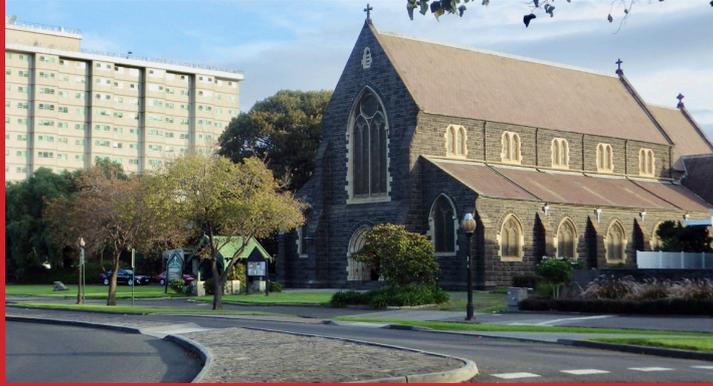




THE PILOT

The Newsletter of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Williamstown



February and March 2018

From the Vicar

WHAT I SAID

Language is a constantly fascinating thing. How much of our time do we spend speaking, reading, listening, writing or typing? Most of our waking hours I would estimate. During my holidays I spent a week at our beach-house all by myself. The thing you are firstly most aware of when you are totally by yourself is the absence of language. No talking. All your thoughts are yours alone and there is nobody to share them with.

And language is more than just words. Last week I attended an art exhibition themed completely on the skull. There were art pieces examining all the concepts the skull symbolises: death, pirates, mortality, medicine, poison, danger, eternal life, life after death and even as a warning of the need to live this life well. Language is also symbols. Think about emoticons – those smiley faces, sad faces, laughing faces packed into social media messages. Red lights mean stop, green lights mean go. An arrow bent to one side means go round the corner. For the last couple of years, Melbournians have been amused by the symbol of a rhinoceros on a skateboard that tells us not to walk in front of trams.



Language is the primary factor that binds us together or drives us apart. In my preaching classes when I trained for ministry, I once delivered a sermon to my fellow students as part of our assessment. The sermon had one swear-word in it. It was not even a very bad one - by today's standards, quite mild! But in their feedback to me, my fellow students only talked about that one word. It was as if they had heard none of the 1500 odd others. It amazed me that a single word had so much power. I had been a social worker with homeless people, alcoholics and addicts in the inner city before this, so swearing had become simply part of language for me, the colouring in of the edges of the picture. It had long lost its heat and shock. To those others, it was the foul detritus of an unwholesome world they had never participated in.

When we talk, we know what we are meaning to say. What we do not know is what the other person listening is hearing. We use words and expressions that might have a completely different meaning for them. I believe this is the cause of most conflict between people. Not necessarily what was said, but what the offended party thought had been said.

I have just read an essay by an Israeli Jewish-Christian scholar on Jesus' statement about hating one's father and mother in order to be his true disciple (Luke 14:26). This has been a very disturbing teaching always for me, and I am sure also for many others. The scholar's greater understanding of the original Hebrew helped him to see the nuances in the original Hebrew word translated 'hate'. His conclusion was that a closer translation would be 'love something to a lesser degree than'. The meaning is completely changed. Jesus is not saying "hate your mother and father". He is saying you need to love me even more than that which you love most – your mother and father.



Which leads me to the sad admission that I think one of the least effective ways to present Christian belief to the world is preaching. Most people come to Christian belief by observing the goodness and good life of good Christians. That is the language we should be speaking the most! Preaching has a place, of course, in encouraging, enriching and uplifting the Christian community in their faith and Christian living. But the people who come to inquire about our faith will come mostly because they have observed your goodness. Go out and show it to them!

*In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see,
so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

Matthew 5:16

The Venerable Bill Beagley
Vicar

Christmas Fundraising - Thank You

Thanks go to everyone who supported our two major fundraising efforts during December - The Christmas Hamper Raffle and the Christmas Baking Sale.

The Christmas Baking Sale was co-ordinated by Janice Schmidt, ably supported by Joan Crook and Sally Burt and a large team of volunteers. Everyone who purchased goods commented on the quality and flavour of the Christmas Fare items. The profit of close to \$4000 was a testament to the popularity of these goods with members of the congregation and others in Williamstown.

