

4th March	11.00 am Communion Estia Health Bannockburn
	4.00 pm Wedding Interview Church of St Paul Inverleigh
10th March	7.00 pm House Group Teesdale
14th March	8.30 am Men's Breakfast Parish Ministry Centre
	4.15 Geelong v Fremantle GMHBA Stadium
16th March	2.30 pm Army Chaplain Supervision
18th March	12.00 pm Deanery Meeting Christ Church, Geelong
24th March	7.00 pm House Group Teesdale
25th March	7.00 pm Parish Council Parish Ministry Centre
26th March	7.30 pm Geelong v Adelaide GMHBA Stadium
29th March	10.00 am Combined Parish Worship Church of St Paul, Inverleigh
31st March	7.00 pm House Group Teesdale
1st April	11.00 am Communion Estia Banno

Parish Roster for March 8

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: Liz McDonald
 Bannockburn: Freda & Paul Duke

**Banno Reading: Carol Newlands
 Communion Assistant:**

Inverleigh: Bruce McDonald
 Bannockburn: Freda Duke

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

EXERCISE FOR PEOPLE OVER 60

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags. Then try 50-lb potato bags and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level).

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith
 1st MARCH 2026—SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

SEED FAITH & SAUSAGE ROLLS

St Faithful's, Havenots is fictional the sense of the PCC presentation is real

Malcolm cleared his throat and placed a laminated sheet in the middle of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) table. "As Treasurer," he began, with the grave dignity of a man who once ran a meat raffle every Thursday night for eighteen consecutive years, "I have devised an exciting new fundraising strategy." Judith reached for her notebook. Perry folded his arms. Dobbs muttered something about "here we go". Malcolm pressed on. "It's called the St Faithful's Seed Multiplication Strategy™."

There was a silence. "It's biblical," Malcolm said, tapping the laminated sheet. "You sow a seed, you reap a harvest. We invite parishioners to give... say... five hundred pounds each. In faith. And we confidently expect the Lord to return it to them sevenfold by Michaelmas."

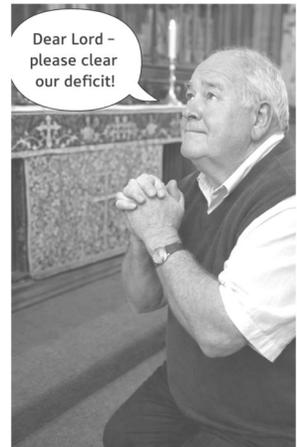
Lionel stopped doodling. "Sevenfold?" asked Sally. "Minimum," said Malcolm. "I've seen testimonies online." Horse leaned forward. "So if I give five hundred quid, I get three and a half grand by October?"

"In principle," said Malcolm.

Kevin, who had come along because he enjoys watching PCC meetings the way some people enjoy cage fighting, said gently, "And if it doesn't arrive?" Malcolm blinked. "Well. Obviously that would indicate... insufficient faith." Sandy inhaled slowly. "Malcolm," she said, "if this is guaranteed to work, why don't the prophets just keep their own money and become trillionaires?" There was a pause long enough to age a Stilton. Malcolm adjusted his glasses. "Well. They do seem fairly comfortable."

Tim had been very quiet. "I was once visiting a bishop in Ghana," he said eventually. The PCC looked up. Tim rarely played the Ghana card unless it

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Parish Ministry Centre: 11 Byron Street, BANNOCKBURN VIC, 3331
 (03) 5281 2553 revdrtim@hotmail.com
 www.goldenplainsanglican.org
 www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100094651898435

Sentence: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Collect: God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive: grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Readings: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 12; Romans 4:1-17; John 3:1-17

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 98 – We praise we worship you O God; 375 – Come let us with our Lord arise; 576 – O for a closer walk with God; 52 – Let us sing to the God of Salvation

Bannockburn: *How deep the Father's love for us*; Come, now is the time to worship; The heart of worship (When the music fades); God the Creator; *Refiner's fire*; Let us sing to the God of Salvation; *I will offer up my life*

Meredith: *How deep the Father's love for us*; We praise we worship you O God; The heart of worship (When the music fades); O for a closer walk with God; Let us sing to the God of Salvation; *I will offer up my life*

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

World: peace in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, Iran and all places in conflict or war; all nations experiencing political and financial coercion; South Sudan and all developing nations; wherever there is terror, violence, injustice, loss of freedom, racism, hunger displacement and homelessness; all national leaders and law makers with responsibility to serve their people.

Church: that we will share the good news of God's kingdom in an uncertain world; Bp Sarah Archbishop of Canterbury, Abp Ric Thorpe, Bp Brad as he prepares for the Diocese of Adelaide; the outreach of our Youth and Family Community Cinema; for Parish worship and our financial viability.

Weddings: Elise Craven and Luke Vucicevic (St Pauls, May 8)

Baptisms:

Confirmations:

Community: the Wadawarrung and all custodians of country on which we live and work, for reconciliation and treaty; for welcome and belonging as communities in diversity; those recovering from fire and floods; those facing interest rate and rental increases; those suffering food insecurity; for all farmers and graziers; for rain and a return to normal weather cycles.

