

18th May
 2.30 pm Chaplaincy Supervision
 Vicar's Study

18th May
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

20th May
 12.30 pm Deanery Meeting
 St John's Highton

23rd May
 4.15 pm Geelong v Sydney
 GMHBA

24th May **PENTECOST**

25th May
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

27th May
 7.00 pm Parish Council
 Parish Ministry Centre

29th May
 7.25 pm Geelong v Carlton MCG

31st May **TRINITY**
 10.00 am Combined Parish Worship
 11.30 am Parish Community Growth
 Meeting Epiphany Meredith

1st June
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

3rd June Communion
 Estia Health Bannockburn

4th June Geelong v Adelaide
 Adelaide

8th June
 7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

Parish Roster for 24th May

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: Anne Bolitho
Bannockburn: Freda & Paul
 Duke

Reader:

Bannockburn: David Bannister
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

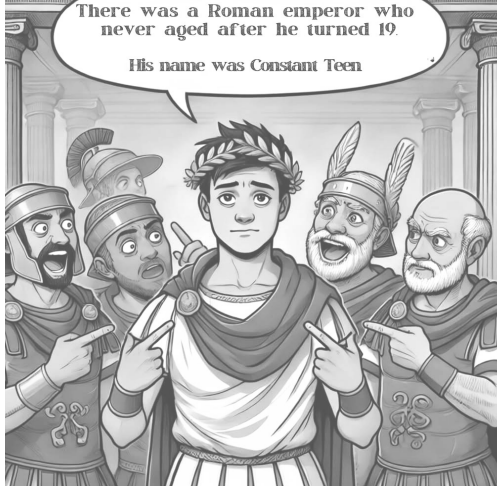
Assistant Treasurer
 Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

St John's Op Shop
 Naomi Peel 0418 346 484

Surprise Op Shop
 Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

Pastoral Care
 pastoralcare.gpas@gmail.com

There was a Roman emperor who never aged after he turned 19.
 His name was Constant Teen



TEESDALE HOUSE STUDY GROUP CHANGE OF DAY

Due to a change in programming of the members, the house group is moving from Tuesdays to Mondays, same time 7.00 pm.

Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith

17th May 2026—SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION (Ascension)

GENERATION Z SEEKING A TRANSCENDENT HOPE

Tim Costello reflects on reports that Gen Z's responding to Christianity

Religion is supposed to be off-limits for polite conversation. I broke that rule twice last week – and it was worth it.

I first spoke with an Anglican priest leading a church in an upmarket Melbourne suburb. He spoke of his surprise that a growing cohort of Gen Z men had started attending his church.

Generation Z (born 1995–2012) refers to the demographic cohort following Millennials. They have been described as "better behaved and less hedonistic" than previous generations. They have fewer teenage pregnancies, consume less alcohol (but not necessarily less of other psychoactive drugs), and are more focused on school and job prospects. They are also better at delaying gratification than teens from the 1960s. (ed)



Later, I was served by a waitress in her 20s in a working-class suburb. When I asked about the cross she was wearing, she enthusiastically launched into explaining her faith. She and her partner, an Aussie soldier, had joined an Orthodox church. Moreover, his mates had started coming too and were loving it. Her exuberance was refreshing.

For most of my life, the growing tide of secularism has prompted deep anxiety in the Australian church.

The 2021 Census seemed to confirm those fears: only 43.9% ticked the box 'Christian'. According to McCrindle Research, between 2016 and 2021 some 2.45 million Australians switched from identifying as Christian to ticking 'no religion' in the census.

But it is equally puzzling that in that same census period, some

(Continued on page 4)

Parish Ministry Centre: 11 Byron Street, BANNOCKBURN VIC, 3331
 (03) 5281 2553 revdrtim@hotmail.com
 www.goldenplainsanglican.org
 www.facebook.com/GoldenPlainsAnglicans

Worship Today: SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION (Ascension)

Sentence: 'Go and make disciples of all nations,' Jesus commands; 'I am with you always, to the close of the age.' *Matthew 28:19-20*

Collect: God of majesty, you led the Messiah through suffering into risen life, and took him up into the glory of heaven: clothe us with the power promised from on high, and send us forth to the ends of the earth as heralds of repentance and witnesses of Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 28:16-20

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 520 – Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour; 573 – A charge to keep I have; 517 – Hallelujah! Sing to Jesus; 658 – I the Lord of sea and sky;

Bannockburn: *To be in your presence*; Christ is risen; Majesty; Here I am; I the Lord of sea and sky; *I will offer up my life*; Lord the light of your love is shining; *Be bold, be strong*

Meredith: *To be in your presence*; Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour; Here I am; Hallelujah! Sing to Jesus; I the Lord of sea and sky; *Be bold, be strong*

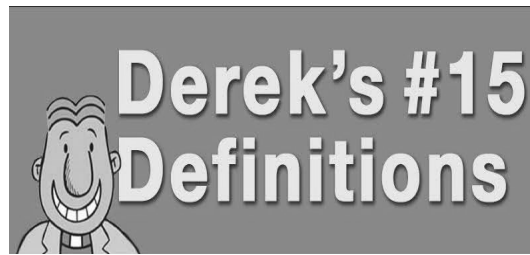
Intercessions: *Jesus Christ, risen and ascended,*
hear the prayers we raise to heaven.