The Christmas Hamper for the Raffle was assembled from donations made by members of the congregation. Two large hamper baskets were filled to become the first and second prizes. A further raffle of a baby hamper donated by Amanda Zeirzer of *Babypresents* also proved popular. Together these items achieved a profit of \$529 for the church. Thanks go to Sandra Lewin who co-ordinated the raffles and to all those in the congregation and the community who purchased tickets.

The monies raised through these events have been used to assist with the set up of the Parish Centre.

Our Curates: Putting God into your Week

Our lives are built around calendars. But are calendars more than reminders and to-dos? Could the way we order our days wield a potent influence on how we are formed as disciples of Jesus?

A curious detail we discover in Scripture is how much importance God gives to a sacred understanding of time. One of the first things He named holy was a simple day of the week - the Sabbath - a hallowed 24 hours that re-centered all of life's rhythms (Ex. 20:8). Our view of time and our attitude towards it expresses what we believe, (Is God Lord of my life, Lord of my days?) as well as where we place our hope (Is God my provision or must I cobble life together on my own?).



The concept of Sabbath was central to Israel's understanding of God, pivotal for the practice of their faith, and essential to their identity as His holy people. One day out of every seven, the people were to stop their labor in order to rest, worship their God, and freely enjoy His abundant gifts through meals, family and friendship. Sabbath was the day that they paused, fully aware that God had already done all that was necessary for their well-being. If they trusted the Lord, they could rest. If they relied on God's heart toward them and strength for them, their work could stop. Their life simply did not depend on their exertion and industry. This was the truth that the Sabbath declared.

For Christians, the understanding of Sabbath has evolved, but the ways that God's kingdom subverts our sense of time have multiplied. In the New Testament, we are told that the church met on Sunday - "the first day of the week" (Acts 20: 7-8). As Saturday had been, this was a day of worship, rest and feasting during which Jesus' followers could break bread, listen to the apostles' teaching and contribute to a communal life that exhibited radical hospitality and friendship. Sunday became a model for the remainder of the week, as their prayers, study of Scripture and fellowship spilled into the other six days, creating a comprehensive, God-attuned way of life.

Our posture regarding time can orient us either toward grace and rest or toward self-effort and exhaustion. The point to all this is not to draw rigid lines about how we understand or practice a God-attuned sense of time. It is, however, an attempt to remind us that Jesus is Lord - even over our calendars. It is to remind us that our lives, our days, our weeks should not begin with our effort, but with God.

Yours in Christ,
Joseph Emmanuel

From the Wardens

December and January have been a hectic time for the Parish Council and Wardens. The Parish Centre opening in the first week of December marked a great occasion for the parish but also the time to begin work towards making it a useable space. The Parish Council Planning Day was held in mid-December and using the Parish Centre for different fundraising and outreach purposes was a key item on the agenda. It is also necessary to bear in mind that it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to ensure that the Centre is used safely and securely.

The Wardens and Parish Council have been working with the Emergency Relief and Lunch Program to ensure that the move back to Holy Trinity from St Stephen's went as smoothly as possible. Some key items, such as chairs, tables, cooking equipment, cutlery, crockery, cleaning products and desks, have been purchased. Thank you to people who have donated items to the church for use in the Centre. The money raised through the Inner Wheel has also been a great help because it reduced the cost and burden of setting the Centre up immensely. A permanent wall mounted hot water unit to replace the use of urns in the kitchen is also on the list for immediate purchase.

There are some major works still to be completed, including the concrete pathways around the Centre, the rekeying of the church and Parish Centre, landscaping around the Church and Parish Centre, removal of the temporary office and shipping container and construction of a carport for the Vicarage. These are being completed as tradespeople become available. In the year ahead the Wardens will also be working on an audio upgrade for the church to improve the sound system. The floor of the Church and Vicarage are also in need of underpinning before other needed work can be carried out and this is a priority for 2018. The floor of the Vicar's Vestry is a serious concern and it will be repaired as soon as possible.

