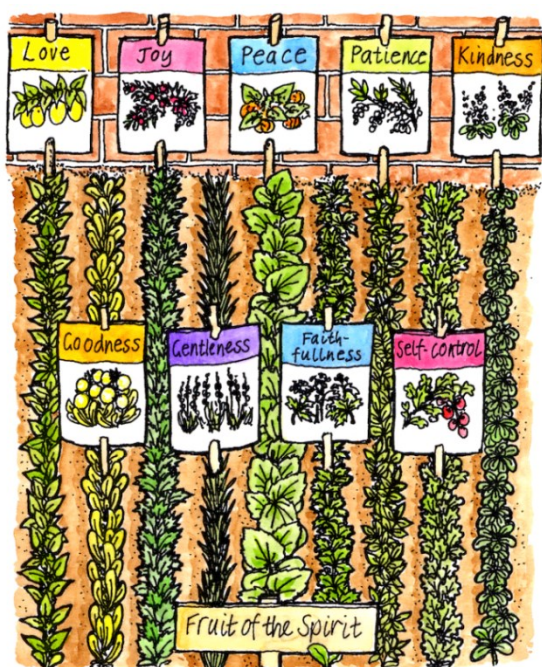


www.holycrossmelville.org

NEWSLETTER

April 2013



Are You New To This Church?

Please make yourself known to the Rector or the Warden.

Please do join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat after the service.

Wedding, Baptism & Funeral enquiries
Please contact the Rector.



Rector

Revd Debbie May: 0417 178 688

Church Office: 08 9330 1550



Church Warden

Mrs Jill Bowman:

08 9330 9594

Contents

WELCOME TO EASTER AT HOLY CROSS	2
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.....	3
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP	3
IN LOVING MEMORY	3
ANGLICARE	3
PRAYER REQUESTS	3
INTRODUCING "THE HOLY CROSS 100 CLUB".	4
KIDS PLUS +	4
MAINLY MUSIC	5
NEW TRESTLE TABLES.....	6
MY FIRST CHURCH.....	7
SOLOMON ISLANDS EMERGENCY APPEAL.....	8
SENDING COMFORT TO SYRIANS	8
MOZAMBIQUE FLOODS HOW YOU CAN HELP	9
SOUTH SUDAN CALLS FOR VITAL MEDICAL HELP.....	9
EASTER	10
THE REAL MEANING OF EASTER.....	11
<i>Matthew 27:11-63</i>	11
<i>The Soldiers Mock Jesus</i>	12
<i>The Crucifixion</i>	12
<i>The Death of Jesus</i>	13
<i>The Burial of Jesus</i>	13
<i>The Guard at the Tomb</i>	13
<i>Explanation</i>	14
<i>Death</i>	14
<i>Jesus' Resurrection</i>	14
<i>Explanation</i>	15
<i>The Real Meaning of Easter</i>	15
THE EASTER GLOW (LUKE 24: 13-35).....	15
MUST I KEEP MOVING OR CAN I REST?.....	16
WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS?.....	17
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	18
GOD OPENS DOORS	18
ST GEORGES CATHEDRAL	18
HOW OLD ARE MOST CONVERTS?.....	18
OUR PAGE	19
<i>Sign of the Fish</i>	19
<i>Secret Writing</i>	19
ST. JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL.....	20
MOUSE MAKES.....	21
ROSTERS	22
SERVICE TIMES	23
KIDS PLUS	24

Welcome To Easter At Holy Cross

We would love to welcome you to Holy Cross Church. We hope that you find the worship uplifting and that your relationship with Jesus Christ is enriched through it.

Sunday Club is held during school term at all of our Sunday morning services at 9:00 am and crèche facilities are available at the rear of the church. A change table is in the disabled toilet. Nursing mothers can use the front meeting room, access through the hall (door has sign on it).

For those hard of hearing an AUDIO LOOP operates throughout the church area. Please use your "T" setting to make use of this.

Gluten free wafers are available. If you require these please speak to the service leader.

We invite you to stay for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat in the hall after the service.

ANGLICAN CHURCH
of the HOLY CROSS
56 McLean Street, Melville
Western Australia 6156
t: 08 9330 1550
m: 0417 178 688
e: revd.debbie@gmail.com
w: www.holycrossmelville.org

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Parishioners will be held on Sunday 26 May 2013 following our 9:00 am morning service.

All members on our electoral role are invited to attend.

Prior to our annual meeting we are inviting nominations for people to serve as:-

- Church Warden
- Members of Church Council
- Auditor
- Nominators of Clergy

If you would like to nominate someone (with their permission) or would like to be nominated yourself please complete a form which can be found in the entrance hall and return to Revd Debbie May.

Thank you

Church Membership

If you wish to be included on our membership role (Electoral role) please complete a form which may be found in the entrance hall.

In Loving Memory

Harry Leslie
Margaret Duncan



AnglicareWATM
FOR TODAY. FOR TOMORROW.

At Holy Cross each week there is a collection of food for the needy which is distributed through Anglicare. If you would like to make an offering towards this worthwhile cause, please place your donation in the basket by the church entrance door. The basket will then be brought up during the offertory.

