

Mark Your Calendars  

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**15th April**  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**17th April**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
 7.00 pm Community Meal  
 Parish Ministry Centre

**18th April**  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
 9.00 am Liturgy of the Cross  
 St Paul's Inverleigh  
 11.00 am Way of the Cross  
 Mary McKillop Catholic Church  
 Bannockburn

**20th April**  
**EASTER DAY**

**21st April**  
*Schools Return*

**22nd April**  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**23rd April**  
 7.00 pm Parish Council  
 Parish Ministry Centre

**25th April**  
**ANZAC Day Public Holiday**

**29th April**  
*Supervisor Training*  
*St Paul's Cathedral*  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**2nd May**  
 Devonshire Tea  
 9.00 am Parish Ministry Centre

**6th May**  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

We begin a new preaching series after Easter: Being a **HEALTHY CHURCH** commencing with **INSPIRED BY FAITH**

**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

**Parish Roster for April 20**

**Church Cleaning:**  
 Inverleigh: Anne Bolitho  
 Bannockburn: Carol Newlands  
 Lynette Oates

**Reading:**  
 Bannockburn: Steve Slade

**Communion Assistant:**  
 Inverleigh: Geoff Morgan  
 Bannockburn: Carol Newlands

**Morning Tea:**  
 Bannockburn: Steve Slade  
 Carol Newlands

It's no longer called "box wine".  
 The classy term is "Cardboardeaux".



**Golden Plains Anglican News**  
*Living the Gospel in Our Community*

Inverleigh † Bannockburn † Meredith Anglican Parish  
 13th April 2025—SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT / PALM SUNDAY

**HOPE: SHARING OUR HOPE IN JESUS**

Sheena Zhu converts from atheism to find Christianity because someone shared their hope in Jesus with her.

**At** the end of 1999, I left my hometown and my beloved job as an editor at Guangxi TV to immigrate to Sydney. When I first arrived, I went to visit my former university teacher in China. She had become a Christian, but she didn't talk to me about faith. Before I left, she gave me two cassette tapes, saying they were some songs to listen to. After that, we lost touch, as often happens. Like many new immigrants at the time, I worked hard and studied, eventually having a son. Life was a constant rush, busy and exhausting.



On the day of the 9 /11 attacks in 2002, I happened to be home on a break. Holding my napping son, I watched the news on TV, feeling disappointed and confused. I worried about the kind of world my baby would face. How should I raise this child? Should I teach him to be honest and kind? Yet, we live in a world filled with deceit and evil. Should we just go with the flow? But then, where can we find a place to rest our conscience?

After a while, I became pregnant with my second child and stayed home to prepare for the birth. One day, while cleaning the house, I found the cassette tapes that my teacher had given me when I first arrived in Sydney. They were still brand new - I had never opened them. By the way, I'm a music lover with a good sound system and a collection of many world-famous compositions, so I never got around to listening to them. I thought, before throwing them away, I might as well give them a listen since they had been sitting in my house for three years. That's when the miracle happened!

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 (03) 5281 2553 revdrtim@hotmail.com  
 www.goldenplainsanglican.org  
 www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100094651898435

## Worship Today: SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT / PALM SUNDAY

**Sentence:** At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2:10-11*

**Collect:** God of all, you gave your only-begotten Son to take the form of a servant and to be obedient even to death on a cross: give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus that, sharing in his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Readings: Liturgy of the palms:** Luke 19:28-40

**Main Readings:** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-18; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 23:1-49

### Hymns:

**Inverleigh:** 333 – All glory praise and honour; 201 – King of glory king of peace; 256 – From heaven you came; 348 – Ride on, ride on in majesty

**Bannockburn:** *Lord I come to you; Make way, make way; Hosanna (Praise is rising); The servant king; Such Love; Rejoice!; I give you all the honour*

**Meredith:** *Lord I come to you; All glory praise and honour; You laid aside Your majesty; Hosanna (Praise is rising); The servant king; I give you all the honour*

**Intercessions:** Jesus, Son of David, let us follow in your way;  
Let us walk with you to Jerusalem.

**World:** in the world where false hopes rule we pray for true hope for all peoples in conflict, war, or threat of war, especially: Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine, for all developing nations, especially South Sudan, where there is poverty insecurity, displacement, and hunger; need for education, employment, medical intervention, freedom, and clean water; those who are refugees or asylum seekers; for orphans, widows, and the oppressed; for all national leaders and those in authority for a world of justice and peace; seeking revitalisation through actions that bring hope for your kingdom.

