



NEWSLETTER

September 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



This term we have been working around the theme of WATER. Each week the hall has been decorated with some "watery" ideas.

Our bible stories have been about Jesus at the Jordan River, Turning water into wine, Goin' fishin' and many more. Each week we have a special memory verse too.

On the 22nd August we all enjoyed a special fun night. It was a mermaids, pirates and sea creatures night. We

prepared some "fishy" food, played games, watched a movie "Jonah and the Whale" and dressed up in colourful outfits. It was great to see that some of the children made their own costumes. Well done for that! Every one looked fantastic and we all had a "whale" of a time.

We hope you can see from these photos what a fantastic time we have at KIDS PLUS+.

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Welcome To 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.

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of the HOLY CROSS
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In the August 2013 edition of the Anglican Messenger, the Revd. Mark McCracken wrote an article reflecting on community service organisations, such as Anglicare. The following is taken from that article.

“It is not impossible to move away from the food basket to the collection bowl or planned mission of giving. One parish in the southern suburbs of Perth WA, for example, actively discourages donations of food. In its place, after education and challenge, their people contribute to Anglicare WA’s emergency relief program through a gold coin donation. Another parish in the northern suburbs still collects food for a local Anglicare WA community centre, but does so with clear planning and direction. Their people are asked month by month to donate particular food items which meet their needs of that emergency relief centre. This is supplemented by a regular parish mission tithe to their work.

I love being an Anglican Christian and I am very proud of our Church. We engage in the area of service and care in many ways. We make a significant difference in the lives of many people here and around the world. I believe our people are up to the challenge. I know with challenge and education we can rise to greater levels of spiritual and corporate maturity.”

In view of the changes we have made recently to our donations to Anglicare WA, how will Holy Cross continue to support Anglicare?

Date: Saturday 19 October 2013
Time: 09:00 am – 3:30 pm
Venue: St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls, Mosman Park
Cost: \$25 per person or \$40 for a family

Come and be part of this exciting day in the life of our diocese. Dr Jeremy Hultin will lead the Bible Study.

Breakout groups include Telling Your Story, Connecting at Christmas, Doing Life: Marriage and Parenting, Maximising Music, Chaplains Connect.

GFS/KidsPlus+ and CEBS/BMA welcome school aged children to their own special program.

Contact information: Co-Chairs of Diocesan Mission and Evangelism Strategy Group

Katrina Holgate
e: katrina@stalbans.org.au
T: 9328 8071 or

Josie Steytler
e: josephinesteytler@bigpond.com
T: 9246 2807

Registration details to follow shortly or contact Church Office T: (08) 9325 7455

Training (for people on rosters)

There will a training session for people on the rosters, on:

10:00 am Tuesday 12 November. Please put the date in your diary now, thanks.

A few reminders for those on the roster:

Reading the Scriptures:

If you are reading please practise the set reading before the day to ensure that you do not get caught out with any unusual words or phrases. Please use the NRSV copy of the Bible.

Leading Intercessions:

Please have these written out in advance and pray them in a strong clear voice. Do not make them too long, you do not have to pray everything in one prayer. Equally do not make them too brief, there are formats available to help with the preparation, and delivery, if you would like some help with this please let me know. As a rule, do not use more than one silent reflection in any set of prayers and remember you are meant to be leading the congregation in what to pray for so be clear and easy to follow try not to jump around in your prayers but use a format that can be followed easily.

Communion:

If you are administering the chalice at Communion please ensure you are appropriately dressed and be attentive to come forward at the start of the offertory hymn. After Communion please wait until the Communion table is cleared and tidied before leaving the sanctuary area.

Altar:

Please ensure that you use clean cloths and linen. If stocks of communion wafers or wine is low please let Debbie know.

Flowers:

Please ensure that any dead or wilting flowers are removed from the church before the service and that all unused vases are returned to the cupboard in kitchen to the side of the sink.

Offertory:

Stewards appointed to collect and count the money, please start the collection of the offertory at the front of the church and work your way to the back row, stay there until beckoned forward by the minister. Do not come forward with the offertory until the offertory hymn has completely finished, it is embarrassing to be waiting at the communion rail to deliver the offertory when there is still two verses of the hymn to sing.

Media Team:

Please arrive in plenty of time to be set up before people start arriving. Please play some quiet gathering music as people are finding their seats. At the sharing of the peace please be attentive to the minister and ready to start playing the offertory Hymn when asked to do so.

