinda mentioned singing to her children to calm them down at bedtime.

The related topic of comfort shed some light on how we could help people in distress. Fr Peter mentioned comforting people at a funeral, listening to them relay what happened and how they feel. Gail too mentioned how she as a night nurse had helped people by just letting them talk and being a supportive listener. Comforting words such as "it's OK to cry and feel sad", or "you are not alone in this" can show others that we feel for them and understand how difficult it is at that moment. We too can receive comfort from others when we need it instead of always trying to be strong.

Liz Gordon-Mills plans to help us become better acquainted with some of Christ Church's parishioners.



**INTRODUCING: George Poysden**, a frequent welcomer at the door of the church.

George writes:

"My parents had a 930 acre wheat and sheep farm near Kapunda. I went to school at Hamilton and then Eudunda Area School. I left school aged 14. I learned to play the piano accordion aged 15 and later played it on Radio 5DN (not solo) one Sunday evening.

My father sadly died when I was 18 so that is when I took over running the farm. I also grew lucerne which I baled in spring and harvested the seed in March. I joined the Kapunda Music Society in my late teens. We started with Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore*. This is where I met Cindy who was to become my wife. We became Amway distributors. I learned to play the organ in my 40s. We didn't have any children so I sold the farm in 1994 and moved down to Yankalilla".

## Snippets from WFA Council 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Council considered it an appropriate time to review how we are going as a parish. Plans were made for a **Mission Action Plan meeting** on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 4pm at St Margaret's. It was to be open to all. All ideas welcome.

**Rev Beck** was able to be present at the meeting (although she ended up back in hospital soon afterwards). She said how glad she was to have been with us, at least for half of Easter. The Stations of the Cross at Christ Church had been very special, she said. She thanked Br Simon and Fr Brenton for their help and said how much she appreciated people's thoughts and prayers for herself and her family.

**The Secretary** reminded of the need for updates in contact details for the parish directories.

**Christ Church** rectory was facing urgent repairs to the rectory, with water getting in to the house in places. An application had been lodged for a grant to repair church and hall walls.

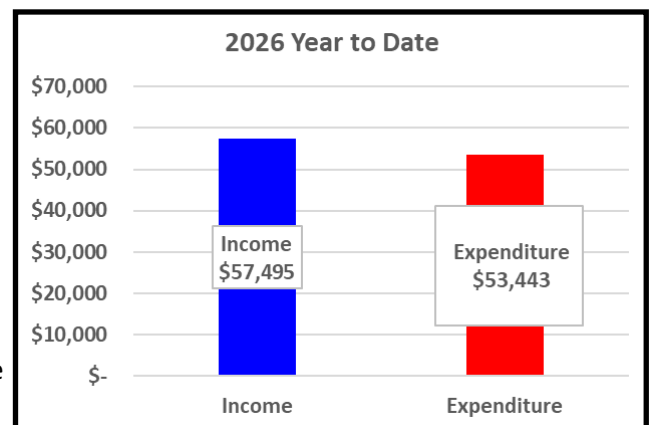
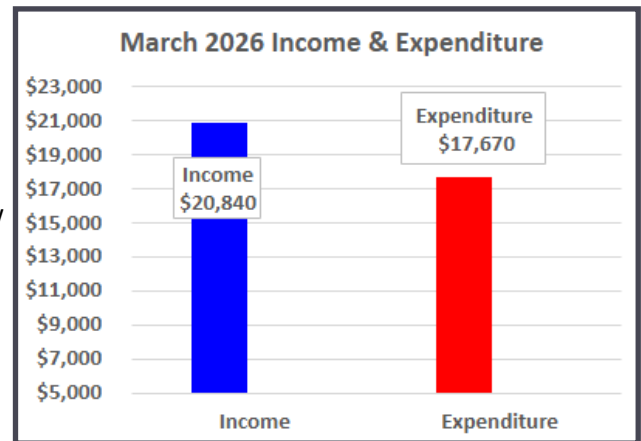
**St Ann's** garden team had planted trees to help deal with surplus water on the site. (A number of trees had been removed for the road works activities.)

**St Margaret's** Sunday School roof had leaked and had had to be repaired. A first quote for repair of the western wall of the Sunday School was not acceptable. Further quotes and solutions to the problem were to be sought.

**St Stephen's** would be glad to have the Taizé cross *in situ* for the Tuesday meditations. It was noted that, as it is made of particle board, it needs to be kept dry. (*Photo p. 14 online*)

**St Nicholas'** has an increase in membership fee for worshippers, from \$9.50 to \$10 per head.

The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ecumenical Centre will be



celebrated on the afternoon of 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2026.

Vestments from St James' Delamere had been hung in the Christ Church vestry. The Council inspected and discussed them. Some would be useful for Rev Beck.