The Parish Council Planning Day also saw the division of the Council into portfolios of responsibility. This will help the management of major aspects of parish life and ensure the church's compliance with Diocesan as well as the legal requirements. An exciting year of evangelism, ecumenicism, outreach, spiritual development and, of course, fundraising is on the agenda for 2018. The Council is keen to make full use of the Parish Centre for all these activities.

The first official function has already taken place in with the launch of Conversations at the Centre. It was a wonderful night. The Parish Council is looking forward to having many such activities in the year ahead. It has also been wonderful to see how easily morning tea after church has moved into the Centre and how lovely it is to enjoy those morning teas around a table.

Lenten Bible Studies

**7.30pm Thursday nights
from 22 February**

Venue: Parish Centre



Our first fundraiser will be held on 24 February with a **Pizza and Movie** night. We will also have the annual **Little Theatre Night** on 17 April. We hope that anyone with fundraising ideas will approach members of the Parish Council to suggest them. The Parish Council is the church's leadership group and they are always happy to hear your suggestions, concerns and offers of help.

The Parish Council also identified young families as a mission focus group for the period of our current **Mission Action Plan**. We are seeking ways to attract young families with our activities and the environment and atmosphere of the church. We have begun a communications program with those who have had their children baptised in our church in order to establish an ongoing relationship with them. We also plan to have several family friendly activities in the Parish Centre in the year ahead. The opportunity to operating some programs like *Messy Church* or *Mainly Music* out of the Parish Centre to attract more families will also be pursued in 2018. The Parish Council hopes that you will assist in making new families welcome as they come into our community and congregation.

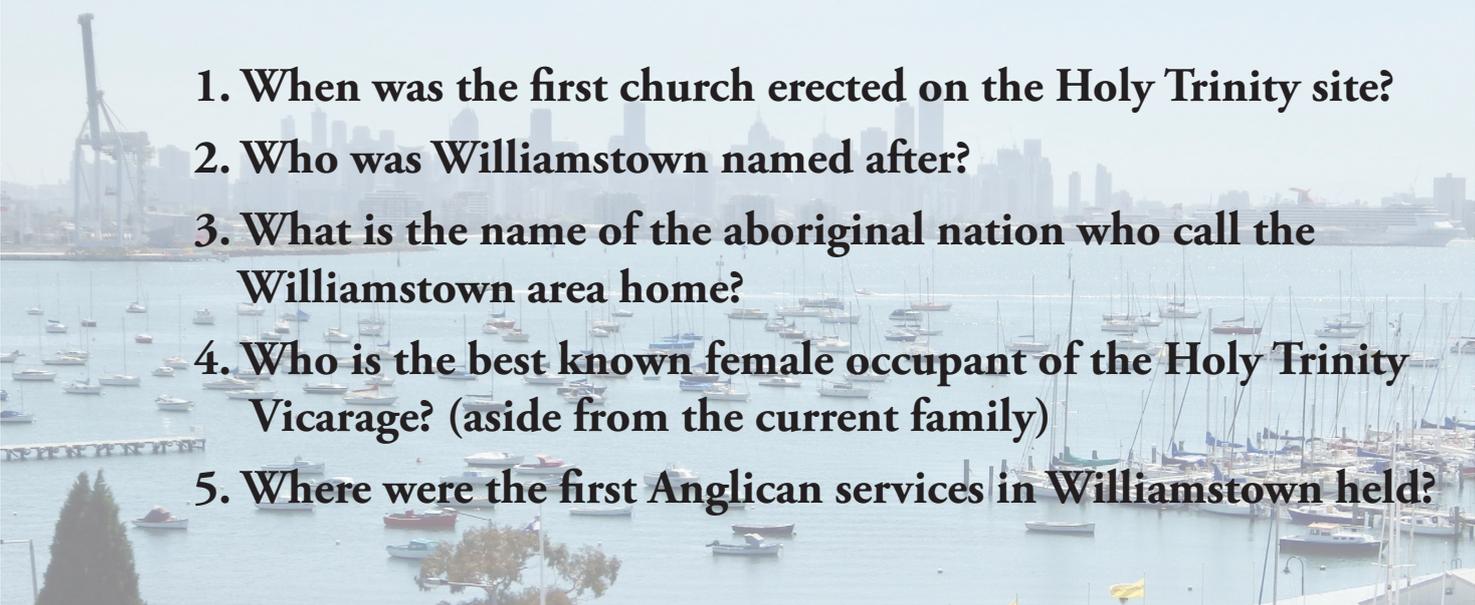
Our other mission focus group is the people who are vulnerable to social isolation with whom we engage through the Emergency Relief and Community Lunch programs. This group will be the focus of the Pastoral Care team. If you have pastoral care concerns for those you know of in our congregation, Janice and her team would like to be made aware of them so that the best possible care can be offered.

