

Bulletin



WELCOME We love to welcome visitors and newcomers to St John's! If you are visiting today or here for the first time, please fill in a visitors' card and place it in the offertory or Staff Message Box, and stay to say hello after the service.

April 24, 2011

Easter Greeting

Easter is a very special time in the church calendar ... so special that, like Christmas, it has been taken hold of, and almost completely overwhelmed by, our secular culture, such that chocolate eggs, annual shows and holidays have become much more important to the majority of people than the reason for the celebration in the first place. And it is kind of odd to be seen, as it were, as if we are on the back foot, trying to tack some kind of religious significance onto the holiday festival.

But Easter IS Easter! And once again we are reminded of the greatest of all acts of grace, performed on our behalf by our all-powerful and holy Creator God, who sent his own much-loved Son to planet Earth, to live as one of us, to enter our experience of the hardships of living in a world trapped in the outcomes of its rejection of God, and supremely to die the death that we deserve, and so pay the penalty for that rejection. Because of his death, and subsequent resurrection from the dead, the way back into relationship with God is open, and we can know and experience restoration and reconciliation with God, because of the events of the first Easter ... which is really what this celebration is all about.

May the reminders of Jesus' death and resurrection this weekend re-affirm for us the basis of our faith, and call us into renewed confidence in, and commitment to, Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

Rod Harding.



PRAYER POINTS

Prayer for our World As Christians celebrate Easter all over the world this weekend, pray that the central message of the gospel will have impact on the affairs of the nations, bringing peace where there is trouble, safety and protection where lives are at risk, and an awareness of the rights of all people where injustice and inequality are rife.

Prayer for our Church Pray for the influence of St John's on our community, as we seek to promote ways of engaging and interacting with those who live around us. May the message of Easter undergird all we do in Jesus' name.

EASTER SUNDAY

- At the 8am Communion Service and at 5pm at DRV, Rod Harding will preach on Mark 16:1-8, celebrating the resurrection story with the topic 'He's Alive'.

- At the 9.45am service we'll celebrate with an 'Easter Family Service' focusing on Mark 16. The service will end with a short communion service for all who choose to stay.

- At the 7pm service Ian Forest-Jones will preach on the topic 'Will You Live For Jesus?'. Just as the cross can be presented with or without the body of Christ upon it (emphasising Jesus' death or his resurrection), contemporary Christians too would do well to keep in balance both sides of our faith: remembering Jesus' death and celebrating, by living, Christ's resurrected life.

THIS WEEK

Congratulations to those celebrating!

- Sunday 24** Andrew Ritchie
- Tuesday 26** Linda Cameron
Connor Doran
- Friday 29** Marney Wane
- Saturday 30** Ruth & Leigh Finney
Megan McDonald

ANZAC DAY Join the march tomorrow from the Sutherland United Services Club at 5am, or come direct to Peace Park at 5.30am, to share with the wider community in a celebration of Anzac Day.

At DRV, there will be an Anzac Celebration Service held at 11am in the common room, followed by lunch together.

SOUTHERN MEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP invites you to their senior men's lunch on Wednesday April 27, 12.15pm for a 12.30pm start, at DRV café, for a \$12 light lunch. This month Pastor Mike Hercock will be sharing about his unique urban mission work in the inner city. Please ring John Ansell (9528 2481) or Arthur Watterson (8539 7990) by Monday April 25 to advise your attendance.

CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY If you're going to the Weekend Away next weekend, make sure you collect your "What to Bring & How to Get There" form from the Welcomers Table today.

NEXT SUNDAY

MORNING & DRV SERVICES Next Sunday, lots of us will still be at Rathane for the Church Weekend Away. For those who are not, John Chapman will be the preacher here at St John's and at DRV, preaching on 'Justified by Faith' from Romans 5:1-11.

PROMISELAND Please note that Promiseland will resume for Term 2 on Sunday May 8 ... there will be no Promiseland next Sunday.

7PM SERVICE Next Sunday night, Ian Forest-Jones will be continuing the series 'Unlocking the Bible Story', speaking on the theme 'Atonement' from Exodus 32.

COMING EVENTS

'CHRISTIANITY EXPLAINED' COURSE Interested in finding out more about Christianity without pressure or expectation? Or perhaps you have a friend who might be interested? This six week course starts again at St John's on Wednesday May 4. Pick up a flyer or ring the office for more details.

