# Saint Chad's | Echo

The Quarterly Magazine of the Anglican Parish of Fullarton



## February 2018— May 2018

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## Services...

### Sunday Worship:

8:00am Said Holy Communion (followed by morning tea)

**Sung Communion Service** (Informal setting with hymns, songs and Sunday School during School Terms)

11.30am 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month [during school terms] YOGA CHURCH for all ages Incorporating Meditation & Movement to prayer.

4th Sunday of the month **Healing Service** with Communion (Informal setting with hymns, songs and Sunday School during School Terms)

#### Weekday Worship:

Thursdays - 9:30am Please note time change Morning Prayer with reserved sacrament.



And we are off! I must admit I

that has bolted out from the barrier and is running as fast

as it can to the finish line, which for me will be Easter. There seems to have been no time to savour Christmas celebrations, ponder the New Year or wind down in the holidays, as the season of Lent is fast upon us!

This year we will continue with the same format that we ran last year. We will have a Lenten Bible Study during our Sunday services and will be journeying with Julian of Norwich. Meriel Wilson and I will be co-leading this study and it will be an opportunity to not only learn about the person and writings of Julian but to engage with each other about matters of faith and how they link with our world today. Peter Ward and Cathy Caird will also be holding their Lenten Evensong and we will once again have our Women's High Tea in the Garden to celebrate Mothering Sunday. [Please see page 7 for Lent & Easter dates & service/event times] **Solar Panels** 

At our last Parish Council meeting, it was agreed in principle that we should move towards Solar Power with a budget of approx \$10k. This would enable an 8.64 KW system (32 panels @ 270w), producing roughly 35 kwh per day. Our current daily usage is approx 42 kwh per day. This means that the solar electricity generated during

the day would largely cater for the daytime needs of the Parish. After receiving quotes feel like a horse from five Solar companies John Bryant met with Craig Lovell of Battery Solar Solutions. His company came highly recommended by Andrew Clarkson. John was very impressed with his attention to detail and we have accepted his quote of \$10,840. The council also decided to put a beguest from Val Bickley and John Mills family towards the cost of the panels. A generous family have also paid the deposit, so we are halfway to paying for the installations of these panels. Further fundraising will occur during the year as we don't want to eat into our capital. If you would like to contribute to the cost of these panels please speak with me. **Vestry Reports & vision for** this year.

Please take the time to read the vestry reports that have been included with this copy of the Echo. Whilst the Parish Council will continue to focus and build upon the goals that we set for ourselves in 2017, the main area of focus will be increasing our Sunday attendance. Many parishioners have spoken to me about their disappointment in the low numbers at our Sunday worship services. Julie is concerned about the low numbers attending Sunday School and the 2017 stats that Nigel has prepared for the Vestry report show that we are in decline. If we do not address this issue as a parish, we will become less attractive to new members and we risk becoming unviable.

I say this to not scare you but to ask for your assistance in once again growing this church. The easiest way that this can be done is to invite others to our church services. If you have any ideas or suggestions please speak with me. Likewise, if you have concerns about how worship is being conducted and led, which you think are hindering our growth please also speak honestly with me.



One way I'm hoping to grow our community is via our new service, Yoga Church, which will resume on the second and fourth Sundays of this year commencing on Sunday, February 25th. Please let others know about this service or come along and join in this new form of worship.

#### **Blessings from Tracey**



**Annual Vestry** Meeting

#### Sunday, March 18th

Please refer to the attached Vestry papers and come to our Vestry Meeting at the conclusion of the 9.30am service to contribute to the future planning and developments at St Chad's.

## **Photos from Christmas**

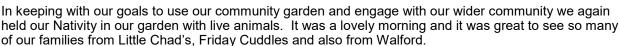
Live Nativity, Carols not in the garden [due to rain], Nativity Bingo [7pm Christmas Eve Service] & Christmas Day Balloon Talk



## Children's, Youth & Outreach Ministry

#### In the Children's Room

As usual, the fourth term was spent preparing for Christmas and learning the Christmas story. We had a great time making decorations and preparing props for the nativity play. We set up the mannequins that we had prepared last year and made a few improvements and we also made an angel and a sheep out of wooden logs.







Eliza Rayner enjoying the petting zoo.