Morning Tea:

Check before the service that tables and chairs are set up, if not please ask someone to help with this. Urn to be switched on and coffee pots filled. Cups, biscuits, sugar & milk jug, etc., please check they are ready and available for after the service. If there are any new people at the service who are waiting for coffee please serve them first.

Thank you for all that you do in serving the church, if you are unable to fulfil your allocated days please can you swap with someone else on the list and make a note on the noticeboard roster. Blessings & peace
Debbie

Wardens Wish List

Each month the Church Warden intends to present a list of tasks/jobs that have been done or need to be done around the church.



Area	Task	Status
Gardens	Prune roses	✓
Eastern Garden (Tennis Court)	Pruning	
Guttering	Checking & Cleanings	
Church	Carpet Cleaning Clean Windows	
Church	Service gas heaters	✓
Kitchen	Cupboard doors repair.	
Kitchen Meeting Room	Scouring floors	

If you know of any jobs that need attention, let Jill know so that she can add it to the list.

Religion Good for Cats & Dogs?

Do animals benefit, or suffer, thanks to religion? That is the subject of a new research project at Oxford.

Inspired by Baptist Preacher Charles Spurgeon's claim that a person cannot be a true Christian if his dog or cat is not the better off for it, the Centre will explore whether religious traditions are animal-friendly. Do religious people and religious institutions benefit animals? Are they more or less likely to be respectful to animals – either those kept as companions or those used for other human purposes?

The project is being organised by the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. It will be multidisciplinary, multifaith, and draw in not only theologians and religious thinkers, but also other academics including social scientists, psychologists, historians, and criminologists. “We want to know whether religion makes any difference for animals”, says Oxford theologian, Professor Andrew Linzey, who is Director of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. “We often hear of how religion is detrimental to human rights, but is it also detrimental to animal protection?”



Prayer Requests

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



Many thanks to everyone who has been helping at our monthly Jumble sales.

Donations of good quality items always appreciated, along with cakes, pickles & jams etc.

Please – No Electrical Items & if you could bring along items no sooner than the week before the jumble.

The Jumble held on Saturday 10 August raised. \$586.

Our next Jumble Sale is on Saturday 14 September.

The Holy Cross “100 Club”

New Members Are Needed Now!

The 100 Club works by 100 members paying an annual amount of just \$24 for their own unique number.

Prize draws will be made monthly

To select your number or for more information see

Wayne May Ph. 0408 931 800

Also if you have picked your number but have not yet paid please can you pay Wayne as soon as possible, thanks.

Synod 2013

Important dates for your diary.

Synod Eucharist at St George's Cathedral - Friday 4 October – 7:00 pm

Second Session of the Forty-Eighth Synod to be held at All Saints' College (Ewing Avenue, Bull Creek) - Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 October

Kid's Swap Meet

When: Saturday 7 September
10 am – 12 pm
Venue: Wollaston Education Centre,
5 Wollaston Road,
Mt Claremont

A free family event with face painting, sausage sizzle, refreshments and more! Come along and bring something you no longer use, and swap it for something cool – like toys or clothes!

1. Collect children's items (toys, books, kids clothing) that you no longer need.
2. Redeem tokens (for trading) for as many items as you donate to the event – Claire (08) 9286 0276 can arrange for your items to be picked up before the day.
3. Register how many members are coming from your parish.
4. Trade your tokens (or unwanted good) for things you can use. Know that you have done your bit to reduce landfill and reuse items.

Please RSVP to Victoria on
T: (08) 9286 0271 or
e: wecadmin@perth.anglican.org/ecocare



Anti Poverty Week 13 - 19 October 2013

Poverty and severe hardship affect more than a million Australians. A round the world more than a billion people are desperately poor. In Anti-Poverty Week help fight poverty and hardship.

- Why not organise a display, stall or award?
- Maybe a workshop, lecture or forum?
- How about a fundraiser, fact sheet or petition?

For more information and ideas visit
www.antipovertyweek.org.au or
T: 1300 797 290

Girls Friendly Society (GFS) & KidsPlus+

Children's & Families Service

When: Sat 21 September
3:00 pm

Venue: St George's Cathedral

Past and present members, families and friends are invited to attend the Children's and Families Service, which will celebrate GFS being in Perth for 125 years. Afternoon Tea to follow in Burt Hall.

An offertory will be collected during the service, which will be used for the GFS World Project in the Solomon Islands.