**Church:** for all church leaders and the unity of the worldwide Church; our Diocese in this time of transition; the Board of Nominators and the election of a new archbishop; the establishment of the Youth and Family Community Cinema at Meredith, to identify true hopes in the nature and person of God and be inspired to bring your hope to a darkened world and others come to faith through us; may all we do and say nurture our hope as we see Christ at work growing our church.

**Community:** the Wadawarrung and all our first nations peoples, their elders; those working toward reconciliation and treaty, recognition of the country on which we live, work and play; for all who come into our communities of any race, creed, colour, faith, or no faith that they will experience welcome; for who are struggling with life; that our neighbours will be find a new and better hope.

**Those in need:** Matt Bellchambers, Shirley Musgrove, Melinda Gregory, Karen Schulze, John Thornton, Jenny Bannister, Margaret McLaren, Mary Simpson, Sarah Rees, Jayden Rees, Fay McFarlane, Timothy Deng, Mawut and family.

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3. How is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead the foundation of your hope in Jesus? What can you and your church do to better reach the community with the hope of Jesus?

4. Read Acts 16:11-34. Consider Lydia and the Jailer and his family. In what ways are they different from each other? Yet they are both baptised and belong in Christ together. Who is Jesus for? What sort of people can put their hope in Jesus? Who might God be asking you to share your hope in Jesus with and invite them to explore hope in your church?

**Pray:** God of hope, you call us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world. By your Spirit awaken in us a true vision of your kingdom, a greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service. Through our words and actions may the same Spirit bring many who are lost to be found, and for them to celebrate the hope that we can only have in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

### TABITHA ALANG MAYOM

A friend of mine, Gai Deng Biar, Lecturer in Economics at the University of the Upper Nile, South Sudan, is wondering if there is anyone who is willing and able to support Tabitha in the final two trimesters of a Diploma in Community Health at Kenya Methodist University. Fees are KES 32,500 per semester, approximately AU\$410.00 per semester plus transfer fees. Gai's wife is in Kenya and Tabitha's parents are her neighbours. Alang means prayer because Tabitha was an answer to prayer. Revd Tim for more information.



### CELEBRATING THE WHOLE OF EASTER

#### Maundy Thursday,

7.00 for 7.30 pm

Parish Community Meal

Parish Ministry Centre

11 Byron Street Bannockburn

RSVP [revdrtim@hotmail.com](mailto:revdrtim@hotmail.com) or

text '[Name(s)] Meal Yes'

to 0412 673 152.

For Catering purposes Surnames beginning with:

**A to H** please bring a meat or vegetarian dish to share

**I to P** please bring a vegetable side dish to share

**R to Z** please bring a dessert to share

If you would prefer, swap with someone. If you have any special dietary requirements, please bring

something that others who need the same can share with you. Wine, soft drink, tea, and coffee will be provided.

#### Good Friday.

9.00 am

Liturgy of the Cross

St Paul's Inverleigh

and

11.00 am

The Way of the Cross, A Walk of Witness

commencing from St Mary McKillop Catholic Church

#### Easter Day

Holy Communion with renewal of Baptismal Vows and lighting of the Easter Candle

8.00 am—St Paul's—Inverleigh

10.00 am—St John's—Bannockburn

5.00 pm—Epiphany—Meredith

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I put the tape into the stereo, planning to listen casually while I continued my work. As the music started to play, I felt a strange atmosphere in the room. I was moved by an emotion that I couldn't express in words. I put down what I was doing and listened carefully. I didn't understand the melody or the lyrics, but I was inexplicably touched. I started trembling and crying. I wanted to know what was happening, so I looked at the lyrics. They mentioned something about the Heavenly Father. Who was the Heavenly Father? I didn't know. I only felt surrounded and embraced by a force that was incredibly warm and sweet.