Little Chad's mum, Claire with daughter El at our Nativity Play.



Scarlett from Little Chads also joined in the fun!



Amy—A Walford teacher with her son

It was a very successful morning but wouldn't have been possible without the teams of people that came early to help set up the seating and sound system, pack away all the chairs and numerous other jobs, including supplying morning tea and brunch. Thank you all for your support.

#### Little Chad's

Our music, story and play time for children under five continued with 8-12 children attending each week. Each term we have a theme, the theme for last term was favourite stories and nursery rhymes. A highlight was the last day of Term, when the children all came dressed in Christmas outfits and we had a party-like atmosphere. Some of our children will be going to school in 2017 and some parents are returning to work, so numbers may be down. We continue to advertise at local community centres, libraries and pre schools. We are grateful that Jo Mintern continues to lead the program with her beautiful voice.

# Child care during Friday Pilates classes VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

The Pilates Child Care Group needs one or two more volunteers.

What: helping mind pre-school children, toddlers and babies.

Where: in the children's room and children's garden in fine weather.

When: one or two Friday mornings each school term 9:15-11:30 am

The mothers have pilates classes in the Parish Centre and make a gold coin donation for child care. We use this money to buy resources for the children's room. The children can do craft activities, play or have a story.

Volunteers only need a Police clearance and a free Friday morning once or twice per term. Please let Julie know if you are interested.

#### **Youth Group**

We continued our combined group with St Chad's, Rosefield and Glenunga Uniting Church led by Lochy Culpit from Glenunga. The final session was held at St Chads and the youth made Chocolate Truffles and White Christmas cups which they took back to the their Church and sold to the congregations on Sunday morning. We are pleased to report that we raised enough funds to donate two goats to Tear Australia and the third world communities they support.

Julie Ascher-Ellis

#### New Initiative-

Deanery once again joins forces to create a combined youth group.

Dave Macdougall, who was appointed as the Parish Priest of St Saviour's in 2017 contacted parishes to see if we were interested in starting a ski boat ministry. On Friday 19th January [in 41 degrees heat!] over 20 youth were driven by bus to Bowhilll for a skiing day. Parish clergy were supervisors and Mark and Carol, Parishioners from St Michael's, Mitcham, generously offered their boat, shack and catered for the event! If was a great day [with no sunburn or major injuries!] with many youth saying they would like to have a repeat session. It is hoped that in the winter months the group will continue to meet and form a community called 'Charity Church' where the emphasis will be on service.



Tahlia Drillas & friend Emma getting ready to have their first go on the kneeboard.

## **Two Special Events**



On Saturday 23rd December Nigel Daw married his soul mate Judith at a private ceremony. A small gathering of family attended this lovely celebration and it was a privilege and honour to be asked to conduct this marriage ceremony.

Since starting at Walford I have made many lovely friends, but one of the closest relationships I have made is with Mark Degaris, who is now retired. Mark [even though he had a love hate relationship with the church] encouraged me in my ministry by always positively commenting on the talks and services that I held. He then offered to play at our teachers service so we could sing hymns, which many people appreciated. He was the person who asked if we could form a prayer group which grew into a meditation group which still meets at St Chad's on a weekly basis. He was a key person who gave me the idea to run a

LGBTIQ service last year and he became an active member of our planning team. Mark has attended Christmas and Easter services and is now enjoying coming to St Chad's for Yoga Church. He has been with his beautiful partner Karl for 23 years and without deliberately setting out to do so, decided to marry. In Mark's speech he said he would have liked nothing more than for Gary Hillman and myself to conduct the service and to receive the church's blessing which unfortunately cannot occur. So in place of this Mark asked me to be his witness at the Registry Office which again was a privilege and an honour. They were the first gay men to be married on the first legal day for same sex people to be married.

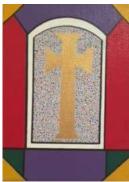


The service was held on January 11th. It was a lovely ceremony with a small group of friends and family attending, who were so happy to witness and celebrate the love that Mark and Karl have for each other. The day began with a limo ride [a present from the staff at Walford] to the registry office concluded with celebratory nibbles and drinks in a private room at the Arkaba.