SAFE MINISTRY TRAINING Carolyn Burns will be leading another round of Safe Ministry training on Tuesdays May 10 & 31.

These sessions are for new Children's & Youth Ministry leaders who have not attended Safe Ministry training in the last 3 years (including Sun Fun Day leaders). To book your place, or to confirm whether you need to attend, please contact Graham. The sessions will commence at 7:30pm in the church building.

TRIVIA NIGHT Como Jannali Rotaract is supporting John's Place at their 10th Annual Trivia Night to be held on Saturday May 14, at Sylvania Heights Community Hall, 6.30 for 7pm start. Tickets \$25 at the door, \$20 if prepaid before April 27 (tables of 8). BYO drinks & nibbles, light refreshments provided. Book at comojannalirotaract.org.

WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP Our next women's event will be on Saturday May 28, 2-5pm at DRV and will be a High Tea. Linda Harding will be speaking on the theme "all grown up" about maturity in our faith. Save the date: there will be more details and the chance to register and pay in the next week or two.

NOTICES

MAG PROJECT for April is shoe polish. Please leave your contributions in the MAG cupboard in the church entrance.

MOTHERS' DAY CAKES Joy Goon Pan has made a batch of beautiful cakes for Mothers' Day, which will be for sale for \$15 after all 3 services today and next Sunday. There will also be cake-top ornaments for sale for \$5 if you want to bake your own cake.

MOTHERS' DAY CARDS are still available. So far, \$300 has been raised to assist Anglican Aid's Overseas Development programs in Africa. Please see Margaret Bourne if you'd like to purchase one.

HELPING AT 'THE PALMS' There is an urgent need for people to help at the Palms Nursing Home monthly service, held on the 2nd Tuesday at 10.30am. Please contact Pat Clark (9521 1323) or Dorothy Geerkens (9589 1559).

PLAYTIME LEADERS REQUIRED. The Monday Playtime group is growing, but we only have two, and occasionally, one leader. If you can help, even occasionally, please speak to Nicole Wyatt (9542 6243).

MEDIA REVIEWER Would you like to provide a media review for the 7pm Sunday services? Speak to Ian Forest-Jones for more information.

PROMISELAND NEEDS YOU! Promiseland is currently looking for volunteers. There are lots of ways you can do this, by prayer, occasional assistance and leadership. For more information please speak to Marcus Macbeth.

KALEIDOSCOPE KIDS HELPERS NEEDED We are looking at putting together a rotating roster for a helper/assistant to assist about 2 times a term. Please contact Benita for more details.

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED Easter is a time when blood supplies run low. If you can help by donating blood at the Sutherland Shire Blood Donor Centre over Easter, please call 13 14 95 to make an appointment.

PEACE WISE are running training courses again in Sydney from August 1-5. See their website www.peacewise.org.au for more info. Let Faye know if you're interested in attending as part of a St John's group.

PARISH COUNCIL MET LAST TUESDAY.

- We agreed to an 18-month trial providing food hampers for struggling families from Sutherland Public School.
- We reviewed the Diocese's draft Grievance Policy due for release in July.
- We discussed a review process for our monthly Community Forums.
- We received a letter from Kylie Cameron thanking those who contributed to the Soccer Camp.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 29,000.00
Received (February)	\$ 23,661.65
Received (March)	\$ 26,104.25
Cash at Hand (Feb)	\$ 48,867.89
Cash at Hand (March)	\$ 43,898.01

Today's Services

Bible Reading:

8am	<u>Holy Communion: First Order</u> 'He's Alive' Preacher: Rod Harding	p114	1 Corinthians 15:12-22 p.1139
9.45am	<u>Easter Family Service</u> (a short communion service will follow)		Mark 16:1-8 p.1010
5pm	<u>DRV Service</u> 'He's Alive' Preacher: Rod Harding		
7pm	<u>Evening Service</u> 'Will You Live For Jesus?' Preacher: Ian Forest-Jones		John 6:25-35 p.1056 1 Corinthians 15:12-22 p.1139

Prayer of the Day Brightness of God's glory, whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison: as you have shared our frailty in human flesh, help us to share your immortality in the Spirit; let no shadow of the grave terrify us, and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days as the First and the Last, the Living One, our immortal Saviour and Lord. **Amen**

C O N T A C T D E T A I L S

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