

Anam Cara Community



Waterholes: 7 July 2018



Creek at Mittaa Mittaa Falls, Atherton Tablelands. Photo, Julie Brackenreg.

Welcome

Welcome to Waterholes, the Anam Cara Community newsletter for the week beginning 8th June 2018.

Why this newsletter? This newsletter is one of the ways by which we hope to promote community. The Anam Cara Community is intended to be much more than simply a group

of likeminded people. We hope it will continue to grow into a community that is a sign of God's presence in and love for the world, a dispersed community of contemplatives whose lives and action bring peace and healing to all of God's children. We are a Community of Prayer, and believe that as we pray together, God calls us deeper into fellowship with one another.

Who is welcome? The Anam Cara Community is proud to welcome anyone, from any background or faith community (or none!). We are an open and inclusive community that affirms the dignity and worth of all humans, the value of the environment, and seeks to model a way of living with one another and the world that points to the love and care of God for everyone. Individuals who wish to formally join the Community are welcome to become associates.

Coming Events

Date for your diary...

Quiet Day

25th August

St Mary's Morwell

Led by: The Rev'd David Head

For your prayers

Part of the joy of the Anam Cara Community is the gift of being called to pray for others. If you would like the Community to pray for you, or for someone else, please email or call Jane ([0411 316 346](tel:0411316346) or jemacqueen@gmail.com) who will add them to the prayer list, and ensure they are included in our roster of prayers.

At present, your prayers are asked for:

- Diocesan Administrator, Philip Muston and the registry staff, Brian, Annette, Sue and David.
- Thanksgiving for the election of The Rev'd Dr Richard Treloar as the thirteenth Bishop of Gippsland. Prayers for Bishop elect Richard, his wife Leanne and children Rachel and Nicholas as they look toward new beginnings.
- Associates and friends who have asked for prayer: Norma, June, Fiona Barry, Chris Venning and Val Lawrence.
- For peacemakers in our world. For world leaders in their discussions and decision making.
- For all who suffer as a result of violence.
- For wise and compassionate counsel and some direction and hope for the future of refugees and asylum seekers across the globe.

Prayer of the day

O Lord our God,
you are always more ready to bestow
your good gifts upon us than we are to seek them;
and more willing to give than we desire or deserve:
in our every need,
grant us the first and best of all your gifts,
the Spirit who makes us your children.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.

Reflection

7th Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev'd Marilyn Obersby

Mark 6.1-13

Sometimes familiarity does breed contempt. We think we know those nearest and dearest to us, and the people in our community we mix with socially, or at work, or in our faith communities. In reality, we may be quite mistaken in our ideas about someone, thinking we have them neatly summed up, when all we really know is one small area of their lives.

When I became ordained, several of my family members were surprised. They hadn't seen that part of me at all, since most of my wider family was not Christian, nor involved in any church. They had no idea about my spiritual journey or its place in my life, so they were at a loss to know how to relate to me after I became a "reverend!"

We see this in today's Gospel reading. Jesus was not received in his home town with the same acceptance he had received in the other places where he had taught and healed. The townsfolk thought they knew him, you see, thought they knew all there was to know about him, having seen him grow up along side their own children, and begin his trade with his father as a carpenter. They just weren't open to hearing his message. Even Jesus was amazed at their rejection and unable to heal many because of their lack of belief.

What if sometimes we aren't open to God's messages to us? Our actions matter, more than we may realise. Just as Jesus sent out the twelve directly after that experience of rejection in his home town of Nazareth, so we are sent out into the world we inhabit, into our own workplaces and communities to minister as Jesus and the first disciples did. And

just as it was for them, just as it was for Jesus, sometimes the reception we get is hostile, sometimes we are rejected. That rejection can lead us to self questioning and self doubt, causing us to feel we have failed or not gone about things the 'right' way. It is then we need to remember that our efforts in ministry depend on God's grace, and we can leave the results, or apparent lack of results, up to God. Paul writes that God's power is made perfect through weakness – something we can all take comfort from.

God *shares the* ministry of reconciliation and healing with us, which means that every day we have before us the opportunity to be channels of grace and mercy to people and a world desperately in need of grace and mercy. Every day we have a choice between resisting God's activity or working with God's intent and action to bless and care for the world. Our acts of kindness and compassion are holy and our moments of unkindness or indifference tragic. What we do matters, and God equips and commissions us to be agents of grace, even though we may struggle at times to sense God's grace, to share it as we might, to make a difference in this world. Yet God invites us to a life of holiness rooted in everyday acts of kindness that are so ordinary they can be easily overlooked, yet extraordinary in the difference they make to those around us. And God also blesses those acts of kindness and makes us a blessing, working through us to love, bless and care for this world.