World: Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, United States, Iran, the Middle East, all who perpetrate war and those who defend their nations, South Sudan and all developing nations; wherever there is terror, violence, injustice, loss of freedom, racism, hunger, displacement, and homelessness; that all national leaders law makers will have a spirit for the building up of their people and the global community, a world of justice, mercy and love.

Church: unity of the Anglican Communion, Abp Sarah Mullaey; our Diocese Abp Ric Thorpe, our Bp Genieve; God's blessing on all our outreach ministries: Youth and Family Community Cinema, Thursday Lunch, Men's Breakfast, Op Shops, and all the non-church community groups in which members are active, may we be an evangelistic church, sharing our faith, and fulfil our commission.

Community: the Wadawarrung and all custodians of country on which we live and work, for reconciliation and treaty with our First Nations Peoples; for all who feel marginalised, all the communities in our Parish especially Inverleigh, Bannockburn, and Meredith; to be catalysts of welcome and belonging in diversity; those facing mortgage and rental stress, increasing costs of living, fuel, and insurances; where there is food insecurity, and the threat of homelessness; all those who make their living from the land.

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's brother Weng, Judith Palmer-Howlett, and all others on our heart and mind.



COMBINED PARISH WORSHIP

TRINITY SUNDAY
Sunday 31st May

IS the 5th Sunday of the month
is our next combined Parish worship
10.00 am

Church of the Epiphany
Meredith

Followed by our
Parish Community Growth Meeting
Please bring Morning Tea to share.

THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION: church treasurer.

REMINDER

The start of worship at
The Church of St Paul
Inverleigh
will be moving
to

8.30 am
commencing
Sunday 7th June

and continue through the months of
June July and August



(Continued from page 1)

784,000 turned from 'no religion' to 'Christian'. We know from many UK and US churches that young men seem to be more interested in religion. And the Catholic Church in France reported record numbers of young people being baptized over Easter.

In terms of Australia, could it be that Gen Z, burdened with HECS debt and little chance of ever owning a home, are seeking a transcendent hope? Or does the barrage of violent images from global and local conflicts mean our young people are searching for something deeper to in which to ground their hope?

Like all things only time will tell. But there is something afoot. For some, God is no longer perceived as dead – or irrelevant.

Thinking Out Loud was written by Tim Costello as a post for The Centre for Public Christianity. Published 12th May 2026



THY KINGDOM COME started as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

This year's Thy Kingdom Come is all about the presence of God through His spirit. God is with us in the everyday – in the joys and sorrows of life (and everything in between) and the One who, through His spirit, longs to reveal Himself to those who do not

yet know Him.

Praying for 5 friends, family members or colleagues to encounter the life-transforming love of Christ, is at the heart of Thy Kingdom Come.

Try a piece of string or cord, and tie five knots in it to represent each of the five people you have committed to pray for. You could carry the knotted string in your pocket, tie it round your wrist or place it somewhere that you'll see it regularly. Use the knots to remind you to pray for each person on your list of five.

Suggestions for praying for five:

Loving Lord, please work in me so I can share your love, life and message with [Name]. Reveal your love to them, that they might know, follow and witness to you, for Your glory. Amen.

Lord, I pray that you will lead [Name] to you. Thank you that you love them. I pray that you would break into their life and show them your love, grace and peace, for Your glory. Amen.

Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we pray you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to the same place where our Saviour Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Monday

Morning: Pss 41 & 44:1-9
Numbers 22:41-23:12
1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Evening: Ps 44:10-27
Deuteronomy 31:1-15
John 16:12-24

Tuesday

Dunstan, Abp of Canterbury (d.988) Teacher

Morning: Ps 45
Numbers 23:13-30
1 Corinthians 12:1-13

Evening: Pss 46 & 47
Deuteronomy 31:23-32:9
John 16:25-17:5

Wednesday

Morning: Ps 48
Numbers 24:1-11
1 Corinthians 12:14-31

Evening: Ps 49
Deuteronomy 32:10-22
John 17:20-26

Thursday

Morning: Ps 50
Numbers 24:12-25
1 Corinthians 13

Evening: Ps 119:41-64
Deuteronomy 32:23-38
John 17:20-26

Friday

Morning: Ps 51
Numbers 27
1 Corinthians 14:1-12

Evening: Pss 52 & 53
Deuteronomy 32:39-52
Acts 1:1-14

Saturday

Morning: Pss 54 & 55:1-12
Numbers 36
Acts 1:15-26

At Evening Day of Pentecost

Evening: Ps 48
Numbers 11:16-17, 24-30
1 Corinthians 14:13-25

I wonder: what if we used love to determine what the scriptures mean instead of using the scriptures to determine what love means? Would there be different outcomes?



Next Sunday 24th May DAY OF PENTECOST

8.00 am Holy Communion
Inverleigh

10.00 am All-Age Communion
Bannockburn

5.00 pm Holy Communion
Meredith

Readings

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30
Psalm 104:26-30

1 Corinthians 12:1-13 or Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-52

**COME DRESSED IN A
COLOUR OF FIRE**