## **Prayers to share**



St Chads has many talented and gifted people who contribute to our parish life and included in this long list of people are those who prepare our Sunday intercessions.

Many people have commented on how these are beautifully written and have even asked for a book!

This year The Echo will include a selection of these prayers, so that you can not only read them but could choose to use them in your private prayer time.

Lord God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, on this day and in this place, with awe and gratitude, we acknowledge your presence with us.

Remind us that you are with us always wherever we go, whoever we are with and whatever we do. We pray this morning for all people everywhere affected by natural disasters, civil conflicts or war. We pray for the people of Afghanistan and other countries where suicide bombers enact their deadly deeds as we continue to pray for, and work for, peace in the world.

#### GOD OF LOVE

And we pray for the people who have experienced trauma and devastation in their lives. Bless everyone actively involved in helping all those affected as they try to recover from the heartbreaking devastation. Surround everyone affected by these disaster with kindness, comfort and hope for the future.

#### GOD OF LOVE

We pray for all Australian Defence Force personnel on active service here in Australia on peacekeeping duties overseas. We pray too for all those providing pastoral care to them; bless them and keep them safe. We pray for their families as they struggle with worry and anxiety; grant them the courage and the faith to cling to hope.

#### GOD OF LOVE

We continue to pray this morning for the peoples of Sudan and South Sudan. Bring peace to their troubled lands as we join them in their hopes for a positive future where the ravages of war become a thing of the past. Give them the faith and fortitude to forgive their enemies and forge a new and noble future. We commit ourselves to remember in our daily prayers the people in our sister diocese of Juba. We continue to pray for all those who have been bereaved during the long years of war; for families trying to rebuild their lives and for the children still suffering from the effects of what happened to them, their families and their friends. Comfort, sustain and surround them with loving and healing friendships. We ask that much be given to those who have lost so much, and that You lighten the darkness of those who despair.

#### GOD OF LOVE

We pray for the church worldwide, infuse the leadership with sound judgement and inspire all Christians everywhere to be true to the example given to us by Jesus Christ. Where there are divisions, we ask that You sow the seeds of tolerance and understanding. We pray for our Archbishop and for all clergy in the Adelaide diocese, especially Tracey as she continues to lead us on our spiritual journey.

May the future of the parish be filled with blessed hope as we all strive to become more of who we aspire to be. Inspire us to acts of kindness and concern for each other. GOD OF LOVE

We pray for all who are suffering, those in physical or mental pain, and those who are terminally ill. Surround them with your love and light and support and sustain all the people providing care for them. We pray for those who have been recently bereaved and for those who mourn; comfort them as they grieve. We pray particularly for those we have been asked to remember in our prayers today. GOD OF LOVE

We pray for ourselves and for each other.

We acknowledge that you called the rich to travel towards poverty, the wise to embrace folly, The powerful to know their frailty; who gave to strangers a sense of homecoming in an alien land and to stargazers true light and vision as they bowed to earth.

We lay ourselves open to your signs to us stir up within us a holy discontent over a world which gives its gifts to those who have plenty already whose talents are obvious, whose power is recognised. and help us both to share our resources with those who have little and to receive with humility the gifts they bring to us and make us restless till we journey forth to seek our rest in you

Finally, Gracious God, support us all the day long until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done then Lord in your mercy grant us safe lodging a holy rest, and peace at last, through Jesus Christ our Lord AMEN



I probably do not even need to include the name of the person who wrote these prayers as those who attend St Chad's will know by the closing prayer that they are **Meriel Wilson's**, for she always concludes with the prayer for Holy Rest! The hand-painted stained glass cross was a Christmas gift to me from **Annabel Barret** which was too lovely not to share with you!

A simple and short prayer compiled by Joyce Rupp and one that I use as I start each day is:

God, open my mind to recall your presence. Open my mouth to speak your wisdom. Open my heart to share your love Open my hands to serve you generously Open my whole being to you.

Amen

You may like to touch your forehead, lips, heart and open your hands as you say each line, then conclude with making the sign of the cross.

