

Fanfare de Dieu



Communication and Communion



Prayers and Intercessions



Requests for prayers for each and every parish will be found in this space of every future edition.

It would be appreciated that we be advised also when the particular problem or illness has been resolved, the list can tend to become tedious for everyone if requests for the resolution of an illness [as an example] has been cured and we have not been advised of the happy proof of our prayers.

We request the prayers of the Faithful, Clergy and Friends of the Church on behalf of::

Father Ben Stroet
John Harrison
Joanne Renfrey R.I.P.
Barbara Sedorkin R.I.P.

Fr. Rick Williams
Allen James Ryan
Fr Peter Edwards, R.I.P.

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Special points of interest

- Enlightening item from Bishop Michael Gill of Africa
- Pastoral letter from our Bishop Michael
- We give you another inspirational poem from Andrew Pell
- News of the Orphanage in Burma
- Again, some wicked humour to lighten your load



St Margarets receives two photos from Yangon



Members of St Margaret's on the Gold Coast must burst with pride and satisfaction when they receive photos such as those above and realise that without their donations, this Mission would not survive.

Well done, St Margaret's, well done!



News from Sunraysia

Thank you all for your prayers for Deacon Richard. He is home from Hospital and turned up at Mass yesterday where he sat in the pew and enjoyed not having to do anything. He is back at work for two to three hours in the afternoon, and hopes to return fulltime in about a weeks time.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is approaching. We are holding a combined service at the Salvation Army on Whitsunday (Pentacost) in the evening. The service will follow the guideline from the World Council of Churches, and Fr Peter will preach.

We are about to embark on some repairs to the Chapel of St Alban, one of the stumps has broken away and we will replace it with a concrete one, it may be less attractive to the white ants, we are fixing some sticking doors and cleaning the gutters. Our toilet block will need work soon as it has been attacked by the white ants, we don't want it to collapse while someone is using it.

Please continue your prayers for Richards' complete recovery, he has to overcome a dose of Double Pneumonia as well as a bout of Glandular fever.





When Heaven takes a peak

Every now and then Heaven looks down and sees what earth is doing.

God sees the beautiful flowers and people blooming.

Kindness is on the rise, love is on the increase.

We pray daily that all hatred will cease.

This is how the world should be with true knowledge of the Divine.

All creation aligns with God.

Sadly there still corners of the earth where God is rejected.

Starving people and hurting people neglected.

We can imitate Christ by providing comfort and care.

This is necessary and only fair.

Look at the way Christ forgave you.

Christ in us has made all things new.

Treat everyone with respect and love.

God's love will fall like soft raindrops from above.

(c) Andrew Pell 26/01/2015



Parish Assessment Bank Account

The bank account details for any donations/deposits to the Church should be made to the following account:

Bank: Westpac

BSB: 032-555

Account number: 23-3517



The Bishop reminds all readers that donations to the Church are gladly accepted. Make contact with Marek Stupalsky on stupalsky@gmail.com and he will advise you on the tax benefits of your donation.

Watch for the next issue—there is something coming up that should give encouragement to one and all in the community of ACCA.

Winter is coming and it sometimes seems easier to stay at home in the warmth, but venturing out to meet our friends at church has a different way of warming us and is recommended to one and all.



Some wicked humour

A husband and wife are in church. The preacher notices that the husband has fallen asleep and says to the wife, "Wake your husband up!" The wife answers, "You're the one who made him fall asleep, you wake him up!"

One night a lady came home from her weekly prayer meeting, found she was being robbed, and she shouted out, "Acts 2:38: 'Repent and be baptized & your sins will be forgiven.'" The robber quickly gave up and the lady rang the police. While handcuffing the criminal, a policeman said, "Gee mate, you gave up pretty easily. How come you gave up so quickly?" The robber said, "She said she had an axe and two 38's!"

A priest, a minister, and a rabbi want to see who's best at his job. So they each go into the woods, find a bear, and attempt to convert it. Later they get together. The priest begins: "When I found the bear, I read to him from the Catechism and sprinkled him with holy water. Next week is his first communion." "I found a bear by the stream," says the minister, "and preached God's holy word. The bear was so mesmerized that he let me baptize him." They both look down at the rabbi, who is lying on a gurney in a body cast. "Looking back," he says, "maybe I shouldn't have started with the circumcision."