The Parish Council also hopes that in 2018 our wedding ministry will expand. We now have facilities to offer people having a wedding or funeral in our church a venue for their functions afterward. We are hoping that this will be a positive avenue of outreach to the community.

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and hope you are too!

Sally Burt, Sandra Lewin, Scott Phillips
Wardens

Historic Williamstown - a Quiz

- 
1. When was the first church erected on the Holy Trinity site?
 2. Who was Williamstown named after?
 3. What is the name of the aboriginal nation who call the Williamstown area home?
 4. Who is the best known female occupant of the Holy Trinity Vicarage? (aside from the current family)
 5. Where were the first Anglican services in Williamstown held?

Parish Centre in Action

Since its Opening and Dedication on 1 December the Parish Centre has begun to come to life, providing a new venue for activities that have been part of the life of this parish for some time and opening up new opportunities for ministry and parish activities. Here is some news about what has begun so far.

Parish Office

The Parish Office is now located at the southern end of the Parish Centre. It is fully operational and is now attended between 10 am and 4 pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you need help with parish matters please call in and speak to Judy or Pat on 9397 5330 and we will seek to assist you.

Judy White and Pat Drake

Community Lunches

Times are a'changing for our Community Lunch Program as we move from our long used temporary home at St Stephen's to our long-awaited home at Holy Trinity Parish Centre. As a result of a delay with movement of the HTW/Anglicare Emergency Relief to Holy Trinity we are currently working with skeleton staff and minimal supplies and equipment at St Stephen's.

We had a very happy and successful Christmas lunch on Friday, 8 December when we catered for 60 and didn't have too many leftovers! Chicken, ham and salads followed by plum pudding, custard and ice cream was appreciated by all.

Our clients are always appreciative of our simple but nutritious lunches as was shown in the client donation box on our final Monday before Christmas when our donations totalled \$160. We don't ask for donations but clients often make small donations. We also received funding of \$2500 from the Magistrates' Court during December.

We are looking forward to our return to Holy Trinity, when we accustom ourselves to new whiz-bang facilities and the Emergency Relief staff and clients start to enjoy the cool or warm environment, depending on the season. We will continue to provide a happy service. Our kitchen staff are a wonderful group on both Mondays and Fridays who work with care, compassion and laughter.

Wilma Robarts

Emergency Relief

Anglicare Emergency Relief resumed operation on 29 January, but is still operating from St Stephen's. It is planned that it will shortly move to the Holy Trinity Parish Centre.

Carol Willis, Volunteer Co-ordinator

Conversations at the Centre - People of faith talking about social issues

After a good discussion at the Vicarage last October about same sex marriage, Leanne Beagley and Pat Drake decided to host some more conversations about issues of importance in our community.

The first Conversation at the new Parish Centre was held on 16 January. A dozen or so people came to inquire into and discuss the implications of the Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation passed in Victoria in 2017. We spoke about our interest in the theme and we learned a little about the legislation itself. Participants shared their widely ranging views and experiences.

This is an open group and so there is no need to commit to all the discussions. If you would like to come, please do - everyone is welcome. If you'd like to chat about it first please call Pat on 0412 370 376 or email patdrake@me.com

The next Conversation at the Centre will be on Wednesday 21 February at 7.30pm at the Holy Trinity Parish Centre. Our topic is *How do we understand mental health in our world?* Dr Leanne Beagley will help frame this discussion by referring to her work in mental health and as a qualified family therapist.

The evening will conclude at 9.00pm.

Pat Drake

Other groups have also begun to make bookings to make regular use of our Parish Centre. Among them is ParkinSong, led by Michael and Heather Jobling. This is a little of the story of this organisation.

