



ST PETER'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH
CREMORNE

THE COCK CROWS



APRIL/MAY 2024

ACTING RECTOR'S CORNER

WE ARE SHAPED BY WHAT WE DO

I know many people would say that we are shaped by what we think. Many Christians today, particularly Protestants, typically say it is their beliefs which most essentially define them as a person. But often what we think is shaped by what we do.

I could draw on the work of social scientists, neurologists and theologians (like James K.A. Smith) to flesh out these ideas. But that would distract me from my main point. That is, that what we do in church not only expresses who we are and what we believe, but it shapes who we are and what we believe.

I remember being shocked when I saw my father kneel next to me at the altar rail at Christ Church St Laurence to take Communion. We had taken



Crucifer Gordon Heathcote, Laura Mock and our Acting Rector holding a palm frond

Communion together many times before at St Barnabas' Broadway, but always standing. Now, even though he was 70, as he knelt, and meekly held up his hands to take the bread and wine, he looked like a little boy. I thought 'that is as it should be'. I thought this would delight Jesus, who wanted us to come to him as little children (Matthew 19:14). The position of my father's body and hands, and his humble attitude, expressed his love for and dependence on his Heavenly Father in ways that standing never could. And I loved my father even more.

It is similar when I see people with dementia take Communion. I doubt if they take in much of the Bible reading and sermon (although we never know what another person is thinking). But they know what to do when the bread and wine are brought forward. Their hands and faces show they know God is the source of all good, and they need him. Taking Communion over the years has shaped who they are. Their bodies express their repentance and faith, even if they don't have the words to do so.

It is this 'being shaped by what we do' that so engages my mind about our worship at St Peter's. Our liturgies of prayer and response embody a

conversation between us and God and each other. Our procession to start the service is a symbol of our on-going journey toward God and toward the heavenly Jerusalem. In this our actions speak louder than words. Our candles symbolise Jesus as the light of the world. We stand when sing or say a creed, because these are positions of praise, and we were made for praise. Our white robes symbolise being washed clean by Jesus. Our bowing expresses and embeds our reverence for God. None of these things are command or law, but they all shape who we are. At Easter our Palm Sunday procession, our washing feet, our vigil, our journey with Jesus to the stations of the cross, our re-enactment of Jesus' passion in song on Good Friday, our lighting of the Pascal candle at daybreak at Easter, and our sprinkling with water after reaffirming our baptismal vows, all not only expressed our faith, but shape us for our future service of our risen King.

I have never known an Easter like it. But I was warmed and strengthened by it.

God bless

Rev'd Mark Wormell

AROUND THE PARISH

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday fell early this year on 24 March. The church was decorated with palm fronds on the Saturday morning strapped vertically to the edge of the pews in the central aisle. The service started as usual in the Winnie Street garden, and after reading the gospel, we processed along Gerard Street singing the hymn *All glory, laud and honour* with cantor Warren Fisher, then turned into Waters Road and entered the church through the West Door.



Congregation processes through the palms inside the church.



Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday



9am Easter Sunday Service

A SWAG OF SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS

Suzanne Kerr celebrates 100!



Suzanne in front of her cake for her 100th birthday

Suzanne Kerr, a parishioner for approx 15 years or so, is known for her elegant style, for a fashionable outfit with either a scarf or long beads and brooch to match, beautiful white hair, style almost a bob and a smart hat. Originally a country girl, as a child, she was called “Babe” until her parents could agree on Suzanne. That was at age 11.

Turning 100 on April 2, she didn’t want any fuss or fanfare. In fact, she wanted it forgotten! That day was to be spent only with family. But our friend wasn’t forgotten, because the Craft Group and others remembered her by sending cards with lots of love and good wishes.

When the staff at Mackillop Grange Retirement Village finally suggested Suzanne join others with birthdays ending in 0 in May for a combined celebration, she could resist no longer!

To celebrate Suzanne’s birthday with family, loving Sydneysider niece Kathryn organised a lunch at a restaurant at the Spit, with whomever could fly in from Tasmania and West Australia, Suzanne’s two other nieces, nephew, their

children and grandchildren including her niece, Anne.

Anne has kindly sent Tasmanian lavender to our Crafters [organised by Suzanne] to fill her pretty lavender bags made for the Christmas Craft stalls.