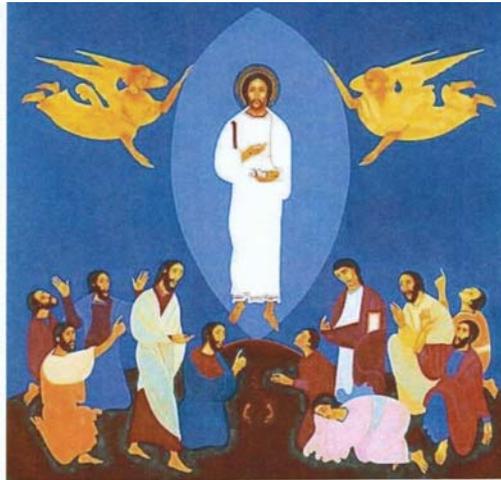
Three guys are at the gates of Heaven, and God tells them, "We have a special today! If you died a terrible death, you're in for free." So God asks the first guy his story. "I was a hard working man and a loving husband, but I began to suspect that my wife was cheating on me. One day, I called in sick to work and left for home to hide and closely watch my apartment. I saw a man go in, and I decided to wait a few minutes to catch them in the act. Then, I started banging on my door. They wouldn't open it, so I broke down the door and walked in to see my wife sitting naked, but the man wasn't in sight. I went to the balcony, where I saw a naked man hanging on the edge. I began to stomp on his hands until he fell down, but there were bushes, so I got my fridge and tossed it on him. In the process of tossing the fridge, I also fell over and died." God replies, "Wow, that's pretty bad, finding out your wife cheated and falling off your balcony. You pass." The second guy says, "God, my only crime was that I enjoyed dancing naked in my apartment while eating pickles out of the jar. I was doing just that one day, when I slipped on a pickle and fell over my balcony. Luckily, I was able to grab on to the ledge below mine. After a few minutes, a man came and I thought he was going to rescue me, but he began to stomp on my hands. I fell, but luckily, I fell into the bushes. I thought I had survived, but that man threw a fridge at me and I died!" God replies, "Wow, that's very cruel, being crushed to death." The third man says, "I died naked in a fridge."

In surgery for a heart attack, a middle-aged woman has a vision of God by her bedside. "Will I die?" she asks. God says, "No. You have 30 more years to live." With 30 years to look forward to, she decides to make the best of it. So since she's in the hospital, she gets breast implants, liposuction, a tummy tuck, hair transplants, and collagen injections in her lips. She looks great! The day she's discharged, she exits the hospital with a swagger, crosses the street, and is immediately hit by an ambulance and killed. Up in heaven, she sees God. "You said I had 30 more years to live," she complains. "That's true," says God. "So what happened?" she asks. God shrugs, "I didn't recognize you."

Two little boys were known troublemakers, stealing everything they could get their hands on, even from the church. One day a priest stopped one of the boys and asked, "Where is God?" The boy shrugged and the priest repeated, "Where is God?" The boy ran out of the cathedral crying to his home where he hid in a closet. Eventually his brother found him and asked, "What's wrong?" The crying boy replied, "We're in trouble now! God is missing and they think we took him!"



The coming Ascension



As we prepare to keep the Feast of the Ascension, we are once again made aware that Our Lord Jesus Christ carried our wounded humanity up into His place at God's right hand in glory. In that, He has given us a peculiar dignity as human beings. One day, we will be privileged to gaze upon those marvellous scars, and be filled with awe and wonder at what Our Saviour Jesus Christ endured for our sins, but, as we continue with the grind of daily life, we are encouraged in that our sufferings and trials do not go unnoticed, and that the sorrows He bore on our behalf, He will continue to bear. We truly serve a Good Shepherd, a caring and loving Saviour. To Him be the glory forever!

[This was the cover page of the fourth newsletter prepared by Bishop Michael Gill and forwarded to our Bishop Michael Pope. Our Bishop Michael wishes to share this publication with you all, so the following pages are a complete replica of the edition received as 4/15 of May 2015].

The centrality of Proclamation in the life of the Priest or Deacon

“For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of; for necessity is laid upon me; yea woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!” - 1 Corinthians 9:16

The wonder of Easter, the Ascension approaching, and then the great Feast of Whitsun or Pentecost, all lead us to one inescapable truth about our ministry; it is a ministry of the Proclamation of the saving power of the Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ to be carried to all people. Our other tasks are important, and we are not to neglect our duties, but a clergyman is above all a preacher.



