



# The Grapevine

Volume 14, Issue 2  
July 2012 to October 2012

## From Our Locum

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and a prayer

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And (of course) A few laughs

### SHARING MINISTRY

I continue to enjoy ministering amongst you as your Acting Vicar and am very grateful for all who share ministry at Holy Trinity. This part-time ministry involves me in planning and conducting worship on Sundays and on Wednesdays and in developing pastoral relationships, especially visiting regular and not-so-regular parishioners in their homes who are often feeling the loneliness of infirmity.

But one person cannot fulfill all the things that need to be attended to in parish life, especially on a limited time schedule. The various tasks are shared. I am impressed with the number of people at Holy Trinity who give of their time, energy and talents, in sharing the total ministry of the parish.

A community of faith, called the Church, is rightly named as family where each member shares in the common life and as an expression of this togetherness undertakes to share in the tasks that need to be performed to make the family viable and to keep it functioning well.

The efforts of shared parish ministry are part of what has been called 'the explosion of ministry' where priest and people share a common life to make for a wider and more diverse church.

No longer does the priest think of himself as 'the boss' and lay people, so called, toeing the line. *continued page 3*

#### Like to Contact Us?

[www.holytrinityhampton.org.au](http://www.holytrinityhampton.org.au)

#### Our Locum Vicar is:

Fr. Barry Martin  
ph. 9592 1010

#### Our Parish Secretary is:

Jill Esplan  
ph. 9598 4239  
[jesplan@netspace.net.au](mailto:jesplan@netspace.net.au)

#### Our Wardens are:

Tony Mayor, Glenn Adams  
and Richard Pennington.

#### Our Vestry Members are:

Caroline Aikins, Bill Appelbe,  
Linda Barry, Andrew Esplan,  
Martin Turner and  
Greg Wolfenden

## From Our Social Committee

Our New Social Committee comprising Andrew Esplan, Greg Wolfenden, Caroline Aikins, Ann Mayor and Jill Esplan held their first meeting in May over a delicious dinner cooked by Andrew.

They have come up with the following dates for your diaries and it is hoped you will come along to as many of the social events and fundraisers as possible. *Please RSVP either on the list in the narthex, or emailing Jill Esplan on [jesplan@netspace.net.au](mailto:jesplan@netspace.net.au)*

**Tuesday, July 31 - 7.30pm RSVP Sun 29/7**

**\*\* Secret Men's Business Dinner**  
at The Brown Cow, Hampton

**Sunday, August 12, 2pm-4pm**  
**Moorabbin Ten Pin Bowl**  
*RSVP Sun 5/8*

**September, Sunday Afternoon**

Date to be confirmed  
Movie Outing at The Dendy, Brighton  
to see the new Kath and Kim movie  
**Kath and Kinderella**

**Saturday, November 17 - 7pm**  
**Parish Progressive Dinner**  
No Spit Roast in the Hall this year as we've decided to have casseroles for the main course at the Esplans.

\*\* Please note, the Secret Men's Business Dinner is now for all the men of the parish, not just those who are still working, so please come along for a meal, a chat, and lots of laughs.

If you have any ideas for social activities that would suit either the whole parish together, or certain age groups, then please contact the Parish Secretary, Jill Esplan and she will pass it on to the Social Committee.



## The Ladies' Study Group

On the third Tuesday evening of each month, 9 or 10 ladies meet to study the Old Testament book of Esther. Our study guide breaks up the book into 8 sessions, so we are half way through. It's been most satisfying to learn about one of the prominent women of the Bible.

We had to get our heads into Ancient Near Eastern culture to understand the political crisis faced by Queen Esther and the Jewish people. Having lived among the Persians, had they lost their unique identity as God's people, and compromised their faith? Applying the study to life in our society, we talked about how we might inadvertently compromise our Christian principles.

Another point of discussion has been the role of Providence – God's hand – in the way events unfolded in the story. Was it all predetermined? The Bible makes clear that the Babylonian exile had been engineered by God. So we talked about God's way of bringing us individually, and maybe our church, to decision points. Crises can make or break us.

President Obama receiving a copy of the Book of Esther from Israeli PM Netanyahu, as a political message, was an intriguing coincidence of timing for our study. We noted that often the Bible is applied mischievously and inappropriately.