Prayer Requests

The **Prayer Request Book** can be found on



Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528)
Praying Hands, 1508

the altar at the rear of the church. If you know of anyone who would like us to pray for them or if you have any particular worries that you would like us to pray for, please feel free to write a prayer

request in the new blue prayer book that can be found in the church. These requests will be gathered and used during our daily Morning Prayer times and I would encourage our intercessors on Sunday mornings to use where appropriate during the intercessions. Any requests may also be sent to Revd. Debbie May at revd.debbie@gmail.com or by phone 0417 178 688.

Revd Debbie May

Introducing

"The Holy Cross 100 Club".

A novel way to raise funds and have a bit of fun while doing so is to become a member of The Holy Cross 100 Club. This does not mean that membership is only open to Centenarian's but you do have to be over eighteen to take part.

When you become a 100 Club member your lucky number can be purchased for \$2 per month, paid annually at a cost of \$24 for inclusion in twelve monthly draws. These draws will take place on the third Sunday of each month during coffee after the service and the winners will then be published in the church magazine.

The numbers will be issued on a first come first served basis and will only be available from members of the Church Council with the total income collected being split 50% towards the prize fund and 50% towards church funds.

Once you have chosen and paid for your number and it has been confirmed as available it will be reserved for you and entered into each monthly draw for a period of twelve months. You can of course purchase as many numbers as you wish.

Membership of the 100 club is not restricted to church members and we hope that your friends, neighbours and family might also wish to support the church in this fun way.

The club will only operate once 50 or more numbers have been taken up. A full set of the rules will be displayed on the church notice board.

For more details speak to Wayne.

Kids Plus +

Drop your kids in to Kids Plus+ on a Thursday evening (during school term time) for a time of fun and games between 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm while you go shopping/put your feet up or have some 'you' time.

Kids Plus + is an exciting church group for children aged between 4-7 (Pre Primary to year 2). Each week we play games, do craft activities, enjoy stories, watch films together and much more. Generally we have lots of fun while learning good Christian life skills and make friends.

Initial cost to join for the year \$10 then just \$5 per family per week to cover costs.

Kids Plus+ is affiliated with GFS Australia and enjoys all the benefits of belonging to a long established, well respected group.

All leaders have current Working with Children Cards and are Police checked so rest knowing that your children are in safe hands.

The Marathon

Last year I entered the London marathon. The race started and soon I was in trouble. It was embarrassing, for as the hours went by, I slid further and further back in the race, until I was at the very end. The man who was in front of me, second to last, then began making fun of me. He said, "Hey buddy, how does it feel to be last?"

I replied: "You really want to know?" Then I dropped out of the race.



mainly music®

Every week day, little children wake up with one question on their lips, “Is it mainly moosik today, Mummy?” When the answer is, “Yes”, they jump out of bed with excitement, energy and a smile on their face.

More than 16 000 families in Australia, New Zealand, England, Scotland, United States, Canada and very soon, in Malaysia, representing 500 mainly music groups throughout the world, have a spring in their step when it is their mainly music day. The organization began as one group operating from one church in 1990.

Why has mainly music become so popular?

Little children love looking at puppets, ‘pretending’ with a scarf in their hand, and keeping the beat with a shaker. Little do they know, they’re developing skills. Then there’s the morning tea time, when not only does each child have a snack, they also get to play with other young children.

The music time is also attractive for mums. It’s a chance to spend one on one time with their non school aged child, dancing and singing. And for those mums with twins, mainly music offers an activity where they can participate without having to bring another adult [twins require two adults at swimming classes to attend]. mainly music offers mothers of a baby and a toddler a place to enjoy time all together.

What else does mainly music offer mums? A chance to meet with other mums, over a hot drink and something to eat. It’s a chance to get out of the house – finish a sentence – talk adult to adult! The children are safe and are amused by the toys. They can connect with others and enjoy adult to adult chat! Many mums tell us, “mainly music is the highlight of my week.”

What about dads, grandparents, and caregivers? They love to come too – for much the same reasons.

mainly music sessions are being held at the Anglican Church of the Holy Cross on Wednesdays (during school term time) starting at 10.30 am. The cost is \$7.00 per family per session. For more information, please phone Revd Debbie 0417 178 688



Many thanks to everyone who has been helping at our monthly Jumble sales. These are great events not only to find a real bargain but also for meeting others in our community and enjoying good company over a lovely morning cream tea or coffee.

Donations of good quality items always appreciated, along with cakes, pickles & jams etc. Please, no electrical goods! Helpers are also needed to either set up the day before, serve on the day or to clear away around 11:30 am. If you can volunteer a couple of hours to help, bake or serve teas etc. we would love to hear from you.

Dates for next Jumble Sales:

- Saturday 12 May
- Saturday 14 June
- Saturday 11 August

Doors open at 8:30 am

New Trestle Tables

Last year the Church successfully applied for a grant from the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to purchase new tables. The Church received \$2,200.00 in November 2012 to put towards this purchase.

After carefully looking at the range of lightweight trestle tables on the market it was decided that we would purchase the Fenlite 3072 ABS Trestle Tables. These were chosen because:

- they are light (18 kg each),
- they are strong (support a uniformly distributed load of 725 kg)
- they have an easy to use folding leg for an easy set up and break down.
- the table surface can withstand direct contact with hot objects up to 70°C



The old tables have to go. If you would like to put in an offer for an old trestle table see Revd Debbie.

My First Church

Sixty years of singing in churches of many types, what memories!