All enquiries to T: 9202 1627

WA Centenary Celebration of CEBS In Australia

When: 29 September
5:00 pm Evensong
Venue: St George's Cathedral

An invitation is made to any person who has been a member of CEBS, as a leader or as a 'boy', or who has had close association with CEBS to join this Special Thanksgiving Service and Centenary display.

Light refreshments will be available and spouses/partners and children are welcome. If you have any CEBS memorabilia you would like to share, let us know, or please bring it along as others will be interested.

Enquiries and RSVP to:

Chris Oliver
m: 0422 521 434 or
e: cebsbma@bigpond.com
by 16 September 2013



A Day in the Spiritual Life of the Cathedral

"Mystery Emanates (Saint Michael and All Angels)" with the Venerable Peter Bourne, Archdeacon of the Country Region; Poetry on the theme with Cathedral Scholar

Professor Christopher Wortham, lunch and other experiences of the Christian spiritual life. Wed 11 September, Time: 9:30am – 2:00 pm – Cost: \$12

1 – 2 pm - Christian Meditation and Celtic Prayers – come to Burt Hall, no enrolment necessary, 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

Smile Lines

I know what you meant, but it's not what you said.

From a pew-sheet: Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

Announcement in the church bulletin:

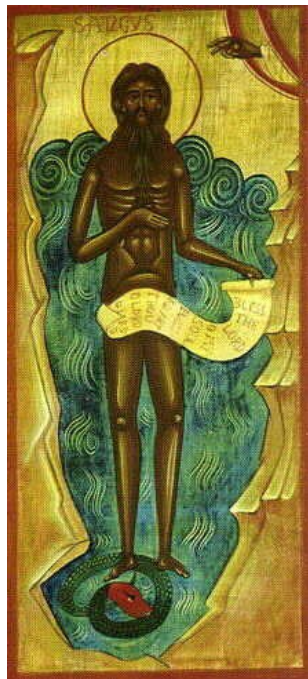
The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals.

From a pew-sheet: Ladies, don't forget the jumble sale. Now's your chance to get rid of all those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

Drithelm

Vision of the After-Life

Drithelm is the saint for you if you have ever wondered what lies beyond death, or have had a near-death experience. He was married and living in Cunningham



(now Ayrshire, then Northumbria) in the 7th century when he fell ill and apparently died. When he revived a few hours later he caused panic among the mourners, and was himself deeply shaken by the whole experience.

Drithelm went to pray in the village church until daylight,

and during those long hours reviewed the priorities of his life in the light of what he had seen while 'dead'. A celestial guide had shown him souls in hell, in purgatory, in paradise and heaven, suddenly the reality of God and of coming judgement and of what Christ had done in redeeming mankind became real to him, and his life on earth could never be the same again.

Next day he divided his wealth into three: giving one third to his wife, one third to his sons, and the remainder to the poor. He became a monk and went to live at Melrose, where he spent his time in prayer and contemplation of Jesus.

Drithelm's Vision of the after-life is remarkable in that it was the first example of this kind of literature from England. It was SO early: seventh century Anglo-Saxon England! Drithelm has even been seen as a remote precursor of Dante.

Holy Cross Day

On Holy Cross Day the Church celebrates the Cross as a symbol of triumph, as the sign of Christ's victory over death. Holy Cross Day goes right back to 14 September 335, and we have the mother of a Roman Emperor to thank for it.

Helena was a devout Christian, and after her son, Constantine, was converted, they agreed that she should travel from Rome to Israel, and seek out the places of special significance to Christians.

Of course, much of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans around 135 AD. But even so, Helena finally located what she believed to be the sites of the Crucifixion and of the Burial (and modern archaeologists think she may well be correct). The sites were so close together that she built one large church over them - the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

That church, built in honour of the Cross, was dedicated on 14 September 335.

The sign of the Cross has been used by Christians since early times. Tertullian, writing his *De Corona* (3:2) around AD 211, noted that that Christians seldom did anything significant without making the sign of the cross.

What is its significance? Well, people often put their initials or some sort of personal mark on something to show that it belongs to them. The Cross is the personal mark of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we mark it on ourselves as a sign that we belong to him. Even in the book of Revelation, we read that the servants of God are 'sealed' or 'marked' on their foreheads as a sign that they are his.

A preacher once put it this way: if you were explaining to someone how to make a cross, you would say: "Draw an I." That is you standing before the Lord, saying, 'here I am'. Then cancel that vertical stroke with a horizontal stroke – as if to say: "Lord, I abandon my self-will and make you the centre of my life instead. I abandon myself to your love and service."