Proceed to next page please

More on the Proclamation in the life of the Priest or Deacon



Item

We are Ordained, primarily as a voice that carries the message of salvation and warning out into the world. Holy Scripture tell us repeatedly that the Old Testament Prophets were called to be “trumpeters” [Ezekiel 33:1-7], and we are similar in our ministries; we too are trumpeters of the Gospel. What does a trumpeter do; what did that mean??

Firstly the trumpeter sounds the alarm in times of danger. Saul blew the trumpet in time of war [1 Sam 13:3] and so the trumpeter warned the people, stirred them on, directed them and united them. Similarly, the Christian Priest is called to warn the people about sin, to stir up the people to love and serve their Lord, to direct them in the right path and to unify them in their service of Christ as the family of the redeemed. Lastly, the trumpeter was required to stand beside his Commanding Officer, ready to send out the message, at all times. The Priest of God is also called to be close to His Lord, always ready to do whatever he desires.

For some, the work of teaching and preaching the Gospel may seem a waste of time, even contemptible, but for us it is the principle work of our ministry. We have to take care that we spend adequate time in prayer and preparation for preaching, for that is where the people will hear the instruction they need to live a godly and a Christian life. Be careful not to hide a lack of preparation to preach behind extravagant liturgy, ritual and long readings Many hard working and sincere clergymen fall into this trap, using all the liturgical activity of their parish as an excuse for ‘not having time to prepare for the sermon.’

Consequently, our people end up having to endure hastily composed sermons, devoid of prayerful preparation, of any deep content, of power, fire and effectiveness; altogether unsatisfactory!

When in doubt, we always have to turn to Our Lord Jesus Christ as the supreme guide in terms of our ministry. Jesus Christ, when on earth, was always a preacher, and His last commandment to His Disciples can be found in the Gospel of St Mark, Chapter 16 Verse 15. There He tells them to go into all the world, to *preach* and to baptise. The spread of the Early Church was due to the work of preachers, carrying a fresh new message of salvation. Please be careful of minimising the role of preaching in your own life and ministry, for a reluctance to preach will lead to a decline in the spiritual depth and quality of your own ministry matters such as the work of Christ, the love of God the Father, the work of the Holy Spirit, sin justification, sanctification and holy living. Here, your theological insights will build up, warn and direct God’s people. Remember, before the Reformation, out of which Anglicanism was



More on the Proclamation

born, when the pulpit was silent, the Church became practically useless as a vehicle of the Grace of God.

We have to be cautious about ourselves. We cannot become slaves to Ritual Notes, and have nothing of substance coming through our preaching. Ritual, as beautiful as it may be, seldom leads to the conversion of many. The preaching of St Peter on the Day of Pentecost, St Paul throughout the Roman work, John Chrysostom, Hugh Latimer, John Wesley and George Whitfield, these changed hundreds of lives and even nations!

Metropolitan Tabernacle,
Elephant and Castle, London,
depicting Charles Spurgeon at
his peak.



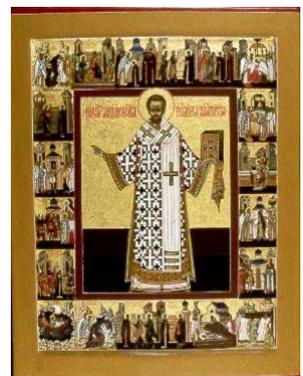
“If a crooked stick is before you, you need not explain how crooked it is. Lay a straight one by the side of it and the work is well done. Preach the truth, and all error will stand abashed in its presence.” Charles Spurgeon, preaching in Surrey.

Sermons, to some, are a painful discipline, but that is usually because they are based on foggy doctrines and a lack of knowledge of the church and its history. It could also be due to a lack of knowledge of the lives of the people under your care? The more you challenge yourself, the more you read and study the Scriptures, the better you know your people, the less you will speak ‘against’ the issues of the world in the newspaper of the day, or tell little irrelevant stories, and the more you will address the *real* needs of man, of salvation and of life itself. If you address the real issues facing every man woman and child, those of sin and death, of personal holiness, of the work of the Holy Spirit, of the work and person of Jesus Christ our Lord, you will find an anointing upon your ministry by the Holy Spirit that will change you as a man of God and the people who hear you preach.

