

Alstonville Anglicans

Sharing the Good Life

7th October 2018

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

We acknowledge and pay respects to the traditional custodians of the land, on which we worship, work and meet, the Bundjalung people. I recognize the significant role the past and future Elders play in the life of the region. I am mindful that within and without the beautiful sandstone church, the Land always was and always will be Aboriginal Land.



The reading from Mark reminds us that divorce was a difficult issue even in the time of Jesus. Not all marriages are 'happy ever after' and not all children are the result of meaningful relationships.

It's hard to know how to deal sensitively with the subject, but Sinead Morrissey's poem 'Genetics' offers a new perspective. She looks at her hands and sees her father's fingers and her mother's palms held together there. She feels that her parents remain united in her hands even though they may now live apart. She calls her body 'their marriage register'. What do you think about that as an approach? How might it help you with the relationships in your life?

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

GENETICS

My father's in my fingers, but my
mother's in my palms.
I lift them up and look at them with
pleasure -
I know my parents made me by my
hands.

They may have been repelled to separate lands,
to separate hemispheres, may sleep
with other lovers,
but in me they touch where
fingers link to palms.

With nothing left of their
togetherness but friends
who quarry for their image by a river,
at least I know their marriage by my
hands.

I shape a chapel where a steeple
stands.
And when I turn it over, my father's
by my fingers, my mother's by my
palms

demure before a priest reciting
psalms.
My body is their marriage register.
I re-enact their wedding with my
hands.

So take me with you, take up the
skin's demands
for mirroring in bodies of the future.
I'll bequeath my fingers, if you
bequeath your palms.
We know our parents make us by
our hands.

© 2005, Sinead Morrissey From: *The State of the Prisons* Publisher:
Carcenet, Manchester, 2005 ISBN: 1 85754 775 6

Today's Gospel Reading: Mark 10:2-16

²Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' ³He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' ⁴They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' ⁵But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." ⁷"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.' ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.' ¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Auction of Promises



Put the date in your diary, Saturday 3rd November 2018, 6.30pm, in the Ministry Hall. Tickets are \$15/person. Tickets available from the parish office. Dig out your promises, and contact your friends this week.

Life Group

Rev Desiree's Life Group will recommence Tuesday 23rd October 6.00pm with dinner at Alstonville Plateau Bowls and Sports Club. We will then commence on Tuesday 30th with "Life of Jesus" study.

Bishop's Visit

Bishop Murray Harvey will be visiting our parish Sunday 14th October. He will be participating in all services.

Confirmation

Please keep Bruce and Iris in your prayers as they prepare for confirmation with Bishop Murray during the Sunday@6 Service.

Mother's Union Celebration Day



Members and Friends are invited to Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton, 25th October 2018, 9.30am traveller's cuppa for a 10.00am start. Eucharist at 1.30pm. Guest speaker Ms Sandra Kelly OAM.

Families@4pm—Coming soon!

Families@4 is a new service aimed at young families and those exploring faith for the first time. Services commence Sunday 14th October.

Death, Dying & Palliative Care

The presentation scheduled for 8th October at St Joseph's has been postponed.

Rosters—Sunday 14th October

Thank you to all volunteers assisting with Worship (2nd Sunday team).

Person in Charge: Johnny Sernberg **Worship Leader:** Barbara Fewtrell

Music: Ros Sharp **Cleaning:** Barry & Barb Campey **Sound:** Shane McBurney

Flowers: Nancy West, Joyce Shepherd, Jane Cooke

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALSTONVILLE

Ministers	all the baptised!	
Rector	The Reverend Dr Desiree Snyman	0402 764 969
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The Anglican Op Shop 1 The Avenue, Alstonville **Tel:** 6628 8777

We give thanks to God for those who contribute to sharing the good life through this church electronically. **ESB: 705 077 / Acc: 40130**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday	8th Oct	6.30pm	Meditation Course begins
		10.00am	Life Group (in recess)
		1.00pm	Sew Helpful (in recess until 15th Oct)
Tuesday	9th Oct	1.30pm	Life Group at Carol Stone's home
		2.00pm	MMR, Lismore
		6.00pm	Life Group with Rev Desiree (in recess until 23rd Oct)
Wednesday	10th Oct	9.00am	Meditation Group, St Bart's (in recess until 17th Oct)
		4.30pm	Messy Church Meeting
Thursday	11th Oct	9.30am	Play Place (in recess)
		12.00pm	Fellowship Lunch, Bungaraya
		6.00pm	Contemplative Church, St Bart's
Friday	12th Oct	10.00am	Holy Communion, St Bart's
		2.00pm	Choir, St Bart's
Sunday	14th Oct		Bishop's Visit
		8.00am	Holy Communion, St Barts
		10.00am	Tregeagle Service
		4.00pm	Sunday@4 commences
		5.30pm	Cuppa then Sunday@6, St Barts

Bible Readings

7th October	Mark 10:2-16
14th October	Mark 10:17-31