## **More thoughts on Early Christianity**

#### Preamble:

How did you go with "Homework" for the article in the last edition of "The Echo"? Did you *'spot the differences'* between the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds? Answer: The Apostles' Creed **omits** the following –

"For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,"



#### Apostolic stream and Pauline stream of Christianity

You *may* have been surprised to learn that the Gospels were created originally for use in the liturgy of synagogue services in Judea in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century CE (common era). Acts of the Apostles and, later, the Gospel of John also came from the same *Apostolic stream* background of Jewish Christians, led originally by St James, Jesus' brother. This "stream" was also responsible for the (2<sup>nd</sup> Century) Apostles' Creed.

Some content of the Gospel writings, for example, Matthew's reporting of the Jewish mob's response to Pilate's attempt to release Jesus –

"His blood be upon us and upon our children" [Matthew 27:25]

did not endear the Apostolic sect to the conservative/traditional Jewish leaders who officially **expelled** them in 88 CE. However, this did not end the presence of Jewish Christians in synagogue congregations, where they always found a welcome. (You don't abandon 'old friends' just because the leaders tell you to!) At the same time it seems they joined Gentile congregations as an "underground" membership, where they were able to participate in Christian rituals such as the Eucharist and Baptism.

How do we know this? Because in Antioch in the late 4<sup>th</sup> Century, the priest John Chrysostom, a saint in the Christian Church and one of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century Church Fathers, complained that "...the synagogues are full of Christians on Sabbath and Jewish celebration days". His passionate disapproval led him to challenge his congregation: "Choose between Christianity and Judaism" an appeal which he supported with eight homilies entitled "Against the Jews", each one taking more than one hour to deliver! The evidence is that Chrysostom's anti-semitic homilies were not greatly heeded and a particularly Jewish-influenced Christianity continued through the centuries up to the present day.

Reverting, now, back to the middle years of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century, we recognise Paul as the 'driving force' in carrying the gospel of Jesus Christ – as he interpreted it – to the Gentiles. He was so successful in this mission that, in time, the number of 'converts' to Christianity influenced by Paul's theology far exceeded those introduced to the faith by the *Apostolic stream*.

Paul was a Jew of impeccable credentials: these are set out in Acts 22: 3. So why is he is remembered as the "greatest missionary to the Gentiles"? Acts of the Apostles tells us that, originally, he joined the Apostles in their gospel-preaching exclusively to Jews in the regions of Galilee, Samaria, Caesarea, Damascus, Phoenecia and Antioch.

When he struck out on his own, however, it seems his preaching to Jews fell on "deaf ears". His frustration is recorded in 1 Corinthians 1: 23 ".....but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles....". How can this be explained?

The Hebrews had progressed their ideas of God and spirituality over the centuries from the Garden of Eden myth - under the influence of the Prophets - reaching something of a zenith in terms of sin and redemption in the writing of Micah –

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has told you, O Mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you But to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" [Micah 6: 6 – 8].

Paul's preaching took the issue of sin back to God's punishment of Adam – the "Fall" – and "Redemption" through Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary. Not surprisingly, Jews rejected Paul's gospel, so he turned to the Gentiles with great success. His followers continued the "orthodoxy" he had established, expressing it ultimately in the theology adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Century Church Fathers – the Nicene Creed.

Thousands of years have passed since Micah's exhortation, but there are many Christians today who also see it as a zenith in terms of sin and redemption. It is surely an inspiring model of behaviour and thought.

**John Argue and Friends** 

## **The Season of Lent**

Services, Social Events & Lenten Evensong



Shrove Tuesday 13th February

6pm Pancake Tea at the Parish Centre. All welcome. Cost \$5.



Ash Wednesday 14th February

5.30pm. Communion with imposition of ashes.



St Chads Day Sunday Service 4th March



Mothering Sunday 11th March



with Peter Ward & Cathy Caird Tuesday 20th February — 27th March @ 6.30pm in the Narthex.

### **Easter Services**



## 29th March @ 7 pm

Join us to reflect on the Last Supper with Jesus, including its special traditions.



## 30th March @ 9 am

Reflective and powerful service for adults followed by...

\*\*Good Friday 4 Kids @ 10.30 am\*\*

for ages 4-12, an activity based service where children walk with Jesus to the cross and beyond. A shared morning tea of hot cross buns follows this service.



## 1st April

6.00 am

Traditional Easter morning Service.
Followed by a free breakfast.
NO 8am SERVICE
9.30 am

All Age Service with Communion concluding with an Easter Egg hunt.

