

3rd August
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

5th August
11.00 am Communion Estia Health

8th August
4.35 pm Geelong v Essendon
GMHBA Stadium

10th August
2.30 pm ADF Chaplaincy Supervision
Vicar's Study

7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

17th August
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

19th August
12 noon Deanery Meeting
St Thomas Winchelsea

24th August
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

26th August
7.00 pm Parish Council
Parish Ministry Centre

30th August
10.00 am Combined Parish Worship
11.30 am Parish Community Growth Meeting
Epiphany Meredith

31st August
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

1st September
7.00 pm Commissioning John Maryoe
St Stephens Belmont

Parish Roster for 9th August

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: Debbie Shelley
Bannockburn: Freda and Paul Duke

Reader:

Bannockburn: Freda Duke

Communion Assistants:

Inverleigh: Geoff Morgan
Bannockburn: Ivan Marsetti

Parish Directory

Parish Office 5281 2553
Vicar
Rev'd 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



Derek had always secretly
admired the Pope!

Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

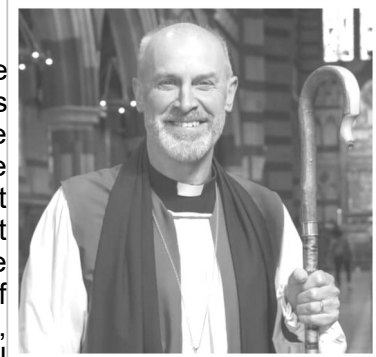
†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith

2nd August 2026—TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL (Part 2)

Archbishop Ric talks about strategy for growth and renewal

Jesus is not asking his disciples to manufacture the harvest by their own energy. It is God's harvest, And that changes how we look at the world. We're not being sent into a world where God is absent. We're being sent into a world that God made, that God loves, and in which the Spirit is already at work. There are people in Melbourne and Geelong ready to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. They may not use our language, they may not come near church easily. Some will carry real suspicion of institutions. Others have been hurt, sometimes for very understandable reasons, but there are people searching for hope, forgiveness, belonging, purpose, peace and healing.



We may not always see it but Jesus sees it. And at the centre of this Harvest is Jesus himself. He is the Lord of the Harvest. I hope it is not that people become a little bit of religious. I hope it is that people encounter Christ discovering him, the mercy of God, the forgiveness of sins, the healing of the human heart, his lordship in every part of their lives and the beginning of God's New Creation. So, yes, the needs are great. And yes, the pressures are real. But the harvest is plentiful. This is a work of faith.

The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few

Jesus, then names the other reality: the Harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Jesus does not pretend that need is small or that the disciples already have all the capacity they need. He names the gap. The Harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. And we know that gap, don't we. We know it's in parishes where clergy and lay are carrying a great deal, where the same faithful people do many things, and where local communities are growing faster than the visible Christian presence.

If you've been around church for any length of time, you will know the

(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: TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [18]

Sentence: The Lord is near to all who call on him in truth. He fulfils the desire of all that fear him, hears their cry, and saves them. *Psalm 145:18–19*

Collect: O God, with whom we wrestle until the break of day: make us long to seek your face beyond the limits of our strength, that in our wounds we may remember you, and in your blessing we may find ourselves; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Readings: Genesis 32:22–31; Psalm 17:1–7, 16; Romans 9:1–8 (9–16)
Matthew 14:13–21

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 276 – There's a light upon the mountains; 436 – Lord keep us steadfast to your word; 569 – Guide me, O thou great Redeemer; 665 – Jesus Christ is waiting

Bannockburn: *Great is the darkness*; Come now is the time to worship; Majesty; Your grace is enough; Guide me O thou great Jehovah; *Come as you are*; Jesus Christ is waiting; King of kings

Meredith: *Come as you are*; Your grace is enough; Lord keep us steadfast to your word; Guide me O thou great Jehovah; Jesus Christ is waiting; *King of kings*

Intercessions: *Loving God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

World: all nations in war or conflict, those who perpetrate war, those who defend their nations, and those who are working for peace; 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 Nigel Pope to be consecrated, Ven Liz Rankin Archdeacon of Geelong; the transition of our diocese and region; 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 to be opportunities to invite others to come and see; sale of excess land for financial viability and parish organisational unity.

Community: the Wadawarrung 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 in unity of culture, tradition, and heritage; to enable the kingdom of God.

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, Timothy Deng and Weng, Mawut Gotbaai, Peter Aluong, Judith Palmer-Howlett, Zaher Mhanna, and all others on our heart and mind.



**THE REVD CANON NIGEL POPE to be
ASSISTANT BISHOP for GEELONG**

Nigel is currently Vicar of St John's Footscray since October 2023 leading the parish to become a thriving multicultural church set in a vibrant and gritty community.. Before coming to Melbourne, he served in the Diocese of Calcutta in a range of parish, diocesan and wider church roles, including as Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, Kolkata. His ministry has encompassed parish and cathedral leadership, pastoral care, mission and social outreach, ecumenical engagement and service within the wider Anglican Communion. Previously he was vicar of St Paul's, Geelong, where he served from January 2018. Within the Diocese of Melbourne, Nigel has served as a member of Archbishop in Council and the Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, a director of the Melbourne Anglican Diocesan Corporation, an Examining Chaplain, a member of the Liturgical Committee and Vice-Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group. He brings a deep commitment to Christ and his Church, to multicultural ministry and to the pastoral and missional life of local congregations. Nigel is married to Candy and they have a 20-year-old daughter, Rebecca, and a 17-year-old son, Joshua. Nigel will be consecrated as a bishop alongside Megan Curlis-Gibson and Ben Wong at St Paul's Cathedral at 10.30am on Saturday 19 September 2026.