ParkinSong

The first ParkinSong group in Victoria ParkinSong Williamstown was initiated by Heather Jobling in 2012, the first meeting was held in March 2013. ParkinSong Williamstown is a support group and offers information and support for People with Parkinson's (PWP) and their Carers.

A significant symptom of Parkinson's Disease is its detrimental effect on swallowing and voice. Singing has been shown to have a positive effect on this symptoms. The main objective of ParkinSong is to provide exercises by singing in a group that will enhance swallowing and voice. Parkinson's Disease also limits people's social interaction and singing in a group increases the opportunity for companionship.

Each month, Doug Heywood OAM leads the singing accompanied by his wife Alexandra Cameron on keyboard.

The effects of singing in a group for PWP has been researched by the Speech Pathology and Music Therapy Departments at the University of Melbourne. The preliminary findings affirm our objective that singing is beneficial for the swallowing and voice difficulties related to Parkinson's Disease. For many years, our group has met in the Mechanics Institute, which is currently undergoing major renovations. Fortunately, the Holy Trinity Parish Centre has become available with its superb equipment and resources. We are grateful to the Parish for making this modern facility available for us.

ParkinSong Williamstown is now one of eight such groups in Victoria and these groups will combine for a Celebration Concert on Sunday 29 April in the Williamstown Town Hall. Painting with Parkinson's are creating three murals for this event and Dancing with Parkinson's will also be part of the celebration. The concert will demonstrate how the creative arts are an effective intervention for Parkinson's Disease.

ParkinSong Williamstown meets in the Holy Trinity Williamstown Parish Centre on the third Thursday of each month from 2.30-4.30pm. The first meeting for 2018 will be held on Thursday 15 February.

It is great to see the Parish Centre coming to life. As these news items show, having the Parish Centre will provide us with wide ranging opportunities to share God's love with others in the congregation and in our community.



WILLIAMSTOWN LITTLE THEATRE BY ARRANGEMENT WITH DOMINIE DRAMA PRESENT

STONES IN HIS POCKETS

BY MARIE JONES

DIRECTED BY TRAVIS HANDCOCK

19 APRIL - 5 MAY 2018

WILLIAMSTOWN LITTLE THEATRE, 2 ALBERT STREET WILLIAMSTOWN.

BOOKINGS: 0447 340 665 OR WWW.WLT.ORG.AU

Holy Trinity Anglican Church,
Williamstown

WILLIAMSTOWN LITTLE THEATRE NIGHT

Tuesday 17 April

7.30 pm for drinks prior to the play

Tickets \$25.00

Tickets available in church on
Sunday mornings
or from the Parish Office
on Wednesdays,
Thursdays & Fridays
from 11 February

E: office@htw.org.au

T: 9397 5330



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES 14 FEBRUARY

10.00am and 7.30pm

includes the imposition of ashes

UPCOMING

EVENTS

This Month



February

- 1 Holy Communion at The Village
- 2 Men's Pub Night, Stag's Head
- 4 Curate's Field Committee Meeting 11.30am
- 8 Women's Group, Parish Centre, 7.30pm
- 10 Men's Breakfast, Parish Centre 7.30am-9.30am
Garden Working Bee, 9-12pm
- 11 Contemplative Eucharist, 6pm
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 20 Wardens meeting in Parish Centre
Parish Council meeting in Parish Centre
- 21 Ada Cambridge Book Club
Conversation at the Centre, 7.15pm for 7.30pm
- 24 Tapestry Group
Pizza and Movie Night - *Lion*. Cost \$10
- 25 Contemplative Eucharist, 6pm

March

- 1 Holy Communion at the Village
- 2 Men's Pub Night, Stag's Head
- 4 Curate's Field Committee Meeting
- 8 Women's Group, Parish Centre, 7.30pm
- 10 Garden Working Bee, 9-12pm
- 11 Contemplative Eucharist
- 20 Wardens meeting in Parish Centre
Parish Council meeting in Parish Centre
- 21 Conversation at the Centre, 7.15pm for 7.30pm
- 28 Ada Cambridge Book Club
- 24 Tapestry Group
- 25 Contemplative Eucharist, 6pm

*Further details for all these events are available from the Parish Office
or the weekly Pew Sheet*