One of the first hymns which I sang, walking into a Church of England still give me goose bumps. With all the strong feelings of a young teenager I sang, "Just as I am." And how I meant it. With all the failures between, that hymn means a lot to me still. In that first church teenagers gathered at Evensong – no television then. The longer the service the better. No gimmicks, no drums or waiving of hands – such things would have been unthinkable then.

Light filtered through the stained glass windows adding poignancy to the 'Mag' and 'Nunc'. Traditionally at Christmas we sang in harmony outside the homes of parishioners often with the crisp snow beneath our feet. Stamping to keep warm, we needed no practices and no choir leader.

Watch night services inspired us to make decision for the New Year. Or there were memories of the Easter Gospel read at dawn on a lonely hillside. Yes, and this was happening when Hitler threatened to invade our beaches which were only a hundred yards away from St Marys church.

We were close to Portland Dockyard and many worried families lived close by. Every Sunday we sang 'For Those in Peril on the sea'. (Eternal Father Strong to save).

Not to miss anything, I would run three miles town to the town. The Americans flooded the town as D-Day approached but I still did the run to church on dark nights.

Being a seaside town we were out on the promenade when the summer visitors flocked in.

Sentiment? Well, it had that potential. Gimmick? There was potential there. No one in the Anglican Church escapes tradition – we would not wish that – we are based on a Biblical prayer book. What am I trying to say then? Perhaps it is not tradition for tradition's sake – The drama in the Eucharist reminds us, through eye-gate, through ear-gate and sometimes through nose-gate, (though St Mary's wouldn't like that), what Christ has done for us bringing renewal and reconciliation.

Barbara Good



"The wedding's TODAY?!"

Solomon Islands Emergency Appeal

An 8.0 magnitude earthquake struck the Solomon Islands on 6 February 2013. The resulting tsunami has left many people homeless in the province of Temotu, Santa Cruz Islands.

ABM's partner, the Anglican Church of Melanesia, has asked for emergency relief for these people, many of whom are Anglicans and live along the coastal villages of the islands.

Almost 4,000 people have been affected with their houses destroyed or damaged. Basic supplies of clean drinking water, food, tents and clothing are urgently needed to help these communities.

You can donate to the Solomon Islands Emergency Appeal through ABM on 1300 302 663, E: info@abm.asn.au or online www.abmission.org

Please pray for the tsunami victims on the islands of Santa Cruz as they try to rebuild their lives and for all who are coming to their aid.



Sending Comfort to Syrians



Hundreds of thousands of Scripture calendars and comics about the life of Jesus have been distributed in Syria's beleaguered cities by Bible Society.

As Bible Society spokesman in Beirut explained: "When you face death, there are so very few things that are really important. During these last two years of troubles we have come to believe more and more in the message contained in the Word of God. God has got something very important to tell us Syrians at this very time."

He went on to say that Bible Society volunteers, who also distribute food to families affected by the violence, "have told us that family after family have told them that the Scriptures meant much more to them than the food." To date, some 100,000 Scripture calendars and 150,000 comics have been distributed.

Mozambique Floods

How you can help

Heavy rains in Mozambique have triggered flooding in several provinces, so severe that an estimated 75,000 people have fled their homes. They have ended up in three unorganized camps, with very limited access to shelter, latrines, food, and water.

One camp is spread along several miles of road and has eight functioning wells and seven latrines for around 15,000 people. A second group of about 8,000 people have gathered around eight schools. There are three latrines at each school but only one functioning well for all eight locations. The third camp is inaccessible at this time. Many people who did not evacuate are still on top of their homes and next to roads. Others are congregated on islands in floodwaters.

Samaritan's Purse is working with approximately 10,000 people in two camps. It aims to provide safe drinking water as well as plastic sheeting for emergency shelter, blankets, jerry cans and soap. It is building latrines and has begun hygiene promotion. If you would like to make a donation towards helping, please go to www.samaritans-purse.org.uk



South Sudan

Calls for Vital Medical Help

Samaritan's Purse is calling for urgent help to meet the overwhelming demand to treat thousands of patients in desperate conditions in South Sudan's Maban County, with a population of more than 200,000, which includes over 110,000 refugees.

The charity recently expanded Bunj Hospital, the only medical centre in the whole of Maban County, by adding a new ward and operating theatre. However they desperately need funding to expand the hospital further to cope with the huge intake of thousands of patients. "The hospital is beyond maximum capacity every day," said Samaritan's Purse UK's Head of Programmes and Projects, Chris Blackham, who just returned from visiting their work in South Sudan.

He added: "They have plans to construct and add new facilities to expand the services offered to those in need – an x-ray ward, a further surgical theatre, a paediatric ward, a tuberculosis in-patient ward and another women's ward. These facilities will enable staff to provide life-changing treatment for another 175 people every week."

"People come in all the time, from all directions," said Dr. Atar who runs the hospital and is the only full-time physician in the county. "We work 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We are really overwhelmed with the situation".

Dr Atar, who has served with Samaritan's Purse for several years added: "We are the only ones here to help them, and we are the only witness for Christ among these people. Here, we do just a little to help, but God is with us. We can't do anything

by ourselves.” View the You Tube Video on Bunj Hospital at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UKveVjtIVrU.

Bunj Hospital is adjacent to the Doro refugee camp, where Samaritan's Purse is providing food, shelter, clean water and healthcare to more than 45,000 people.

Samaritan's Purse is also in urgent need of surgeons to come and serve at the hospital for a minimum of a month at a time.