*Next meeting Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May.*

**A good way to support the continuing 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*

## ***This Month's Readings: Year A, 2026***

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**—3<sup>rd</sup> May—Acts 7:55-60—Psalm 31:1-5, 17-18—1 Peter 2:11-25—John 14:1-14

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**—10<sup>th</sup> May—Acts 17:22-31—Psalm 66:7-19—1 Peter 3:8-22—John 14:15-21

**ASCENSION DAY** Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> May—Acts 1:1-11—Psalm 47—Ephesians 1:15-23—Matthew 28:16-20

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**—17<sup>th</sup> May—Acts 1:6-14—Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35—1 Peter 5—John 17:1-11

**DAY OF PENTECOST**—24<sup>th</sup> May—Acts 2:1-21—Psalm 104:26-36—1 Corinthians 12:1-13—John 20:19-23

**TRINITY SUNDAY**—Exodus 34:1-8—Song of the Three Young Men:29-34 (APBA p. 399) - 2 Corinthians 13:11-14—Matthew 28:16-20

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**—7<sup>th</sup> June—Genesis 12: 1-9—Psalm 33: 1-12—Romans 4:13-25—Matthew 9 : 9-13, 18-26

# Western Fleurieu Anglicans

(A parish of the Diocese of The Murray)

Visit our website!

<http://www.southernvalesparish.org>

SCAN ME



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Priests' Warden: John Strachan

0407 605 152

[jfstrachan44@outlook.com](mailto:jfstrachan44@outlook.com)

## 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

Tuesday: Meditation 9am

**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

**Wardens:**

Jane Cuthbert 0407 651 606

Helen Cook 0427 679 787 or 8386 3689

Christ Church, Yankalilla

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays – 11.00am

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 10.00am Church Hall

"Walking With Jesus"

**Warden:**

Peter Filsell 0427 534 095

St James', Delamere

No services. See p. 8

For information contact

Peter Filsell 0427 534 095



*Where there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in a month, as is the case in May, you can expect some service times to be different.*

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

*May 2026*  
*OnlinePhoto Supplement*



*Cathy More singing during Communion*



*Ready for worship, Easter Day*



*The eggs have been blessed. Reminders of the stone that covered an empty tomb.*



*The Round Table Service*

**May 2026**  
**Colour Photo Supplement**

**Easter Vigil, St Stephen's, Willunga**  
*(see p. 6)*

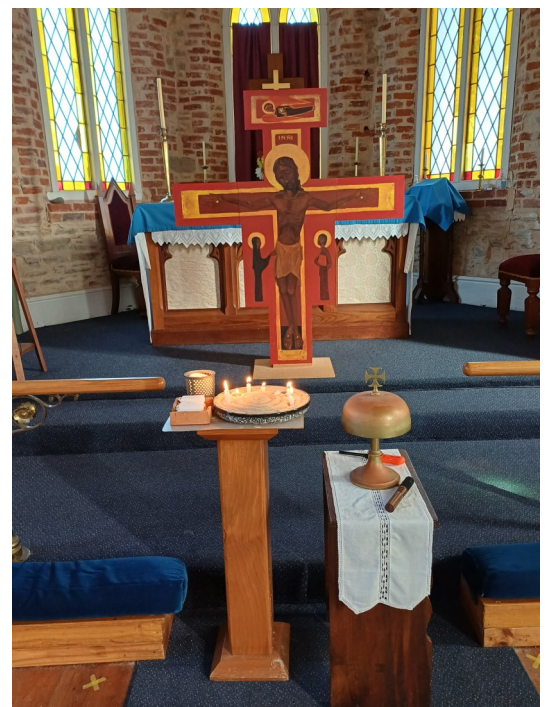
*With the Paschal candle lit from the new fire (see p. 1, p. 6), it is carried into the church to light a candle for everyone there.*



*The Paschal candles are lowered into the water of the font signifying that new life in baptism comes from Christ's death and resurrection: going into the water—being buried with Christ, and rising from the water - rising with Christ.*



*R: The Taizé cross at St Stephen's, providing a background for meditation. (see Snippets from WFAC, p. 11)*



*May 2026*  
*Online Photo Supplement*

**St Margaret's, McLaren Vale**  
*(see p. 7)*



*Warden Judy Wells with  
St Margaret's Paschal candle,  
Easter Vigil.*



*2nd Sunday of Easter: Fr Brenton celebrating  
The Eucharist*



*"Greening the Cross"  
on Holy Saturday:  
Margaret, Julianne,  
De.*



## St Ann's, Aldinga (See p. 8)



*Using the water of baptism, Br Simon  
sprinkles it on all present, symbolically  
"dunking" the congregation in the  
waters of baptism, to rise with Christ.*



*St Ann's rosemary and wreath for the  
Aldinga ANZAC Day celebration*