I've always been a rational and composed person, and I wanted to quickly break free from this uncontrollable state, but I couldn't help myself. I heard a voice say to me, "My wandering child, you've finally come home. Daddy loves you."

After this miraculous experience, I asked around and found a friend who went to church every week. I asked her to take me to church. During my journey to church, I encountered many obstacles, but after six months, I had learned some Christian teachings. I found them particularly good and wanted to believe, but my background in atheism and my self-perceived rationality still held me back. At that time, I often asked myself, "Could this just be the best form of idealism I've ever encountered? Is it merely the essence of human thought? Do I really have to believe that there is a God I cannot see or touch who is watching over me?"

During my intense inner struggle, I read a story about a sports day at a special needs school. A group of children with disabilities started running after the signal. One little boy fell after running a short distance. He saw the other children running ahead of him and began to cry in frustration. The child in the lead hesitated when he heard the crying, stopped, turned back, and ran to the fallen child. He helped him up and supported him as they walked together to the finish line. Although he lost his chance to win, he gained applause and friendship. The story concluded by saying that this is what pleases God.

Our Christ is full of sacrifice and compassion. This world encourages us to win at all costs, but God values love and kindness. At that moment, I decided to confess my sins, repent, and humbly trust in this God. I could no longer ignore the prompting of the Holy Spirit, as this was the strength and refuge I had long sought in the world but never found.

Later, I realised that the first time God touched me was through that hymn tape. The music carried a mysterious message, revealing His love to me and calling me to know Him as my Lord and Savior.

#### Questions for reflection:

1. Read Sheena Zhu's testimony of her hope in Jesus. What encourages you in this testimony?
2. What led you to be curious about Jesus, and how did you, do you, respond to Jesus' invitation?

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## Bible Readings

### Prayer for the week:

Almighty and everlasting God, of your tender love towards us you sent your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all should follow the example of his great humility: mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Monday in Holy Week

**Morning:** Ps 21  
Lamentations 1:1-12  
John 14

**Evening:** Ps 25  
Lamentations 2:8-19  
Galatians 6:11-18

### Tuesday in Holy Week

**Morning:** Ps 27  
Lamentations 3:1-18(19-30)  
John 15:1-16:4a

**Evening:** Ps 69:1-21  
Lamentations 4:40-51  
Romans 5:6-11

### Wednesday in Holy Week

**Morning:** Ps 88  
Jeremiah 11:18-20  
John 16:4b-33

**Evening:** Ps 31  
Isaiah 63:1-9  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31

### Maundy Thursday

**Morning:** Ps 55  
Exodus 24:1-11  
John 17

**Evening:** Ps 136  
Leviticus 16:2-24  
Ephesians 2:11-22

## Good Friday

**Morning:** Ps 40  
Genesis 22:1-18  
Mark 15:21-41

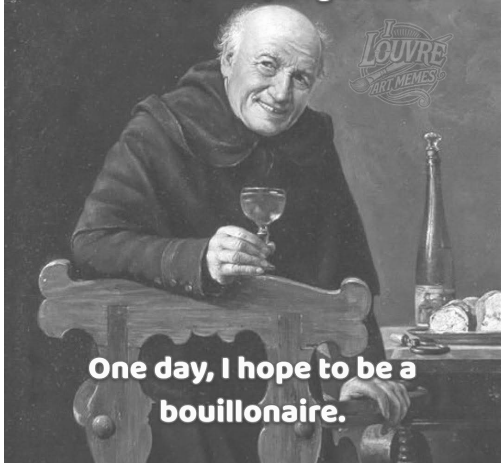
**Evening:** Ps 142  
Lamentations 5:15-22  
Colossians 1:1-23

## Saturday in Holy Week

**Morning:** Ps 30  
Genesis 2:1-3  
John 19:38-42

**Evening:** Ps 31:21-27  
Micah 7:14-20  
1 John 5:3-12

I've started investing in stocks:  
Chicken, beef, vegetable.



