

# Anglican Parish of Alstonville

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

**18th February 2018**

**"God of the desert ..."**



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"**

## **“God of the desert, you await me in places I have not yet been...”**

are the opening words of a prayer penned by John Miriam Jones. “God of the desert, you await me in places I have not yet been,” is a powerful reminder that although the wilderness is a stark place, for those with eyes to see, the abundance of God flowers in the desert.

That God awaits us in wilderness places we have not yet been is powerfully demonstrated in the Exodus story. Manna (meaning “what is it?”) appears as snowflakes in the wilderness bush and when God’s people eat manna, it satisfies them with a taste of honey.



The abundance of God’s provision in the wilderness testifies loudly that in the midst of wilderness spaces where we apparently thought God was not – God is.

In Lent we spend time in the desert, we become open and curious as to how God may surprise us in new ways.

May we continue to discover the desert in our heart. As we declutter our physical space, our mental space, our and our spiritual space may we treasure the glimpses of God’s love that

## **Collect**

God our redeemer and sustainer,  
we pray for survivors of violence, abuse and neglect.  
Give your power to the powerless,  
your fullness to the empty of spirit.  
Heal their wounds, free them from fear,  
and restore them to true health.  
Grant this through Jesus Christ,  
the crucified and risen Saviour  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever and ever. **Amen.**

# Worship events 2018

## Contemplative Church

St Bartholomew's: **Every Thursday at 6pm**

Next Service is **22nd February 2018**



## Fun Families get-together

Messy Church families and others are invited to slip n slide, splash n dash on **Sunday 25th February 2018 at 2.00pm at Paul & Lesley Earner's home**. Ask the office for details.



## World Day of Prayer

Friday 2nd March @ 1.30pm  
Uniting Church, Alstonville

**Suriname**

(northern South America)

**All God's Creation is Very Good!**



**All welcome to attend.**



## Manna and Mercy

**A brief history of God's unfolding promise  
to mend the entire universe!**

**Manna and Mercy is a journey from Genesis to Revelation. It tells the story of the God of the Bible who is active in our lives.**

**This course is designed to help you:**

1. Deepen your relationship with God.
2. Equip you with tools and knowledge to understand the Bible better.
3. Discover what God's purpose for you is.

### **What to bring:**

- A Bible, pen, journal and a happy smile
- A healthy packed lunch and brain food snacks (e.g. nuts, fruit, water)
- Suggested donation: \$30

MANNA  
AND  
MERCY

SIGN UP ▶

### **Weekly Sessions**

Mondays 10am – 1pm  
19th Feb - 19th March

**or**

Tuesdays 6pm - 9pm  
20th Feb - 27th March  
(No session on 6th March)



## At the time of choosing a Bishop

Eternal God, shepherd and guide,  
in your mercy give your church in this diocese  
a shepherd after your own heart  
    who will walk in your ways,  
    and with loving care watch over your people.  
Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.  
So may your Church be built up  
    and your name glorified;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Thought for the Week from Mothers union Australia Sunday 18th FEBRUARY 2018

## JOY OF LENT



'Love will be our Lenten calling': the first line of Elizabeth Smith's hymn sets a joyful tone. It is sung to 'Picardy' and I find it a meditation full of hope and honesty. What better road to walk in Lent.

Love will be our Lenten calling,

love to shake and shatter sin,  
Waking every closed, cold spirit,  
stirring new life deep within,  
Till the quickened heart remembers  
what our Easter birth can mean.

*Have mercy on me O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Psalm 51:1*

Members in South Sudan are supporting feeding clinics for vulnerable children and families. War has devastated farming so Mothers' Union has provided people with seeds and tools to return to the land and start to feed themselves again. God's Love gives hope and purpose to shattered lives and heals the healers.

## NOTICE TO ALL PARISHIONERS

The Anglican Parish of Alstonville

### Annual General Meeting

is to be held today 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018 after the 10am Service, (approx 11.30am) in The Ministry Centre Alstonville.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2018

The first meeting of Parish Council will be the third Wednesday of February, 21st February commencing at 6pm in Meeting Room 1.

## Easter Services @ St Bartholomew's

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

NORTHERN REGION  
"FAREWELL"

+ Sarah  
& Rev Ian

EMMANUEL ANGLICAN COLLEGE  
HORIZON DRIVE, BALLINA

SATURDAY 12:30-2PM  
FEBRUARY 24TH 2018

NO SPEECHES  
TEA & COFFEE PROVIDED

BRING A PLATE TO SHARE  
OF FINGER FOOD

*Farewell & thanks + Sarah & Rev Ian*

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE FROM THE NORTHERN REGION TO SAY AN INFORMAL GOODBYE TO BISHOP SARAH AND REV IAN. THERE WILL BE NO SPEECHES, JUST CIRCULATING AND CHATTING OVER A FINGER FOOD LUNCH.

*The formal farewell will be 3 March at the Cathedral*

BISHOP SARAH NEEDS TO LEAVE BY 2:00PM AS CHAD RYNEHART IS BEING ORDAINED AS A PRIEST AT 4:00PM AT LINDSFARNE ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT  
ARCHDEACON MATTHEW JONES  
0458982098

REV CHRISTIAN FORD  
0419862284  
REV MATTHEW SMOLEY  
0488501559



ALL ARE WELCOME TO  
ATTEND THE ORDAINATION  
SERVICE AS WELL

## ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

<b>Rector</b>	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman	0402 764 969
<b>Associate</b>	The Reverend John Kidson	0411 394 213
	The Reverend Geoff Vidal	0447 645 456
<b>Parish Office:</b>	The Ministry Centre, 8 The Avenue, Alstonville	
<b>Telephone:</b>	6628 0231	<b>Fax:</b> 628 5598
<b>Postal:</b>	PO Box 451, Alstonville NSW 2477	
<b>e-mail:</b>	office@alstonvilleanglicanchurch.org.au	
<b>website:</b>	www.alstonvilleanglicanchurch.org.au	

### The Anglican Op Shop

1 The Avenue, Alstonville, **Tel:** 6628 8777

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday	19th Feb	9:30am	MU—Meeting Rom 1
		10:00am	Manna & Mercy—Hall
		1:00pm	Sew Helpful Group—Hall
		6:30pm	Marriage Course—Hall
Tuesday	20th Feb	5:00pm	Fete Meeting in Meeting Room 1
		6:00pm	Manna & Mercy— Hall
Wednesday	21st Feb	9:00am	Meditation—St Bart's
		6:00pm	Parish Council—Meeting Room 1
Thursday	22nd Feb	9:30am	Play Place—Hall
		6:00pm	Contemplative Church
Friday	23rd Feb	10:00am	Friday Service @ St Bart's
		2:00pm	Choir Practice
		5:00pm	Music Group Practice
Saturday	24th Feb	12:30pm	Bishop's Farewell @ EAC
Sunday	25th Feb	8:00am	Holy Communion— St Bart's
		10:00am	Family Service— St Bart's
		2:00pm	Messy Church Slip & Slide

### Bible Readings:

**18th February**

**Mark 1. 9-15**

25th February

Mark 8:31-38