



MORDIALLOC MOORINGS

*A weekly newsletter from St Nicholas Anglican Church,
Mordialloc*

22nd October, 2020

From the Archbishop: **DIOCESAN COVID-19 UPDATE**

Metropolitan Melbourne restrictions change

Potentially from 2 November, though this may be brought forward a week, parishes and church centres in metropolitan Melbourne may have twenty people for an outdoor religious gathering or service plus one cleric or ASLM to head that. The current limit of five remains. Also, from 2 November, there can be private worship in the church for households with one cleric or ASLM leading.

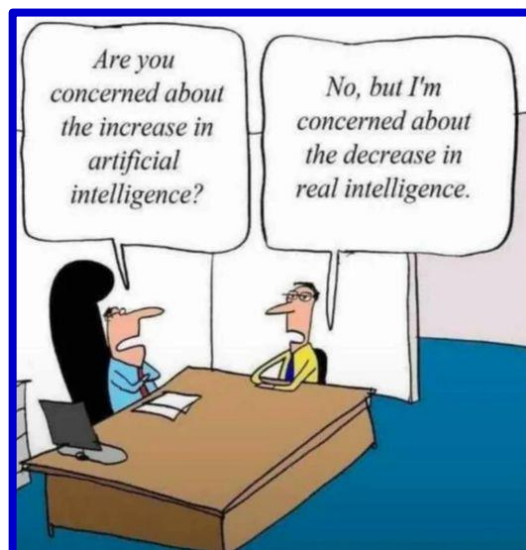
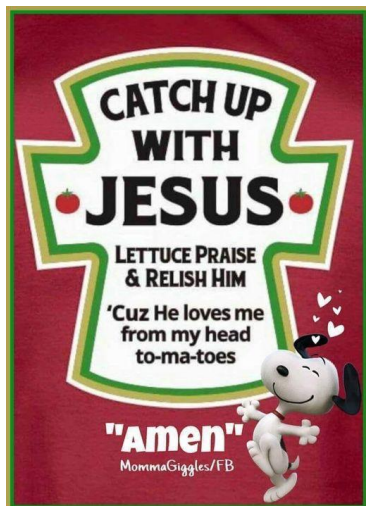
Weddings In metropolitan Melbourne: weddings must be in an outdoor public space with a maximum of five people plus the celebrant. From 2 November, the maximum will be raised to ten people plus the celebrant, and weddings can be indoors. In regional Victoria, weddings remain with up to ten people indoors plus the celebrant.

Funerals In metropolitan Melbourne: funerals can be in a church with up to ten mourners plus those essential for conducting the service. From 2 November, funerals may have twenty mourners. The limits for attendance are subject to the 4sqm rule, so in small buildings they may be lower.

COVID-safety. All the existing requirements for attendance records, social distancing, masks, sanitisers and cleaning must be carefully maintained, and the parish must have a COVID-safe plan registered with the diocese.

Church lawns and gardens. In metropolitan Melbourne, five people at the same time can now mow lawns and maintain church gardens. This must be outdoors, with masks, social distancing, disinfecting shared equipment and no overlap with other volunteers and no mingling with other people.

General. We have written to the Premier and DHHS outlining the COVID-safe plans that we have in place and asking that our churches be treated the same as the hospitality industry in respect of numbers permitted inside and outside of buildings. Thank you for the careful attention that you have given to preparing and enacting COVID-safe plans in each of your places of worship.



Christmas Puddings

fundraising: Shirley is making puddings again - \$15 each. Please call her to order one: 0413 031 953



New lectionaries - Year B, starts 29 November. If you would like to order one - \$14 - please call Cassey Russell 0407 486 193

Rev'd Robyn's Reflection

As I write this, my internet is down and suddenly, my world changes. I'm dealing just fine with all the Covid restrictions – apart from unbeknown contact with carriers of the virus, I am able to keep safe. I have some control. When it comes to the internet – my portal to the world outside – I'm helpless! I ring the tech support line, and am told by an automated voice that enquiries are dealt with online. Very helpful when you have no "online"! Eventually, it's all worked out, and I'm offline for about a day and a half.

HOW WE PLAYED "ONLINE"



BEFORE THE INTERNET

Life can change in a flash. The internet going down is trivial. We lived well without such miraculous communication systems 30 odd years ago. Covid 19 changed our world suddenly; and certainly changed our ways of communicating. Thank God for contemporary technologies, even with the glitzes they can serve us.

Many of us will also have experienced unforeseen or sudden personal events where life as we've known it disappears, to be overtaken by an unsolicited and often raw new reality. Whilst we can affirm and know that God is with us, peace and relief may be intermittent – head and heart may not necessarily feel like they're working together. Yet our

God's reality is of a "peace which passes all understanding....." When you look up our Psalm for this Sunday – Psalm 90 – read on to Psalm 91, and allow yourself to sink into the words throughout that Psalm.... "You who live in the shelter of the most high.....under his wings you will find refugeYou will not fear the terror of night...or the pestilence that stalks in the darkness...For he will command his angels concerning you...on their hands they will bear you up. Those who love me, I will deliver. When they call to me, I will answer them. I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honour them..."

Meanwhile, having no internet took back stage as I pondered heartfelt issues of people's lives and of the world, lifting these to the Lord. How wonderful it is to have words from the Psalms in which to wrap our own own thoughts and prayers: "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust"

For Reflection

"What is both Good and New about the Good News is that mad insistence that Jesus lives on among us not just as another haunting memory but as the outlandish, holy and invisible power of God working not just through the sacraments but in countless hidden ways to make even slobbs like us loving and hole beyond anything we could conceivably pull off by ourselves." *Frederick Buechner*

"We need a theology of brokenness. We need a theology which teaches us that even though we cannot unscramble an egg, God's grace lets us live happily and with renewed innocence far beyond any eggs we have scrambled. We need a theology that says that God does not give us one chance, but that every time we close a door, he opens another one for us" *Ronald Rolheiser*.

Prayer for choosing an incumbent

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

	Readings for the following two weeks
Pentecost 21, October 25	Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6,13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13; Matthew 22:34-46
ALL SAINTS, November 1	Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12
ALL SOULS, November 2	Job 14:1-14; Psalm 29; John 5:19-20



This Newsletter comes from: Rev'd Robyn Boyd,

St Nicholas Mordialloc Locum Priest 0418 648 331; robynboyd@fastmail.fm
Please feel free to contact me at any time – contact details above