One day, I hope to be a  
boullonnaire.

Next Sunday 20th April  
EASTER DAY

Communions with Lighting of  
Easter Candle and Renewal of  
Baptism Vows

8.00 am St Paul's Inverleigh  
10.00 am St John's Bannockburn  
5.00 pm Epiphany Meredith

### Readings

Acts 5:27-32  
Psalm 118:14-29  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Matthew 15:21-28

# IN THIS HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY...

Governments across the world have slashed funding for humanitarian aid, creating immediate threats to lives, dignity, and decades of humanitarian progress:

- Hundreds of thousands of refugees are losing access to food aid.
- Lifesaving maternal and child health-care services are being shut down.
- Refugees who cannot legally work are being forced to choose between becoming undocumented migrants, returning to deadly conflict zones, or facing starvation.
- Critical refugee-led education programs are shutting down, jeopardising the futures of thousands of children.

## ...YOU CAN HELP BUILD HOPE.

Your urgent gift will help our partners fill some of the critical funding gaps created by aid cuts so they can continue to provide essential support to refugees.

*“Behind everything we see in the news, there are stories of families... children.*

*They are real people – and now they’re paying the price of these aid cuts.”*

– Elijah Buol OAM, Act for Peace CEO

Together we can put the human back into humanitarian aid.

Act for peace and give today.



[actforpeace.org.au/humanitarian-aid](https://actforpeace.org.au/humanitarian-aid)

Cover image: Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

**ACT FOR PEACE**  
CONQUERING INJUSTICE TOGETHER  
THROUGH THE SOLIDARITY

**THE HUMAN COST OF HUMANITARIAN AID CUTS: HEALTH. SAFETY. JUSTICE. FREEDOM. DIGNITY. LIVES.**

for humanKind



## THAILAND

*“Refugees aren’t allowed to leave the camps to work. So really, they’re wholly reliant on this external food aid. We only have a few weeks left of cash left to fund food.”* – Maximillian Morch, The Border Consortium

The Border Consortium primarily funds food and cooking fuel for refugees in Thailand’s border camps.

Without funding, food will run out within weeks and many thousands of refugees will face severe hunger and malnutrition.

People facing starvation may be forced to scavenge for food or risk their lives returning to Myanmar.



**MORE THAN 100,000 REFUGEES ARE AT IMMEDIATE RISK OF RUNNING OUT OF FOOD**



## INDONESIA

*“Many of the world’s leaders are not being thoughtful in their policies and actions, and it is affecting many, many people around the world.”* – Dino Satria, Yayasan Cita Wadah Swaday

Yayasan Cita Wadah Swaday provides critical cash assistance programs for refugees in the Jakarta area and supports refugee children who have lost their families.

Funding cuts have halted this essential aid, leaving hundreds of people without financial support for food, housing, and basic needs, and children without shelter, food or education.



**600 PEOPLE IN JAKARTA HAVE LOST ESSENTIAL SUPPORT AND PROTECTION**



## PAKISTAN

*“Many women and children won’t have access to basic health care. That’s really very concerning, especially for the elderly, for women who are expecting, or women who have small children.”* – Shama Mall, Community World Service Asia

Community World Service Asia provides essential healthcare, education, and community support services to more than 55,000 people in Pakistan.

Funding cuts have closed maternal and child healthcare services, leaving women and children highly vulnerable. Cuts have also halted crucial programs supporting minority rights, women’s empowerment and education.



**60 ESSENTIAL CRITICAL HEALTH FACILITIES HAVE BEEN FORCED TO CLOSE**