

- 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
2.30 pm Chaplaincy Supervision
Vicar's Study
- 3rd June** Communion
Estia Health Bannockburn
- 4th June** Geelong v Adelaide
Adelaide
- 8th June**
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale
- 12th June**
7.40 pm Geelong v Gold Coast
GMHBA Stadium
- 15th June**
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale
- 17th June**
12.00 pm Deanery Meeting
Holy Trinity Lara
- 22nd June**
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

Parish Roster for 31st May

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: n/a
Bannockburn: n/a

Reader: Volunteers

Bannockburn: n/a

Communion Assistants:

Geoff Morgan
David Osborne

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

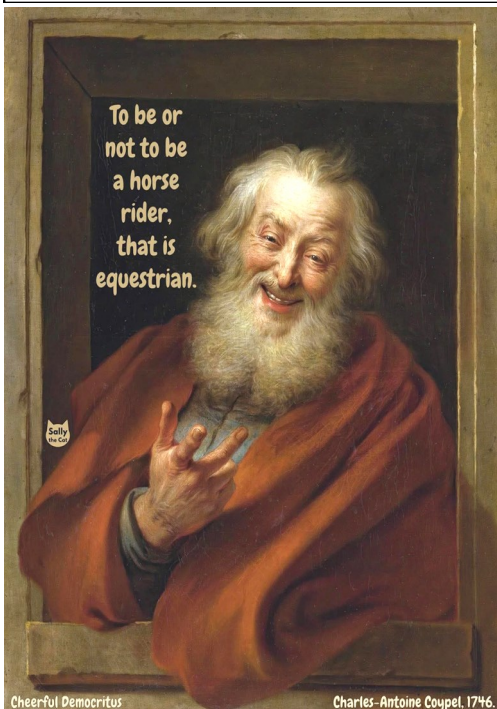
Parish Treasurer
David Osborne 0419 398 455

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
24th May 2026—PENTECOST SUNDAY



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Worship Today: PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sentence: 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,' says the Lord; 'and let the one who believes in me drink. For out of your heart shall flow rivers of living water.' *John 7:38*

Collect: Almighty God, at the feast of Pentecost you sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: empower us with that same Spirit to witness to your redeeming love and draw all people to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104.26-36; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13; John 20:19-23

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 398 – Come down O love divine; 407 – Breathe on me breath of God; 413 – Holy Spirit come confirm us; 687 – God gives us a future

Bannockburn: *As the deer*; The power of your love; Breath on me breath of God; Holy Spirit; Holy Spirit come confirm us; *Spirit of the living God*; There is a redeemer; *For I'm building a people of power*

Meredith: *As the deer*; Come down O love divine; Breathe on me breath of God; Holy Spirit come confirm us; God gives us a future; *For I'm building a people of power*

Intercessions: *Holy Spirit, come, and 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 law makers will have a spirit for the building up of their own citizens and the global community.

Church: unity of the Anglican Communion, Abp Sarah Mullaley; our Diocese and Abp Ric Thorpe, our regional Bp Genieve, for a new Archdeacon of Geelong; our own Parish and our outreach ministries: Youth and Family Community Cinema, Thursday Lunch, Men's Breakfast, Op Shops, all members in community groups, praying for and inviting others to be led by the Spirit in faith.

Community: the Wadawarrung custodians of country on which we live, work, play, and recreate, for reconciliation and treaty with all our First Nations Peoples and all who feel marginalised; all the communities in our Parish especially Inverleigh, Bannockburn, and Meredith; all living with mortgage and rental stress, increasing costs of fuel, and insurances; where there is food insecurity, anxiety, depression and stress; to be catalysts of welcome and belonging in diversity; 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, Freda Duke, and all others on our heart and mind.

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growth didn't quite match that which the report suggested. This was valuable in itself.

There's an old joke about the statistician who is found taking a bomb onto a plane. When asked why he did so, he explained "For safety—there's a 1 in 1,000 chance of there being a bomb on the plane, but the chance of there being a second bomb is 1 in a million!" Sometimes stats can be helpful, but sometimes they can point us in the wrong direction, or they get in the way of us seeing what's actually there.

In 2 Corinthians Paul tells us not to be discouraged. This is good advice in the wake of the withdrawal of the report. We remember that the people who are seeking Christ are not just statistics, but individuals, each one unique and loved by God. Those are the people we welcome to our churches. Let's rejoice in the hope we see, rather than being disappointed in the promise of something else.



