

[www.holycrossmelville.org](http://www.holycrossmelville.org)

# NEWSLETTER

## September 2016



Consider the lilies of the field

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If you would like information about events and news within the Diocese that may not be mentioned in this newsletter, follow the link below to the Perth Diocesan Bulletin.

[www.perth.anglican.org/bulletin](http://www.perth.anglican.org/bulletin)

## Welcome To Holy Cross

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

**Front:** *Anigozanthos humilis* (Cat's Paw)  
Native to Western Australia. Flowers July to October. Photographed at Wireless Hill Park, Ardross.

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  
m: 0417 178 688  
w: [www.holycrossmelville.org](http://www.holycrossmelville.org)  
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**Warden:** Mrs Jill Bowman  
t: 0400 513 943  
e: [jsbowman@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jsbowman@bigpond.net.au)



**The Most Reverend Roger Herft AM  
Archbishop of Perth**

**Anglican  
Church**  
Diocese of Perth



7 September 2016

## **PASTORAL LETTER TO THE DIOCESE OF PERTH**

Dear friends in Christ

### **Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

When the Royal Commission began its work in 2013 I said that as a church we were called by Christ to fall on our knees in repentance.

As the Bishop of Newcastle between 1993 and 2005, I have also been called to give account and last week completed my evidence before the Royal Commission. The public hearing has been adjourned, and is scheduled to be completed in Sydney in November, with several witnesses yet to give evidence.

I am conscious of the impact these hearings have on survivors of abuse. I wish to acknowledge the suffering and trauma of survivors of child sexual abuse in the Diocese of Newcastle, as well as the distress and sadness being experienced in the Anglican and wider community in respect of the matters being addressed by the Royal Commission.

I support the work of the Royal Commission as it investigates the response of institutions to instances of child sexual abuse. Out of respect for its processes, I will not make comment on the evidence while the public hearing is ongoing, nor will I provide any statement that may pre-empt the ultimate findings of the Commissioners. Until the hearings are completed and the findings released I will make no further comment on these matters.

While I remain on long service leave, in coming weeks I will seek the counsel of my colleagues and members of the Diocese of Perth.

I ask that you continue to pray for the survivors of child sexual abuse across our nation.

Cheryl and I thank you for your prayers and I remain yours in Christ

**+ *Roger Herft***

**Archbishop of Perth**

DIOCESAN OFFICE

GPO Box W2067, Perth, Western Australia 6846

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## From the Administrator Diocese of Perth

*The following message from The Venerable Braden Short was sent to all Clergy and Synod Members on 22/08/2016 & I include a copy in our newsletter so that parish members are informed of the Diocese response to these events – Editor*

Dear Sisters and Brothers

I am confronted by the continuing distress and sadness across the Diocese surrounding the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The coverage of the Commission's work in Newcastle has shocked us all, in particular the horrifying stories from survivors as they recount their trauma. Many of us feel betrayed, angry and helpless. Our corporate shame is a genuine response to confronting the truth, but the truth will set us free (John 8:32). That freedom may include discarding the denial of human sinfulness and accepting the understanding that clergy are human and do not need to be placed on a pedestal. Freedom from an unhealthy privilege and power differential which facilitated this abuse, and a freedom to embrace again the absolute passionate desire to regain our moral authority can only occur from a position of humility.

## (cont'd)

As the people of God we must continue to do much soul searching as we struggle with the ramifications of what we hear, we must suffer the emotional turmoil and let it motivate us to seek the best ways to ensure that all children remain safe in our churches and agencies, always. Such should be our mandate and is the mandate given to us by Christ, *"Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is too such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."* (Matthew 19: 14)

On 14 August, I asked all parish priests to place a notice in their bulletin which addressed training and the rigorous expectations we now place on leaders in our churches, and on clergy, with regard to Church Safe. I know all will agree that this is no longer optional, but must be mandatory for us all. There may be some who feel indignant at these measures. Personally, I think they ground us all and ensure arrogant self-interest is sacrificed, rather than the innocent.