More details at:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk



Two hungry children in Sudan's Nuba Mountains, sleeping inside a cave for protection from government bombers

Hereafter

The minister came to see me the other day. He said that at my age I should be thinking of the hereafter.

I told him, "Oh, I do it all the time. No matter where I am - in the bedroom, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement - I ask myself, 'Now, what am I here after?'"



Easter

A tone of uncertainty is evident in society today. Winds of change are blowing and their effects are being felt on many fronts - politics, business, finance and even personal relationships. So many factors, once thought predictable, are no longer rock-solid. Thankfully, there are some things that never change.

The Easter message remains a constant source of confidence in every season of life. The powerful symbols that come into focus at this time – a rugged cross and an empty tomb – offer to every one of us what the writer of Hebrews identifies as 'Hope which is an anchor for our soul'. It's not mere symbolism alone though, for there's a declaration that accompanies each of them.

From the cross, the words of Jesus carry such compassion: 'Father forgive them...' Shame and regret are dealt with through the power of Divine forgiveness.

From the empty tomb, we hear those life-giving words: 'He is not here for He is risen'. This – offers us incredible strength for every challenge we face.

The story is told of a little boy rescued after being lost at sea. When found clinging to a rock, he was asked if he was afraid. He answered, 'I sure was. I shook

all night...but the rock didn't move.' The same can be said of the Easter message – it's timeless and secure.

God loves us. He showed this graphically through the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus. You may find yourself feeling uncertain about many things at the moment. Our prayer is that you would discover the real hope and genuine security through the life-changing message that Easter brings.

Wayne Alcorn
National President: Australian Christian Churches

The God Who Answers Prayer

There is a God who answers prayer
Who intercedes before the throne,
The Son of God who ever cares,
Do not believe you walk alone.

When life seems hard, no answers come
He knows the path that you now tread
Believe on Him though all seems lost
He knows about the tears you shed.

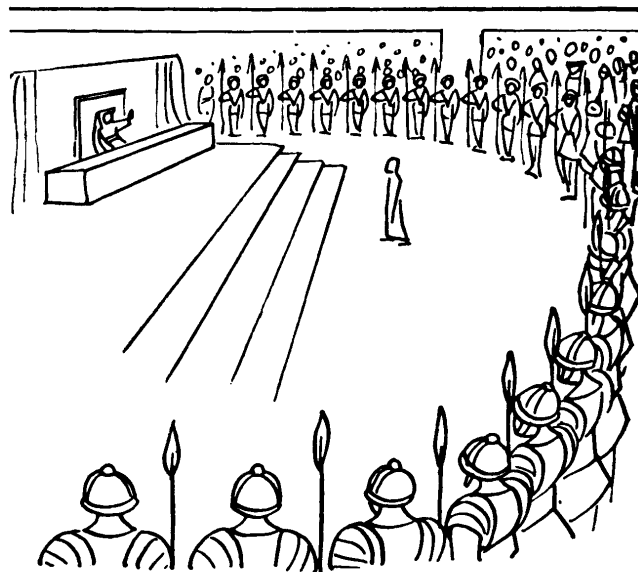
Hold on to Him who is your strength,
Although it seems there's no way through,
Though pain and heartache both are near,
Who holds the world holds also you.

There is a day when all is clear
A day when we all understand
That all our lives but marked a way
That led us to the Promised Land.

By Megan Carter

The Real Meaning of Easter

Many people all across the world focus on Easter as being a time to celebrate the Easter bunny and to hunt eggs, but this is not the true meaning of Easter. Although these events are fun, the true meaning of Easter is Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. The following reading, taken from scriptures from the Bible, tells of this event of Jesus' death and resurrection. Enjoy.



Matthew 27:11-63

Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?" But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor.

Now it was the governor's custom at the Feast to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them,

"Which one do you want me to release to you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew it was out of envy that they had handed Jesus over to him.

While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him."

But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed.

"Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor.

"Barabbas," they answered.

"What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?" Pilate asked.

They all answered, "Crucify him!"

"Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate

But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!"

All the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!"

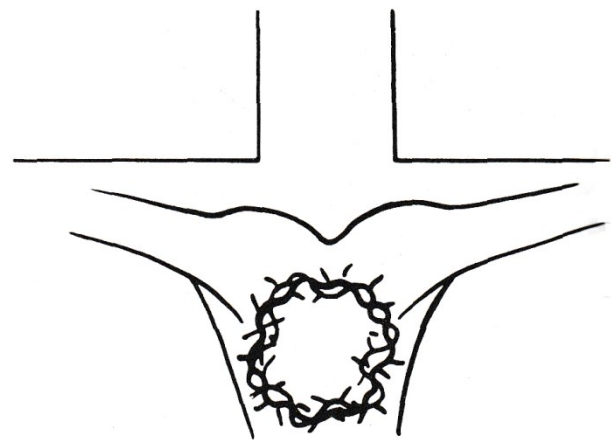
Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

The Crucifixion

As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered



Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Two robbers were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save

yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!"