We take turns to host and facilitate an evening. Everyone contributes to the discussion. At the end of each evening someone reads out a prayer relevant to the theme of the study. We've learned a lot, got to know each other better and had fun too. Other women of Holy Trinity, friends and neighbours, are welcome to join us.

*by Janice Newham*  
*Ladies' study group facilitator*

## From Our Locum Vicar *(cont)*

Rather the priest is the enabler, the facilitator, or the encourager in helping forward this shared enterprise. Another way of stating this is to say that the role of the Vicar or the priest is to enable the church members to become a priestly people – to live out their priesthood as God's people.

This is not the same as suggesting that all are priests, rather it draws on the biblical notion that as church we are the body of Christ – the shared task which is to draw others toward Christ – the human face of God. When we learn to work together it enables new visions to arise, social boundaries to be crossed and worship to become as sacrament of a common expression of life dedicated to God and to one another. In this way the reign of God is demonstrated, even when it begins only as a mustard seed.

May we be conscious of Christ's enabling Spirit and encouragement as we seek to be faithful stewards of the ministry gifts with which he has endowed us.

I include a prayer written by a parishioner in a previous parish in which I served which I hope expresses the thoughts and prayers for Holy Trinity, both for the present and for the future.

*Barry Martin*

### ***A Prayer for Us at Holy Trinity.***

*Dear God, we have felt the fruits of your Spirit stirring within us. We find ourselves, the community of Holy Trinity, growing in faith, looking to new ventures and new challenges, looking for new ways to touch the hearts of others with your love.*

*We are trusting that the future will uncover new ways to extend and deepen our community. Help us to grow in faith as we seek the direction in which you want us to grow.*

*Help us to listen to you, to each other and the communities beyond our church door. May we seek your voice at all times and work in accordance with your will. Give us the courage and insight we need to complete the old and to begin the new and to truly bear fruit in your name.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord in whom we put our trust today, tomorrow and always.*

***Amen.***

## **Ha! Ha! Ha! from Ann Mayor**

A Priest was being honored at his retirement dinner after 35 years in the parish. A leading local politician and member of the congregation was chosen to make the presentation and to give a little speech at the dinner.

However, he was delayed, so the Priest decided to say his own few words while they waited: 'I got my first impression of the parish from the first confession I heard here. I thought I had been assigned to a terrible place. The very first person who entered my confessional told me he had stolen a television set and, when questioned by the police, was able to lie his way out of it. He had stolen money from his parents, embezzled from his employer, had an affair with his boss's wife and taken illegal drugs. I was appalled. But as the days went on I learned that my people were not all like that and I had, indeed, come to a fine parish full of good and loving people.'

Just as the Priest finished his talk, the politician arrived full of apologies at being late. He immediately began to make the presentation and gave his talk: 'I'll never forget the first day our parish Priest arrived,' said the politician. 'In fact, I had the honor of being the first person to go to him for confession.'

Moral: Never, Never, Never Be Late!

## Sunday School News

**Term 2** has finished and we have been studying the **Story of Creation, including Adam and Eve, and the Garden of Eden.**

The children painted, sketched and drew very detailed drawings to tell the story of the creation and these have been decorating our narthex for most of the term.

We talked in terms of "First, God created..." rather than "On the First Day, God created..." Back in our Sunday School room, they have created a beautiful Garden of Eden with all sorts of different plants, flowers and trees - even a snake all the way from Queensland arrived when we covered how the snake tempted Eve and then Adam to eat from the tree of Knowledge against God's express instructions.

In **Term 3**, for the first three weeks we will be celebrating "**Christmas in July**". We will be making beautiful Christmas Cards, many of which will be printed professionally and sold to our parishioners as the children's contribution to the Parish Fundraising towards mission giving. The originals will also be sold too.

So please don't go buying your Christmas Cards from the various charities just yet - wait and see what we produce around mid - August.

The following items, if you have them, would be handy to bring along:

- ★ plastic Christmas Stencils,
- ★ front covers of old Christmas cards that have brightly coloured objects on them, eg wrapped presents, baubles, trees, santas, stars, etc.
- ★ thick paper eg 110 -120 gsm, or cardboard
- ★ remnants of christmas wrapping

We will also be preparing to "run" (get it?) the **Olympic Sunday family service at 10am on Sunday, August 26.** It is a non-communion service requiring lots of audience participation and the Sunday School kids will need to help organise the congregation.

