



Anglican Pastoral District
Yankalilla and Delamere

Note from your Parish Priest
Father Max Bowers

May 2016

OPEN LETTER TO ALL PARISHIONERS

I have made the commitment to be with you till at least the end of the year, and certainly by then, we will know if parishioners have rallied to the 'Call to Arms' to take seriously supporting the long term future of the parish. With churches being closed on a regular basis in South Australia, we must not become complacent and think this would not happen here. However, without EVERY parishioner who claims membership of either church being active in their own faith, and encouraging others as well, the parish has no long term future. This is no threat - It is a fact.

The combining of the two churches has been very successful with at least some parishioners from both churches making the effort to attend either church as the occasion arises.

But the fact remains - we need new people and of course seeing current parishioners more regularly.

The "Invite, Invite, Invite" campaign can only succeed if parishioners move out of their comfort zone and do precisely that. "Invite", and not assume that it is for others to undertake.

With the diversity of interests in our special services/activities that could tempt outsiders, there is no excuse to do everything in your power to invite people regularly (and not be embarrassed with what they will experience). From those who would have been touched by the Anzac experience, or to thank our nurses at the "International Nurses Mass". Then an opportunity to celebrate our own harvest and provide assistance to the needy at the "Harvest Festival". Finally a change of pace in the museum mass late May. April/May is a big opportunity for encouragement, complimented by the many different styled services yet to come in the later half of this year.

I am being paid half time in the parish, and certainly have spent more hours here than that, going the extra mile. My point is, that I have been happy to lead by example but in the hope that Parishioners would equally recognise they need to show their sincerity to parish growth, by being 100% supportive of what we are trying to do.

If the hope is to rely completely on my efforts, then what we are doing will ultimately fail. One person can do little, but with all parishioners sharing the load, our future is much more assured.

You are the long term parishioners (I am just a blow in). If you want the parish to have a future, you must want that to happen, if you believe it is worth supporting.

How can you show your support?

• **Pray** - That the spark of enthusiasm will spread like a bush fire. We can't expect God to bless our endeavours if we don't do our part.



- **Inviting people to the special days** (Yes! you will get refusals, but at some point those you invite are more likely to respond to something they see as relevant to them, so keep asking)
- **Offering to join a small committee** to help plan one or more activities for the remainder of 2016.
- **Offer your support** by putting your hand up to **join the Flower or Cuppa roster** to be on duty once every 6-8 weeks.

There is only one of me and a greater number of you all, but I know only too well you can only lead a horse to water, you can't make it drink. If you can't see the need for urgency in your support, we are all wasting our time and just prolonging a painful death.

So can I please ask yet again, for your support to the parish to be more active in what we are trying to achieve. Let's hope that May will see a great enthusiasm in inviting people to our special events/services and offering to join either or both of the cuppa and Flower rosters.

Father Max Bowers

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Don't waste the invitations included in last month's newsletter envelope. Use them selectively to encourage others to join you for the May activities. Additional invitations in each church foyer.

INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY DELAMERE MAY 8th - 11am

(Gail Filsell, Coordinator - 0428 980 223) Mother's Day will be incorporated into the theme of the day with something special for all the 'gals'. The sanctuary will be decked out in a display of nurses uniforms and equipment. *Maybe if you are or were a nurse, you could come decked out as you are/were in your working life.*

This is a great opportunity to show our nurses (past and present) how much we appreciate what they do. Start now in considering nurses you could invite to the service. You will find invitation slips and posters in the church porch that you could add around the district (not just in Delamere). The service will commence at 11am and will be preceded by a morning tea from 10.15am **(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE).**



May 15th - Yankalilla - 9am

HARVEST FESTIVAL MASS - Yankalilla - MAY 15th - 9am

The plan is to deck out the sanctuary with bales of hay and a couple of scarecrows to give atmosphere and a baker is making sheaves of hay out of bread dough. We want people to come to this service in the clothes (or bring equipment used) of their profession. It is important to remember that 'harvest' is not just about food, but how we harvest the gifts God has given us as well. We are also being encouraged to bring along practical things (non perishable) to have on hand for food parcels when needed.

HISTORY WEEK VINTAGE MASS - Yankalilla - MAY 29th

The 5th Sunday combined service will be held at the Yankalilla museum at 10.30am followed by lunch. We are pleased to have Bishop John with us for the day. Parishioners and those they have invited, are encouraged to come to the service wearing period dress of the day. (or close enough). The service will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle in the Museum grounds. You will also have an opportunity to look over the excellent museum whilst you are there. More information from Rob Ryan 0409 980 227



COMBINED CHURCHES SERVICE - Normanville Roman Catholic Church - MAY 29th, 2.30pm - The perfect finish to our 5th Sunday service in the morning.



SHARING THE LOAD - There is an urgency to find additional parishioners prepared to do their share in assisting on the Cuppa and Flower rosters. If we are to impress any visitors, then these rosters need serious attention and not just left to the few people who assist now (six months each at Yankalilla) (Assistance is available to help you arrange flowers if you feel you are not up to the task [Your view, not ours]). Please **URGENTLY** do one of the following.