On Holy Cross Day, we recall Jesus' wonderful promise: *"And when I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto me."* (John 12:32)

Half An Hour Is Too Long for Men

When it comes to shopping, your average man lasts 26 minutes. Then boredom sets in. After that, they want to go home. Those men who still patiently trail around after their partners adopt survival tactics such as waiting outside shops and admiring other women, to pass the time. Others get ratty, and end up in a row with their partner. Still others simply abandon their partner to the heat and crowds altogether, and go home to their sports game on TV. The research was done by Quidco, a cash back shopping website.



David Winter reflects on the perils of judging.

The Way I See It Justice & Mercy

I am very glad that I am not a judge. I would, I confess, enjoy the income and status, but there are far too many aspects of the job that disqualify me absolutely.

For one thing, how do judges keep awake during those long and tedious explanations of fraud or money-laundering cases? On the other hand, how can they sit there for weeks or months on end listening to legal arguments when the case is so obvious that a ten-year-old could pronounce guilt? Worst of all, however, must be the whole matter of sentencing. The accused stands there before you, found guilty by his peers, and now, after a couple of days to think about it, you alone have to decide what the punishment shall be.

Jesus said, "Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get". There's the problem, in a nutshell. Indeed, his next words make it even worse: "Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own?" I have never actually murdered anybody, but I've lost my temper plenty of times. I've never robbed a bank, but - hand on heart - has every single statement I have made in a tax return been the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? By the standards of Jesus, a judge needs to do better than that.

I would enjoy sending the revolting men in Oxford who abused vulnerable young girls to jail for a very long time, but what would I have done with the maths teacher who stupidly allowed himself to fall in love with one of his pupils and then run off to France with her? I don't think I would have sent him to prison for five and a half years. I would have looked at him in the dock, seen a man whose career as a teacher was finished forever, and (I suspect) given him a suspended sentence and warned him as to his future conduct. At least that would have saved the nation something like a hundred thousand pounds.

And it is exactly what a judge recently did with a woman teacher who had an affair with a 16 year old boy pupil. But perhaps - see the problem? This would not sufficiently deter other teachers from similar disastrous relationships with their students.

So I do not want to be a judge. But at the same time I admire those who feel able to take on that fearful responsibility. We often pray in church for those who 'administer the law', that they may 'uphold justice, honesty and truth'. All of us who are glad someone else is doing it ought to utter that prayer with profound sincerity.

Whole Life Discipleship

Do you know how to train fleas? Take an ordinary jar and place dozens of fleas in it. Put a lid on the top of the jar, and leave them for a few days. When you remove the lid the fleas will only jump to a few millimetres below where the lid has been. The fleas are now trained and will not jump out of the jar. (Though it is probably best not to try this experiment in your home!)

In the church today we are often 'trained' not to live beyond the limits, as whole life disciples! We can view discipleship as more about the sacred part of life rather than the secular. Are we aware of what God is doing in our school, workplace, with friends and family, on our street or in our leisure time? Whole life disciples spend every day with an awareness of the presence of Jesus in their lives. As the apostle Paul writes:

'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.' (Colossians 3:17)

We do ordinary things in the name or character of Jesus i.e. acting in the same way that Jesus would do if he were in our place.

It's helpful to think in terms of frontlines, the places where we spend most of our week: everyone has a frontline: young or old, working or not, sick or well. This could be our workplace, home, college, community or club.

This is where God has called us! God is at work on our frontline to shape and use us, making it a place where we can grow as a disciple and make a difference to those around.

As churches we need to be committed to helping each other see the significance of our frontlines in God's purposes. Are we supporting one another, especially in prayer? As one teacher put it: "I spend an hour a week teaching Sunday school and they haul me up to the front of the church to pray for me. The rest of the week I'm a full-time teacher and the church has never prayed for me. That says it all."

God wants to use us as salt and light wherever we spend time. Christians are exactly where they need to be to serve him, so that others might see what a disciple of Jesus looks like, as we grow as disciples ourselves.

Sailing With The Spirit

Editor: Lester Amann considers what it means to wait for God

It was a calm, windless day. Despite the weather, members of the sailing club were hopeful they would be launching their boats. Their sails were ready, but with no wind and only calm waters, no-one was going anywhere!

Some sailors tried to manoeuvre their crafts by paddling into the open water and propelling with their hands, but soon realised their efforts were being wasted. They decided to join the people in the club house and wait for the wind. It was only after a good while that a gentle breeze began to blow and soon people were in their boats. Now, with full sails, they skimmed out towards the open sea.