It would be a real help if they could all come along on **August 19**, ie the Sunday before,

so they know what they will need to do the following Sunday during the service.

It's been fantastic having healthier numbers at Sunday School in term 2 including friends of kids that normally attend. They are all very welcome.

So, here's a CREATION challenge for all of you - adults and kids alike.

Find as many words as you can in the letters below. Go from left to right

### GODDAYSEEDENSEASONSFOWLAIRBEAST

I'll give you the first one - it's "GOD".

Now if you can find another 19 that's very good! If you can find another 5 on top of that - that's excellent.

There's a dot-to-dot Creation Activity on the back page too.

by Jill Esplan  
Sunday School Co-ordinator.

### Ha! Ha! Ha! from Sue Gilbert

An old Italian gentleman lived alone in New Jersey. He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work as the ground was hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

*Dear Vincent, I am feeling pretty sad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days. Love, Papa.*

A few days later he received a letter from his son.

*Dear Papa, Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried. Love, Vinnie.*

At 4am the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologised to the old man and left. That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

*Dear Papa. Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances. Love you, Vinnie.*

## Beautiful, beautiful concert.

On Sunday afternoon, June 17, about 60 of us gathered at Holy Trinity to hear what churches are made for – the beauty and richness of unaccompanied, harmonizing human voices.

We came to hear **The Australian Voices Six** which is the smaller offshoot of their normal large chamber choir, The Australian Voices. Their appearance at Holy Trinity was almost at the end of their 96-performance touring schedule but you would never have known, given their enthusiasm and energy. Led by conductor Gordon Hamilton, the six singers covered a range of choral music from the sacred to the syncopated, from Indian-infused jazz scat to Internet Facebook updates. They sang in Latin, German, Slavic, English, and Indigenous languages. Some of us in the audience even had the pleasure of singing with them.

Prior to their performance ten of us (including **Lesley Keenan, Ann Mayor, Lyndall Biggar, Shirley Keen** and me from Holy Trinity) were put through a warm up and then practiced a motet by Mozart, *Ave verum corpus*. Luckily this is a piece most of us have heard and possibly even sung previously. After a number of run throughs where we brushed up on our Latin pronunciation and remembered how to look up at and follow the conductor, we were ready for our part in the general performance. Needless to say, it helped immeasurably to have the real singers leading us on (backing us up?) as we sang this beautiful piece of sacred music.

Afterwards, there was time to talk with the singers and purchase one or more of their cd's. I bought one of the sacred music – a terrific balm to my frazzled nerves in the car during peak hour traffic. Holy Trinity received \$100 as a percentage of their sales but those of us who went received a blessing in song that we will all treasure. Hopefully, Holy Trinity will be on their schedule next year so that we can hear them again, and I urge anyone who missed this performance to move heaven and earth to attend. For more information on The Australian Voices, go to

[www.theaustralianvoices.com](http://www.theaustralianvoices.com) or [facebook.com/theaustralianvoices](https://facebook.com/theaustralianvoices) or phone 1 300 657 974.

by Carolyn Appelbe

### Ha! Ha! Ha! from Ryan Pavel

In Florida, an atheist created a case against Easter and Passover Holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!"

The lawyer immediately stood and objecting to the ruling saying, "Your honor, How can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others.

The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays..."

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, "But you do. Your client, counselor, is woefully ignorant."

The lawyer said, "Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1<sup>st</sup> is April Fool's Day. Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that, if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1<sup>st</sup> is his day.

Court is adjourned..."

*You got to love a Judge that knows his scripture!*

## What's Been Happening Lately?

### Easter

Many thanks to Fr. Barry for struggling along during Holy Week with a really heavy cold. He even endured daily injections to ensure his voice would be right for Easter Eve and Day - his doctor acknowledging that if ever his medicine had to work - it needed to be that week for Fr. Barry.

Services were attended at about the same level as 2011, although the Easter Eve congregation almost doubled in size!

It was a pleasure to join with the other Christian Churches in Hampton each night Monday to Thursday during Holy Week and to meet the new Priest at St. Mary's church, Fr. Anjou.

Parish Secretary, Jill Esplan, was a little worried about Fr. Barry, so warned Fr. Anjou after the Tuesday night service at St. Mary's that he may well be needed to take the Wednesday Night service at Holy Trinity if Fr. Barry showed no sign of improving!

