

# ANGLICAN CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS

## Newsletter



## October 2017



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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.  
<http://www.perth.anglican.org/who-are-we/diocesan-bulletin/>

## Cover

Seeds of Hope Choir performing at  
Holy Cross Melville on  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017.

## Welcome 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 on the first Sunday of the month at 9:00 am. Next Sunday Club is on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

**Change table** is in the disabled toilet.

**Hard of Hearing:** an AUDIO LOOP operates throughout the church area. Please use your "T" setting to make use of this.

**Gluten Intolerant:** gluten free wafers are available. If required, please speak to the service leader.

**Morning Tea:** 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

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## The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Reformation

October 31<sup>st</sup> marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses to the Wittenberg church door in 1517, signalling the start of the Protestant Reformation. He was protesting against the practice of indulgences, where the good deeds of the saints could be purchased to reduce time spent in purgatory, before arriving in heaven. For Luther, this cheapened grace, repentance and forgiveness: 'You can't buy God's friendship!'

Luther rediscovered the truths of God's grace: 'For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: *'The righteous will live by faith.'*' (Romans 1:17). He recognised that righteousness (being right with God) and forgiveness is not earned by good works, but faith. The undeserved love of God and His acceptance is a matter of trust. This challenge to the Church of Luther's day remains so today!

At the Diet (Council) of Worms, he refused to recant his views: 'Here I stand; I can do no other!'

Luther stood for the free forgiveness of the gospel, by which God accepts us because of the death of Jesus on our behalf to deal with our sin. Is this what we believe? Only trusting Jesus can make us right with God. In what ways can we slip into a mindset that seeks God's approval for what we achieve in our spiritual lives, rather than in how we can serve as a response to all He has done for us? We will continue to get things wrong, but God never gives up on us! 'Be a sinner, and let your sins be strong (sin boldly), but let your trust in Christ be stronger, and rejoice in Christ who is the victor over sin, death, and the world.' (Martin Luther).





## The Reformation

The light had dawned, now Luther  
saw  
That all his works would count for  
nought,  
Indulgencies could never sway God  
Or make him fit for Heaven's court.

Such realisation changed his life,  
And Martin now saw things anew,  
It's only by grace he could be saved  
And not by anything he could do.

It was the Son's redeeming death  
That paid the price for sin in full,  
Not by works that any should boast,  
And not by any Papal bull.

Such is the wonder of salvation  
When the Father from above,  
Poured out His peace and grace upon  
us  
And kissed our guilty world in love.

By Megan Carter

## Luke:

### Beloved Physician & Historian



We know a good doctor when we meet one! He or she will ask lots of questions and carefully observe how we are feeling. They will look and listen; administer tests and accurately recorded their findings.

Unlike the Gospel writers Matthew, Mark and John, Luke was not a disciple of Jesus. He was trained as a doctor, probably a Gentile and certainly an educated Greek. As Luke didn't know Jesus personally, he needed his interview skills as a physician to speak with people who knew Jesus. He listened to their stories and identified the truth from hearsay.

Luke's Gospel has a very human touch to it and begins with two detailed descriptions of the births of two important babies! He often writes about our Lord's encounters with individuals; men, women, children, the poor and the rich, the sick and the strong. He showed Christ's sympathy for people who were underprivileged, hurting and weak. Luke was a keen observer and wrote both as a careful historian and with the heart of a loving physician. If we didn't have Luke's Gospel we would lack so much. For example, we wouldn't know about: the angels' and shepherds' visit at the birth of Jesus; the visit by the boy Jesus to the temple; the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son; the encounters of Jesus with Zacchaeus, and the two men on their walk to Emmaus. Luke's tenderness is revealed with his emphasis on prayer, the Holy Spirit, the role of women in the ministry of Jesus and God's forgiveness of sins. He describes Jesus' compassion for the widow of Nain and our Lord's mercy to the dying thief on the cross.

Luke also wrote the Book of Acts. This is another trusted record about the beginnings of the early Church. Luke was a companion of Paul and was with him on many journeys. Without the Book of Acts, we would know very little about Paul's life and other followers of Christ including Barnabas, Silas and Timothy. Luke was a man not writing about distant historical figures or dramas, but about people he knew first-hand.

Luke wrote his Gospel so that there would be an accurate and an orderly account of the life, ministry and message of Jesus. He carefully researched his material and spoke to eye-witnesses. He listened to those who had been with Jesus and worked alongside leaders and workers of the fledgling church.

A physician identifies our need and helps us to get well. Luke saw our need to have Jesus as our heavenly Physician. Our eternal life and salvation can only be found through faith in Him.

