

# St Nics News Mar 2023

All are welcome here.  
Jesus welcomes everyone  
so we reckon we will too.

## *A reflection:*

Do you look forward to Lent? Maybe not! There is often talk about giving up chocolate or wine, or about sacrifice, self-denial and discipline. Lent may be seen as something to be endured rather than an opportunity for growth.

Perhaps instead we can think of Lent as a yearly 2nd chance? Lent gives us 6 weeks to consider our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. Have we wandered from God's path? Are we living out God's purpose for our lives?

This Lent, consider taking up something new, instead of denying yourself. Take up a renewed habit of prayer or meditation, commit to the Lent Study, consider tithing, or something else that will draw you closer to God.

May each of us be blessed during Lent as we embrace the opportunities for reflection and growth.

*Marian*

(Warden)

## **World Day of Prayer:**

**10am Friday March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

The service will commence at 10 am and will be followed by morning tea.

## **Bible Readings:**

<b>Lent 1</b>	<b>26-Feb-23</b>	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11
<b>Lent 2</b>	<b>05-Mar-23</b>	Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17
<b>Lent 3</b>	<b>12-Mar-23</b>	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42
<b>Lent 4</b>	<b>19-Mar-23</b>	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41
<b>ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</b>	<b>26-Mar-23</b>	Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 45 Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38
<b>Palm / Passion Sunday</b>	<b>02-Apr-23</b>	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66

## **A prayer for a new incumbent:**

Bountiful God,  
give to this parish a faithful pastor  
who will faithfully speak your word  
and minister your sacraments;  
an encourager who will equip your  
people for ministry  
and enable us to fulfil our calling.  
Give to those who will choose,  
wisdom,  
discernment and patience,  
and to us give warm and generous  
hearts,  
for Jesus Christ's sake.  
Amen.

## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Night**

We had a wonderful night together on Shrove Tuesday, with games, prizes, fun and more pancakes than we could eat! Thank you to Marian for pulling it together and to everyone who brought food, helped on the night and joined in the wonderful evening. Great event!

# Balga Breakfast Club

The Balga Breakfast Club (at Balga Senior High School) was set up by Lyn Perkins, who at the time was a parishioner and a teacher at the school, about 12 years ago. Students (mainly from refugee families) were coming to school hungry because their families were struggling financially and only able to provide 1 meal a day at home. Due to their hunger, these students weren't fulfilling their potential, and Lyn created the Breakfast Club to feed those in need, and in turn their schoolwork started to improve.

Lyn gathered a number of volunteers from this parish to make the breakfasts or to provide pantry items, and in later years another organisation became involved providing the breakfasts 2 days a week also.

In recent years the number of volunteers from this parish have reduced, and for a variety of different reasons the current volunteers they are no longer able to continue making the breakfasts.

We are grateful to each and every volunteer from this parish for the time they have spent making a difference in the lives of these students, and particularly would like to thank Phil & John McLean, Maureen & Fred Dew, and Maaka & Jim Turner for their contribution over many years.

**Whilst it is sad to end our involvement, I believe that our parish has made a major contribution to the school life of many students at the high school and quite literally 'fed the hungry' (Matthew 25:37-40).**

Marian  
(Warden)

# Recycling hub

Collections: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month 9-11am

Contact: Marian Green 0403 026 717

## Recycling Hub

This month we celebrate our 1<sup>st</sup> birthday!

Over the last 12 months we have collected an amazing amount of recyclables:

- the equivalent of 24 red rubbish bins of Plastic Bottle Tops
- 32kg of Medication Blister Packs
- 65L of Breadtags
- 120L of Household Batteries
- 12++ car boot-fuls of E-waste, Printer Cartridges, Light Globes etc
- 5,860 items of Containers for Change

We have welcomed volunteers from the community, many of whom have come to drop off recyclables and stayed to help and continue to volunteer every month. We quite literally couldn't operate without them!

If you haven't visited yet, come to our next Hub on **Saturday, 18 March, 9am-11am.**



## Parish Council Update

Parish Council met on Monday, 20 February, and the following key points were discussed:

- Toddler Jam started the year with a huge group of children and their parents attending and the future of the group looked positive with a new leader in place also. Due to a very last minute change in circumstances of the leader, she was no longer available for the role. Compounding the problem of no leader, there were no parish volunteers coming forward when asked to help with set up, tea etc. Efforts to find another leader at very short notice were unsuccessful, and rather than offer a program that was not up to standard, we regretfully had to pause all future Toddler Jam sessions and refund all advanced payments to those that had booked online. This is a hugely disappointing result considering the group was so

popular in the community, however we will reconsider the Toddler Jam program once we have a new permanent Priest.