Church Office has received a number of telephone calls, emails and letters that reflect the distress being experienced by members of our community. No doubt, you have also experienced this in your parishes, agencies and communities. We must continue to listen, be open to hear their pain, walk alongside them and encourage constructive actions that will help to bring some form of healing and hope to those who are suffering.



## **From the Administrator Diocese of Perth (cont'd)**

Please encourage those who disclose abuse to contact the police, or Ms Tracie Chambers-Clark and the Professional Standards Unit.

Archbishop Roger Herft remains on scheduled long service leave at this time. He is expected to give evidence again at the Royal Commission at the end of this month. Accordingly, he remains unable to make any public statements on the Commission's public hearing into the Newcastle Diocese. The Archbishop is not due to return to the Diocese until mid-October 2016, and as such I will remain as Administrator of the Diocese until then, with a short break in September when Bishop Kate will act as Administrator.

If you have any concerns or need clarification regarding these matters please do not hesitate to contact Bishops Kate and Jeremy, Tracie Chambers-Clark, or myself on 9325 7455. Counselling services are available if you would like to take advantage of them, if the anger, fear and complex responses within you are interfering with your health or capacity to work.

## **(cont'd)**

As we wait, let us pray for the abused, their families, and those who seek to help and bring healing to them and for our church. Let us continue to minister as God's people to the communities we are called to serve. Let us watch and pray in faithful witness to the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6). May our desire to right the wrongs of the past ensure the safety of the vulnerable in the present and into the future.

Please pray also for Archbishop Roger and Cheryl, for their family, for those who support and assist them during this time and for the Bishops, clergy and laity of the Diocese of Newcastle.

*Loving God, whose Son was both victim and victor, we cry to you for those who suffer abuse, especially those children who were in our care and were not kept safe. Help us to open our hearts as they share their pain and suffering. Heal the wounds of body and mind; break open the prisons of fear, self-doubt and despair; and strengthen them as they face the future with hope, courage and the knowledge that they have been heard and are not alone. Help us to reach out with your love and compassion, to accept our failing, that their journey to wholeness might truly begin. Amen.*

Your fellow traveller in the Way  
Kind regards  
Braden  
Administrator

## Adieu Revd. Sidney

The Revd. Sidney Middlemost has been with us at Holy Cross since mid April this year, his last service with us will be on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September. The Diocese has appointed a locum priest to our parish (commencing 12<sup>th</sup> September) and the Revd Sydney is moving on to another parish.

A sincere thank you to Sydney and we wish you the best in your new parish.

A morning tea after the service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> has been organised so that we can bid Revd. Sydney a fond farewell.

## Blessing of the Pets



On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 9:00 am there will be a special "Blessing of the Pets" service. All are welcome to bring along their beloved pet and to have them blessed. There will be a morning tea following the service. Want more information, call Jill on 0417 178 688

## Welcome Revd. Graeme

The Parish Council are delighted to welcome and introduce the new Locum, Revd. Graeme Varvell.

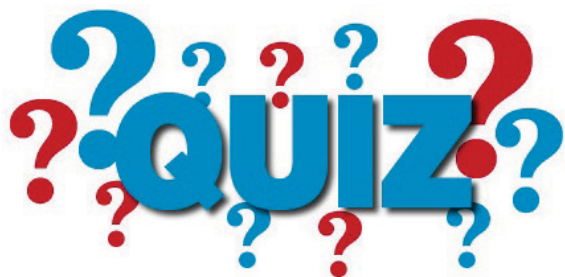
The Locum Tenens is 2 days per week from 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

The appointment is offered on the understanding that should the circumstances change and a priest be appointed to the Parish prior to the expiry of this Locum then his term as locum will cease.

As the Locum he will be required to discharge all the duties and obligations of a rector as outlined in The Ordering of Worshipping Communities Statute 2007, however, he is to maintain the status quo and make no major changes.

Please make every effort to welcome Revd. Graeme and his family to the worshipping community of Holy Cross.

Kindest regards and many Blessings  
On behalf of the Parish Council  
Jill Bowman  
Warden



Our **Quiz Night** is on again. Organise yourself and five friends (if you have no friends, family will do) to make up a table of six. There will be door prizes and raffle for a Hamper (raffle \$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5). For more information, refer to the poster on page 13 of this newsletter.