NEW APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT BISHOPS

Abp Ric is appointing two new Assistant Bishops for the Diocese of Melbourne. The Venerable Megan Curlis-Gibson, currently Archdeacon of Kew and Vicar of St Philip's Deep Creek. Megan brings significant experience in ministry and mission experience, and a deep commitment to the life and witness of the Church in this diocese. The Revd Canon Lui (Ben) Wong, currently Canon to the Archbishop for Chinese ministry and Vicar of TIMA Anglican Parish, comprising Bulleen, Templestowe, Greythorn and South Blackburn. Ben brings significant experience in church planting, revitalisation and supporting parishes and will bring wisdom and care to this next season of diocesan life.

They will be consecrated as bishops at St Paul's Cathedral at 10.30am on Saturday 19 September 2026. While each will carry particular responsibilities, both will share in the episcopal ministry of the whole diocese, serving with me and the College of Bishops for the building up of the Body of Christ.

From 19 September, we will have four geographical episcopal areas. Genieve Blackwell will continue to be bishop of our region as Paul Barker will continue in the region to the south. Ben Wong and Megan Curlis-Gibson will be the bishops in the other two regions. All regions are yet to be renamed.

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

STATS FOR MISSION?

Felix Smith—Associate Director
Leading your Church into Growth

“Lies, damned lies and statistics,” is a quote from the nineteenth century attributed to Mark Twain. His suggestion is that statistics are meaningless as they can be massaged and moulded to create any argument. I wonder what you think about this. In the wake of the retraction by the Bible Society of their “Quiet Revival” report, you may well agree.

For many Christians across the UK, the “Quiet Revival” report felt like a long-awaited sign of hope. Based on polling conducted by YouGov, the study suggested that church attendance—especially among young adults—was rising dramatically after decades of decline. The findings were widely shared, preached from pulpits, and celebrated as evidence of a spiritual awakening among Gen Z.



disappointing, but it also offers an important reminder. Hope cannot rest on statistics alone. Numbers can encourage us, but they are never the foundation of Christian faithfulness or mission. Throughout history, the church has often grown quietly, unevenly, and in ways that resist easy measurement.

Indeed, after the retraction was reported, I spoke to many clergy who were surprised by the news because, as they said, they had seen hints of this revival first hand in their own parishes, and this was confirmed across the country by others on social media. Perhaps what they’d experienced in their own churches wasn’t quite as dramatic as the reporting suggested—and maybe revival was too strong a word—but, as many commented, *something* was happening, that’s for sure.

Perhaps what the “Quiet Revival” did was give us confidence to see the growth that was happening, and to recognise the pattern of it, even though that

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Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

Grant, O Lord, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Week of Prayer for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons

Monday

Bede of Jarrow, Priest (d.753) Teacher

Morning: Pss 62 & 63

1 Chronicles 10:1-11:9

1 Corinthians 14:26-40

Evening: Pss 64 & 67

Deuteronomy 34

Acts 2:1-13

Tuesday

Augustine, Abp of Canterbury (d.605) Missionary

Morning: Pss 65 & 70

1 Chronicles 13:1-14:2

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Evening: Ps 66

Ruth 1

Acts 2:14-24

May 27-June 3: Week of Prayer for Reconciliation

Wednesday

Morning: Ps 68:1-20

1 Chronicles 14:8-15:3

and 15:25-29

1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Evening: Ps 68:(21-23)24-35

Ruth 2

Acts 2:22-36

Thursday

Morning: Ps 71

1 Chronicles 16:7-36

1 Corinthians 15:35-50

Evening: Ps 119:65-88

Ruth 3

Acts 2:37-47

Friday

Morning: Ps 69:1-16

1 Chronicles 17

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Evening: Ps 69:17-23(24-3)31-38

Ruth 4

Acts 3:1-16

Saturday

Morning: Ps 72

1 Chronicles 19:1-20:3

Acts 3:17-4:4

At Evening Trinity

Evening: Ps 150

Exodus 3:1-15

John 17:17-26



*“I said, ‘Bring me the cruet’...
not the curate!”*

Next Sunday 31st May

TRINITY SUNDAY

10.00 am Holy Communion

Meredith

Readings

Exodus 34:1-8

Song of 3YM 29-34

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

**11.30 am Parish Community
Growth Meeting**