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, Mawut Gotbaai, Timothy Deng and Weng, Makat Majok.

LENTEN STUDY JOY

For Daily Study

Sunday March 1

Read: Psalm 96

What can you do to make sure you sing a song of joy to God every day?

Monday March 2

Read: Psalm 97

How does the fact that God is in charge of the world today give you joy?

Tuesday March 3

Read: Psalm 98

Think about your favourite hymn or worship song. What is it about that particular hymn or song that makes it so important for you? What is it that brings you joy and fills you with a sense of 'joy to the Lord'?

Wednesday March 4

Read: Psalm 100

How does this psalm affect you. Where does this psalm create joy in you?

Thursday March 5

Read: Psalm 111

Do I study and delight in God's mighty works in Jesus to redeem me, and do I respond to this with joyful whole-hearted thanksgiving?

Friday March 6

Read: Psalm 122

Contemplating your Lenten journey so far, take a moment to finish the phrase 'I was glad when...'

Thinking about the week ahead, how will you take holy rest from your labours and take joy in the gift of the week's end?

Remembering the challenges of Psalm 122, what reconciliation would bring you complete joy?

Saturday March 7

Read: Psalm 149

How much is your life full of joy and praise in the living God?

For Weekly or Group Study

1. What is your favourite Psalm? Do you have a version of that you sing?
2. Which psalms in this week's readings, and reflections, have resonated most with you?
3. Psalm 97 begins, 'The Lord is King! Let the earth rejoice.' How does God being king of the world today give you cause for joy?
4. Psalm 98 speaks of the marvellous things that God has done. What marvellous things has God done for you? Can you sing about them?
5. Part of the reflection for Friday was an invitation to complete the sentence, 'I was glad when...' How you would complete that sentence if you were asked by someone else?
6. Psalm 149 speaks of God taking pleasure in his people. How do you see yourself and your church giving God pleasure?
7. C S Lewis wrote, 'We delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation.' How the Psalms help us consummate our joy in God?

PRAYER FOR LENT

O God, our heavenly Father, you rejoice over your people with gladness; and in your presence there is fulness of joy and pleasures for evermore. Though we do not yet see you, give us in this world inextinguishable joy of your Spirit, in the heavenly kingdom of righteousness and joy, that people everywhere may know your delight in the return of a sinner; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Continued from page 1)

mattered. "He lives in a modest house. Tin roof. Concrete floor. He pointed to a hill in the distance. On top of it was the most enormous mansion — pillars, gates, the works. I assumed it was some politician." He paused. "He said, 'Who do you think lives there?'"

Horse ventured, "A very blessed parish priest?"

Tim shook his head. "That," he said, "is the self-styled Bishop of the International Church of Miracles and Christ the Redeemer Incorporated."

Lionel blinked. "Catchy."

"He's an absolute charlatan," Tim continued quietly. "But many of the poorest people in the diocese give him every Ghana cedi they have. They are told it is seed money. That it will multiply. That it will lift them out of poverty." The room was still now. "The real bishop said to me, 'It breaks my heart.'"

No one spoke for a moment. Dobbs, unusually subdued, said, "In the meat raffle, at least the pork chops were real."

Judith lowered her pen.

"So in these schemes," Perry said slowly, "the only guaranteed harvest is the mansion."

Lionel brightened faintly. "Will ours at least include a vestry?"

Sandy leaned forward. "Malcolm," she said gently, "the tragedy isn't that people want blessing. It's that they're told God is an investment strategy."

Horse frowned. "So I shouldn't be planning the wedding around a miracle payout?"

Kevin squeezed his hand. "I'd rather marry you solvent."

Tim smiled, but his voice was firm. "The only person guaranteed prosperity in a seed-multiplication scheme is the one holding the microphone."

Malcolm gathered up his laminated sheet, a little deflated. "So... no Easter launch?"

"No," said Tim. "We'll stick to the Gospel."

Dobbs nodded. "Jesus had many qualities," he said. "Portfolio growth wasn't one of them."

Malcolm sighed. "Back to sausage rolls, then?"

"Back to sausage rolls," said Tim.

And the PCC moved on to Item 7: 'Heating Crisis — Is Prayer a Viable Supplement?'

www.facebook.com/stfaithfulshavnot



World Day of Prayer 2026

Join our local prayer service focused on Nigeria



PALM SUNDAY
Bishop Philip Huggins
will be with us
Palm Sunday
29th March



To preside over
Baptism
Confirmation
(of some of our South Sudanese Community)
and
Reception into the Anglican Church
Although this is a fifth Sunday of the month because of the possible numbers our combined Parish Worship will be at
10.00 am
Church of St Paul Inverleigh.
If you would like to be confirmed or received into the Anglican Church from another Christian denomination, please speak to Revd Tim.

Date and time of service	Fri. March 6th 2pm
Venue	St. Josephs
Address	howler St Meredith
Contact	Mary 0424037542