1. Make Belinda Rosser aware of your offering - 0411 591 628, ljbarosser@gmail.com (Yankalilla)
Peter Filsell - 0427 534 095, pfilsell@westnet.com.au (Delamere)
2. Go on line and fill out your assistance offering there. Post the following URL into your web browser.
<http://www.grassrootsresources.com.au/yankalilladelamere/formsetup2016activities.html>
3. Fill out a form in the church porch



CHRISTMAS IN JULY DINNER - FRIDAY 8TH JULY it is planned to hold a fund raising dinner at Delamere hall and are seeking your assistance/guidance for support. We believe a cost of \$30 a head for the 3 course meal is good value and will return to the parish a reasonable return. However, if we can't encourage 50 people to join us, then the economics don't work out. We are hoping for a \$1000 profit to help fund the Christmas Festival in December. Can you indicate your interest on one of the pads in the church foyer and indicate the numbers you feel you could encourage to join you. *Maybe you could give a 'guesstimate'*

Alternatively, you can email or ring me with this 'encouragement'. **WE RISE OR FALL TOGETHER!**

KEEP UP TO DATE BY REGULARLY VISITING OUR WEB SITE (Please note new address) - Old link will still work. Why not bookmark it in your browser to make it easier to quickly view the site on line. www.yankalilladelamereanglican.com.au

Service Times in 2016 - 5th Sunday details to be announced as necessary
Yankalilla - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays (9am) 4th Sundays (11am)
Delamere - 2nd Sunday (11am), 4th Sunday (9am)

We have had a fairly active six months since I came to be with you to share ways you might consider, and enact, for the long term future of the parish. As Delamere decided to cancel the CFA service in June the month is now free (In church terms).

This creates an excellent time to pause - reflect - and plan for the remainder of the year and beyond.

A congregation meeting has been called for Sunday 19th June after the 9am service at Yankalilla. This is an opportunity to hear how things have been going and to look at the overall goals and activities being planned for the remainder of the year.

Currently we are "Vulnerable" and working hard to "Survive". With your help we can not only survive, but "Thrive"



I hope you will make every effort to be present at this meeting so your voice can be heard.

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

Last month a rather unusual mass was held at the Anglican Church at Delamere. Acknowledging the busy lives people live these days, it was decided to combine a working bee at the cemetery with the Sunday morning service.

Parishioners came in working clothes for the service and I took the service in old jeans ready for work at the working bee. A sausage sizzle followed. PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY at its best. Check out all the photos on our web site.



Above & Right: Priestly contrasts in church AND in the real world.



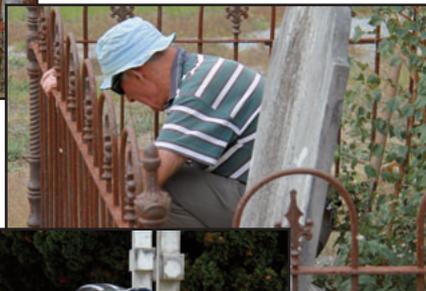
Left: John in one of his "Slacker" moments.



Right: Margaret and Jenny look on as John explores the best way to achieve this clean up.



Left: Trevor hoping he could hide and not be seen!!!! Pam made sure that didn't happen.



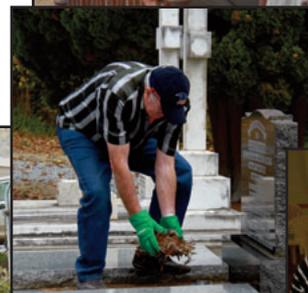
Right: Jenny showing her creativity with a broom



Gail worshipping the ground Peter walks on



Stephen ready for the next barrow load.



Above: Fr Peter proving retirement is only a name.

Below - The reward we were all hoping for and some of the crew..



DO WE GET THE BEST OUT OF WORSHIP?

If we don't then maybe we are just reading the words and not embracing them. Anglican worship is often criticized by being wordy and predictable. Just the other day I spoke with a Victorian Bishop who agreed with me regarding this and went further by saying even the baptism service needs a serious revamp to make it shorter and less wordy with a better use of symbols etc. (Visual)

Three obvious ways to enhance our worship experience rather than going through the motions are

(1) The Peace. Often this is used as an opportunity to greet EVERYONE in the church. It was NEVER intended to be used that way. It was meant to be an opportunity to remember the peace that God gives us individually, as we make our peace with him, and then to pass that 'special' peace on to those immediately around you.

It is why it is important to give 100% eye contact (with a genuine smile) to the person you are offering the peace to, so they know your offer is sincere and not simply going through the motions.

(2) The Confession. The slight change in the confession is designed so we have a real personal encounter with God. Rather than simply rapping off the confession words it is in three parts. First we are asked to pause and consider that which is not right in our life. It may well be something we know we have done wrong or it may simply be something we have omitted to do. In the 20 second pause, the way to benefit from this is simply to focus on the week past and consider ONE thing that is not right in your life at this time. Then when the lay minister says "Let us now....." This gives you time to stop your focus and prepare to say the printed words. As you say the words you will know in your heart exactly what you are asking God to forgive you for.

Consequently the confession will become a much deeper spiritual experience for you.

(3) The Service in General – Eg: Gloria, Creed, Thanksgiving prayer etc.

Each week select one of these written prayers as a special "Eucharistic Pilgrimage". Focus more fully on the words and their meaning, and maybe not even saying them aloud. Rather try to experience something of their meaning that may assist you in your Christian journey.

These are only simple things, but can be really uplifting in making your worship come alive in ways that make your meeting with the Risen Lord in the Mass so special and meaningful.

Every blessing as you make workshop something more than just attending and chatting with like minded people.

Father Max



If you are seeking a real lift in your faith, Bishop John is conducting a "Pilgrimage" to the Holy Land in June 2017. 19 Days all inclusive \$5950.(includes airfares) Further details in the church foyer or on line at www.anglicantours.com.au