- Financially, we continue to operate at a deficit each month, with a total short fall for this parish financial year of about \$5,800. Offertory income in January, which included Christmas services, was below budget. Expenditure for the month was kept to a bare minimum.
- There will need to be repairs and maintenance done to the Rectory whilst it is empty to prepare it for a new Priest. A provisional list of items has been identified, and quotes and a work schedule will be developed in coming weeks.
- If you have any questions regarding this or any other issue of interest to you, please speak to any of your Parish Councillors.

## Lent

ASH WEDNESDAY TO HOLY WEEK

### The Season of Lent

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter: forty days of preparation for fifty days of celebration. Lent means waiting: for the cross, the water and the fire. God does not need Lent, but we do. The rhythm of fast and feast taps into some elemental need of ours, where denial creates longings to be satisfied so that we come to deeper appreciation of God's great gifts.

Lent is a time for preparing catechumens (baptismal candidates) for Easter baptism. It has its origins in the fact that preparation of catechumens is a process by which the whole Christian community is renewed. While Sunday is always a festival of the crucified and raised Christ, omission of the Gloria, along with addition of the Trisagion and other Lenten material provided in A Prayer Book for Australia will help set the tone for the Season.

The six Sundays of the season are seen as a unity. The usual liturgical colours for the first five Sundays are violet or Lenten array (blood red, black and calico). The only Sunday with any significant difference is Lent 6 - the Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday) when the colour changes to red (but without the Pentecost symbols), and it can be appropriate for red to remain through to Good Friday.

### Setting the Scene

Early planning is needed. A distinct break in the setting and mood of the liturgy needs to be made from Christmas and the Sundays after Epiphany to Lent. The intention is to create a more intense focus on the principal symbols of God's presence with us. These are: the assembly of Christ's people; the lectern; the Lord's Table; the empty

font. This can happen in different ways: by removing clutter, by covering up decorative art etc, by changes in lighting, by the removal of flowers. Different buildings and different communities will demand different treatment. A good rule of thumb might be to remove everything that is not directly needed. The font can be emptied and covered. Covering crosses in Holy Week is a tradition sometimes observed. However, even if several crosses are visible in a church, Lent is a good time to remove them all and bring back only one (uncovered) for Passion Sunday and Holy Week.

### Pancakes and Ashes

Shrove Tuesday events go hand in hand with Ash Wednesday: feasting before fasting. One without the other leaves something missing. If it is difficult to have two midweek events, perhaps some of the feasting can be transferred to the Last Sunday after Epiphany, with the traditional pancake party held at breakfast or morning tea. On the same day everyone may be invited to bring last year's palm crosses or fronds to be burnt to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

How shall we begin Lent? There is work to do well before Ash Wednesday, and these preparations can involve the whole community. Ash Wednesday is the focus: Shrove Tuesday 'events' need to supplement the more important First Day of Lent.

On the Last Sunday after Epiphany it is possible to do two helpful things: the first in church, the second extending the Lord's table to the breakfast or morning tea table. Everyone may be asked to bring back last year's palm crosses or fronds and to burn them to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. This represents a little death, a letting go of the past in order to embrace God's future. The burning of the palms is best done in silence.

### To Baptise or not to Baptise?

Easter baptism is resuming its central place in the sacramental life of the Church. Baptisms during Lent actually undermine the character of the season.

Email **office@stnicolasanglican.org**

Parish Office: **9448 1421**

Wardens: **Ed Scott & Marian Green**

Weekly Service Times:

**Wed** Eucharist at 09:15

**Sun** Eucharist at 07:30 & 09:30

Offerings: **Anglican Parish of Carine Duncraig,  
BSB 706-001, Account 30003057**

Part-time Admin Assistant: Alex is only able to check emails and respond to messages on Tues & Thurs mornings.

