

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

Rector:

Rev'd Canon Grahame Yager
6684 3552

Associate Priest

Rev'd Brenda Yager

Administration Centre:

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Byron Bay

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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.



Byron Anglicans
We are one

1st Sunday in Advent

1st December 2024

All are welcome



The Reflectionary

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

From Grahame

Last week we ended the Church year with the great celebration of Christ the King. This week begins a new year. During this year we will particularly focus on the Gospel according to Luke. The same author is credited with writing this gospel account and the Acts of the Apostles, so a significant part of the New Testament. Luke speaks to us in a series of short accounts, short stories if you like.

The context for the gospel passage this week is that people had been commenting on the beauty of the temple, and how they believed it would last. Jesus seeks to bring focus back to what is truly eternal, our relationship with God. We know the temple they were praising would be destroyed, so it is with all temporal things, worldly things, it is no accident that our word, temporary comes from this. Jesus challenges us to invest in what is eternal. We are constantly tempted to invest in temporary things, our possessions, while Jesus constantly reminds us to focus on relationships.

At the moment, Anglicans throughout Australia are being encouraged to be active in resisting gender-based violence. We know the statistics, we know the headlines reporting tragedy after tragedy, we know what Jesus would have us do. Through the gift of the Common Grace organisation we have this prayer from Reverend Tracy Lauersen which speaks far better than I could:

Let us pray,
Creator God, as Christians we know how far human relationships and intimate relationships fall short of the ideal for which we were created.

We are all created in Your image. The disrespect of one's partner through coercive control and its power tactics is a tragic and sinful rejection of one's whom you love. It is a denial of their inherent value as Your image bearers. It is a self-gratifying power play.

Weekly Happenings

Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone

TUESDAY	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
WEDNESDAY	Byron Bay 9am-3pm
THURSDAY	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm AOK St Pauls Byron Bay 10am
FRIDAY	Byron Bay Office 9am-12.30pm Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
SUNDAY	Advent Study Rectory Bangalow 5pm-6pm

1st December 1st Sunday of Advent

7.30am	St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am	All Souls Bangalow
9am	St Martin's Mullumbimby
9am	St Pauls Byron Bay

8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

7.30am	St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am	All Souls Bangalow
9am	St Martin's Mullumbimby
9am	St Pauls Byron Bay
11am	St Columba Ewingsdale

Op Shop Opening Hours

Bangalow	Monday - Friday 10am-2pm Saturday - 9.30am-12.30pm
Byron Bay	Monday - Saturday 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:

DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, making disciples and growing faith communities.

Diocesan Vision Statement

Transforming lives through Jesus Christ

Restructuring for Mission and Ministry

A Prayer

God of mission, give us, your people of Grafton diocese, a spirit of adventure and courage as we explore and live into new models of ministry.

Grant to us a sense of your presence during our conversations, enabling us to speak clearly and with love. Give us attentive ears and kind hearts as we listen to one another and your wisdom in our decision making.

As we explore our future may we know that you are already here, calling us to renew your church and join with you in mission.

Guide us with your light, enliven us with your breath and enflame us in your love. **Amen**



Local Prayer Focus

Lisa, Brett, Greg, Jean, 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, Wayne & Robyn Elliot.

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

Mission of the Month

The Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre

Jesus showed us a better way. He pushed back against unhealthy societal norms that saw women disrespected. He felt under no obligation to insist on his power in any relationship.

We resolve to follow His lead. To recognise and embrace our own worth as those created in Your image, and to acknowledge our responsibility to see the worth in others and to treat them with respect. Especially those with whom we share our lives.

And during these 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, we pray especially for victims of coercive control. May Your eye be upon them and may You lead them through this valley to a place of healing and deliverance.

In the name of Jesus, Amen.

The following Domestic and Family Violence support services are available:

1800 RESPECT National Helpline: [1800 737 732](tel:1800737732)

Women's Crisis Line: [1800 811 811](tel:1800811811)

Men's Referral Service: [1300 766 491](tel:1300766491)

Lifeline (24 hour crisis line): [131 114](tel:131114)

13 YARN (Aboriginal Mob): [13 92 76](tel:139276)

Emergency: 000

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

HOPE25
HOPE IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

Services

1st December 1st Sunday of Advent

7.30am St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am All Souls Bangalow
9am St Martin's Mullumbimby
9am St Pauls Byron Bay

8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

7.30am St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am All Souls Bangalow
9am St Martin's Mullumbimby
9am St Pauls Byron Bay
11am St Columba Ewingsdale

Readings

1st December 1st Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13,
Luke 21:25-38

8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-14, Song of Zechariah, Philippians 1:1-11,
Luke 3:1-6

Parish News

Carols under the Poinciana

On a sunny Tuesday afternoon with a breeze blowing through the Poinciana in the garden at St Martin's approx. 70 people with a sprinkling of dogs gathered to enjoy a sausage sizzle, get their faces painted, listen to the Red Inc choir and to sing Christmas carols. It was so wonderful to see so many happy faces there for this first one as a parish. A big thank you goes to Laura, Anne, Mark, Grahame and everyone who helped behind the scenes, without you this would not have been such a success.

Parish Pantry

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Food Pantry. Christmas treats are always a welcome addition to the food parcels at this time of year. Mince tarts, shortbread, mini Christmas cakes, sweets etc can make someone's day.

**Celebrate Christmas with
The Anglican Parish of Byron**

Sunday 8th December 11am
St Columba Ewingsdale

Tuesday 10th December 6pm
'Lessons and Carols'
All Souls' Ashton St Bangalow

Christmas Eve 24th December 6pm
'Family Christmas Extravaganza'
All Souls' Ashton St Bangalow

Christmas Day 25th December
7.30am St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am St Martin's Mullumbimby
9am St Paul's Byron Bay

Advent Study

An Advent study will be held at 5-6pm in the Bangalow vicarage commencing Sunday 8th December. This Study will take the place of the Taize Meditation for this 3 week period. The Study will be based on the Caravan Books which cover 'Incarnational stories set in an Australian Landscape'. Please phone 66843552 or email office@byronanglicans.org.au if you are planning to attend.

Parish Council Update

St Martin's hall roof. A Heritage Development Consent Exemption Application form has been submitted to Byron Shire Council.

Minor repairs to the shed at rear of St Paul's Op Shop have been carried out in order to make it secure.

A small awning to be erected over the entrance to St Paul's Op Shop.

Extension to Bangalow Op Shop is at commencement stage.

The Parish of Byron will support the Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre to put together hampers for Christmas. They expect to distribute several hundred.

Christmas uplighting to the three central churches will be installed.