## Acts for Everyone

‘Why pray when you can worry?’ Peter and John, having healed the crippled man, were ordered by the authorities *‘not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus’* (Acts 4:18). The Church immediately responded by prayer (v 23-31). Is prayer the first thing we do when facing bullying, intimidation or rejection?

The focus of their prayer was not on the immediate situation, but the sovereignty of God. God spoke to them through Psalm 2, as David reflected on the opposition he faced: *‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one.’* (25,26). This illustrates the importance of the Scriptures in showing us how to pray.

Like us, the Church could have simply asked God to remove the opposition. However, they prayed for more opportunities to do what they had been doing: *‘Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.’* (29,30). We are also called to make an impact for God in our communities. If our church closed, would the local community notice? How did God answer their prayer? *‘The place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.’* (31).

God equips us to be agents of spiritual transformation, even if this means shaking our lack of trust or complacency! Why can our walk with God feel like a crawl or our church fail to shake this world for Christ?

**‘He that is a stranger to prayer is a stranger to power.’**

## **Towards Belief**

Starting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October, Holy Cross is presenting a series of 3 discussion evening to invited guest. The discussions are on topics we might call Belief Blockers e.g. Suffering, The Bible and the Supernatural.

The Christian faith is often accused of being illogical and unreasonable. Are there responses to these views? We will be using a DVD series called Towards Belief. Within the series 30 leading thinkers will respond to these issues. We hope the evenings will enable the guests to discuss their views in a safe, caring environment. Following the discussion we will all share a meal together. If you would like any more information please speak with Revd. Graeme or Jill

## **Fairy Garden Party**

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October, Betty and Paddy Rushforth are opening up their beautiful cottage garden for a Fairy Garden afternoon tea party.

The event is to raise funds for our partners in mission in Eldoret and our friends from Seeds of Hope. The event is suitable for everyone. A lovely afternoon tea will be served while you relax in the garden and the kids explore to find the hiding fairies. The cost is \$10 per person or \$20 a family.

There will be pot plants and fairy gear to purchase.

Please invite your family, friends neighbours along and help this event to be great fun and a successful fundraise.

If you are able to help on the day please see Betty or Jill.

(Also, refer to the back cover of the newsletter)



## Happy Hour

The Happy Hour held on the 1<sup>st</sup> September was a great success with many people inviting Sons and Daughters to attend.

The night had a great vibe with lots of conversation and a real mixture of ages. We were joined by the youth group kids who enjoyed the night as did all those who attended.



## Grace Academy Choir Visit

It was great to be able to play our part in the Grace Academy Choir tour. The kids and the organisers of Seeds of Hope children's ministry loved the visit to Australia. They left with new friends and loads of memories. Holy Cross was full to the brim on the night of the concert with people from all over the metro area. The night was informative, fun and the choir enthralled the audience. Sing Australia presented two wonderful Australiana songs and the concert ended with everyone joining in to sing Amazing Grace together.

The group stayed over at the church for 2 nights, one night on their way up to Exmouth and then on the night of the concert before their flight home.

Donated items filled 15 extra suitcases for them to take home. Lots of work went into providing bedding and meals for the visitors a big THANK YOU to all those who helped out, in particular thanks to our friends and hall users, Sing Australia and the Community Sewing and the kids from our youth group.

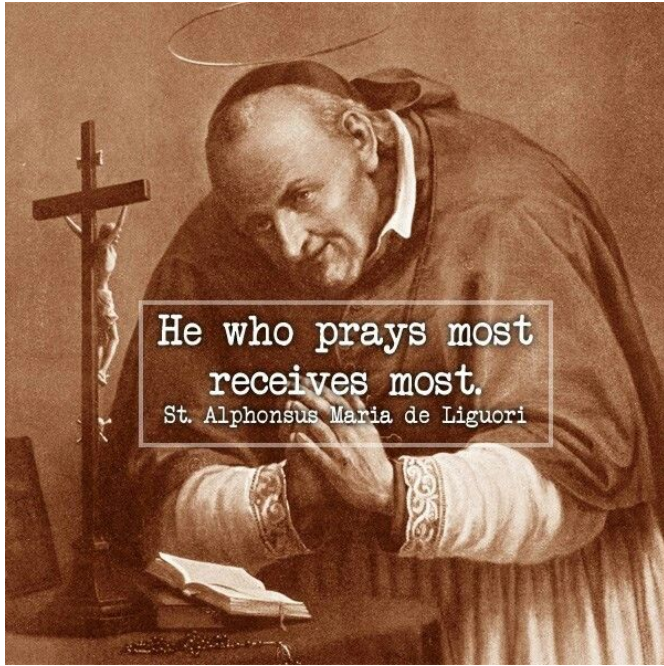


We presented the visitors with handmade bags which the women from The Community Sewing group lovingly made.