Man of God, be courageous and bold in your proclamation of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ. That is your task and responsibility.

*“If you cannot find Christ in the beggar at your church door,
You will not find him in the chalice.”*

St John Chrysostom — “The Golden Mouthed” - the greatest preacher of his day.





Pastoral Letter from the Rt Revd Michael K Pope

Dear All!

Recently, Bishop Michael Gill, who is the Secretary of the TAC and Bishop Ordinary of the Church in South Africa issued an excellent Pastoral Letter for Ascensiontide.

Most Bishops and Clergy throughout the world received this document but I think it is worth a wider audience than that.

Consequently, I have asked our gracious Secretary Shirley to send it out in this edition of the Fanfare. *[See Pages 5, 6 and 7 Ed.]*

As it happened I was about to write to you on the same theme.

I have decided to append some thoughts which, I hope, will be useful to you and may even be an initiative for study groups or meditation (privately).

I was prompted by the Gospel readings for recent Sundays from the three year lectionary (Lutheran Press) which I have used for some years.

Some of you may know it and use it.

Unlike some traditions the text is MEANT for reading in liturgy and is most successful indeed.

So the two gospels which caught my attention were those which are part of the 'I AM' statements of Jesus.

These statements constitute two of the EIGHT 'I AM' teachings recorded by John and the final one is to be found in Revelation

It is accepted that the Ascension 'closes' the material life of Jesus on earth—BUT that is not the END of the story.

Clearly, he remains with us in the sacraments and in his teachings—until the end of 'time'

So these eight teachings remind us of his PRESENCE in word and sacrament.

Bishop Gill in his pastoral makes it clear that it was in the ministry of PREACHING and TEACHING that Paul and the other Apostles made their mark and brought the faith forward.

While the total act of the liturgy is important the service of PREACHING must be a serious responsibility of each person who holds a licence to do so.

Recently, I attended a requiem for a friend. (I was pressed to take part—however I exercised my right not to cause protocol problems) and morphed into the congregation—which, fortunately was large!)

The 'sermon' preached by one of the clergy was possibly the 'best' demonstration of nonsense I have ever heard!



Pastoral letter contined

The preacher regaled us with what HE did regarding visiting him in hospital (even in the EARLY hours of the morning.....dear oh dear.....!!!)

Here it was Eastertide!

At the lunch afterwards several people asked me what it all meant!
It is amazing what a smile can do!!!

So I commend to you your commitment to preaching!
The Faithful do want to hear what Jesus preached—clearly.
It is our MISSION to ensure that is what we do!

These are the 'I AM' statements-

'I AM THE' SALVATION	John 4: 1-26	The Samaritan woman
'I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE	SURVIVAL	John 6: 25-51
'I AM THE LIGHT'	DIRECTION	John 8: 12-30
'I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD'	SECURITY	John 10: 1-21
I AM THE RESURRECTION'	ETERNITY	John 11 1-27
'I AM THE WAY'	PEACE	John 14: 1-14
'I AM THE TRUE VINE '	PURPOSE	John 15: 1-8
'I AM THE ALPHA AND OMEGA'	CONFIDENCE	Revelation 1:8 22: 12-16

In sum we study these statements of Jesus in the light of the revelation to Moses who asked for a message or assurance he could give to Israel to give him the AUTHORITY to lead them out of captivity to freedom.

In Exodus 3: 14 God's response was-
'I AM WHO AM'

So the covenant name for God was 'I AM'

You can imagine the consternation Jesus caused by daring to CLAIM that it was HE whom the scriptures spoke of!

The consequences of this are clear to us all!
The Jews imagined they had won

BUT they did not know that their victory would be short-lived!

Every good wish and blessing to you all!
Pax Christi!



Thought for this Issue



Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

PHILIPPIANS 4:9 KJV



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A Member Church of the Traditional Anglican Communion

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From the Editor

What a wonderful time of year on the Church Calendar, enjoy your community and the moving services while you can

Not much news coming in, we have leaned heavily on Bishop Michael Gill and Bishop Michael Pope for the bulk of our copy.

Thank you to Sunraysia, they never fail me!

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**Next deadline is:
12 June 2015**