

The Clergy, Wardens and Office welcome your enquiries and calls.

Rector:

Rev'd Grahame Yager
6684 3552

Associate Priest/Community:

Rev'd Rosie Wynter
Mobile: 0419 209 201

Administration Centre:

Office Manager: Anne Wareing

38 Stuart Street

Mullumbimby

Phone: 6684 3552

Email: office@byronanglicans.org.au

Office hours: 9am – 4pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Facebook: Anglican Parish of Byron

Website: www.byronanglicans.org.au

Office Support:

Sue Williams

14 Kingsley Street

Byron Bay

Email: admin@byronanglicans.org.au

Phone: 6684 3552

Office Hours: Wednesday 9am-3pm

Friday 9am-12.30pm.

Wardens Patricia Ellis (Rector's Warden),

Ian White, Laura East.

Acknowledgement of Country

We, acknowledge the Bundjalung people, traditional custodians of this land.

We pay tribute and respect to the elders both past and present.



Fourth Sunday of Easter
30th April 2023

All are welcome



Image Canva

*A Christian presence in the community, living by faith,
known by love, sharing a voice of hope.*

From Grahame

We continue with the new post resurrection community this week in Acts chapter 2. We hear again how the community responded to the teachings of the apostles by spending time with each other, sharing meals together and by praying. Yes please, I'll have some of that. After the terrible realisation of what they had been a part of, those gathered for the celebration of the Jewish Pentecost seek a way forward. God answered their prayers and they responded with devotion.

They were devoted meaning they intentionally pursued opportunities to meet together; they intentionally pursued opportunities to break bread together; they intentionally pursued opportunities to pray together and God's response to their faithfulness filled them with awe. There is an old saying that the harder you work the luckier you seem to be. Well I don't believe in luck, but I do notice the more we trust in God; the more we listen to God and follow in the way of Jesus by the power of God's Spirit the better off we seem to be. This does not mean we will not face challenges. It does mean instead of being overcome by those challenges, we will overcome them. There is no secret formula in finding this support from God. God is not hiding from us. God pursues us, pestering us with goodness and kindness.

In our self-centredness we are tempted to say we do it alone; we take as our own the praise we know belongs to another. This can lead to guilt which places obstacles between ourselves and God. These obstacles are not placed by God, they are not hurdles God places in our path. We do it to ourselves. We shut ourselves off from God and then ask where is God? We accuse God of being silent when it is we who refuse to hear God calling to us. We are encouraged by those who have gone before, to respond by devoting ourselves to the apostle's teaching, to gathering, to sharing, to experiencing life in community, and then to be prepared to be in awe of the result.

Weekly Happenings

Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone

TUESDAY Mullumbimby Office 9am-4pm
Meditation (in recess)

WEDNESDAY Byron Bay Office 9am-4pm

THURSDAY Mullumbimby 9am-4pm

FRIDAY Byron Bay Office 9am-12.30pm
Mullumbimby Office 9am-4pm

30th April Fourth Sunday of Easter

11am All Souls' Bangalow followed by a bring and share lunch.

7th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

7.30am St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am St Martin's Mullumbimby

Op Shop Opening Hours

Bangalow Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10am-2pm
Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm

Byron Bay Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
9am-1pm

Mullumbimby Monday—Friday 9.30am-3.30pm
Saturday 9.00am—12.00pm

Parish Direct Debit details for tithes.

Anglican Parish of Byron **BSB:** 705 077 **Account:** 00041263

Prayer Focus This Week:

Diocese of Grafton Senior Leadership Team

Bishop The Right Rev'd Dr Murray Harvey

Archdeacon Tiffany Sparks

The Diocese of Grafton:

Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Making disciples and growing faith communities.



Local Prayer Focus

Sue, Geoff, Judith, Lil, Lin, Hilary and Paul, Lorretta, Chris, John, David Williams, Matthew, Lucy, Sigrid, George, Liz, Gladys, Heather, Chris, John, Sophie, Karen, Shirley, Carol, Karen, Fran, Rebecca, Irene, Harper, Harley, Joe & Jade, June, Thea, Elaine, Ros.