## Alphonsus Rodriguez

### When life takes everything you value



If you have done your best to live 'right', and still had nothing but trouble and heartache in your life, Alphonsus is the saint for you. He was born in 1533, the son of a wool merchant in Segovia. He followed his father into the profession, married, and had two children. He was a responsible person. Then – his wife died, his children died, and the business failed. By the time he was 38, Alphonsus had lost everything – through no fault of his own. In 1571 he entered the Jesuit order, and was sent to the college of Montesione (Majorca). They decreed he should be a hall porter – and so he was, for the rest of his life.

We can only surmise the grief, despair and anger that Alphonsus must have struggled with at times. All we know is that at some point, he discovered he was still able to salvage something from the wreck of his life.

For the surviving accounts of Alphonsus describe him as a prayerful, self-sacrificing, obedient man. Indeed, his character was so remarkable that it bore fruit more widely than he could ever have imagined, and down the years many sought out that hall porter for counselling over the heartbreaks of their own lives. God honoured Alphonsus' faith in him, and the famous poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, centuries later, wrote a poem in which he praises Alphonsus as an example of holiness realised in and through the duties of an unspectacular, humdrum life.

## **Homelessness:**

### **What can Australia Learn From Finland's Housing Solution?**

Creating more crisis accommodation will not fix Australia's homelessness problem, according to one expert who believes the solution is "not that complex".

Dr O'Sullivan, who is also a professor of social policy at Trinity College Dublin, said while homelessness was a growing problem in many Western nations, there were countries that had successfully dealt with the issue.

He said Finland had investigated the issue of homelessness and decided "it's not that complex".

"They said 'the first thing we need to deal with people's issues is housing', so they built a lot of housing for homeless people," he told ABC Radio Melbourne's Dave O'Neil.

"From 2008 to 2015 they built 6,000 units specifically for homeless people."

These permanent, supported homes have reduced Finland's need for crisis accommodation, he said.

"In Dublin, where I'm from, back in 2008 we had about 600 emergency shelter beds in Dublin, they had the same in Helsinki in Finland.

"Today we have about 2,200 emergency beds; in Finland they have 54."

### **Permanent housing cheaper for government**

Dr O'Sullivan said there was a general perception that the best way to help a homeless person was to make them "ready for housing" by putting them in emergency or transitional accommodation while dealing with any personal issues they might have.

He said the housing-first movement, which began in the United States, posits that a person's personal issues were best dealt with once they were in stable accommodation.

He said there was evidence that this model was both better for the individual and cheaper for government, as keeping homeless people in emergency accommodation "tends to be extraordinarily expensive".

"You're maintaining people in a pretty appalling condition at great cost to the state."

He said the skills required for someone to live in their own home were very different from those required to live in crisis accommodation.

"Very often when we measure things like mental health among the homeless population, you know, it's difficult measuring insanity in insane places," he said.



"If you're living in a big congregate shelter with 40 or 50 other strangers, and the only thing that you have in common with one another is you're all homeless, then your behaviour and your patterns of action are going to be very different than if you're living in your own apartment."

### **Busting myths of homelessness**

A lot of what was said about homelessness was simply not true, Dr O'Sullivan added.

"There's a mantra out there that we're all two paychecks away from homelessness — nonsense."

When you look at the profile of homeless people, he said, factors such as childhood poverty and other adverse experiences early in life "almost predetermine" the people who were highly at risk of homelessness.

"I may drink a lot but the likelihood of me ever becoming homeless is so slight, because I have social networks, I have a whole range of things that will protect me from homelessness."





Ezekiel spoke what God had told him and the **corpses** came alive and stood on their feet. God explained the meaning of the dream and said; "I will put my **Spirit** in the people of Israel and they will know I am the Lord and they will live."

The Valley of the Dry Bones

Read Ezekiel 37:1-14

Can you find in the words on the bones from the underlined words in the story? Clue: The last letter of one word is the first letter of the next.

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**Read**  
Ezekiel  
37:1-14

Can you find in the words on the bones from the underlined words in the story? *Clue: The last letter of one word is the first letter of the next.*

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Genesis chapters 39:20-41:44

Joseph's brothers had sold him as a slave  
and he had ended up in Egypt. Then he was  
wrongly accused and was sent to prison.



Joseph was trusted to look  
after the other prisoners.

Then Pharaoh's butler and baker were sent to  
the prison. One night they had strange dreams.



.. I made  
juice from the grapes  
and gave it to Pharaoh..