## Order of St Luke

Order of St Luke the Physician Healing Ministries, Perth Melville Chapter: Healing Service

**Date:** Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Time:** 4:00 pm

**Location:** Church of the Holy Cross

56 McLean Street

Melville WA 6156

**Topic:** Facebook hospitality and healing

All are welcome, especially the newly bereaved.

For further information: Call Chaplain

M: 0438 935 164



Another Happy Hour is approaching. Bring along a friend to share good wine and good company.

**When:** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

**Where:** In the Church hall

**Cost:** It's free!  
But you will need to BYO drinks and nibbles

## Olive Oil Bottling



At the Happy Hour on October 7<sup>th</sup> we are having an Olive Oil Bottling. The olive oil is organic and is from Magpie Ridge, Toodyay.

We will be taking pre orders for this delicious oil. Bring your own bottle - empty wine/flagon bottles make great containers. The cost is \$12 per litre. If you don't use it yourself the oil will make a great Christmas gift. Bring along family or friends for a fun happy hour.

See Jill to place your orders

## Wardens Wish List

The following is a list of tasks/jobs that have been done or need to be done around the church. As you can see, the warden has been very busy with maintenance work on the grounds and buildings.



Job	Status
Car Park Bollards: Making them more visible	Painting completed. Reflectors to be done.
Key Cupboard	In Progress
Vestry Ceiling	Completed
Kitchen Ceiling	In Progress
Tiling (wet areas)	Quotes being obtained.
Tennis Court Pavillion Steps	Ongoing
Fire Equipment	Checked
Reticulation	Quotes being obtained

If you see anything that needs attention please contact the Warden. If you can help with any of these jobs please contact the Warden – she will jump for joy

## Observations On Life

I guess it's true what they say: there's a fine line between gardening and madness. *Cliff Clavin (Cheers)*

A wise man will desire no more than he may get justly, use soberly, distribute cheerfully and leave contentedly. *Anon*

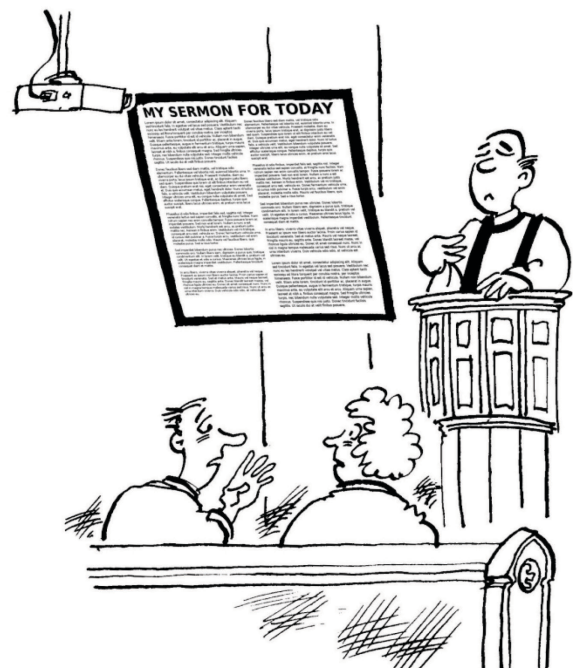
Our eyes are placed in front because it is more important to look ahead than to look back. *Anon*

Character is destiny. *Greek proverb*

Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh how beautiful', and sitting in the shade. *Rudyard Kipling*

On a bus a man gave his seat to a woman. She fainted. On recovering, she thanked him. Then he fainted.

If parents haven't learned something from experience, they can always learn it from their children.



*\$1,800 on a new projection system – and this is the best he can come up with?!*



## Ponderings

Fifteen years ago on 11<sup>th</sup> Sep 2001 terrorist attacks demolished the Twin Towers in New York killing 2,996 people and injuring over 6,000. Events like 9/11 raise the inevitable question: Why does God allow such suffering to take place?

