

29th June	
7.00 pm House Group	Teesdale
30th June	
3.00 pm Youth and Family Cinema	Epiphany Meredith
1st July	
11.00 am Communion	Estia Health Bannockburn
2nd July	
7.40 pm Geelong v Brisbane	GMHBA Stadium
6th July	
7.00 pm House Group	Teesdale
7th July	
3.00 pm Youth and Family Cinema	Epiphany Meredith
11th July	
8.30 am Men's Breakfast	Parish Ministry Centre
13th July	
2.30 pm Chaplaincy Supervision	Vicar's Study
7.00 pm House Group	Teesdale
15th July	
12.00 noon Deanery Meeting	Holy Trinity Lara
16th July	
Geelong v St Kilda	GMHBA Stadium
20th July	
7.00 pm House Group	Teesdale
22nd July	
Parish Council	

Parish Roster for 5th July

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: Lia McDonald
Bannockburn: Gill and Phil Dickson

Reader:

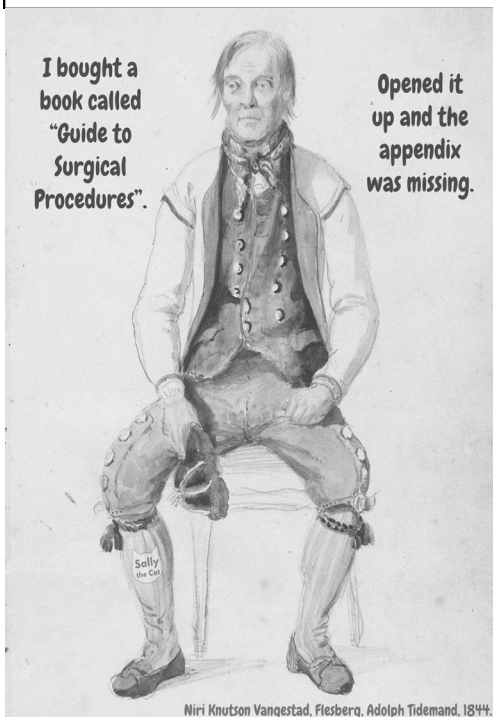
Bannockburn: Freda Duke

Communion Assistants:

Inverleigh: Bruce McDonald
Bannockburn: Ivan Marsetti

Parish Directory

Parish Office	5281 2553
Vicar	
Revd Timothy Smith	0412 673 152
	revdrtim@hotmail.com
Wardens	
Darrell Blackman	0457 338 678
Carol Newlands	0409 654 527
David Bannister	0477 564 268
Parish Council Secretary	
Carol Newlands	0409 654 527
Parish Treasurer	
David Osborne	0419 398 455
Assistant Treasurer	
Luanne Thornton	0437 667 011
St John's Op Shop	
Naomi Peel	0418 346 484
Surprise Op Shop	
Luanne Thornton	0437 667 011
Pastoral Care	
	pastoralcare.gpas@gmail.com



Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith

28th June 2026—FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES

This article presents some key findings on safeguarding policies, practices and related attitudes in Australian churches.

The safeguarding of children and vulnerable people continues to be an ongoing and vital discussion across Australian society. Results show the presence of well-developed safeguarding policies increased from 2016 to 2021, and this pattern was seen across four broad faith traditions.

Safeguarding in churches is critical to ensure the safety and care of children and adults within these communities. Using findings from the 2021 and 2016 National Church Life Surveys this article explores some aspects of safeguarding in Australian local churches, including:

- the presence and quality of safeguarding policies,
- awareness of leaders and attenders in reporting safeguarding concerns in their church,
- Safe Churches training, and
- church attender and leader attitudes towards church authorities and church responses to cases of clergy sexual abuse.

Presence and quality of safeguarding policies and procedures

In 2021, some 83% of churches reported that they had well-developed safety and protection policies, and 87% of churches reported that they had well-developed processes for lodging a complaint about child abuse or sexual misconduct by a minister or church worker.

The presence of well-developed policies increased from 2016 to 2021, and this pattern was seen across four broad faith traditions (Catholic, Mainstream Protestant, Evangelical Protestant and Pentecostal).

Having a larger congregational size appeared to be a protective factor in increasing the likelihood that there would be well-developed policies reported for both safety and protection policies, and child abuse or sexual misconduct complaints.

(Continued on page 4)

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Worship Today: FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sentence: The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 6:23*

Collect: O God, your Son has taught us that those who give a cup of water in his name will not lose their reward: open our hearts to the needs of your children, and in all things make us obedient to your will, so that in faith we may receive your gracious gift, eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23;
Matthew 10:40-42

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 133 – O worship the King; 555 – Put all your trust in God; 608 – Where cross the crowded ways of life; 613 – Lord of all hopefulness

Bannockburn: *We want to see Jesus lifted high; Come as you are; Here for you; How deep the Father's love for us; All are welcome; Father God I wonder, My goal is God himself; For I'm building a people of power*

Meredith: n/a

Intercessions: God of grace, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

World: all nations in war or conflict, those who perpetrate war and those who defend their nations; South Sudan and all developing nations: wherever there is terror, violence, injustice, oppression, racism, hunger, displacement, and homelessness; all national leaders and law makers to have a spirit for the building up of their own citizens and unity in the global community.