.. all the  
bread in my baskets  
was eaten by birds.

God knows what your dreams mean -  
you will be pardoned .... but you won't.



The two men  
left the prison.



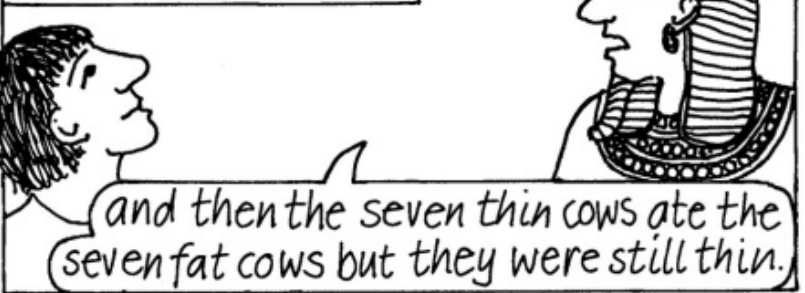
Two years later  
Pharaoh had a dream



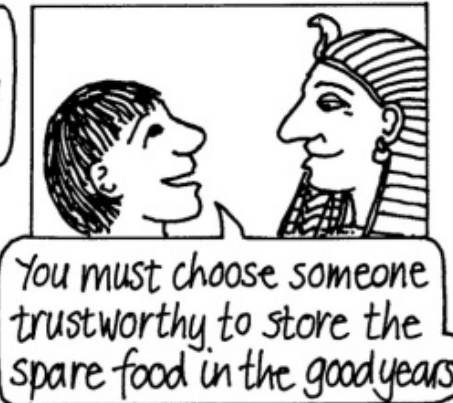
None of his advisors could  
explain it...



So Joseph was cleaned up  
and sent to Pharaoh



God says there will be  
seven bumper years, then  
seven years of famine.



Pharaoh was so impressed  
he gave Joseph the job!



# The Vineyard and the tenants

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONCE TOLD A STORY ABOUT A MAN WHO OWNED A VINEYARD

AS THE MAN LIVED A LONG WAY AWAY FROM THE VINEYARD...



...HE ARRANGED FOR SOME TENANTS TO LOOK AFTER IT FOR HIM.

BUT WHEN THE OWNER SENT SOME SERVANTS TO CHECK ON THE CARE AND PROGRESS OF THE VINEYARD...

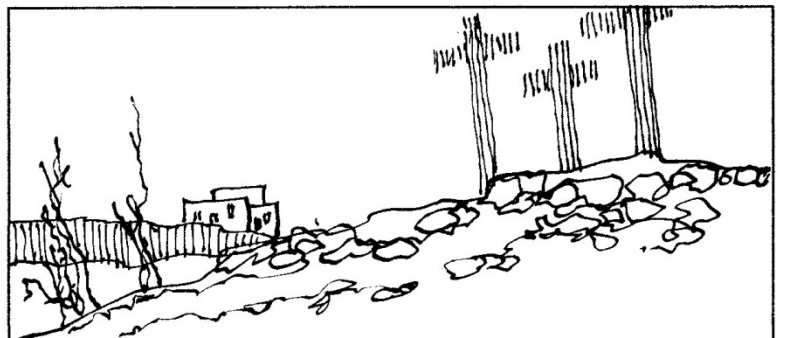


...THE TENANTS BEAT THEM UP!



THIS HAPPENED SEVERAL TIMES. EVENTUALLY THE OWNER SENT HIS OWN SON TO SEE WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

BUT THE TENANTS BEAT THE SON UP SO BADLY THAT HE DIED!



JESUS USED THIS PARABLE TO EXPLAIN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN HIS OWN LIFE. IT IS A VERY CHALLENGING STORY.  
see Luke 20:9-16

## Rosters: From Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Date	Media	Money	Reading	Prayers	LPM/LA	Altar	Welcome	Kitchen
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Peter	David D David J	Sue S	Graeme	Jill B	Carol JJ	Betty R Sheri	Joy Frank
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Peter	Tom B David D	Jill B Betty R	Jill B	Jill B	Sheri	Betty R Sheri	Adele Mike
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Peter	Peter B Pat T	Norma T Claire T	Graeme	Claire T	Sheri	Margaret Betty R	Hazel Sheri
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Peter	David J David D	Sue S	Graeme	JJ	Sheri	Alice Betty R	Joy Frank
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Mike	Pat T David J	David D	Jill	Adele	Sheri	Alice	Margaret Pat, Norma
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Peter	Tom B David D	TBC	TBC	TBC	Carol JJ	Betty R Sheri	Adele Mike
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Mike	Peter B Pate T	Pat T William T	Jill	William T	Carol JJ	Margaret Betty R	Hazel Sheri
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Peter	David J David D	Sue S	Graeme	Claire T	Carol JJ	Alice	Joy Frank
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Mike	Tom B David D	Peter B	Jill	Jill	Carol JJ	Sheri Alice	Margaret Pat, Norma