Songs of Praise

Sunday September 13th 2.30 pm

Come along and Sing!

Celebrating 150 years of worship

Aberdeen Street Baptist Church - 7 Aberdeen Street, Newtown

PARISH PRAYER GROUP

Join Revd Tim praying for our Parish to grow in numbers God is drawing to himself through us, the outreach activities we are undertaking, and for financial viability for the future.

Commencing

Thursday 6th August

2.00 pm

Initially **St John's Bannockburn**
and continuing weekly after
Thursday Friendship Lunch

MOVING THE BANNOCKBURN OPPORTUNITY SHOP

Parish Council believes the Op Shop will improve income with a larger display space. It is considering swapping the Op Shop and the Parish Ministry Centre. The Parish Office/Vicar's Study will remain in the current position. Please speak to the members of Parish Council if you have any questions or objections.

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sentence, "If only we had a few more people, a few more leaders, a few more workers." And Jesus knows that reality. He names it, but he does not need to name it to shame his disciples. It's not a blame thing. It's a faith thing because the gap between the harvest and the workers, is the place where Jesus teaches us to pray. Ask the Lord of the Harvest.

So here's the thing. The first response Jesus gives is not a technique or to work harder. He says, ask and pray. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field. It's not a soft option. Prayer is where the church learns dependence on God, where our hearts are aligned with the compassion of Christ, and where we learn again to say, "Lord, show us what you're doing and let us join in." Not just with our own resources. Back to the abundance of God's resources. The harvest is God's harvest before it's our work.

Reading on into Matthew chapter 10, there's a surprise. not only does Jesus tell the disciples to pray for workers, he then calls the 12 and sends them out. The people told to pray become part of the answer to their own prayer. We pray for workers and he asks us to be ready to be sent. Not all in the same way, not all in the same role, not all to the same task, but all of us are caught up in the mission of God.

Every Christian life is drawn into prayer

The 20th of July was the World Cup Final. It has been a massive competition. But think about what's going on. On a football field 22 people desperately in need of rest, are being watched by two billion people, desperately in need of exercise. The church is not a small number of people doing Ministry while everyone else watches. The church is the body of Christ. Every member has gifts. Every disciple has a calling. Every Christian life is drawn into that prayer. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven, in Melbourne and Geelong, as it is in heaven. And most of that calling is lived in the ordinary places of the week in homes, in workplaces, in schools, in hospitals, in neighbourhoods, in places of care, and places of pressure. That is where much of the Harvest is. So, the prayer becomes personal. Lord, what is my part? What is our part? What is the next faithful step?

I want to say this carefully because many people are tired. This is not about adding one more burden to already full lives. It is about returning to Jesus and asking what faithfulness looks like. Now it's about asking Jesus for more workers, for one more person. The next faithful step, may be hidden. Praying for a neighbour, returning to scripture, offering hospitality, or encouraging someone younger in faith. For another it might be more public, serving, leading, being trained, or exploring a vocation. For a parish it may be deepening prayer, strengthening welcome, looking again at Children and young people. We will be asking who is not yet being reached locally. It will not look the same everywhere. For a struggling parish, a parish in a growth corridor, and a parish in an established suburb will face different questions. The point is obedience. Are we listening to Jesus?

Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

Almighty God, whose beloved Son for our sake willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross: give us courage and patience to take up our cross daily and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Monday

Morning: Ps 78:16-38
Hosea 6:4-7:7
Romans 7:1-12

Evening: Ps 78:39-70
Lamentations 1:1-11a
John 10:40-11:16

Tuesday

John Baptist Vianney (d.1859) *Pastor*
Priest of Ars, France

Morning: Ps 80
Hosea 7:8-16
Romans 7:13-25

Evening: Ps 81
Lamentations 1:11b-22
John 11:17-37

Wednesday

King Oswald (d.642) *Martyr*

Morning: Pss 82 & 84
Hosea 8
Romans 8:1-8

Evening: Pss 85 & 87
Lamentation 2:1-10
John 11:38-54

Thursday

THE TRANSFIGURATION *Proper*

Morning: Ps 99
Habakkuk 3:3-19
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Evening: Ps 89:5-18
1 Kings 19:1-16
John 12:20-33

Friday

Morning: Ps 90
Hosea 10:1-12(13-17)
Romans 8:18-27

Evening: Ps 119:89-104
Lamentations 3:1-33
John 9:39-10:18

Saturday

Dominic, Priest and Friar (d.1221) *Monastic*

Morning: Ps 89:1-18
Hosea 11:1-11
Romans 8:28-39

Evening: Ps 89:19-38
Lamentations 3:34-66
John 12:36b-50



Next Sunday 9th August
SUNDAY after **TRANSFIGURATION**
8.30 am Holy Communion

Inverleigh

10.00 am All-Age Communion

Bannockburn

5.00 pm Holy Communion

Meredith

Readings

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm 97

2 Peter 1:16-19 (20-21)

Mark 9:2-10