This scene can be a reminder of how the Holy Spirit can work in our lives. The Bible sometimes describes the Spirit as wind

and sometimes, like the sailors we may have to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. There are occasions, from a spiritual standpoint, nothing seems to be happening – for weeks and months on end. During these waiting times we may wonder what purpose God has for us.

The impatient sailors are a reminder to us that we can do nothing without the Holy Spirit. Those sailors soon discovered that without the directing power of the wind, they were wasting their time and energy. It can be tempting for us to think we can go it alone, and not be guided by the Spirit.

The people in the sailing club might have left their boats to do other things, but they were also watching for signs around them of the coming wind. No one was packing up and going home! They were waiting with a purpose.

In our times of stillness and waiting, we can watch for the signs of God as he works in the Church, in the community and in the world. We pray and worship together, and enjoy social times with each other, in readiness for God to move us into the course he has planned for us.

Our waiting times may have come on us due to various circumstances. The outlook may not be encouraging. But God is with us and he knows what we need now, and how he can use us in the future.

Those sailors on the shore anticipated their time afloat. Similarly, in our waiting times we anticipate to do the things of God! The season may soon come when we are guided, prompted, incited and directed by the wind of God who will move us in the right direction.

Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen

A journalist once asked Billy Graham's daughter why God allowed all the problems in the world today. Here is what Anne Graham Lotz replied:

I believe God is deeply saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we've been telling God to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives.

And being the gentleman he is, I believe he has calmly backed out. How can we expect God to give us his blessing and his protection if we demand he leave us alone?

In America some years ago people complained that they did not want prayer in our schools. And we said OK. Then someone said: 'you better not read the Bible in school ... the Bible says thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, and love your neighbour as yourself.' And we said OK.

Then Dr. Benjamin Spock said we shouldn't spank our children when they misbehave because their little personalities would be warped and we might damage their self-esteem (Dr. Spock's son committed suicide). We said an expert should know what he's talking about. And we said OK. "Then someone said teachers better not discipline our children when they misbehave. The schools feared bad publicity, and said there was no difference between proper discipline and cruel humiliation. And we said OK.

Then some of our top elected officials said it doesn't matter what we do in private as long as we do our jobs. Agreeing with them, we said it doesn't matter to me

what anyone, including the President, does in private as long as I have a job and the economy is good. And we said OK.

Then the entertainment industry said, let's make TV shows and movies that promote profanity, violence, sadistic cruelty and illicit sex. Let's record music that encourages rape, drugs, murder, suicide, and satanic themes.' And we said it's just entertainment, it has no adverse effect, nobody takes it seriously anyway, so go right ahead.

Now we're asking ourselves why our children have no conscience, why our society is so violent and dangerous, why no one seems to know right from wrong, and why it doesn't bother people to cheat, threaten and even kill each other. Probably, if we think about it long and hard enough, we can figure it out.

I think it has a great deal to do with 'WE REAP WHAT WE SOW'.

Exercise

This weekend, get moving – for at least 150 minutes. That is the amount of time you should spend exercising each week, and if you can't do a bit each day, it seems that it is okay to catch up all at once at the weekend. Guidelines these days recommend that each of us perform moderate to vigorous activity on a regular basis. Now research at Queen's University in Toronto suggests that even weekend action will help lower your risk of diabetes, heart disease and stroke.

Sharing HOPE Across the Nation

'Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...' 1 Peter 3:15

By Roy Crowne, Director of HOPE

Churches are very much part of community life, serving people in practical ways and making a significant difference. But if we want people to know about God, at some point we need to communicate what we believe, telling them about Jesus and what he has done.

It often seems that this is the place where we have the most difficulty. Here are some keys you may find helpful as we journey together to communicate the message of the gospel effectively.

1. First, know your audience. This was something that Jesus was brilliant at doing. Whether it was talking about the leaven in the bread, farming or money, his stories and parables were about things that people knew and understood. He then moved from there to the truths that he wanted to present. Let's present the gospel with the language, signs and symbols that people can understand.
2. The second principle to be effective in communicating the gospel is to tell people what they know to be true. This opens them up to an "A-ha!" moment when they realise that what is being said is true in their lives.
3. The final piece of advice is to follow Jesus' example. He didn't seem to feel that he had to tell the whole gospel, but could leave one seed that the Holy Spirit could use to bring people along on their journey of faith. We don't have to cram everything in to each

event or conversation, but we can reflect on one aspect of the gospel that seems to fit the context, then pray that Jesus would be seen through our words and actions and that he would draw people to himself.