In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.' "In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

The Death of Jesus

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi,[c] lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

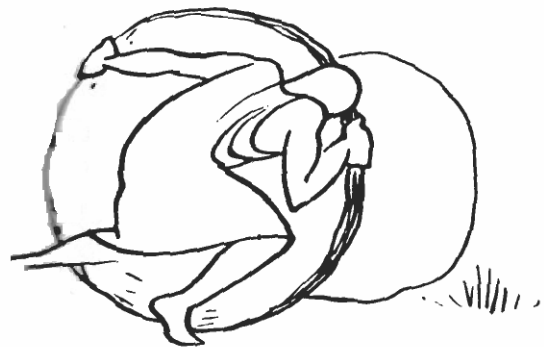
When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened,

they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

The Burial of Jesus

As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.



The Guard at the Tomb

The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day.

Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."

"Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

Explanation

Jesus is now starting his trials. The first one is before Pontius Pilate.

As the verses said, it was custom to release a prisoner at the Feast. They had a criminal in jail by the name of Barabbas. Pilate asked the crowd below who they wanted to be set free, and the crowd replied, "Give us Barabbas!" not knowing Jesus was the Christ.

Now Pilate's wife did not agree with everyone. She knew Jesus and knew that he was Christ. She sent her husband, Pilate, a message saying Jesus was innocent of such a crime.

The elders wanted Jesus dead and persuaded the crowd to call out for Barabbas.

Pilate asked, "Then what should I do with Jesus?" The crowd replied, "Crucify him!" Pilate answered, "Why? What crime has he committed?" But the crowd still sung in harmony, "Crucify him!"

After this, he released Barabbas free and sent Jesus to be crucified, not knowing what he was doing.

Then, the soldiers took Jesus away to be crucified. They mocked him, spat on him, and stripped him of his clothes. They twisted a painful crown of thorns up on his head and made him carry his own cross up to where he was crucified. But after a while, they picked a man named Simon out of the crowd and made him carry Jesus' cross.

They arrived where Jesus would die, called Golgotha, or Place of the Skull. They divided up his clothes. He was placed on the cross. A nail was driven into both of his hands and they put the feet together to hold one nail. They put a sign above his head reading, 'Jesus, King of the Jews'. The cross was then placed into the earth.

Death

Darkness came over the land for 3 hours. On the third hour, Jesus shouted, "Eloi, Eloi lama sabachthini" which means "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?"

And then, Jesus gave his spirit to his father in heaven, God.

Right at the moment Jesus died, the temple's curtains were split from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. Tombs broke open and bodies of the most high dead were raised to life.

When the centurion and those with him saw what had happen they exclaimed, "Sure he was the Son of God"

Jesus was then taken to his tomb. He was placed in the tomb and a giant boulder covered the entry so no one could get into his tomb.

Jesus' Resurrection

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Explanation

A violent earthquake shook the earth and the Angel of the Lord came down and rolled the stone away.

The angel proclaimed, "Jesus is not here. He has risen!"

The Real Meaning of Easter

This happening of Jesus' death and resurrection is the true meaning of Easter. Good Friday is the day that Jesus died. Easter Sunday is the day that Jesus rose from the dead and conquered death. The grave couldn't hold him! If you want to follow the Saviour who died for you, visit Holy Cross Church, Melville or phone Revd. Debbie 0417178688 and ask How to Become a True Christian. Thanks everyone for reading and I hope that you enjoyed a very Happy Easter!

The Easter Glow

(Luke 24: 13-35)

For three years he had held the tiny band together, through journeyings, storms and opposition. And now – following a public trial and execution – he was gone.

Take away the dominant figure, and an organisation can quickly crumble. Take Theudas, an earlier messianic claimant. Once killed, his 400 devotees melted away.

There was 'Judas the Galilean.' When he, too, was removed, the movement scattered. It was a respected Pharisee, Gamaliel, who used these incidents to discourage the Jewish Sanhedrin from persecuting the new Christian church. "Don't worry about this threatening new movement!" he was saying:

Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God (Acts 5:33-40)

Now, it was Easter Day. Here were two disciples walking to Emmaus. As far as they were concerned, their leader was dead. The 'scattering' process had already begun. It had started on that fateful Thursday evening of Christ's arrest, when Jesus had quoted to his disciples from the prophet Zechariah: *"It is written 'I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered'"* (Matthew 26.31.)

The dream was over. "Let's go home - back to Emmaus." Yet Luke 24 is the glowing account of the entire re-building of a world-view. As the apparent Stranger joins the two, it was like the uncorking of a bottle; the story pours out. Surely

crucifixion and the future Redeemer of Israel had nothing to do with each other!

Then began a fascinating Bible study on the road. Evidently in their studies, the two had skipped the passages that spoke of a suffering Messiah. The Stranger says, "Let me fill in those bits for you." Now the figures of a Conquering King and a Suffering Servant begin to coalesce into a single photo-fit. Then, at supper with the two, comes the familiar action of the breaking of bread, and – Why.... it's Jesus. Hot-foot, they make the seven miles back to Jerusalem. Ultimately, it was the Scriptures that did it for them. Now they can't keep the glowing news of the risen Christ to themselves!

If Jesus had not been bodily raised from the grave, the demoralized movement – like that of Theudas – would have folded within days. And you and I would never have heard of him!



He stood among them

Must I Keep Moving or Can I Rest?

There is a healthy tension at the heart of the Christian journey into Christ-likeness. It's the push and pull of staying or getting up and going. And the Bible speaks of both as part of the normal Christian life.

In 1 Corinthians 15:58 Paul seems to be spurring his readers on to do even more, *"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters....always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain"*.