Holy Week, Easter Services

Sunday 25 March

Palm Sunday

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Liturgy of the Palms
with Electra St Uniting
Church

Monday 26 - Wednesday 28 March (each evening)

7.00pm Eucharist of Holy Week

Thursday 29 March

Maundy Thursday

7.00pm Foot Washing

Friday 30 March

Good Friday

9.00am Good Friday Extended
Communion and
Service of Reflections

Sunday 1 April

Easter Day

6.00am Lighting of the New Fire

10.00am Easter Eucharist



MOVIE AND PIZZA NIGHT

A Night of Friendship
and Fellowship

7.00pm Saturday 24 February

**Movie: Lion...a heart wrenching
true story**

Cost: \$10.00

Conversations at the Centre



Christians Talking about Social Issues

Next Conversation:

7.30pm - 9.00pm, Wednesday 21 February
in the Parish Centre

Topic: How do we understand mental health in our world?

Dr Leanne Beagley will help frame this discussion by referring to her work in mental health and as a qualified family therapist.

All welcome

Easter Rosters - Can you help?

During Holy Week the following services will be held:

Monday 26 to Wednesday 28 March at 7.00pm

Maundy Thursday - 29 March at 7.00pm

Good Friday- 30 March at 9.00am

Easter Day - Sunday 1 April at 6.00am and 10.00am

Would you be available to assist to fill any of the roles in the service during this week?

(*Welcomer, Sidesperson, Intercessions, Reader, Eucharist Assistant, Flowers*)

Please add your name to the list in the Church or
email: office@htw.org.au

Parish Rosters for February & March

MONTH	DAY	TIME	INTER CESSION	EUCH ASSIST	READERS	SIDES- PERSON	WELCOME	FLOW- ERS	MORN- ING TEA
Feb	4	8am	S Wragg	S Wragg	I Stewart	S Searls	S Searls	J Whelan	J Schmidt
Epiph 5		10am	S Phillips	K Strasser	Liz White	J Schmidt	P McFadyen		
					C Huren				
Feb	11	8 am	W Robarts	Rev'd Joseph	P Johnson	W Robarts	J White	H Hser	R Chiorean
Epiph 6					W Robarts	W Madsen	J Madsen		
					M. Swane				
		10am	L Beagley	W. Madsen	S. Phillips				
Feb	14	10am	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/A	N/A
Ash Wed		7.30pm	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/A	N/A
Feb	25	8am	S Wragg	V. Dripps	V Dripps	R Dripps	R Dripps	L English	J Ringrose
Lent 2		10am	M Swane	S. Phillips	J Ringrose	L Gray	C Willis		
					L Gray				
March	4	8am	Ven Bill	S. Wragg	I Stewart	S Searls	S Searls	P McFadyen	A Verghese
Lent 3		10am	Rev'd Joseph	T. Verghese	J Schmidt Liz White	S Burt	J Ringrose		
March	11	8am	W Robarts	Rev'd Valentina	P Johnson	P Johnson	J White	S Searls	J Schmidt
Lent 4					W Robarts	W Madsen	J Madsen		
		10am	S Phillips	P Drake	M Swane				
					P Drake				
March	18	8am	Ven Bill	Rev'd M. Burt	C Hurwood	J White	M Burt	L Dobinson	C Willis
Lent 5		10am	Rev Joseph	J. Crook	I Dodd	J Schmidt	I Dodd		
					S Phillips				
March	25	8am	S Wragg	A. Hodges	V Dripps	R Dripps	R Dripps	J Whelan	P McFadyen
Palm Sunday		10am	Rev'd Valentina	S. Phillips	L Gray	L Gray	J Mullholland		

Contact Holy Trinity Williamstown

Parish Office

The Parish Office is attended Wednesday and Friday 10 - 4
Telephone 9397 5330 or email office@htw.org.au

Vicar

The Vicar, Rev'd Bill Beagley is not available on Mondays
Telephone 0408 349 315 or email vicar@htw.org.au

Parish Secretary

Judy White email: office@htw.org.au

For more information please visit our website: <http://www.htw.org.au>

The Pilot

To submit information for The Pilot please email the Editor, Judy White: comms@htw.org.au