



ANGLICAN PARISH OF LAMBTON

**St John the Baptist
Lambton
17th April 2022**

Rector:

Reverend Kate Heath

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Email: kate.t.heath@gmail.com

Please note: at present Rev'd Kate works Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

Wardens: Don Smith & Gina Parslow

Address: 18 Morehead Street, LAMBTON NSW 2299

Website: www.lambtonanglicanparish.com.au

Parish Email: admin@lambtonanglicanparish.com.au

[Our Parish is on Facebook](#)

BSB 705-077- Account No 40391

17.4.22 – Easter Sunday

First Reading – Acts 10.34-43

Psalm – Hymn to the Risen Christ (APBA p.6)

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 15.19-26

Gospel – Luke 24.1-12

24.4.22 – Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading – Acts 5.27-32

Psalm – 118.14-29

Second Reading – Revelation 1.4-8

Gospel – John 20.19-31

NO Tuesday Service 19th April

Please be aware we will not be having a mid-week Eucharist in Easter Week.

Conversation Group – Christian Art

The Conversation group will also be taking a break for 2 weeks.

When we return we will be using Christian Art from different eras and places to help us reflect on the many different expressions of Christian faith throughout history and across the world.

Week 1 – Ancient Christian Art (Middle-East & Rome)

Week 2 – Christian Icons of Africa (Ethiopia & Egypt)

Week 3 – Eastern Orthodox Iconography (Greece & Russia)

Week 4 – Medieval Western Christian Art (Britain)

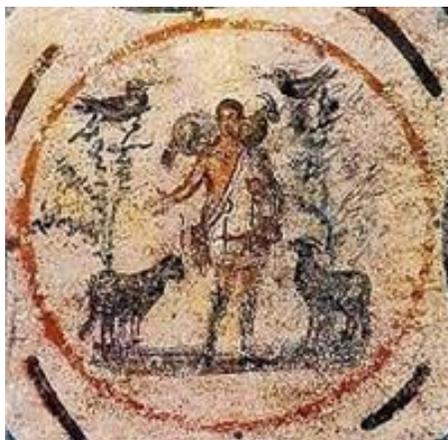
Week 5 – Renaissance European Art (Italy)

Week 6 – Indigenous Australian Christian Art (Australia)

The Thursday morning group will commence on 5th May.

If you are keen to be a part of these conversations, but Thursday mornings don't suit you, please ask about an alternative time.

Just because you ask doesn't mean I would force you to be there!



“The Good Shepherd” from the Catacomb of Priscilla, Rome, 250-300 CE

Election Day Market Stall

The Federal Election will be held on 21st May, the AEC has already confirmed that they will once be using our Church Hall as a Polling Centre.

This gives us a wonderful opportunity to connect with our local community and to hold a Market Stall for fund-raising.

Given how changeable the weather is, **could you please ask your extended families if any can lend us a pop-up marquee for the day?** Please let me know if they can help.

In addition to selling cakes, plants, books and pre-loved treasures, we will also be having a sausage-sizzle. This will mean we will have to ensure adequate staffing levels across the morning and until after the lunch-rush. Consider what is going to work best for you in terms of your availability on the day.

Monthly Men’s Fellowship

Time: 12.30pm Wednesday 4th May (Followed by 1st Wednesday of the month)

Location: Lambton Park Hotel

An invitation to share lunch and fellowship with the other gentlemen of the Parish.

Seniors Meal \$13, Lunch Specials \$15

More Information: James Heath 0438 492 717.

Easter Message from Bishop Peter

Mistakes do not define us

It doesn't take us long in life to accumulate a list of mistakes. Decisions made or actions taken which were misguided or wrong.

Some mistakes have little or no consequence. We might berate ourselves for a moment but then we are able to move on. Other mistakes can have significant or lasting impact. They change our lives or the lives of others. These mistakes may be a result of our deliberate action, or they may arise through our lack of attention.

There are consequences for serious mistakes. When others are affected, we can take steps to try and repair 'the damage' that may have occurred. This can include making an apology, offering financial settlement, and making good the damage that has been done. We can also make some commitments to show we have learnt our lesson by undertaking voluntary work. We can make commitments about the way we will behave in the future to avoid repeating our wrongdoing.

We are also affected by our mistakes. We can feel guilty because we recognise that we have violated our standards of behaviour. We can be filled with remorse for harm we have caused or ignored. Guilt is a sign to us that we have something to work on.