# Spiritual Spa Days @ St Chad's



Afternoons to stop and engage with your God

**2018 Diary Dates** 

Saturday, February 17th Saturday, May 26th Saturday, August 25th Saturday, November 17th 2pm-4.30pm

Come for some of it,
come for all of it
There are usually
five innovative stations
for you to move around freely
as you wish.
All stations are designed to help
you engage with God through
either sight, sound, touch,
smell, or movement

Afternoon tea is provided No need to book—just turn up!

If you would like any more information please contact Pam Bentley 8338 1260 or Cathy Caird 0419816397.



## St Mary Magdalene Drop-In Centre Dates for 2018

As many of you would be aware St Chad's, along with St Oswald's Parkside, provide meals and kitchen help at the St Mary Magdalene Drop-In Centre in Moore Street in the city 3-4 times each year. The drop-in centre is run by The Collective of St Mary Magdalene, a volunteer group who run this on a Saturday night for the homeless, and participate in other social justice activities. St Chad's is asked to provide 50 serves of soup, main course and dessert each time and alternate times bread, margarine, milk and ice-cream. Also we need to provide 4 helpers for the kitchen on the night. If you are a helper, you need to arrive at St Mary Mags by 5pm and you are usually finished by 8:30pm. We heat up the food, serve it, wash-up (there is a commercial dishwasher) and clean up. It is a busy night, but fun and rewarding as well.

The dates that St Chad's has been given this year are March 3rd, May 5th & October 13th.

There will be rosters for these dates in the Narthex. Can you please put your name on these if you would like to help.

If you have any questions please give me a call on 0418 843 288.

Venessa Clarkson



## Other Special Services & Events Diary Dates for 2018

Please see other advertisements for services and events on page 7 and the Weekly News for more detail closer to the service or event.

Sunday, March 4th

Wednesday, March7th

Sunday, March 19th

Saturday, March 24th

Sunday, April 29th

Wednesday, May 16th

Friday, June 15th

Sunday, August TBC

Sunday, September 16th

Saturday, September 23rd

Sunday, September 30th

Sunday, October 21st

Saturday, November 3rd

Sunday, December 9th

Sunday, December 16th

Wednesday, December 19th

St Chad's Day

Men's Dinner @ The Arkaba

**Vestry Meeting** 

High Tea in the Garden

Taize Service [one service only]

Lunch @ the Rectory

Quiz Night

The Cabaret

Archbishop's Visit to St Chads

Parish Breakfast & Service [one service only]

Taize Service [one service only]

Bless your Pets Service [one service only]

The FAYRE

**Our Nativity Play** 

Carols in our community garden

Christmas Lunch @ the Parish Centre

# St Chad's Directory

#### **Nursing Home Ministry:**

Monthly services are taken at: Southern Cross Homes Fullarton Lutheran Home Carinya Nursing Home Please contact the priest for details.

#### **Other Pastoral Services:**

- Thanksgiving for the birth of a child
- Baptisms
- Blessing of a relationship
- Weddings
- House blessing
- Prayers for specific needs
- Ministry of reconciliation (confession)
- · Spiritual direction
- Quiet days and retreats
- Home Communion for the sick
- Anointing for the sick or dying
- Funerals

#### Other Parish Activities:

Sunday School Julie Ascher-Ellis 8379 7825

The Prayer Ring

Wendy Retsas 8276 5021

**Youth Group** 

Tracey Gracey 0417 899 603

Little Chad's

Julie Ascher-Ellis 8379 7825

#### **Parish Priest:**

Rev'd Tracey Gracey Ph: 0417 899 603

Email: graceyfam@iprimus.com.au

**Postal Address** 

St Chad's Anglican Church PO Box 306 Highgate SA 5063

#### **Parish Contacts:**

Parish Office

Ph: 8271 4044

stchads@adam.com.au

Priest's Warden

Gay Gardner

Ph: 8271 5236

People's Warden

Meriel Wilson Ph: 8271 8140

Ph: 82/1 8140

**Administration Assistant** Josephine Prosser

Ph: 8271 4872

Parish Treasurer

Andrew Brown

Ph: 8373 6008