

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

**Rector:**

Rev'd Canon Grahame Yager  
6684 3552

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Rev'd Rosie Wynter  
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**Administration Centre:**

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**Office Support:**

Sue Williams

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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.*



**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**23rd July 2023**

**All are welcome**



**Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.” Matthew 13:30**

Photo Pixabay

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

## From Grahame

I like to garden. I don't know much about gardening but I like to try. I am sure you all know how to tell a weed from a useful plant? You pull on it and if it comes out easily, it was a useful plant.

I don't know much about farming I couldn't tell you one variety of grain from another. I visited a property once and in the course of catching up I mentioned that the wheat seemed to have gone to head early because the stalk was quite short. I asked what had caused this problem? The farmer looked at me sideways and said 'I paid extra for that'. Of course, there are now varieties which intentionally have less stalk because the stalk is not what you are after, unless you were making a hay bale house or thatch. Uhhh.... it's so confusing.

If we get into this much trouble judging wheat and good plants from weeds, what about when we start judging people's lives and how we respond to them? What about if we were judging their eternal life? Way too much stress there. You may be thinking 'well Grahame you're just being weak, you need to be able to make the hard decisions'. I know I need to be able to make hard decisions about my life, my responsibilities and God takes responsibility for God's part. I think it works better that way. The way God intended. Then the real miracle happens. When I take responsibility for my part, I come to see that God has taken responsibility for the consequences and welcomes me into relationship.

How many people did God create. A couple, some, many? All! How many people does God love? Does God love a couple of people, one or two, just the really nice ones, a few people, some people? All people! How many people do you know who started off a bit rocky but finished strong? We see through eyes of our human prejudices. If we take on God's part, if we set ourselves up as the judges of God's people, if judging were left to us would we even pass? Jesus saw in people a potential others missed. When we judge people as unworthy of God's love we work against the coming kingdom. God loves everyone. God's grace is open to everyone. A bit like alternate realities, the weeds and the wheat are left to grow by God.

# Weekly Happenings

Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone

<b>TUESDAY</b>	Mullumbimby Office 9am-4pm Meditation 10am All Souls' Bangalow
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Byron Bay Office 9am-4pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Byron Bay Office 9am-12.30pm Mullumbimby Office 9am-4pm
<b>16th July</b> 9am	All Souls Bangalow
<b>23rd July</b> 9am	All Souls Bangalow
<b>30th July</b> 11am	All Souls Bangalow followed by a bring and share lunch.

## Op Shop Opening Hours

<b>Bangalow</b>	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am-2pm Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm
<b>Byron Bay</b>	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-1pm
<b>Mullumbimby</b>	Monday—Friday 9.30am-3.30pm

## **Parish Direct Debit details for tithes.**

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

## Prayer Focus This Week:

**Missions** The Buttery

**Chair** Mr Sandy Lockhart

### **Diocese of Grafton Senior Leadership Team**

**Bishop** The Right Rev'd Dr Murray Harvey

**Archdeacon** Tiffany Sparks

### **The Diocese of Northern Territory**

Bishop Greg Anderson & Annette, Clergy & Laity

### **The Parish of South Grafton**

In Transition, The Rev'd Jenny Parker & Ian

## Local Prayer Focus

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, 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



Leave them to grow. Where is the miracle in that? The miracle is that by the grace of God in Christ Jesus the weeds may be transformed and bear fruit. Now that's a miracle. God has no acceptable level of attrition. When I come before the judgement seat I'm not bringing the excuse 'well I destroyed a lot of wheat but I brought you this one'. I'm going with the whole lot and saying 'you said you knew what to do with all this'.

Jesus spoke of weeds and wheat. Sometimes it is hard to tell the difference between the weeds and the wheat. It can be tempting to put all our efforts into trying to judge the weeds from the wheat so that we may get rid of the weeds. Jesus tells us if we allow ourselves to become consumed by the search for weeds we will damage the wheat. We will damage the very thing we are trying to nurture.

If we spend all our time focused on the weeds then weeds are all we will ever see. We are each called by God to work for the good, to nurture our sisters and brothers of all the peoples of the earth. To be a blessing. We do not serve this purpose if we only focus on the bad. The task of judgement has been deferred until a later time and it is not our job.

Like all families we will have disagreements and like families throughout the generations we are called to love one another anyway. Love God, love your neighbour. Don't do it because I say so, do it because it is right, do it because Jesus did it, do it because this is how God's will may be done on earth as in Heaven.

*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

### 23rd July Pentecost 8

9am All Souls Bangalow

### 30th July Pentecost 9

11am All Souls Bangalow

### 6th August

7.30am St Thomas Brunswick Heads

9am All Souls Bangalow

9am St Martin Mullumbimby

## Readings

### 23rd July

Genesis 28:10-19a, Psalm 139:1-11, 23-24 Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

### 30th July

Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 105:1-11, Romans 8:26-39,  
Matthew 13:44-58

## Parish News

### Knitting for those in need



Another lot of gloves, beanies have been delivered to the Bangalow Op Shop, Liberation Larder and the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre Mullumbimby. Please keep knitting as winter is here. 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.

### Parish Pantry

The Parish Pantry is run from the office in Mullumbimby and gives food to those who are in need. Donations of food can be left in each of the centre churches or at the Mullumbimby office. Donations of long life milk, cup of noodles, spreads, tins of tuna, baked beans and spaghetti with ring pull, cereals, muesli bars, etc are always needed

## Ordinary Sunday 16 A [Pentecost 8]

Sunday 23 July 2023

Genesis 28.10-19a; Psalm 139.1-11, 23-24; Romans 8.12-25;  
Matthew 13.24-30 (31-33) 36-43

In this week's parable Jesus speaks of a small wheat seed and throws in some weeds for good measure. The combination of seed and weed brings to mind an image of a world where good and evil co-exist under God's creative hand. We all have weeds, sin, in our lives, and our insurance, to reduce our weeds, is committing to and living a life of faith; it requires ongoing renewal, commitment and effort. God will do the weeding for God's kingdom to live and thrive.

Pray for the daily renewal of Jesus' presence and share that with unbridled generosity, patience and love – with a heart that sings under God's creative hand!

Give thanks for all who work with or otherwise support refugees and asylum seekers around the world.

Text: The Reverend Kate, Honorary Deacon St Paul's Cathedral, Sale © Anglican Board of Mission, 2023

## Mission of the Month

### The Buttery



THE BUTTERY

The Buttery is a not-for-profit charitable addiction and mental health organization established in 1973. We deliver evidence based long and short-term residential rehabilitation and outreach programs to support people living with alcohol and substance misuse and mental health conditions to achieve recovery and rebuild their lives. The organisation also provides a unique counselling support program for families and carers.