Photo Reflection



Winter. Photo Jane

Macqueen

Further opportunities for Spiritual Nurture

1. The Abbey

A Hundred Years of Change - Music, Art, Religion and Journalism 1650 - 1750

led by June Treadwell

[5pm Friday 13 July - 4pm Saturday 14 July 2018](#)

Cost per person

Residential: incl. [dinner Fri, breakfast](#) & [lunch Sat](#)

twin/share accom: \$135

single accom: additional \$35

Non residential: incl. [dinner Fri](#), B'fast & [Lunch Sat](#): \$85

Come on a journey to visit musicians Barbara Strozzi , G.F. Handel, Francesca Caccini and the music making Nuns. Spend time with Johannes Vermeer in Delft and follow the accounts of diarists, Pepys, Evelyn, and Dr Nathaniel Hawthorne as they describe the Plague and the Great Fire of London. Finally join George Fox and William Penn at the

Quaker Meeting House in Jordans, Bucks.

Winter Feast at the Abbey

12 noon

Saturday 11th August

Come and celebrate with other Friends of The Abbey as we enjoy the gourmet creations of chef,

Bishop Jeffrey Driver

4 course meal, with wine: \$58 per person

Diocesan Retreat

7-8 September 2018

Retreat Leader

Bishop Garry Weatherill

Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Ballarat

Come on retreat and savour the beauty and peace of The Abbey on Raymond Island.

Bishop Garry is an experienced retreat leader, greatly loved and respected among many who appreciate his teaching and spiritual wisdom.

There will be times for silence, prayer and reflection, times for learning together, times to walk, to share, to create, to be.

ALL ARE WELCOME

5pm Fri 7 September 2018 – 3.30pm Sat 8 September 2018

Cost per person

Residential: incl. dinner Fri, breakfast & lunch Sat

twin/share accommodation: \$135

single accommodation: additional \$35

Non residential: incl. dinner Fri, Breakfast & Lunch Sat: \$85

To book or further information contact The Abbey

Phone (03)5156 6580 Email: info@theabbey.org.au www.theabbey.org.au

2. St Paul's Cathedral, Sale.

- Christian Meditation

-[7.45am - 8.15am](#) every [Wednesday](#) AND

- [5.30 - 6.00 pm](#) every [Thursday](#)

Christian Meditation is a spiritual wisdom and a practice leading from the mind to the heart. It is a way of simplicity, silence, stillness and openness to God. It can be practised by anyone, wherever you are on your life's journey. It is only necessary to begin – and to keep on beginning. Contact: Susanna Pain susanna.pain@gmail.com

This practice is in the tradition of the World Community for Christian Meditation <http://www.wccm.org/>

- Evening Prayer with focus on intercession 5.15pm Mondays

3. Meditation - the chapel of St James, Traralgon

A group of people who are exploring the inner journey regularly meet for prayer and meditation together. We meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Monday mornings [at 10 am](#). During the hour we spend together we share the reading of scripture, prayer and music. There is a long period of silent meditation. To sit in silence together before God helps us to recognise God in the complexities of our lives. In the depth of our being there is always a sanctuary filled with God's presence. We can go there in silence to be and to listen. All are welcome.

4. Bass Hill Hermitage

Thinking about making a silent Retreat?

Bass Hill Hermitage is on the Bass Coast, near Phillip Island. The Hermitage has its roots in the traditions of Christian Spirituality. It is a perfect place to reflect, pray and deepen your relationship with God. Beginners, as well as experienced retreatants are welcome. They offer **directed and self-guided retreats as well as on-going Spiritual Direction and Supervision.**

The Hermitage can also be booked for a 'Quiet break' or some 'Time Out'. Visit the informative website:

www.basshillhermitage.com.au for more information.

Support on the journey

The Anam Cara Community's ministry is to be a support to those who are on the inner journey into God. Each person's journey is different, and we recognise that there are some for whom the Christian tradition is difficult or not supportive. We're committed to finding ways to hear the needs of each Associate, and support them as we can.

Contacts:

- *Website:* www.anamcaragippsland.org
 - To subscribe to or unsubscribe from the mailing list contact Jane
 - *Soul carer (Community Leader):* Jane ([0411 316 346](tel:0411316346) or jemacqueen@gmail.com)
 - *Secretary / Librarian:* Sue [03 5182 5542](tel:0351825542)
 - *Treasurer:* Kate
 - *Postal mail:* Anam Cara Community c/o PO Box 928, Sale, VIC 3850
 - *Diocesan Director of Professional Standards (to make complaints or express concerns about our ministries):* Ms Cheryl Russell [0407 563 313](tel:0407563313), cherylr@gippsanglican.org.au
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Love and prayers

Jane Macqueen

On behalf of the Servant Leaders

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