

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

Rector:

Rev'd Canon Grahame Yager
6684 3552

Administration Centre:

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Sue Williams

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Byron Bay

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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.



Byron Anglicans
We are one

Third Sunday in Lent

3rd March 2024

All are welcome



JESUS MAFA

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

From Grahame

Remember Jesus came not so that we could show how much we love God. Jesus came so that God could show how much God loves us. When we reflect on a passage of scripture I believe this is a helpful perspective to keep in mind. God is not out to trap us. God wants the best for us.

This week we reflect on Jesus cleansing the Temple. It is hard for us to imagine what the Temple meant to the community. It was a place of worship like a great cathedral; it was a place where issues of community governance were considered, like parliament house; it was a place where people from far and wide met, like a family reunion; it was a place to celebrate and mourn; it was the heart of a nation; it was all these and meant to be so much more. It was meant to be a place where God's people found God.

A popular interpretation of the anger Jesus displayed, considers that people had begun to conduct their everyday business in the temple, when in fact what had happened is that they had turned temple worship into a business, a corrupt business. Animals were brought to the temple so that the pilgrims could buy what they needed for the Passover sacrifice. The money changers were there so that people could exchange their Roman currency, with the head of the emperor, for the half-shekel coins which would be acceptable for the payment of the Temple tax. The animals and the money changers were seemingly there to help God's people in their acts of reconciliation. So why was Jesus surprised by what he found?

Jesus went to celebrate the Passover and give thanks to God, only to find that what should have been central had become secondary. So much effort was being applied to the preparations and seeming observance of the rules of ritual that the praise of and thanksgiving for God, which should have been their motivation for gathering, was all but forgotten. To compound this, the animals were overpriced and the moneychangers charged a fee for their service. Pilgrims responding to God's call to reconciliation were being

Weekly Happenings

Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone

TUESDAY	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
WEDNESDAY	Byron Bay 9am-3pm Lenten craft 12noon St Pauls Byron Bay
THURSDAY	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
FRIDAY	Byron Bay Office 9am-12.30pm Meditation 11am All Souls Bangalow Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
3rd March Lent 3	
9am	St Paul's Byron Bay
10th March	
7.30am	St Thomas Brunswick Heads
9am	All Souls Bangalow
11am	St Columba Ewingsdale
<u>Op Shop Opening Hours</u>	
Bangalow	Monday - Friday 10am-2pm Saturday - 9.30am-12.30pm
Byron Bay	Monday - 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:

MISSION Anglican Communion and the Archbishop of Canterbury The Most Reverend Justin Welby (Caroline)

Diocese of Grafton Senior Leadership Team

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

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

Primate Archbishop Geoffrey Smith & Lynn
General Secretary Anne Hywood General Synod Office Staff
The General Synod and the Standing Committee

The Parish of Alstonville

The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman & Marius Mulder, The Reverend Doug Bannerman & Anne, The Venerable Greg Ezzy and Del, The Reverend John Kidson and Chris, The Reverend Geoff Vidal and Carol.

LLM Barbara, Susan, Charlie, Mark, Anne.

Local Prayer Focus

Greg, Janie, Marjory, Geoff, Lin, Hilary and Paul, Lorretta, Chris, John, Matthew, Lucy, Sigrid, George, Liz, Gladys, Heather, Chris, John, Sophie, Karen, Carol, Karen, Fran, Rebecca, Thea, 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.

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



taken advantage of in God's name and Jesus could not tolerate this.

20 years ago, I found myself in Florence with our eldest daughter Rachael. Wandering through the narrow laneways of the city centre we rounded a corner to find the city's cathedral, a magnificent white/grey marble edifice, rising out of the surrounding humble dwellings. We found the entrance where there were a number of people queuing and debating with a uniformed guard about the price of admission. Rachael said 'you have to pay Dad'. I had a little Jesus in the temple court moment myself, motioned Rachael to follow and we made our way to the front. I held up the wooden cross around my neck and said 'pray'. The guard pretended not to understand but I persisted. Eventually he rolled his eyes and stepped aside to let us pass.

We need to pay our bills; we need to maintain our buildings; and we need to never forget that these are secondary to remembering the central purpose of these and what God is doing in our hearts. It is what is happening in our hearts which is the foundation and motivation for everything else.

Jesus cleansed the Temple of a visible representation of the corruption which takes place in each of us. The most important cleansing is the cleansing which takes place in us when we place Jesus at the centre.

With Every Blessing,
Grahame

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

Services

3rd March Lent 3

9am St Pauls Byron Bay

10th March

7.30am St Thomas Brunswick Heads

9am All Souls Bangalow

11am St Columba Ewingsdale

Readings

3rd March Lent 3

Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25,
John 2:13-22

10th March Lent 4

Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22,
Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21.

Parish News

Lenten Bible Study—Bangalow

There will be no gathering this week as Grahame has been asked to help dedicate the new NSW Firearms Registry Building. Feel free to attend the study group in Byron Bay 12-2pm each Wednesday. The session begins with a bring and share lunch. (see below)

Lenten Craft Group



Last week we gathered to learn the art of prayer knots and were joined by a couple visiting from Ireland. This week we made pinch pots and palm crosses. Brenda is very patient as some of us are less than artistic. Please join us for an enjoyable afternoon, 12-2pm

Wednesdays. We begin with a bring and share lunch.

Diocesan Ultreya

Cursillo is celebrating 40yrs in the Grafton Anglican Diocese. On *Saturday 2nd March 2024, in Church Cathedral Grafton.* **Give thanks to the Lord for the past 40 years of Cursillo in the Grafton Diocese.** Details: 9.30am Morning Tea (provided); 10.00am Eucharist, finish @ 3.00pm. Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided There will be birthday cake too!

Mission of the Month: Angel Flight

Angel Flight Australia, works with a team of generous volunteers to coordinate free, non-emergency flights and transfers so people living remotely across Australia can access specialist medical treatments.

Lent 3 B Sunday 3 March 2024

Exodus 20.1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25;
John 2.13-22

The Psalmist, in Psalm 19, speaks in beautiful and timeless language of the grandeur of God revealed in the natural world, and in 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Paul speaks of the wisdom of God that surpasses human wisdom. In a world in which science and religion have long been seen by many as mutually exclusive, the progress of science can be seen to be leading more to a convergence than a divergence. For as science continues to roll back the frontiers of human knowledge it, paradoxically, simultaneously extends the frontiers of the unknown, and in the process reveals anew, for those who take the time to see, the awe-inspiring mystery that underpins our universe, and the provisional nature of the understanding derived from human wisdom.

Lord, empower us to see your grandeur revealed in the world around us and, seeing this, strengthen our resolve to husband and nurture our earthly home. Give thanks for the work and witness of NATSIAC, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council

Text: Ron Hacker, Diocese of Newcastle © Anglican Board of Mission, 2024