But then we hear Jesus warning us in John 15:5, *"I am the vine; you are the branches.... apart from me you can do nothing"*. Who wants to find they have moved on and achieved nothing?

In the process of transformation (becoming like Jesus) there seems to be this healthy tension between 'doing' and 'abiding'.

Some churches seem to solve the tension by ticking the 'abiding' option. No one is challenged, the training of a new generation of leaders is half-hearted, and resources are safely banked. We create a pathway that leads nowhere much, and then happily walk up and down it each week. We just 'are' Christians.

Other churches rush helter-skelter in the opposite direction. Exhaustion and burnout are their trade-marks. They pile up meetings and programmes and use people until they are spiritually dry. There is no depth and no profound mystery and nowhere to rest and refresh the exhausted traveller.

Perhaps if the journey into Christ-likeness needs us to rest, as well as to get going, then we need to plan for both. We need to be prepared to roll up our sleeves, sacrifice comfort, and pour ourselves out in God's service. But we also need to take time to seek intimacy with him, and to be transformed by his spirit within us. We need to become an oasis of grace and love to the people we encounter.

Now that sounds like a balance well kept: going and yet staying is still an option.

What Are Your Goals?

"I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"
Philippians 3:14



Scripture tells us that if we want the higher calling of God in Christ Jesus, then we should press on toward the 'goal', which in turn means we will receive the prize. This inspired scripture shows an understanding of our nature, which has the capacity to achieve far more than we thought possible, as long as we have set it as a goal.

Think of the times in your life when you have set your mind on achieving something. It may have started as a child, when you saw something you wanted, and you did not rest until you got it. Perhaps it was the pursuit of some academic qualification. Or it could have been in your relationships, where you set your heart upon someone and pursued them until you had fulfilled the goal of engagement and marriage. Perhaps, like many 'driven', ambitious people, you set your sights on the career you wanted, and the progression you craved within it. In some cases this may even have overtaken you and become an overwhelming focus of your life.

Whichever example rings true with you, one thing is certain: all achievements begin with setting a goal or challenge for yourself. The joy when you achieve something is deep and satisfying. Having a specific goal helps you to sort the essentials from the non-essentials in your life. No one wants to look back on their lives and realise they have wasted the years achieving nothing much at all.

What would you like to look back on your life and be proud you had achieved? Write it down now (they never seem to happen until you have committed them to paper), and set it as a goal to achieve. You will be so glad you did.

Dates For Your Diary

Wed 3 April

10:30 am mainly music
07:00 pm Church Council



Thu 4 April

04:00 pm Kids Plus+

Sat 6 April

10:00 am Mission Action Plan meeting

Wed 10 April

10:30 am mainly music

Thu 11 April

04:00 pm Kids Plus+

Wed 17 April

10:30 am mainly music

Thu 18 April

04:00 pm Kids Plus+

Sat 12 May

08:30 am Jumble Sale

St Georges Cathedral

For Cathedral news please click
www.perthcathedral.org

Wed 10 April

A Day in the Spiritual Life of the Cathedral

9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Tea/Coffee/muffins “Mystery Overcomes (Easter)” with The Right Reverend Kay Goldsworthy, Assistant Bishop of Perth, Poetry on the theme with Cathedral Scholar Professor Christopher Wortham, lunch, and other experiences of the Christian spiritual life [\$12]

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Christian Meditation (come to Burt Hall) - no enrolment necessary for this – just turn up]

Enrolments for the above events (catering and seating) by the Monday before the event to Bishop David Murray, Cathedral Centre for Spirituality – T: 9325 5766 or E: spirituality@perthcathedral.org

God Opens Doors

Look back and thank God.
Look forward and trust God.
Look around and serve God.
Look within and find God!

God closes doors no man can open and
God opens doors no man can close.

Without God our week would be:

Sinday, **M**ournday, **T**earsday, **W**asteday,
Thirstday, **F**ightday & **S**hatterday.

Shared by Beryl Shooter

How Old Are Most Converts?

At what age do people become Christians? 72% of Christians surveyed in a recent survey by the Evangelical Alliance said that they had decided to be a Christian before they had reached 20 years of age. Statistics like this underline the importance of effective youth mission, according to the national initiative ‘HOPE’.

For details of their work, visit: www.hope-revolution.com



Sign of the Fish

In the early days of Christianity it could be very dangerous to admit that you were one of Jesus' followers. You could be arrested, imprisoned and killed, simply for your beliefs. Christians had to meet in secret - but how could you tell if a stranger was a Christian or not? Who could you trust? Christians used secret signs to recognise one another. And one of these was the sign of the fish which could easily be scratched on a wall or drawn in the dust of the road. If the other person wasn't a Christian they'd just think you were doodling.



The fish was used as sign because, in Greek, the first letters of the words 'Jesus Christ God's Son Saviour' spell 'ichthus', the Greek word for fish.

How can you show other people today that you are a Christian? If you have the joy of knowing Jesus in your heart then it should show on your face!

Secret Writing

The fish was a secret sign. If you would like to send someone a secret message, you can do it with 'invisible ink'.