### Pentecost

The congregation was dressed in red, orange and yellow on Sunday, May 27 to celebrate the festival of Pentecost which occurs 50 days after Easter Day.

At the service we wear these fiery colours to imitate the fire of the Holy Spirit coming into our lives when we become Christians.

### Rosters

It's always great when new people volunteer to go on our Parish Roster as it helps to share the jobs around and indicates a willingness to belong to our Parish Family.

The new roster came out at the start of May, and we had 5 new helpers on it!

**Jasmine Godson** and **Sarah Saint-John** are two new bell ringers, their mums **Sue** and **Anjie** respectively have joined the reading roster and **Sue Godson** has also volunteered to be a server, and **Emma Buchanan-Jeffs** volunteered to assist as a Sunday School leader. *Thank you all of you!*

### Trinity Sunday

As usual, Trinity Sunday was celebrated a week after Pentecost, on June 3. Vestry decided to have just the one service that day at 10am so the whole parish could be together at 10am when **Bishop Peter Hollingworth**, former Governor General of Australia, was our guest preacher.

The service was followed by a Cake, Slice, Jam and Chutney sale which raised **\$262** and a parish BBQ. Many thanks to **Ann Mayor, Kate Walker and Jill Esplan** for supplying the salads, **Linda Barry** for supplying the onions and to **Glenn Adams** for cooking the sausages.

Thank you also to all our chefs who brought along their delicious goodies for the stall.

### Where's Wally ..... or Walette?

The search for a new Vicar continues by our Incumbency Committee, and the Vicarage is being spruced up both inside and outside in readiness.

Thank you to **Tony Mayor, Martin Turner and Margaret Tripp** for their work on the Incumbency Committee and to **Tony, Glenn Adams, Merridee French, Greg Wolfenden and many others** who are working on the Vicarage and its garden.

#### **Letter to the Editor**

#### **Greetings from Heyfield**

Mark and I are well as is Tess. The Parish is going well and the people are very loving and welcoming here and I know value my ministry. I have had 3 funerals so far (2 parishioners) and 1 wedding and 2 baptisms. We are also just beginning confirmation classes for 4 people

(1 adult and 3 teenagers) and we are later in the year going to have First Communion classes for 2 young starters already! The Parish hasn't had a confirmation class for many years and only one ever First Communion for one person!

The Bishop, Vicar General, Registrar and Diocesan Staff have been very supportive. Give my Love and Best Wishes to all at Holy Trinity.

Fr. David.

## What's Coming Up?

These are in addition to the ones already listed by the Social Committee on page 2

## Dates for Your Diary.

### Fellowship Lunches

Unfortunately, very few people have been attending the Fellowship Group's lunches so it has been decided to discontinue them on a regular basis.

If you still like having lunch every now and again, please speak to Rosina Sullivan..

### Olympic Sunday

The Sunday School leaders and children invite you, your family and friends to come along at **10am on Sunday, August 28** to their inaugural "Olympic Sunday" Family service. This is replacing our annual "Football Sunday" service and you should be able to guess why. The service will not have communion, and the Band will be playing.

You are invited to come along dressed up in your team's colours (football- if you can't bear it not being Football Sunday, or your country's colours to get in the swing of the Olympics) and a gold coin donation will be required if you don't make some effort in dressing up ie more than just a scarf!)

### Back To Church Sunday

On **Sunday, September 9**, invite someone along who either hasn't been to church for a while or who you think might like to come along and see

how we worship at Holy Trinity.

Back to Church Sunday is an annual Anglican event throughout Australia, the whole purpose of which is to help the church connect and reconnect with people.

If each of you brought along just one person, then we would have perhaps 30 people at 8am and 100 at 10am! Wouldn't that be wonderful?

### Stewardship Sunday

Our annual Stewardship Sunday will be on **Sunday, September 16** where you are invited to pledge your financial support of the Parish. The information packs and pledge form will be available at the end of August so you will have time to read them and then consider what your pledge might be.

### Pet Sunday

The Sunday School Leaders and children invite you to bring along your favourite furry, feathered, scaly or hairy friends for a special blessing

**at 10am on Sunday, October 21**

This service will also not have communion.

### Regional Bishop to Visit

Gosh, a former Governor-General in June and now the Southern Region Bishop, Paul White, is coming to visit on

**Sunday, October 28.**

He will be preaching at both services.

If we can find both of these high rankers, surely we can find a simple Vicar.....