Yet, some people are not able to address their mistakes and their experience of guilt becomes pervasive. They have made a mistake, perhaps even tried to

remedy it, but the emotions, memories and feelings keep rising in their mind again and again.

The Easter story speaks to the human experience of guilt. Guilt is not the end. We are not separated from God forever by our wrongdoing. Our mistakes are not held against us eternally. We are not required to withdraw from humanity or to forever walk in shame.

The Christian approach to mistakes is shaped by the understanding that all our sins are carried to the heart of God on the cross. The empty tomb is a sign that love has conquered death, light has overcome darkness, hope has triumphed over despair. In churches all over the world people celebrate Easter because they believe that God has liberated them. They are not required to carry an anchor of guilt.

In response to God's loving action, Christians believe they must live a loving life. They are to act for justice, mercy, and peace in everything they do. At their best, they embrace a pattern of understanding their failures and seeking to live a life filled with goodness and goodwill.

Sometimes, we are not able to repair the damage with a person we have wronged. Time may have passed by or our attempt to make amends will be seen as intrusive or harmful. This is not the end of the story. This doesn't mean we are in chains forever. The Christian message is that all of us can be forgiven. All of us can begin again.

The arena for many of our mistakes is our relationships. We let down a partner, a lover, a friend, or family member. When we are true to ourselves,

either out loud or in private, we can name an incident or pattern of behaviour where we have done the wrong thing.

Sometimes we can apologise, make good, and begin again but at other times our actions or inactions have caused such brokenness that our attempts to repair them will only cause more hurt. There are relationships which we should not return to because we will do more harm. No one owes us a relationship. It is their gift to us not an obligation or a duty.

When we are true to ourselves, we own our mistakes and choose the paths where we won't damage other people in the same way. We take responsibility and we show restraint.

God is longing to see each person embrace ways of goodness and holiness; to own their mistakes and embrace enduring change. For God, every person is better than the worst thing they have ever done. To him, each person has a story – they have dignity and worth. God wishes us to embrace a way of life in which our love for others and for ourselves reflects the love he has shown in Jesus.

There is a simple bottom line - all of us have made mistakes and will make many more. Our mistakes do not define us. Inspired by God's love we can change, we can grow, we can be different!

Happy Easter

+Peter

Church Sign

In this time of a Federal Election Campaign we have an opportunity to make our voices heard as people of faith. I encourage you to be active and vocal, to speak to those who are seeking your vote about what sort of future you want for our nation.

For our Church, as for many Australian Faith Communities, one of the biggest challenges is responding justly to the Climate Crisis. We are already seeing more extreme weather events occurring with greater frequency, people being forced from their homes by rising sea-levels in some areas of the Pacific and the science tells us the impacts will accelerate.

In the coming weeks, our Church sign will read “Killing the planet is against our religion. Bold climate action by 2030 starting now.”

This is deliberately provocative, hoping to start conversations and draw attention.

The Climate Crisis IS a justice issue and addressing it does not mean taking away jobs. Rather it means recognising that those jobs ARE going to be lost, and helping people in disappearing industries to retrain in sustainable jobs with long-term futures.

If you are on Facebook, you might like to look up “Australian Religious Response to Climate Change”. You will see how different faith communities are responding to this challenge.

THE ANGLICAN BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE – COMMENTS ON THE ELECTION

Whilst there was a time when Bishops might have presumed to guide their flock to vote for a particular political party, this series of ‘2022 Federal Election comments’ from the Anglican Bishop of Newcastle – The Right Reverend Dr Peter Stuart – is aimed at raising awareness of community issues that the government has a key responsibility to address and which he commends as an area of concern for reflection and prayer.

ISSUE ONE - ‘WE NEED A PROPER COMMITMENT TO AGED AND DISABILITY CARE’

... My message is simple. We need to do better. As a minimum, both parties should commit to:

- * indexation payments in Aged and Disability Care, with indexation based on the industry costs not CPI, given that health care costs increase more quickly than general consumer costs;

- * a proper funding model for allied and mental health provision by 2024, adopting a needs-based assessment, able to adapt to changing consumer circumstances.

I encourage Anglicans and people of good will, in the coming weeks, to reach out to the political candidates in your electorate and demand that they engage in a long-term, bipartisan, strategic approach to enabling us to deliver better Aged and Disability Care.

Grace and peace

+Peter [Copies of Bishop Peter’s full statement available]