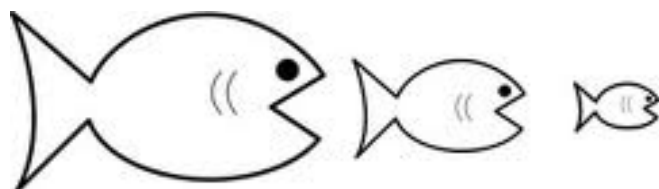
You need a lemon or an onion. Squeeze the juice of either into a small bowl. Using the juice as ink, with a clean nib in a proper pen, write your message on a piece of paper. Leave it to dry and as it dries the message will disappear.



To make it reappear, hold the paper over a lamp or radiator. This is a very easy way of sending secret messages ... but you have to be sure that the person you are writing to knows the secret of how to make the message reappear!

Where does seaweed look for a job?

In the 'Kelp-wanted' ads!



What game do fish like playing the most?

Name that tuna.

St. James The Least Of All

Beware when the choirs meet

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

You agonised recently over your ecumenical service: who should be invited? Who should preach? What about the order of service? If you had attended our recent combined churches' choir festival, your own dilemmas would have seemed a little less acute.

At the pre-meeting, there was heated discussion about whether those choirs who normally wore robes would be comfortable standing among those who didn't. The more aesthetically sensitive worried whether St. Agatha's pea green cassocks may clash with our red ones. Intending to be helpful, but phrasing it rather badly, someone suggested that the normally robed choirs should wear nothing. Colonel Wainwright was a little too quick to chuckle.

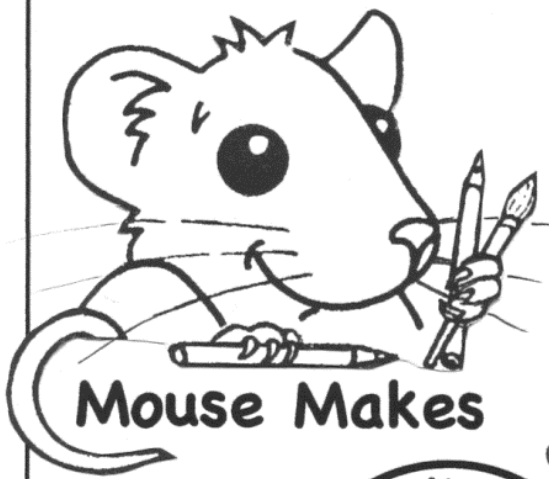
I began to wonder if a prize was to be awarded to the person who raised the greatest number of concerns: Should the choirs stay separate? Would the tenors be next to the altos or the basses? Where would extra seating be placed? Would the heating be on for the rehearsal? Then came what you would call the 'elephant in the room': of all the choirmasters, who would conduct and who play the organ? Tension mounted, and expressions grew grim. But before the committee started to dig trenches in my carpet and position howitzers under the desk, I briefly left the room, turned off all the electricity and claimed we'd had a power cut. This is a useful device for truculent committees; sadly, it can be used only rarely.

Come the day, an uneasy truce lasted while everyone adopted the traditional solution to disagreement within congregations, and did exactly what they wanted. Some were robed, some were not, some choirs congealed in their own huddles, while others joyfully sat next to people from other churches – mainly so they could point out their neighbour's wrong notes. Some sang in the right key, some sang in the wrong key, some sang what sounded like quite different songs altogether.

The service ended with one choir thinking that the organist had played too loudly, while another choir thought that the conductor wasn't up to much. Everyone agreed afterwards that we must do it again, while firmly stating that if their own choirmaster didn't conduct next year, they wouldn't be there.

Thankfully, one fundamental thing on the day united them: they all said that our church was too cold.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



What is your most valuable treasure?

The bible tells us that the most valuable thing you can ever have is something that can **NEVER** be lost, broken or stolen.

The most **valuable** thing you can have is to be **friends with God** through Jesus.