I saw a woman  
wearing a T-shirt  
with "Guess" on it.  
So I said "Implants?"  
She hit me.

**From the Parish Register**

**Baptisms**

*An interesting thing to note is that both these baptisms were of mother and daughter, rather than siblings. How lovely!*

- 18/3/2012 Julia Harper  
Holly Elizabeth Harper
- 6/5/2012 Sally Grace Wilson  
Zoe Grace Lily Wilson

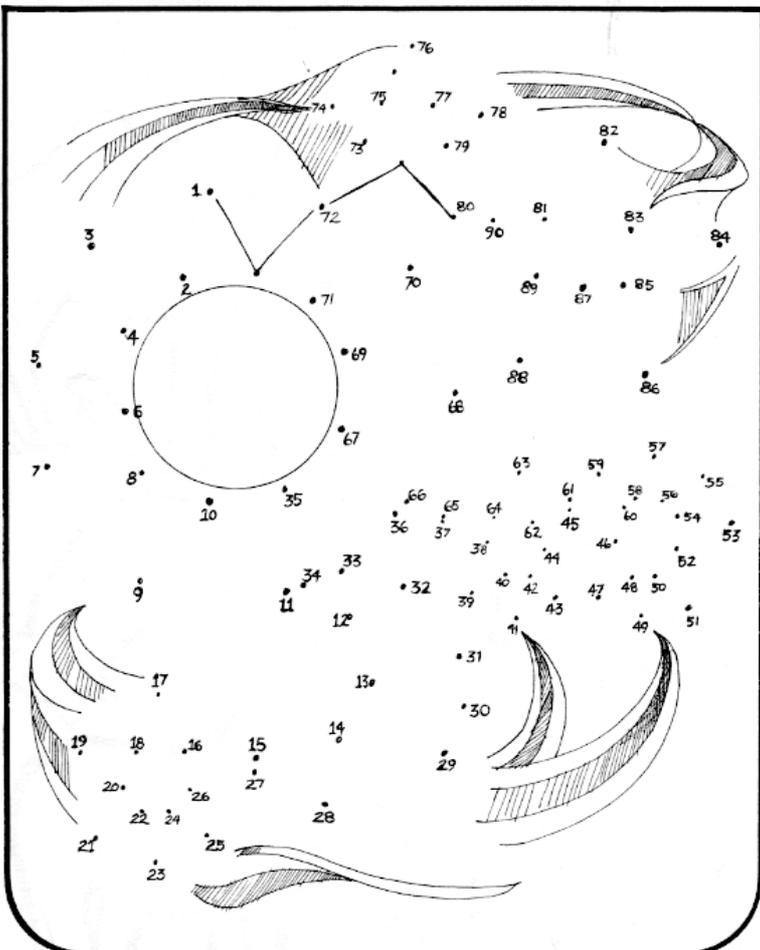
**Weddings**

Nil

**Funerals**

- 20/03/2012 Marjorie Annette Bryant
- 01/06/2012 Stephen Lennox Harris

**Sunday School Creation Activity**  
Connect the Dots, starting at 1,  
and see what  
God created fourth



**On a More Delicate Matter.....**

Whilst none of us want to dwell too much on our death, just like taxes, it is a definite in everyone's life.

Many of you give regularly both financially and physically throughout the year to help maintain our Parish and our Mission giving, and it is truly appreciated.

When you make your will, or if you already have one, please consider including a bequeath to Holy Trinity Hampton to help our Parish life and work to continue long after you have gone.

There is a leaflet available in the Narthex, or from the Secretary, Jill Esplan, which outlines the process and the wording required in the will.

The following Clause is given as a guide to alteration to your Will or codicil. You are urged, however, to consult your legal advisor who will advise as to the appropriate wording for your particular circumstances.

Bequest of Cash or a Percentage of Estate

"I GIVE AND BEQUEATH free of all duties, death, estate, succession or otherwise payable in consequence of my death -

- \* (a) .....Percentage of my estate OR
- (b) the sum of \$..... to Holy

Trinity Anglican Parish, Hampton, Victoria, to be applied for the general purposes thereof AND I DECLARE that the receipt of the Secretary or Treasurer or other proper officer or the trustee thereof shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my trustee for the payment of the said legacy and that my trustee shall not be bound to see to the application thereof."



**I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing.**

**If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place!**