* HOPE is working with churches across the spectrum of denominations towards 2014 as a year of mission together in word and action. Find out more at www.hopetogether.org.uk

Top 10 on Christenings

Everyone is welcome to have a christening in their parish church. We have compiled a list of the most frequently asked questions about getting your baby or child christened.

1. What is the difference between a baptism and a christening?

There is no difference between a christening service and a baptism service. Some churches will use the word 'baptism' and some the word 'christening'. Babies are 'baptised' during a 'christening' service just as couples are 'married' during a wedding service.

Christening is a traditional English word which means to become a member of the Christian church. Baptism means to be immersed in water. During a christening service a baby or child will be baptised with water and welcomed into the community of the local church.

2. What is baptism?

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in

response to God's love." It is also a celebration, a time to come together with family and friends; remembering that your child is loved by God, is part of a wider community and has a place with God's people

3. What happens in the service?

Christenings are services replete with symbols for new life. At your baby's christening water will be blessed and used to pour on the baby's head. The baby will be signed with the cross, a special oil may be used for this, and a candle may be given. Godparents and parents will make promises on behalf of the baby, and prayers will be offered for the baby and the family. There may also be readings and hymns, which you may be able to choose.

4. Does a christening give my baby a name?

No. Your baby's name is given when you register the birth. During the baptism, the baby's name will be used often, and when the water is poured over the child's head, the vicar will always use the name.

5. Who is allowed to have a christening service?

The Anglican Church welcomes all babies, children and families – whatever shape that family takes. You do not have to be married to ask for a christening for your child. You do not have to be an active churchgoer – as parents, you do not even have to have been christened yourselves. Everyone is welcome at their local church.

6. How much does a christening service cost?

The good news is that a christening service is free. There may be costs for a family party, for gifts, for christening robes – but the church is free.

7. Where can I hold the christening?

You can have your baby christened at your local parish church. If you want to have the christening at a different church, for example, where you grew up or where you were married, you will need to talk to the Priest at that church.

8. When can I have a christening?

You can have your baby or child christened at any age. There is no upper age limit, but after about the age of seven your child should be able to make the promises for themselves. The service is usually held as part of a main Sunday service in the church.

9. What about godparents?

The involvement of godparents can be one of the most joyful parts of the christening.

Godparents are not necessarily the people who will care for your child should anything happen to you. Rather they should be people who will be there for your child and help them think about the bigger questions in life - questions of love, hope and faith.

A recommendation is to have no fewer than three godparents, at least two of the same sex as the child. Parents may be godparents for their own children, providing they have at least one other godparent.

Godparents must be baptised themselves and old enough to make some serious promises on behalf of the child.

10. How do I arrange a christening?

Simply contact the Revd. Debbie May 0417178688 at Holy Cross Church Melville.

Confirmation

Confirmation offer the chance for people who have been baptised as infants or young children to confirm their baptismal promises in public, to make a firm commitment to Christian discipleship and to receive the laying on of the bishop's hands with prayer.

In past years, Confirmation was often received by large groups of children around the age of 12 or 13, as passport to receiving Holy Communion, and sadly in some cases as a kind of exit ritual from church life. Today, Confirmation has a different and much richer role in Christian formation.

Children who have been baptised are encouraged to be admitted to receiving Holy Communion, with appropriate preparation, from as young as six years old. Confirmation, then, is normally offered from the age of 16 in the Diocese of Perth, unless there are good reasons, discussed with the Archbishop, for Confirmation at a younger age.

Adults are often confirmed. Sometimes they were baptised as infants but have not previously professed their own faith and baptismal promises. Sometimes they have come to Anglicanism from another church

which does not have bishops as part of its order. Many adults who come to faith and ask for baptism (not having been previously baptised) are receive the laying-on of hands by the Bishop in Confirmation, immediately following their baptism.

For those who have been mature Christians in another denomination, a service of Reception into the Anglican Church is available, as is the opportunity for the Reaffirmation of Faith after a time of being separated from the Church. To find out which service fits your circumstances, talk to your parish priest or chaplain.

Candidates for Confirmation undertake instruction in the Christian faith, and formation in prayer, worship, bible reading, giving and serving, in ways appropriate to their age and background.



The Cambridge Prince

National joy! She's had a boy!
Three Cheers for Duchess Kate!
A healthy son, a healthy mum;
A very healthy weight!