**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.

## For Your Diary



### Wed 4 October

No Mainly Music  
(School Holidays)

### Wed 11 October

No Mainly Music  
(School Holidays)

### Thu 12 October

07:00 pm Parish Council

### Sat 14 October

02:00 pm Fairy Garden Party  
10 Pitman St, Myaree  
(see ad on back page)

### Wed 18 October

10:30 am Mainly Music

### Wed 25 October

10:30 am Mainly Music

### Thu 26 October

05:30 pm towards belief  
topic: suffering

### Wed 1 November

10:30 am Mainly Music

### Thu 9 November

05:30 pm towards belief  
topic: the Bible

### Thu 23 November

05:30 pm towards belief  
topic: the supernatural

## Observations on daily life

Monarchs have their times and their turns, their rises and their ruin. *John Trapp*

Deeds are fruit, words are leaves.  
*Anon*

Progress is a tide. If we stand still we will surely be drowned. *H Mayfield*

In many workplaces, it is not whether you win or lose, but how you place the blame.

It was a brave man who ate the first oyster.

Never report what may hurt another, unless it be a great hurt to conceal it.  
*William Penn*

Worry is the darkroom in which negatives can develop.

Anything that is good and useful is made of chocolate.

Anytime things appear to be going better, you have overlooked something.

Archaeologists will date any old thing.

Executive ability: Deciding quickly and getting somebody else to do the work. *J G Pollard*



## Service Times

### Sun 1<sup>st</sup> October (Green)

09:00 am Service

**"Blessing of the Pets"**

09:00 am Sunday Club

Exodus 17: 1 – 7.

Philipians 2.

Matthew 21: 23 – 32..

### Wed 4<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

NO Morning Prayers

(School Holidays)

### Sun 8<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

09:00 am Service

Exodus 20: 1 – 20.

Psalms 19

Philipians 3.

Matthews 21: 33 – 46.

### Wed 11<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

Psalms 95 & 96.

1 Kings: 21.

Matthew 11: 25 – 12: 8.

### Sun 15<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

09:00 am Service

Exodus 32: 1 – 14.

Psalms 106: 1 – 6, 20 – 24.

Philipians 4.

Matthews 22: 1 – 14.

### Wed 18<sup>th</sup> October (Red)

**Luke, Evangelist & Martyr**

09:30 am Morning Prayers

Psalms 103.

Isaiah: 55.

2 Timothy 3: 10 – 4: 8.

### Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> October (Green)

09:00 am Service

Exodus 33: 12 – 23.

Psalms 99.

1 Thessalonians 1: 1 – 10.

Matthew 22: 15 – 33.

### Wed 25<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

Psalms 115.

2 Kings 6: 8 – 23.

Matthew 16: 1 – 12.

### Sun 29<sup>th</sup> October (Green)

09:00 am Service

Deuteronomy 34: 1 – 12.

Psalms 90: 1 – 6, 13 – 17..

1 Thessalonians 2: 1 – 13.

Matthew 22: 34 – 46.

### Wed 1<sup>st</sup> November (White)

**All Saints**

09:30 am Morning Prayers

Psalms 97.

Isaiah 65: 17 – 25.

Luke 9: 18 – 27.

### Sun 5<sup>th</sup> November (Green)

09:00 am Service

09:00 am Sunday Club

Johnsua 3: 7 – 17.

1 Thessalonians 3: 5 – 13.

Luke 24: 13 – 35.

### Wed 8<sup>th</sup> November (Green)

09:30 am Morning Prayers

Psalms 20, 21: 21: 1 – 7.

2 Kings 13: 14 – 25.

Matthew 21: 14 – 22.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS AND



Not Just  
a  
Sundays!

MU MELVILLE'S



# FAIRY GARDEN PARTY



come and visit

Betty's beautiful cottage garden(shhh don't scare the fairies)

wear your favourite fairy outfit -

Bring the kids, grandkids suitable for all the family, including blokes

Have a cuppa and relaxing chat

on

**Saturday 14th October**

**2.00pm – 4.00pm**

**10 Pitman St Myaree**

**Cost \$10pp \$20 per family includes afternoon tea**

RSVP Jill 0417 178 688 or email [holycrossevents@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossevents@gmail.com)

This is a fundraiser, supporting a project for people living with a disability in Eldoret Kenya