There are no easy answers to this question! We cannot fully understand why such things happen, although we live in a fallen world, where people make real choices. Yet the Bible affirms that God identifies with our suffering, supremely when Jesus experienced suffering and death! It is on the cross that God knows what it is to lose a loved one in an unjust attack. 'I could never myself believe in God if it were not for the Cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?' (John Stott).

What does this mean? We cannot know why God allows evil and suffering to continue, but we do know that he does love or care for us: *'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.'* (John 3:16). God loved us enough to fully engage with the mess of the world.

## Holy Land Without Christians

Without a Palestinian Christian community, the Holy Land will become a tour of museums. That was Fr. Jamal Khader's stark prediction at the recent annual lecture of UK Christian charity Embrace the Middle East.

Fr. Jamal, a Roman Catholic priest and dean of the faculty of arts, professor of theology and chair of the department of religious studies at Bethlehem University, said: "We have survived 2,000 years and want to continue to bear witness to our faith in the land chosen by God for our salvation.

"Our presence is important, not only for historical reasons but for what we stand for: justice, peace and reconciliation in a land torn by war, hatred and violence."

Speaking at St James's Piccadilly in London, Fr Jamal outlined the historic UK-Palestine relationship over the past century, focusing in particular on Britain's historic and moral responsibilities towards Palestine, and the need for a just peace in the region. He praised the 'sincere solidarity' of churches in the UK who have expressed support for Palestinian Christians.

Revd Richard Bewes considers one of Jesus' most poignant stories. Editor:

### **'I didn't know I was lost!'**

*"Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep" (Luke 15:6)*

Some readers may remember the media report one August, of a young secretary who went missing for some days, through a con-trick perpetrated by a deceiving businessman.

Eventually she was found, in a somewhat confused state, at Basingstoke railway station. Evidently she had been completely unaware of the TV news – and of the public concern. In her own words, at the resulting press conference, she confessed, "I didn't know I was lost until I was found!"

In this famous fifteenth chapter of Luke, Jesus' parable of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost prodigal son, was basically making a single point – the steadfast determination of the eternal Father to do everything possible to find and recover every stray individual – even if they were taken by surprise at His seeking love.

Years ago I was leading a hospital ward service one Sunday morning, with a little team around me. It was still politically okay to do so in those days! All I could see of one patient was a newspaper, firmly held up – and a thin spiral of cigarette smoke that drifted up from behind the paper. Yes, back then it was still permitted to smoke in a hospital ward!

Two days later I went visiting in the same ward, bed to bed. And there was the patient – a woman in her early thirties.

"So you're the one who was speaking on Sunday morning!" she exclaimed. "I never looked in your direction once; I was determined to hide behind my paper and my cigarette. But I was listening all the time. And every word you said was for me. I want now to follow what you were talking about. How do I get started?"

This is the wonder of God's ways with us. Jesus Christ is the Shepherd; out on the hills looking, working, seeking for that one sheep that is missing from the safety of God's fold. And when, by the message of His sacrificial love, that single 'lost' one is reclaimed, the angels are aglow with joy. Jesus said so.

What happened to the other patients that Sunday morning? Who can tell? But Heaven itself was lit up that day over just one.



The Ven John Barton looks back on the horrific attack on Nice. Editor

## Uncertainty and Hope

If the audience at the First Night of the Proms this year had not heard the national news broadcasts that day, they would have been startled by an unscheduled addition to the programme. It opened with a rousing rendition of the French National Anthem.

Scores of unsuspecting holidaymakers in the French resort of Nice had been mown down by a fanatical lorry driver; his was the latest in a chain of massacres perpetrated by Islamists in Europe and beyond. Ironically, it was Bastille Day, commemorating French unity. The playing of the Marseillaise in London's Albert Hall was a demonstration of solidarity with French people everywhere and a defiant message of hope.

Church leaders the world over published their prayers the next day. An Anglican chaplain based near Nice said, "Prayer is the thing. We can't do anything tangible or practical in support of the security service apart from our own vigilance . . . but we do have a very strong and a very powerful thing that we can do . . . and that is prayer . . . because with faith we trust in God's love and mercy for those who have died, but for the families left behind this is a most terrible time from which many may not recover."

