

5th October
Schools Resume
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

7th October
11.00 am Communion
Estia Health Bannockburn
7.00 pm Diocesan Synod
St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne

8th October
7.00 pm Diocesan Synod
St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne

9th October
7.00 pm Diocesan Synod
St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne

10th October
9.00 am Diocesan Synod
St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne

12th October
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

14th October
9.30 am Mother's Union Service
St John's Bannockburn
10.30 am Mother's Union Annual Meeting
St John's Bannockburn

19th October
2.30 pm Chaplaincy Supervision
Vicar's Study
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

21st October
Midday Deanery Meeting tbn

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
Parish Roster for October 11	

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: Liz McDonald
Bannockburn: Wendy Wood
Ivan Marsetti

Reader:

Bannockburn: David Bannister

Communion Assistant:

Inverleigh: Bruce McDonald
Bannockburn: Carol Newlands

Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith

4th October 2026 NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

UNDERSTANDING THE COMMITMENT PROBLEM

This is a major problem and is true for congregations in all denominations.

He was the first church leader in Australia to see his congregation's statistics from the 1996 National Church Life Survey. I handed him the envelope containing the results, then stood silently in front of his desk as he ripped it open and intently flipped over the pages. When he'd finished, he stood looking past me into the distance for about ten seconds before slamming his fist down on the pile of folders stacked neatly to his right: 'I don't understand it. I tell them the vision, I keep telling them the vision! Why can't they get it? What does it take to make them feel committed?'

He knew he had a commitment problem. On average, less than a third (27%) of Australian church attenders are strongly committed to their congregation's vision. The remaining two-thirds were ambivalent, negative or simply didn't know what their vision was. Leaders often struggle to ignite a passionate commitment to their church's vision. Such commitment is often limited to only a core of people within any one church.

Commitment to vision appears to be an important barometer of your church's health. Research has found that the higher the levels of such commitment found among attenders, the more likely congregations are to be growing. They are likely to have increasing numbers of people attending church. They are also likely to be attracting newcomers who are entering church life for the first time. Committed congregations are also more likely to have a younger age profile, higher proportions of attenders who are growing in their faith, and higher proportions of attenders with a strong and growing sense of belonging to the congregation.

Bronwyn Hughes, John Bellamy, *A Passion for Evangelism: Turning Vision into Action*. OpenBook, 2004:1.

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

**ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY
TURN UP AT SYNOD**



Worship Today: NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [27]

Sentence: Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, let us press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13b-14

Collect: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was the stone rejected by the builders, and, by your doing, he has been made the chief cornerstone: grant that, by the power of his Spirit working in us, we may become living stones built up into your dwelling place, a temple holy and acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings: Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3; Matthew 21:33-46

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 432 – Christ is made a sure foundation; 453 – We limit not the truth of God; 653 – This is a day for new beginnings; 439 – What shall we offer our good Lord

Bannockburn: *He is the Lord*; Come and see; All heaven declares; All I once held dear; This is a day for new beginnings; *To be in your presence*; Days of Elijah; *You are the vine*

Meredith: *To be in your presence*; Come and see; We limit not the truth of God; This is a day for new beginnings; What shall we offer our good Lord; *All I once held dear*

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

World: all nations in war or conflict, those who perpetrate war, those who defend their nations, civilian casualties, aid workers, and those who are working for peace; South Sudan and all developing nations, all nations preparing for elections; wherever there is fear, violence, lack of freedom, injustice, oppression, racism, hunger, displacement, and homelessness; all national leaders and law makers; the building up of citizens and unity in the global community; Nepal, and all nations suffering from natural disaster; a world replaced by kingdom of God.

Church: the Anglican Communion, Abp Sarah Mullaley; Abp Ric Thorpe, Bp Nigel Pope, Adn Liz Rankin, AD Lankiri Thaba; the transition of our region and administration of the parish; Youth and Family Community Cinema, Thursday Lunch, Men's Breakfast, both Op Shops and community volunteers, and all our members; to be labourers in the harvest for growth of the parish; unity of administration and sale of the Parish's excess land for financial viability, may our lives and ministry be creative in proclamation within this changing world.

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 experiencing mortgage and rental stress, cost of living, and food insecurity; all who are marginalised, anxious and depressed; for communities that are welcoming, give belonging, affirm diversity in unity of culture, tradition, heritage and sexuality; that no one may struggle alone.

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 Harvey, Judith Palmer-Howlett, Zaher Mhanna, Gwen Hunt, Tim Smith, and all others on our heart and mind.

Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

Generous God, whose hand is open to fill all things living with plenteousness: make us ever thankful for your goodness, and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Monday

Francis of Assisi, Friar (d.1226) *Saint*

O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself to the childlike and lowly of heart: grant that, following the example of the blessed Francis, we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified. **Amen.**

Morning: Pss 82 & 84

Haggai 1:1-11

Colossians 3:1-11

Evening: Pss 85 & 87

1 Maccabees 7:1-18

Matthew 11:1-11

Tuesday

William Tyndale, biblical scholar (d.1536) *Saint*

Give to your people, O God, grace to hear and keep your word that, after the example of your servant William Tyndale, we may not only profess the gospel but also be ready to suffer for it, to the honour of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Morning: Ps 86

Haggai 1:12-2:9

Colossians 3:12-17

Evening: Ps 88

1 Maccabees 7:19-32

Matthew 11:12-24

Wednesday

Morning: Ps 90

Haggai 2:10-23

Colossians 3:18-4:6

Evening: Ps 119:89-104

1 Maccabees 7:33-50

Matthew 11:25-12:8

Thursday

Morning: Ps 89:1-18

Zechariah 1:1-17

Colossians 4:7-18

Evening: Ps 89:19-38
1 Maccabees 9:1-22
Matthew 12:9-21

Friday

Morning: Ps 89:39-53
Zechariah 1:18-2:13
Colossians Philemon 1-14

Evening: Ps 91
1 Maccabees 13:41-53
Matthew 12:22-37

Saturday

Paulinus of York, missionary (d.644) *Bishop*
Everlasting God, who raised up your servant Paulinus to bring the peoples of Britain out of darkness into the splendour of true light: may we count worldly motives as worthless, obey to the end your heavenly precepts, and be counted worthy of those eternal joys which are our inheritance in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Morning: Pss 92 & 93
Zechariah 3:1-4:7
Philemon 15-25

Evening: Ps 94
1 Maccabees 14:4-15
Matthew 12:38-50



My desire to be well-informed is currently at odds with my desire to remain sane.

Next Sunday 11th October

PENTECOST 20 [28]

8.00 am Inverleigh

10.00 am Bannockburn

5.00 pm Meredith

Readings

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalm 106:1-6,20-24

Philippians 4 or 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14