So, after all the stories tall
There's no more need to guess
No fingers still as newshounds fill
The pages of the press.

And then we glimpse the Cambridge
Prince
Within his mother's arms
Protected by his mother's eye
The world falls for his charms.

His name is George, and he will forge
The future royal line;
And so we cheer, for George is here –
The future's looking fine!

By Nigel Beeton

Priorities

In a minute,
Later,
One day,
Maybe,
Soon.
I haven't time this morning,
Perhaps this afternoon.

We'll really do it sometime,
Next week,
Next month,
Next year.
Now I'd like to be with you,
That's strange,
There's no-one here.

By Daphne Kitching

Prayer about Priorities

(reflecting on Martha and Mary's
encounter with Jesus in Luke 10:38-42)

Lord, we are all so busy. Life is full of
demands and deadlines, each one urgent,
or so it seems. We rush around trying to
do everything, trying to please everyone
and sometimes we miss what is really
important – and don't realise until it's too
late.

Remind us, Lord, that some opportunities
don't come again. And that actually, we
do have time. We have all the time of our
lives, which you give to us. Help us to take
our time and use it wisely, to choose to sit
at your feet, like Mary, and listen to you;
to seek you first, so that the rest of our life
time will be in balance.

In Jesus name, Amen

How To Get To Heaven

"If sold my house and my car, had a big car
boot sale and gave all my money to the
church, would I get into Heaven?" the
teacher asked her Sunday School class.

"No!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed
the grass, and kept everything neat and
tidy, would I get into Heaven?"

Again, the answer was "No!"

"Well", she continued, "then how can I get
into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "You
gotta be dead first!"

Godly Play Day

"Looking Forward"

When: Sat 19 October,
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Cost: \$20
(inc. lunch and tea/coffee)

Venue: St Cuthbert's Anglican Church
cnr Darlington & Hillsden Rds
Darlington

The day will consist of a full "Godly Play" session based on The Prophets, and a demonstration of The Story of Isaiah. Over a light lunch, we will refresh our thinking about Children's Spirituality. Then you will have the chance to work with the Advent stories, The Mystery of Christmas, The Holy Family and Epiphany.

You are invited to a day for adults to be refreshed and encouraged in the use of Godly Play. This day is appropriate for:

- Those who have undertaken Core Training, or who would like to;
- People in ministry amongst children;
- Clergy and church leaders; and
- Those who are interested in exploring Godly Play.

Please RSVP soon to T: 08 9299 7274 or e: stcuthberts@bigpond.com



Eunice insisted Cedric show her just where in the Bible it said men couldn't do the washing up.

Some Musings On Everyday Life

I live in my own little world, but it's ok... they know me here.

I don't do drugs or alcohol, 'cause I find I get the same effect just by standing up really fast.

Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

I don't approve of political jokes. I've seen too many of them get elected.

The most precious thing we have is life. Yet it has absolutely no trade-in value.

I love being married. It's so great to find that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life.

I married my wife for her looks... but not the ones she's been giving me lately!

Everyday I beat my own previous record for the number of consecutive days I've stayed alive.

The next time you feel like complaining, remember: Your rubbish bin probably has better food in it than 30 per cent of the people in this world.

Every time I go to a singles bar, I can hear my mother's wise words: "Don't pick that up, you don't know where it's been."

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Be nice to the nerds and geeks in college - you'll be working for them in the future.

The email of the species is more deadly than the mail.

I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Dates For Your Diary



Mon 2 September

MU Tea
02:00 pm St Ives Communion

Wed 4 September

10:30 am mainly music

Thu 5 September

09:00 am Spirited Generosity Group 1
04:00 pm Kids Plus+
07:30 pm Order of St Luke

