



St Luke's Anglican Emerald Mission Statement

'To know Christ & to make Him known'
January 3rd & 10th 2021

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St Luke's Anglican Emerald

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Treasurer: Donna Lewis

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Bishop-elect

Very Rev'd Peter Grice

Administrator:

Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks

Registrar

Rev'd Jen Hercott (Mon-Wed)

Archdeacons

Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks

Ven John Barnes

Diocesan Accountant

Tara Cowen

Bishop's P.A.

Barb Smith

Welcome:

The family of St Luke's want to extend a very warm welcome to anyone who is visiting us today. Whether you are local or just passing through, we are delighted to have you here. If you have children with you, please sit close to the front so that they can see what is going on and participate in the service (let them play with the toys, do the activity on the back sheet, and move around ... God put the wiggle in children, so please don't feel you need to suppress it in God's house!)

News from around the Diocese

Arrangements are under way for welcoming Bishop-elect Peter and his family in mid January.

Consecration: 24th February 7pm in Brisbane

Installation: 27th February 11am in Rockhampton

If you wish to attend either of these events please contact the Barb in the Diocese office.

All Diocesan news is available in the CQFirst Diocesan Newsletter.

News from around the Parish

Christmas services were once again a great time of joy and celebration in the Parish. We began with Carols on the lawn on the 20th of December, and followed with our regular Christmas services which for the first time were offered were both in person and on-line (How far we have come in 2020!). The 'Home Alone' Community Christmas lunch in collaboration with the Salvation Army on Christmas Day was again a highlight for those who were privileged to be there serving: I want to thank those who assisted with set up, serving and pack up, and all those who generously donated towards the cost of meals for our community. More than 77 meals were served on the day, with many more being delivered to those who couldn't make the meal. Additional thanks to the businesses who sponsored the meal: Central Highland Regional Council, Fair Dinkum Fresh, Emerald IGA, Fairburn Bakery, Evergreen Farms & Woolworths.

Prayer Points:

Australian Church:

Armidale Diocese: Vicar-General Brian Kirk and the leadership team of the Diocese as they take the gospel to their region. Pray also for Bishop-elect Rod Chiswell as he prepares to shepherd this Diocese into the future.

Defence Force Chaplaincy:

Bishop Grant Dibden and the Chaplains who serve both in regular and reserve forces. Pray that they may bring the light and comfort of Christ to those most in need.

Diocese

Cathedral Parish: Very Rev'd Melusi Sibanda and the Parish leadership as they shape mission and ministry in the heart of our Diocese.

Wandal Parish: Rev'd Andrew Gall and the saints in Wandal. Give thanks for the success of recent events and pray that the seeds sown for the kingdom of God will produce a great harvest.

Persecuted Church:

Niger; where simply being a Christian means risking harassment, abduction & violence, as well as discrimination in the workplace. Pray for courage and wisdom in sharing their faith; that churches will withstand the pressure of extremists; and for God's provision as the country struggles with drought & famine.

Indonesia; where Christians risk being attacked or expelled from their family if their faith is discovered. Pray for God to change the hearts of the persecutors; pray for provision for struggling churches; pray that Christians will hold firmly to the faith they profess despite the pressure they experience.

CMS & BCA Field Staff

Those that we know:

Evelyn, Margaret, Lachlan, Peter, Susanne, Roley, John, Christian Family, Morrish family preparing for Baptism, Emily & Riki preparing for marriage

Notepad Thoughts (for the New Year)

The turn of a new year is always a time for us to once again reflect on the year that has been and to look forward to the year to come.

Every year (including 2020) has within it triumphs and successes; every year also contains its share of unfulfilled plans, unrealised dreams and bumps in the road. Every new year offers endless possibilities and an almost palpable excitement for the adventure that awaits. The turn of a new year gives us the opportunity for resolutions, for changes which will take us forward, and to choose the path that we will follow. As 2021 dawns upon us ... what path will we choose?

I pray that this year we will keep our focus where it needs to be; that we will choose to walk in the light of Christ; that we will choose to be fully devoted in our discipleship of Jesus; that we will be intentional about growing disciples of Jesus in our homes, workplaces and churches; and that we will stand firm in our faith in the face of the pressure to come.

May this new year draw each of us into the abundant richness of Jesus more than we ever thought possible.

And a final prayer from Ephesians 3:14-20

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Happy New Year

Rev'd Jen

Coming up @ St Luke's

- 30th January Introduction to Pastoral Care
- Christianity explored.
- Jesus the Game Changer series 2.
- Budget meeting & discussion (date to be set)
- AGM date to be set

Prayer for the world during the pandemic (COVID-19):

Please pray for leaders, officials and advisors for wisdom, discernment and compassion. Please pray for healthcare and other front line workers for protection, strength and courage.

Please pray for our community, for wisdom, compliance and calm.

Please pray that in God's love, compassion and sovereignty that He will stop this virus. That in His compassion he will heal, comfort and reassure. That in His wisdom, grace and mercy He will lead the way to effective treatment and prevention. That in His strength He will encourage, carry and nurture all who minister in His name at this time; and that He will ultimately use this virus to His Glory and to draw His people closer to Himself.

Sunday readings

Sunday 3rd Jan	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:10-18	Sunday 10th Jan	Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11
Sunday 17th Jan	1 Samuel 3:1-10 Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51	Sunday 24th Jan	Jonah 3:1-10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

Volunteers needed:

As activity for 2021 starts ramping up we need your help!

Are you willing to give a few hours of your time each week to help with:

Admin

Gardening

Serving and sorting in the Shop

Kids Ministry & Youth Group

Pastoral Care

Reading, Praying, Sound Desk and Serving around the church

Odd jobs and maintenance

Church Finance: December

Figures for December not yet available.

As a church we have worked hard to keep the impact of COVID-19 on our services to an absolute minimum. The impact on the finances of our church however has been immense. As a Parish we have previously relied heavily on fundraising events and the St Luke's Shop for Parish income for many many years. These lines of income are no longer available to us as a secure stream of income. Please come to the Stewardship and Budget meeting when the date is proposed. Please share your ideas with others. Please get involved in the life of your church. Parish council are praying and stewarding resources as best we can, we ask you to join us.

You can give **directly and securely from our Website** www.stlukesemerald.org.au

Direct Debit/Electronic Transfer: To do so simply use the bank details below:

Acct: St Luke's Anglican Church BSB: 034-181 Acct Number: 810 226

Contactless payment option is available at the back of the church each week.

Please continue to support **St Luke's Mission Fund BSB 034 181 Acct number 103281.**

