

Anglican Parish of Alstonville

St Bartholomew's, Alstonville with
St Peter and St Paul's, Tregagle

11th March 2018

Mothering Sunday

Welcome to the fourth Sunday in Lent and enjoy a reprieve from your fasting and other Lenten disciplines! Mothering Sunday or Refreshment Sunday or Laetare Sunday are other names for the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Laetare means "let us praise" in Latin and is inspired by the traditional introit in Isaiah 66.10 "Rejoice all you people!"

The tradition of Mothering Sunday is for all to make a pilgrimage from their parish church to the mother church of the diocese – the cathedral - where flowers were put on the throne of the diocesan patron saint. Later, this was extended to remember earthly mothers in thanksgiving for their love and care for the family. The flowers or posies given to mothers, symbolic mothers and mothers-to-be are tokens of appreciative love for the love of God that we receive through our mothers.

Another tradition associated with Mothering Sunday/Refreshment Sunday/Laetare Sunday is the Simnel cake. There are many legends describing the origin of the Simnel cake tradition.



Please turn off your mobile phone during worship.
Please note a hearing loop is installed on the right hand side of St Barts.
Toilets are located in the front of the Hall.
First Aid Kits are located in the Church & the Hall.

"Sharing the Good Life"

One legend describes how Simon and Nell, a father and mother, terrified their children when a marital dispute erupted over what type of cake to make with leftover dried fruit; one wanted a pudding type cake and the other a fruit cake. The startled tears of their children inspired a vision and a solution. Simon and Nell decided to make two cakes and join them together with a thick paste of sweet almond or marzipan. The two cakes were then covered in icing to depict how individual tensions are conquered by the sweet love of Jesus who restores our unity with each other. The Simnel cake is sometimes decorated with a symbol of fish and bread to remember the story of the feeding of the more than 5000 or 11 balls of marzipan to represent the disciples – without Judas.

Today, before the dismissal, the celebrant will bless the cake and cut it across to show people the unity achieved in Christ's sweet love. Holding the cake – the priest then leads the church family into the parish hall where each is given a piece of cake to share in the refreshment of Christ's love on the Sunday where we have a break from our Lenten fasting and disciplines.

There are many things to celebrate on Refreshment Sunday. We celebrate the work of God through our mother church – the cathedral of Grafton. We celebrate the example of faith that the diocesan patron saint Boniface, offers. We give thanks also for Dean Greg Jenks. We celebrate the various women in our lives, our earthly mothers and spiritual mothers, through whom we have experienced love and care. While grateful for the discipline of fasting – we celebrate the Refreshment of Christ's love. Finally – we enjoy our unity as the body of Christ as we all share in a taste of Simnel cake.



Coming Soon

Sunday @ 6.00 pm

Commencing on Pentecost
Sunday 20th May

QUOTA Community Women of the Year Award—Rose Jones worked in retail till she retired. For the last nearly 15 years Rose has run the clothing part of the Alstonville Anglican OP Shop. She regularly goes beyond the role and takes things home to mend and wash. She undertakes her role with beauty and grace. Unfortunately she also still climbs a ladder too. Not bad for an 87 year old. You may remember Rose as the “Bride” on the float for the Alstonville 150 Parade.

Office Closure—The office will be closed on Friday 16th March for Finance training. Apologies for any inconvenience. Johnny Sernberg

Parish Administration—Two part-time positions have been advertised.
Ministry Administrator—provides administrative support to the Parish Priest, enabling efficient effective communication, professional delivery of worship services, compassionate pastoral care, and a safe church environment.
Parish Administrator—provides administrative and financial management in the Parish office, and represents the Parish during office opening hours.
Position Descriptions are available from Susan—0428414767.

Faculty Approvals—Certificates have been received for all three faculty applications—replacement of Inner Doors, installation of TV monitors, reconfiguration of Platform flooring. This work will commence in coming weeks. Thank you to those parishioners who indicated they would like to make a financial contribution toward the cost of these renovations.

Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain—Your well-being is important to us. Please advise the Parish Office if you are sick or in hospital, and if you would like to receive prayer through the Prayer Chain.

Men's Breakfast- Saturday 24th March, 7.30am— The women of the parish invite the men of the parish to breakfast. Tickets are \$10 and available at Friday and Sunday services, or the office. No tickets will be sold at the door. Feel free to invite friends. There will be an internationally travelled ‘mystery’ guest speaker.

2018 Mothers' Day Fete—Saturday 12 May— All the usual stalls are planned. Thanks to all those who are willing to coordinate and assist on a stall. However, the Plant stall needs a designated coordinator. Many hands make light work—more helpers always welcome. Speak to a stall coordinator or Des if you can lend a hand. Let's together make this the best Fete ever!! Des Fitzpatrick—66289014; 0408397182.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

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Associate	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
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The Anglican Op Shop	1 The Avenue, Alstonville, Tel: 6628 8777	

Easter Services @ St Bartholomew's

Palm Sunday	25th March	8:00 am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	29th March	4:30pm	Meal
		6:00pm	Holy Communion
		8:00pm	Vigil begins
Good Friday	30th March	10:00am	Vigil Concludes
		10:00am	Holy Communion
Easter Saturday	31st March	6:00pm	Family Service
Easter Sunday	1st April	8:00am	Holy Communion

Easter Sunday @ Tregagle—10.00 am

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday	12th Mar	10:00am	Manna & Mercy—Hall
		1:00pm	Sew Helpful Group—Hall
		6:30pm	Marriage Course—Hall
Tuesday	13th Mar	6:00pm	Manna & Mercy— Hall
Wednesday	14th Mar	9:00am	Meditation—St Bart's
Thursday	15th Mar	9:30am	Play Place—Hall
		6:00pm	Contemplative Church
Friday	16th Mar	10:00am	Friday Service @ St Bart's
		2:00pm	Choir Practice
		5:00pm	Music Group Practise
Sunday	18th Mar	8:00am	Holy Communion— St Bart's
		10:00am	Family Service— St Bart's

Bible Readings

11th March	John 3:14-21
18th March	John 12:20-26