Lynette Scott

Esme celebrates 95!



Esme celebrating with the Tuesday 10am service group.

David celebrates 90!



David and his birthday cake

OUR PIANO INAUGURATED



You will have noticed a baby grand piano beside the organ at the front of the church. This was a very generous gift to St Peter's from Fiona Banovik and organised by our organist Glenn Amer in 2023. The idea was that the piano could enhance our worship, showcase St Peter's, (a beautiful church we are proud of, with its good acoustics), and hopefully be a venue for some concerts. The genesis for getting a piano at St Peter's goes back nine years when Glenn started at the church. Rev'd Neil Vearing wanted to organise a concert series at the church for outreach to the community and the further development of St Peter's as a culturally significant place of worship. St Peter's is very lucky to have Glenn Amer as our organist, with his depth of knowledge not only of church music but right across the music genre. He has a keen sense of humour too!

"All Roads lead to Rome" was our first concert this year held on Sunday 14 April at St Peter's to showcase the talents of the soprano, Rebecca Gulinello. She won the prestigious Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonyng "Bel Canto" award in 2023. This award will take Rebecca to Rome for further studies and to work with Italian opera companies. She was accompanied by Glenn on the piano and organ and supported by her two friends, Gaetano Bonfante and Viktoria Bolonina. There was operatic, religious and song

repertoire, along with some duets presented on the programme.

Rebecca paid a moving tribute to the disastrous events that happened in Bondi Shopping Centre the day before. She sang the beautiful "Ave Maria" by Schubert in honour of those who had lost their lives in this tragedy.



The entire proceeds of this concert (with a small contribution to the church for the use of the facilities) went to Rebecca to fund her moving expenses. We wish Rebecca every success in Italy; we will follow her career with interest.

The concert was a great success with a several people from outside the Parish saying how much they had enjoyed the concert, and asking if there any forthcoming concerts.

Glenn, thank you for organising this event. It was a great success and launched the piano in style. We hope there will be more occasions to enjoy more music.

Alison Peterson

ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE

At the Eucharist on Sunday 21 April, we recalled the sacrifices made by the ANZACS at Gallipoli. The three flags shown below represent New Zealand, Australia and Turkey.



Michael Badger, Norman Reynolds and Rev'd Mark Wormell in front of the pulpit



From left: Visiting organist Dr Brett McKern, Cantor Antonia Badger, Michael Badger and Norman Reynolds (Warden)

JAMES BOARDMAN AT BCA AGM



The Annual General Meeting of Bush Church Aid was held on May 2 at St Philip's Church, York St. Sydney. Our former student minister, now The Rev'd James Boardman, was the guest speaker reflecting on his year at Bathurst Cathedral as a ministry trainee, sponsored by BCA.

Noreen Bernie

QUIET ROOM PROGRESS



Handsome new doors to the Quiet Room, to be stained in due course.

In December of 2022 St. Peter's was successful in obtaining a Community Building Partnership Grant for \$60,000 to change the choir vestry into a Quiet Room. The purpose of this project was to

bring the church facilities up to date by providing a place for church attendees with special needs or young children to have a place they feel comfortable to participate services.

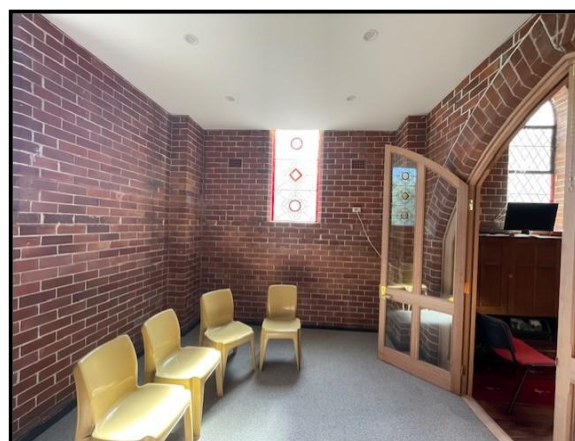
The project started with an architectural review to ensure our design was in line with changes to historically listed buildings. Once this was completed and proposed changes approved by the Parish Council, the daunting task of demolition began. With demolition completed all the new changes could begin: a new ceiling was installed, electrical services relocated, old cupboards and flooring removed, holes in the floor patched and brick work re-pointed. A new air conditioning unit was installed along with cupboards, skirting boards and carpeting. The most notable change is the beautiful doors. These doors were designed to match existing doors in the church with the addition of glass allowing those in the quiet room to see what is going on in the services. The original doors are stored above the new ceiling.