Church: unity of the Anglican Communion, Abp Sarah Mullaley; our Diocese and Abp Ric Thorpe, Bp Genieve's retirement and our region in transition, Revd Liz Rankin to be new Adn of Geelong; our Parish outreach ministries: Youth and Family Community Cinema, Thursday Lunch, Men's Breakfast, both Op Shops, and all the community groups our members participate in will be opportunities to share our faith with empathy and critical thinking, to welcome to enable others to find belonging with us in faith.

Community: the Wadawarrung people and all our First Nations Peoples, the work of reconciliation and treaty; all the communities in our Parish especially Inverleigh, Bannockburn, and Meredith; all living with mortgage and rental stress, cost of living, and food insecurity; all who are marginalised, anxious and depressed; that we foster community that is welcoming, gives belonging, affirms diversity of culture and heritage, and meeting peoples' needs.

Those in need: Matt Bellchambers, Shirley Musgrove, Melinda Gregory, Karen Schulze, Jenny Bannister, Margaret McLaren, Sarah Rees, Jayden Rees, Fay McFarlane, Jesse Osborne, Phil Dickson, Paul Duke, Josie Andrews, Josie Harvey, Steve and Stacey Copland, Timothy Deng and Weng, Judith Palmer-Howlett, Julie Doyle, and all others on our heart and mind.



Meredith Youth and Family Community Cinema

Presented by
Golden Plains Anglicans and
Melbourne Anglican Foundation



Shark Tale June 30



Paddington July 7

3.00 pm

Church of the Epiphany, Meredith Refreshments Included

JUDY H'S—JUST FOR LAUGHS

What do you call fourteen rabbits hopping backwards?

A receding hareline.

Why is six scared of seven?

Because seven eight nine.

What is more useful than the invention of the first telephone?

The second telephone.

(Continued from page 1)

Awareness of lodging safeguarding concerns

Nine in 10 senior leaders (93%) said they were aware of the process of lodging a complaint about child abuse or sexual misconduct in their church. This compares to only three in 10 church attenders (32%) who said they knew how to lodge such a concern in their church.

Some 88% of senior leaders said they were aware of how to lodge a complaint about other unacceptable behaviour in their church not related to child abuse or sexual misconduct.

Holding a leadership or ministry position, and particularly a children or youth ministry role, increased the likelihood that an attender would report knowing how to lodge a concern about child abuse or sexual misconduct.

Between 2016 and 2021 there was an increase in senior leader awareness of complaint lodging procedures, and this pattern was seen across all faith traditions.

Leadership training in Safe Churches

Whilst there remains ambiguity in how often Safe Church training should be completed, in the three years prior to the 2021 NCLS, 93% of all senior church leaders reported that they had received formal training in Safe Churches, predominantly in the form of refresher training.

Attitudes towards church authorities and church responses to clergy sexual abuse

In 2021, half (51%) of church attenders reported that clergy sexual abuse had damaged their confidence in church authorities. This increased from 2016, and this trend was seen across all faith traditions. When asked if the church now seemed to be taking appropriate steps to meet its responsibilities, 69% strongly agreed/agreed. This increased slightly from 2016.

Those in a leadership or ministry positions were more likely to say that their confidence in church authorities had not been damaged, and more likely to affirm that the church was now taking appropriate steps, compared to those not in a leadership role.

Conclusion

Safeguarding is a critical aspect of any organisation. There is evidence of shifts towards improved safeguarding factors in Australian churches in 2021, such as greater presence and quality of policies and procedures, and improved senior leadership awareness of lodging safeguarding concerns. There is still more work to be done to support congregational awareness of reporting concerns about child abuse or sexual misconduct within their local church.

<https://www.ncls.org.au/articles/Safeguarding-children-and-vulnerable-people-in-Australian-churches>



Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to suffer death upon a cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**

Monday

PETER and PAUL, Apostles and Martyrs *Proper*

Morning: Ps 71

Ezekiel 2:1-7

Acts 9:32-43

Evening: Ps 116

Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14

Revelation 11:1-4, 15-18

Tuesday

Morning: Pss 148 & 149

2 Chronicles 17:1-13, 18:1-8

Titus 2

Evening: Pss 141 & 150

Ezekiel 8:1-15

Acts 14:8-18

Wednesday

Morning: Pss 1 & 2

2 Chronicles 18:9-27

Titus 3

Evening: Pss 3 & 4

Ezekiel 8:16-9:11

Acts 14:19-28

Thursday

Morning: Pss 5 & 6

2 Chronicles 18:28-19:11

Galatians 1:1-10

Evening: Pss 7 & 8

Ezekiel 10

Acts 15:1-11

Friday

Morning: Ps 9

2 Chronicles 20:1-19

Galatians 1:11-24

Evening: Ps 10

Ezekiel 11:1-4(5-12)13-25

Acts 15:12-21

Saturday

Morning: Pss 11 & 12

2 Chronicles 20:20-37

Galatians 2:1-10

Evening: Pss 13 & 14

Ezekiel 12:1-20

Acts 15:22-35

Steve: "I'm not coming into work today."

Boss: Why not?

Steve: "I'm in a good mood and I don't want to ruin it."



Next Sunday 5th July

PENTECOST 6 [14]

8.30 am Holy Communion

Inverleigh

10.00 am All-Age Communion

Bannockburn

5.00 pm Holy Communion

Meredith

Readings

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalms 45:10-17

Romans 7:14-25

Matthew 11:15-19 (20-24) 25-30