

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

Rector:

Rev'd Canon Grahame Yager
6684 3552

Associate Priest/Community:

Rev'd Rosie Wynter
Mobile: 0419 209 201

Administration Centre:

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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.

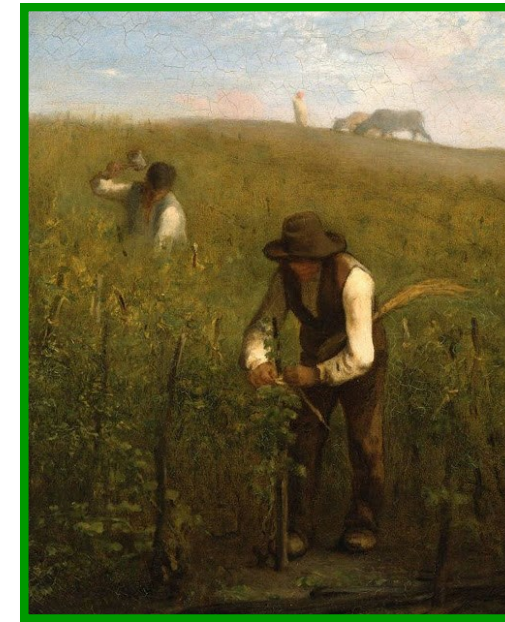
We pay tribute and respect to the elders both past and present.



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

24th September 2023

All are welcome



Jean François Millet (1814-1875)

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

From Grahame

'Are you envious because I am generous'. This is one of my very favourite pieces of scripture. Just as the two great commandments that tell us to love God and love our neighbour sum up the law of God, I believe this week's passage sums up many of the obstacles we place between ourselves and God's grace. 'Are you envious because I am generous' says the land owner.

The historical context of this passage is that a denarius was the going rate for day labour. It was just enough to keep body and soul together – just. But this was accepted practice, no problem there. Jesus again takes everyday concepts and turns them on their head. The owner himself goes to the people; he doesn't send a hired manager. Again, and again he returns to call the workers to the vineyard. Why didn't they all come the first time, what is their excuse? They actually try to put responsibility back on the owner "because no one has hired us".

The context of this text in the ministry of Jesus, is that he welcomed people who were not in what was considered a 'right' relationship with God. Jesus also encouraged people to move beyond their traditional roles. Jesus welcomed tax collectors; Jesus allowed women to exercise authority in ways and places outside what had been the custom. People were challenged by this and in this passage, Jesus challenges the accepted understanding of justice. Is it just for those who do more to get the same as those who do less? If we are talking about salvation, would it be possible for those coming late to receive a part portion of salvation? To be half saved? If we stay in the context of the worker's in the vineyard, what kind of justice would it be if the late workers were paid less than they needed to live that day? Would it be just to pay the early workers more than had been agreed? It may seem fair but the beautiful thing about God's grace is that it is never fair. We receive that which we did not earn, God's welcome, love and acceptance.

Weekly Happenings

Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone

TUESDAY Mullumbimby Office 9am-4pm
Meditation 10am All Souls' Bangalow

WEDNESDAY Byron Bay Office 9am-4pm

THURSDAY Mullumbimby 9am-4pm

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

24th September

11am Jack & Hilda Richards Home
355 Coopers Shoot Road Coopers Shoot

1st October

9am Blessing of the Animals All Souls Bangalow
Rev'd Rosie Final service.

Op Shop Opening Hours

Bangalow Monday—Friday
10am-2pm
Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm

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

Mullumbimby 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 MU

Provincial President The Rev'd Anne Kennedy

Diocese of Grafton Senior Leadership Team

Bishop The Right Rev'd Dr Murray Harvey
Archdeacon Tiffany Sparks

The Diocese of Wangaratta

Bishop Clarence Bester & Michelle, Clergy & Laity

The Parish of Tweed Heads

The Rev'd Dway Goon Chew & Leeza, The Rev'd Sue Woodcock, The Rev'd Cameron Smith.

LLM John, Maria, Adrian, Deborah, Yvonne

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, Ann.

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



So much of our worldly systems are based on accumulation. Accumulation of experience, accumulation of possessions, accumulation of prestige and stature. For these accumulations to have meaning the world says they must be measured against those around us. This was the thinking of the workers who felt hard done by. They had received what they had been promised so it was not so much what they got which was the problem. They were busy worrying about what others were getting.

God gives us all we need and we respond by abusing God's creation, by hoarding some things while others go without God's love is boundless, literally without boundary and we respond by trying to find any excuse not to love.

Are we envious because God is generous?

The grace of God is beyond our comprehension, it is bigger, greater, more powerful, gentler, more beautiful and more loving than we can imagine. How do I know this? The Bible tells me so, the people I meet tell me so, the gift of God's creation tells me so.

May we give thanks every day that God's grace is not fair. This is why we sing, this is why we pray with confidence, this is why we gather with such joy in our hearts, because God is love and will never leave us.

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

24th September

11am Service at Jack and Hilda Richards home
355 Coopers Shoot Road Coopers Shoot.

1st October

9am Blessing of the Animals All Souls Bangalow.
Rev'd Rosie's final Service.

Readings

24th September

Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 105: 1-6, 37-45, Philippians 1:21-30,
Matthew 20:1-16

1st October

Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 11-16, Philippians 2:1-13,
Matthew 21:23-32

Parish News

Yes23

Representatives of Yes23 Mullum will be at St Martin's Mullumbimby, 3 pm Saturday 30th September. This will be an opportunity to ask questions and discuss how we may best support our Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander sisters and brothers.

Farewell Service for Rev'd Rosie

On Sunday 24th September @ 11am there will be one service only at the home of Jack & Hilda Richards, 'Hazeldene', 355 Coopers Shoot Road Coopers Shoot. RSVP as soon as possible to Anne or Sue. The meat will be supplied, please bring a salad or dessert to share and plate, cutlery & a cup.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday 1st October @ 9am All Souls Bangalow. Bring your furry, scaly or feathered friend along for a blessing. Photos of fur babies who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge, will be blessed. Phil Dokmanovic and his congregation from the Uniting Church will be joining us for this service.

BCA Boxes

For those who have BCA Boxes now is the time to bring them in for counting. These can be left in any of our centres.

St Mary's Music Program

Sunday 24th September 3pm, St Mary's 38-42 Norton Street Ballina. This month's concert features a combination of classical guitar and flute.

Contact info@themusicestuary.org for more information.

Ordinary Sunday 25 A [Pentecost 17] Sunday 24 September 2023

Exodus 16.2-15; Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1.[1-20]
21-30; Matthew 20.1-16

Today the Psalmist teaches us to 'Seek the Lord and his strength: seek his face continually'. Sometimes it can feel that God is remote and afar off – the transcendent God. But we must never forget that God is immanent – that is, internal to us – because God is the source of all our being and our bodies are temples of God's Spirit. God makes his home in our hearts as much as in the heavens. So we do not have to look far to find God – but we do have to decide to look.

Lord, help me to prepare a heart for you,
a heart that is worthy.

Give thanks for the work and witness of the
Anglican Church of Melanesia.

Text: Robert McLean © Anglican Board of Mission, 2023

Mission of the Month Bush Church Aid



Bush Church Aid is all about **Aid** to the **Church** in the **Bush**; providing biblically faithful ministry and bringing the life-changing gospel message of Jesus to rural, regional, and remote Australia.