Read: Matthew 6:19-21

Keep
my words,
treasure up my
commands
Prov 7:1

Do **not**
store up
treasures
on earth
Matt 6:19

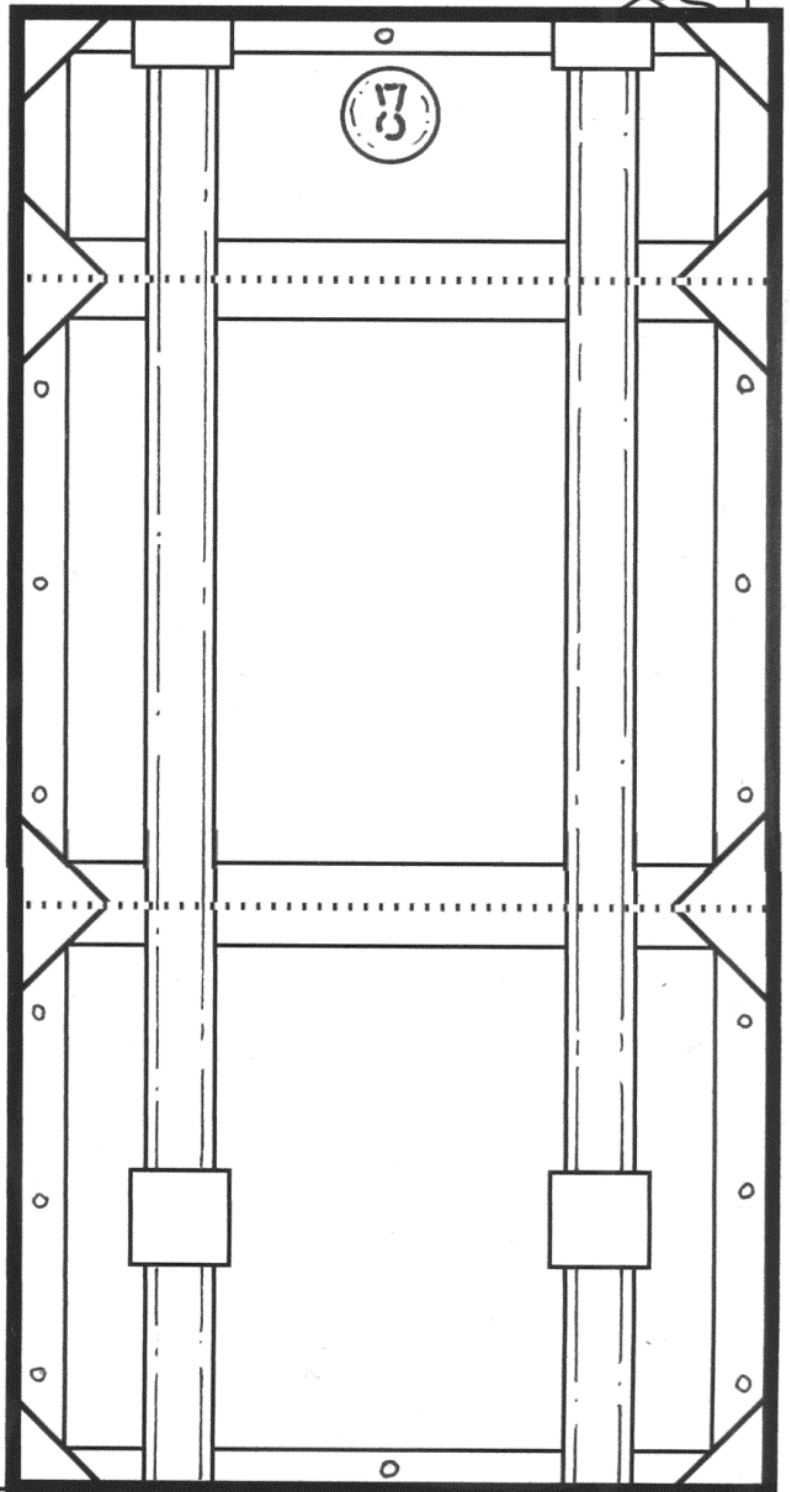
Your
HEART
will be where
your riches are
Matt 6:21

In **Christ**
are hidden all
the **treasures** of
wisdom and
understanding
Col 2:3

Be
RICH
in good
deeds
1 Tim 6:18

Be
generous
givers
1 Tim 6:18

Cut out these
coins. Cut out
the treasure box
and fold along
the dotted
lines. Glue
the coins
inside the
box



Rosters

Holy Cross Rosters April 2013

Date	Media	Collection	Reading	Prayers	Communion	Morning Tea	Altar	Flowers	Sunday Club
Easter 31/03	Peter	Mel & Norm	Beryl	Beryl	Adele	Joy & Frank	Sheri	Everyone	Jill
Sun 7 April	Wayne	Pat & Betty S.G.	Pat	Betty	Jill	Mike & Adele	Carole	Betty	Holiday
Sun 14 April	Peter	Mel & Norm	Mike	Jill	Sheri	Norma & Pat	Carole	Christine	Holiday
Sun 21 April	Mike	Peter & David	Betty R	Betty	Ken	Betty R	Carole	Sheri	Holiday
Sun 28 April	Wayne	Pat & Betty S.G.	David	Beryl	Adele	Hazel & Annette	Carole	Adele	
Sun 5 May	Wayne	Mel & Norm	Annette	Adele	Beryl	Mike & Adele	Hazel	Betty	

Note

If you are unable to fulfil your roster duty on your rostered day, please try to find someone to swap with. If you cannot find anyone, please ring Debbie

Service Times

Fri 29 March (Good Friday)

10:00 am Good Friday Service

Genesis 22:1-18,
Psalm 130,
John 18, 19

Sun 31 March (Easter Sunday)

09:00 am Easter Celebration

Isaiah 65: 17 – 25
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Luke 24:1-12

Wed 3 April

9:30 am Communion with short
Reflection & Discussion

Thu 4 April

07:30 pm Order of St Luke

Sun 7 April

09:00 am Communion with
Sunday Club & Baptism

Acts 5: 27 – 32
Revelation 1: 4 – 8
John 20: 19 – 31

Service Times

Sun 14 April

09:00 am Communion with
Sunday Club
We welcome the
Revd. Mark McCracken
at our service

Acts 9: 1 - 6,
Revelation 5: 11 - 14,
John 21: 1 – 9

Sun 21 April

09:00 am Communion with
Sunday Club
We welcome the
Revd Onesimo Lado
at our service

Acts 9: 36 - 43,
Revelation 7 : 9 - 17,
John 10: 22 – 30

Sun 28 April

09:00 am Communion with
Sunday Club

Acts 11: 1 – 18
Revelation 21: 1 – 6
John 13: 31 – 35

Wed 1 May

9:30 am Communion with short
Reflection & Discussion

KidsPlus+

A fun church group for
children aged 4 to 7 with games,
crafts, stories
and much more.

On Thursdays
at 4pm.-5.30pm
\$5 per family



Holy Cross Church 56 McLean Street Melville 6164

For more details contact Revd. Debbie: 0417 178 688