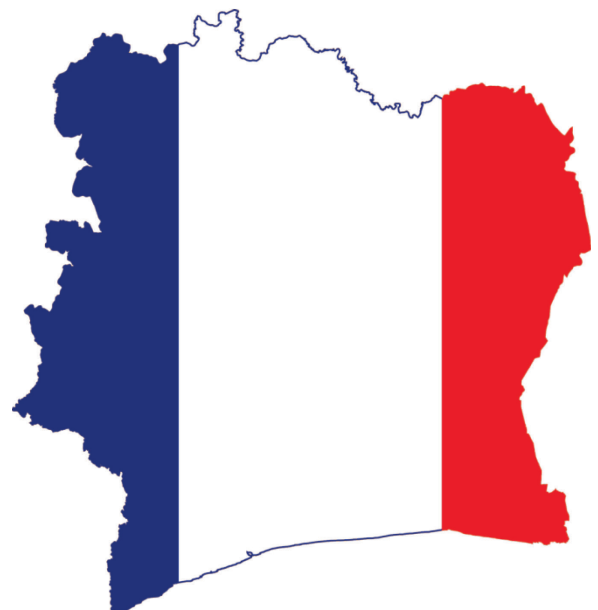
Terrorist acts of this kind are motivated by a deadly combination of false faith with hatred. No one is risk-free, and the nations' leaders are hard-pressed to safeguard their people. St. Paul's advice to Timothy has never been more apt: *"I urge that ... prayers... be offered to God for all in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence towards God and with proper conduct."*

We must be on our guard, but also trust God. In Nice churchyard is the grave of Henry Lyte, the writer of the hymn, *Abide with me*, which encourages us to disarm our fears by expressing confidence in God's purposes:

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;

Where is death's sting? Where grave thy victory?

I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.



## Service Times

### Sun 4<sup>th</sup> September (Green)

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

09:00 am Service

09:00 am Sunday Club

### Wed 7<sup>th</sup> September (Green)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

### Sun 11<sup>th</sup> September (Green)

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

09:00 am Service

### Wed 14<sup>th</sup> September (Green)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

### Sun 18<sup>th</sup> September (Green)

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

09:00 am Service

### Wed 21<sup>st</sup> September (Red)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

### Sun 25<sup>th</sup> September (Green)

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

09:00 am Service

### Wed 28<sup>st</sup> September (White)

NO Morning Prayers (School Holidays)

### Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> October (Green)

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

09:00 am "Blessing of the Pets"

Family Service

### Wed 5<sup>th</sup> October (White)

NO Morning Prayers (School Holidays)

### Sun 9<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

Twentieth First Sunday After Pentecost

09:00 am Service

04:00 pm Order of St Luke

### Wed 12<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

## For Your Diary

### Tue 6<sup>th</sup> September

09:00 am Bible Study

### Wed 7<sup>th</sup> September

10:30 am Mainly Music

### Thu 8<sup>th</sup> September

09:30 am Craft Group

03:00 pm Kids Plus (last for this term)

### Tue 13<sup>th</sup> September

07:00 pm Church Council

### Wed 14<sup>th</sup> September

10:30 am Mainly Music

### Thu 15<sup>th</sup> September

09:30 am Craft Group

03:00 pm Kids Plus

### Fri 16<sup>th</sup> September

06:30 pm Quiz Night

### Tue 20<sup>th</sup> September

09:00 am Bible Study

### Wed 21<sup>st</sup> September

10:30 am Mainly Music

### Wed 28<sup>th</sup> September

NO Mainly Music (School Holidays)

### Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> October

09:00 am Blessing of the Pets

### Wed 5<sup>th</sup> October

NO Mainly Music (School Holidays)