Mon 9 September

01:00 pm MU
07:00 pm Spirited Generosity Group 2

Tue 10 September

09:00 am Spirited Generosity Group 3

Wed 11 September

10:30 am mainly music

Thu 12 September

04:00 pm Kids Plus+

Fri 13 September

02:00 pm Jumble setup

Sat 14 September

08:30 am Jumble Sale

Dates For Your Diary

Mon 16 September

02:00 pm St Ives communion
07:00 pm Spirited Generosity Group 2

Tue 17 September

09:00 am Spirited Generosity Group 3

Wed 18 September

10:30 am mainly music

Thu 19 September

04:00 pm Kids Plus+

Mon 23 September

07:00 pm Spirited Generosity Group 2

Tue 24 September

09:00 am Spirited Generosity Group 3

Wed 25 September

10:30 am mainly music

Thu 26 September

09:00 am Spirited Generosity Group 1
04:00 pm Kids Plus+

Tue 1 October

07:00 pm Church Council

Thu 3 October

09:00 pm Spirited Generosity Group 1

St. James The Least Of All

On the absurdity of a vicar ever retiring

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Beware of being invited by bishops to drop round for a chat. My first mistake was to answer the phone when he rang; what are answerphones for, but to avoid having to talk to anyone – ever. My second mistake was not to be able to think of a meeting I had to attend – preferably on another planet – on the day he suggested. I therefore found myself in his study, waiting for the point of the meeting while we negotiated the obligatory five minutes discussing the weather and his summer holiday in France. I made it quite clear that I had been far too busy to swan off to foreign parts – although I suspect the implication of what I said passed him by.

We then got to the point. He was toying with the thought of my retirement and linking us with the adjoining parish of St. Agatha's. I patiently explained, using simple words and speaking slowly for his benefit, that at 85 and with 40 years at St. James the Least, I was just getting into my stride and that the vicar of St. Agatha's, a stripling at 63, had nowhere near enough experience to organise the hymn list, let alone two parishes. This, too, seemed to drift somewhere above his head.

He had clearly done his homework. There were already plans for my Queen Anne rectory to be sold and the 5 acres of garden be turned into a housing estate. This news would be received by our parishioners with as much equanimity as if they were told that Buckingham Palace was to be converted into a sports centre.

The matter, I was told, was confidential – which meant that I only relayed the news to one parishioner at a time. By the end of the day everyone in the village knew and a counter attack was being planned. Inevitably, the most outraged were those who never attend church. People do so love having a church not to go to. Congregations have soared, gardeners are being brought in to tidy the rectory grounds and the church council is now well attended. The latter is a mixed blessing, as I always think that the time to get worried is when people start to turn up to meetings.

It may surprise our bishop, but the threat of a merger has been the greatest impetus to mission we've had in years. Retirement indeed; I'm sure Zadok was never asked about his pension plans.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Rosters

Holy Cross Rosters September 2013

Date	Media	Collection	Reading	Prayers	Communion	Morning Tea	Altar	Flowers	
01 Sept	Mike	Mel & Norm	Peter	Jill	Jill	Haze. & Annette	Hazel	Sheri	
08 Sept	Peter	Pat & Betty SG	Norma	Betty R	Betty R	Hazel & Annette	Sheri	Adele	
15 Sept	Mike	Peter & David	Tanya	Jill	Jill	Norma & Pat	Sheri	Christine	
22 Sept	Wayne	Mel & Norm	Annette	Beryl	Beryl	Mike & Adele	Sheri	Joy	
29 Sept	Wayne	Pat & Betty SG	Peter	Betty R	Sheri	Joy & Frank	Sheri	Adele	
06 Oct	Peter	Mel & Norm	Pat	Beryl	Annette	Betty & Annette	Carole	Betty	
13 Oct	Wayne	Peter & David	Betty SG	Jill	Jill	Norma & Pat	Carole	Christine	

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

Sun 1 September

09:00 am Family Communion
Proverbs 25: 6 - 7,
Hebrews 13: 1 - 8,
Luke 14: 1, 7 - 14

Wed 4 September

09:30 am Communion Service

Sun 8 September

09:00 am Family Communion
Philemon 1: 1 - 21
Deuteronomy 30: 15 - 20
Luke 14: 25 - 33

Wed 11 September

09:30 am Communion Service

Sun 15 September (Holy Cross)

9:00 am Family Communion
Numbers 21: 4b – 9,
Philippians 2: 5 – 11
John 3: 13 – 17

In Loving Memory

Robert John Smith-Gander



Service Times

Wed 18 September

09:30 am Communion Service

Sun 22 September

09:00 am Family Communion
Amos 8: 4 – 7
1 Timothy 2: 1 – 7
Luke 16: 19 – 31

Wed 25 September

09:30 am Communion Service

Sun 29 September

09:00 am Family Communion
Amos 6: 1a, 4 – 7,
1 Timothy 6: 6 – 19
Luke 16: 19 – 31

KidsPlus+

A fun church group for children
aged pre-primary to year 3 with
games, crafts, stories and more.

On Thursdays
at 4pm.

\$5 per family.



Holy Cross Church 56 McLean Street Melville 6164

For more details contact Revd. Debbie: 0417 178 688

www.holycrossmelville.org

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