The Community Centres and their work with the homeless.
The Liberation Larder, The Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre, Ministry of Byron Bay & Mullumbimby Christian Education.

Our Community recovering from the floods.

Bulletin News Items

For inclusion in the weekly bulletin please forward to Sue Williams by Wednesday morning. Sue Williams Phone 66843552 Email: admin@byronanglicans.org.au

The Apostle Peter uses the example of having the right diet to sustain us in community. The stones of dishonesty, gossip and jealousy we have carried are transformed and replaced by God with love. The space we used, the excuses we hung onto to try to keep God out of our lives become instead the thing which sustains us. As living stones, living examples of God's love in a world we are part of God's transforming work. Some will stumble on God's love because their view remains caught in the way of jealousy, and dishonesty, which they may seek to justify as a 'necessary evil' because everyone else is doing it. But it is not necessary for us to do evil to accomplish God's purposes.

John provides us with a pastoral example of the shepherd knowing their sheep. God sent the Good Shepherd to be a tangible sign to us that God knows us and cares for us. God is in relationship with us. It is no accident or stroke of luck that Jesus summarised God's law in two acts of love – love God, love each other. It is the way we are called to live, it is the way we were made to live. Just as we function better if we maintain a healthy diet of food, so too the right spiritual food helps us to better serve God and each other. With our rebirth in Christ comes a need for a change of diet and the seeking of spiritual food which will sustain the faithful in a life set apart for God's purposes even as we await the triumphal return of Christ. The conflict into which Peter spoke was of community interest verses self-interest, a conflict between community and the individual. God calls us each as individuals by name to be in community with God and each other, a community fuelled by love, and ready to be in awe of the result.

All through this day dear Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for you, and every life I touch please bless by your Holy Spirit, whether through the words I speak, the prayer I breathe or the life I live; so shall your kingdom come on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Adapted from the daily prayers of
Mary Sumner founder of Mother's Union and Brother John Dent Martyn BGS

With every blessing, Grahame

Services

30th April Fourth Sunday of Easter

11am All Souls' Bangalow followed by a bring and share lunch.

7th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

7.30am St Thomas' Brunswick Heads

9am St Martin's Mullumbimby

Readings

30th April Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:1-10, John 10:1-10

7th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31: 1-5, 17-18, 1 Peter 2:11-25, John 14:1-14

Parish News

Knitting for those in need



With winter on the horizon it is time to start knitting for those in need. There are patterns for beanies and fingerless gloves in St Paul's plus spare wool. Please send all finished items to St Paul's for distribution.

Faithfulness in Service training

Saturday 27th May 9.30am-12pm in St Paul's Byron Bay.

Enrolment forms are available from the Parish Office. Some forms have also been emailed out.

Parish Consultations

The next consultation opportunities will be **Saturday, 20th May at 2 pm in St Columba Ewingsdale and Saturday 27th May 2pm in St Thomas' Brunswick Heads.** Please take this opportunity for a cuppa and a chat about the future of the Parish of Byron. Bring along your questions and ideas. This is your chance to have your say.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter Sunday 30 April 2023

- Acts 2.42-27; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2.1-10; John 10.1-10
Sheep and stones. Selling everything you have and holding all things in common. Today's readings share a thread of the communal, of collectivity, of connection. They are reminders that we are more than individuals, that we are each precious and part of a larger whole at the same time. There is not one stone in the temple that isn't important, but its importance lies in being part of the whole structure. One stone is not a cathedral. One sheep is not a flock. Together we make up the whole, and we make the whole by sharing. Like sheep, like bricks, we are made for being with each other.
- Pray that we can allow ourselves to be shepherded, so that we might feel supported and tended. Pray that we can allow ourselves to be hewn, so that we can better support others.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, the Anglican Church of Hong Kong.

Text: Joshua Catt St John's Cathedral, Brisbane © Anglican Board of Mission, 2023

Mission of the Month



ABM Appeal for victims of the earthquakes in Turkiye and northern Syria.