Instagram & Facebook: **StNicolasCD**

Website: **stnicolasanglican.org**

Youtube: **St Nicolas Carine Duncraig**

Containers for Change Scheme ID:

**C10316184**

# Parish Diary

Top tip: you can view an up-to-date calendar of all Parish activities on our website:

26-Feb-23	Sun	<b>Eucharist</b> - LENT 1 <b>Eucharist</b>	07:30 09:30	Church & Hall
28-Feb-23	Tue	<b>Craft and Chat</b> (weekly)	13:30-16.00	Hall
01-Mar-23	Wed	<b>Eucharist</b> <b>WAGS (weekly)</b>	09:15 11:00-14:00	Church Hall
03-Mar-23	Fri	(no Heartmoves) <b>World Day of Prayer</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>Church &amp; Hall</b>
04-Mar-23	Sat	<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	07:30-09:00	Hall
05-Mar-23	Sun	<b>Eucharist</b> - LENT 2 <b>Eucharist</b>	07:30 09:30	Church & Hall
07-Mar-23	Tue	<b>Craft and Chat</b> (weekly)	13:30-16.00	Hall
08-Mar-23	Wed	<b>Eucharist</b> <b>WAGS (weekly)</b>	09:15 11:00-14:00	Church Hall
10-Mar-23	Fri	<b>Heartmoves</b> (weekly)	09:00-10:00	Hall
11-Mar-23	Sat	<b>Cursillo</b> <b>ASG</b>	08:00-09:00 12:00-16:00	Church Hall
12-Mar-23	Sun	<b>Eucharist</b> - LENT 3 <b>Eucharist</b>	07:30 09:30	Church & Hall
13-Mar-23	Mon	<b>Friendship Group</b>	19:30-21:30	Hall
14-Mar-23	Tue	<b>Craft and Chat</b> (weekly)	13:30-16.00	Hall
15-Mar-23	Wed	<b>Eucharist</b> <b>WAGS (weekly)</b>	09:15 11:00-14:00	Church Hall
17-Mar-23	Fri	<b>Heartmoves</b> (weekly)	09:00-10:00	Hall
18-Mar-23	Sat	<b>St Nic's Recycling hub</b>	09:00-11:00	Front porch
19-Mar-23	Sun	<b>Eucharist</b> - LENT 4 <b>Eucharist</b>	07:30 09:30	Church & Hall
20-Mar-23	Mon	<b>Mother's Union</b>	10:00-12:00	Hall
21-Mar-23	Tue	<b>Craft and Chat</b> (weekly)	13:30-16.00	Hall
22-Mar-23	Wed	<b>Eucharist</b> <b>WAGS (weekly)</b>	09:15 11:00-14:00	Church Hall
24-Mar-23	Fri	<b>Heartmoves</b> (weekly) <b>Hexagon &amp; Patchwork</b>	09:00-10:00 10:30-15:00	Hall Hall
25-Mar-23	Sat	<b>ASG</b>	10:30-14:30	Hall
26-Mar-23	Sun	<b>Eucharist</b> - ANNUNCIATION <b>Eucharist</b>	07:30 09:30	Church & Hall
28-Mar-23	Tue	<b>Craft and Chat</b> (weekly)	13:30-16.00	Hall
29-Mar-23	Wed	<b>Eucharist</b> <b>WAGS (weekly)</b>	09:15 11:00-14:00	Church Hall
31-Mar-23	Fri	<b>Heartmoves</b> (weekly)	09:00-10:00	Hall
01-Apr-23	Sat	<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	07:30-09:00	Hall
02-Apr-23	Sun	<b>Eucharist</b> - PALM / PASSION <b>Eucharist</b>	07:30 09:30	Church & Hall
04-Apr-23	Tue	<b>Craft and Chat</b> (weekly)	13:30-16.00	Hall
05-Apr-23	Wed	<b>Eucharist</b> <b>WAGS (weekly)</b>	09:15 11:00-14:00	Church Hall
06-Apr-23	Thu	<b>Maundy Thursday service</b>	19:00	Church
07-Apr-23	Fri	<b>Good Friday service</b>	09.30	Church
08-Apr-23	Sat	<b>Cursillo</b> <b>ASG</b>	08:00-09:00 12:00-16:00	Church Hall
09-Apr-23	Sun	<b>Dawn Vigil</b> - EASTER <b>Eucharist</b>	06:00 09:30	Front garden Church & Hall