### Fri 7<sup>th</sup> October

06:30 pm Happy Hour

### Wed 12<sup>th</sup> October

10:30 am Mainly Music



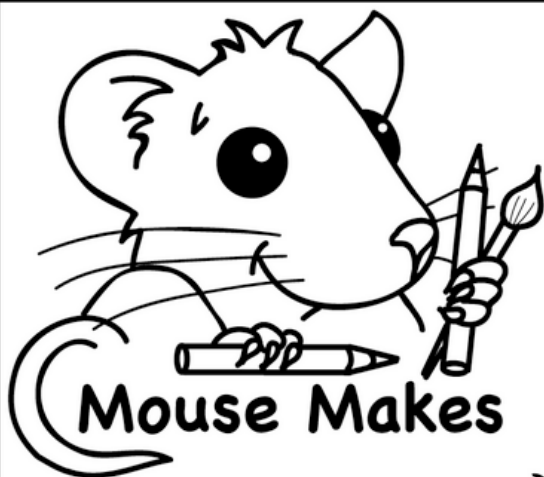


## Rosters: From Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Date	Media	Money	Reading	Prayers	Communion	Altar	Welcome	Kitchen
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Peter B	Peter B & David J	Beryl S	Jill	Jill	Sheri	Hazel & Alice	Margaret & Ida
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Mike A	Pat & David D	Jill B	Priest	Adele	Sheri	Hazel & Alice	Joy & Frank
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Peter B	Peter B & Tom B	Pat T	Jill B	Jill B	Sheri	Hazel & Alice	Adele & Mike
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Mike A	Tom B & David J	David D	Beryl	Beryl	Sheri	Hazel & Alice	Hazel & Sheri

### Note:

If you are unable to fulfil your roster duty on your rostered day, please try to find someone to swap with and let the Locum Priest or Jill know. If you cannot find anyone, please contact Jill.



Thank you  
God for...




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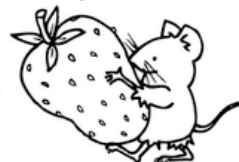


See how many words can you  
make using the letters from  
**HARVEST THANKSGIVING**

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING



Lord God, you made the world;  
You made the land we live on,  
the air we breathe,  
the water we drink,  
the food we eat.



**Thank you Lord for the harvest.**



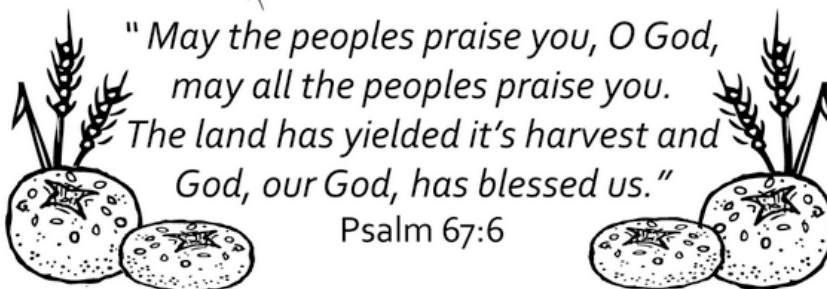
Lord God, you give us all that  
we need each day to live.



**Thank you Lord for the harvest.**

Lord God, help us to share all that you give us.

**Thank you Lord for the harvest.**



*"May the peoples praise you, O God,  
may all the peoples praise you.  
The land has yielded it's harvest and  
God, our God, has blessed us."*

Psalm 67:6

What foods can you think of to finish this acrostic?

H .....  
A .....  
Raspberries..  
V .....  
E .....  
S .....  
T .....

F .....  
E .....  
S .....  
T .....  
I .....  
Vegetables..  
A .....  
L .....



# Quiz Night

G

E

**Where:** Anglican Church of the Holy Cross  
56 McLean Street, MELVILLE 6156

H

**When:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
6:30 pm for a 7:00 pm start

AL

**Cost:** \$15 per person (max of 6 per table)  
Covers entrance and all competitions

SN

**Raffle:** Hamper Raffle  
\$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5

SL

**Note:** Bring your own drinks and nibbles  
**Bookings:** Telephone Jill on 0417 178 688



Bring your family's pet(s) – or a photo of your pet(s) – for a Blessing during our regular morning service. Morning tea to follow.

**When:** Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October  
at 9:00 am

**Where:** Anglican Church of the Holy Cross  
56 McLean Street, Melville 6156

**After:** Morning tea in the church hall

**Contact:** Jill on 0417 178 688 for more information