Above: the original solid timber doors now stored over the new ceiling.



***At left:
The Choir Vestry as it was prior to renovation***



Above is the transformation to the Quiet Room showing the new ceiling, and new carpet.

There are still a few items left to complete, eg furniture and audio visual equipment which will be done overtime after the Wardens get a better idea of how people use the room - and we can ensure the room meets the intended needs. Some of you may have already seen a few of our families using the room and we look forward to many more taking advantage of the new facility.

This job was carried out with many involved from planning, to demolition, design and coordinating the numerous contractors. A huge thank you to all involved.

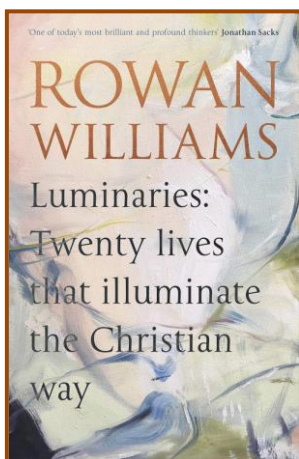
Anna Reed-Stephenson - Warden

BOOK REVIEW

This year, the Parish Discussion Group is reflecting on the title *Luminaries: Twenty lives that illuminate the Christian way*. Meeting monthly, we are looking at two chapters each session. Below is an edited review from the *Times Literary Supplement*, by J M Soskice. Author Rowan Douglas Williams is an Anglican Bishop and theologian. He was the 104th Archbishop of Canterbury and was previously Bishop of Monmouth and Archbishop of Wales. "The work is a beautiful reflection on the lives

and legacies of our most beloved brothers and sisters in the faith. Williams wants to decipher the stories and make sense of the lives they lived. By doing this, he hopes we can see the way God has worked in their lives, and thereby make some sense of God.

It is a noble task and a daunting task to undertake, but Williams does it exceptionally well. He introduces 20 great Christians who have influenced his own life and thought. Starting with Saint Paul, described as a man of passions, he shows the stalwart apostle as a very real human figure.



Did you know that St Paul had a squint or that St Augustine of Canterbury (530–604), sent by Pope Gregory to convert the English, was an “endearingly nervous and anxious man” who tried his best to get out of this assignment? Or that St George was what we would now call a

Palestinian Arab? Rowan Williams’ biographical sketches bring twenty well- and lesser-known figures to life. The focus is by no means on saints alone. A diverse cast includes Charles Dickens, Meister Eckhart, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Teresa of Avila, John Milton and Florence Nightingale.

Most of the essays in *Luminaries* are extracted from sermons and other addresses Williams has given in recent years. Some are new and all are told with a lightness of touch which draws the reader in. Yet it is apparent that, unlike so many short books on popular topics, behind each portrait stands the author’s profound knowledge of his subjects and their importance for us today: St Alban as regards welcoming the stranger, William Tyndale on community, William Wilberforce’s fight against slavery. Dickens, we are told, knew “what hell is like”.

Figures navigating the domain of the spirit are evoked with a similar lucidity: Eckhart on what God “is”; St Teresa on what prayer is “for”; St Augustine of Hippo on how we can be honest with ourselves; Sergei Bulgakov, Edith Stein,

Simone Weil and Óscar Romero on the relation of faith to politics at moments of crisis.

Those familiar with Williams’ wider writings will see many of his favourite themes fleshed out here: witness, the meaning of incarnation, the importance of speech and speaking – and especially of narrative. As he reminds us in the introduction, Jesus taught by telling stories. Each of these vignettes is an exercise in “lived theology”. And that is the best kind.”

Esme Parker and Edwina Waddy

COMMISSIONING OF THE VENERABLE TIM ST QUINTIN

Tim was inducted to the Anglican Parish of Cudgegong Valley on Saturday 11 April as Rector and Archdeacon of the Eastern Region of the Bathurst Diocese.

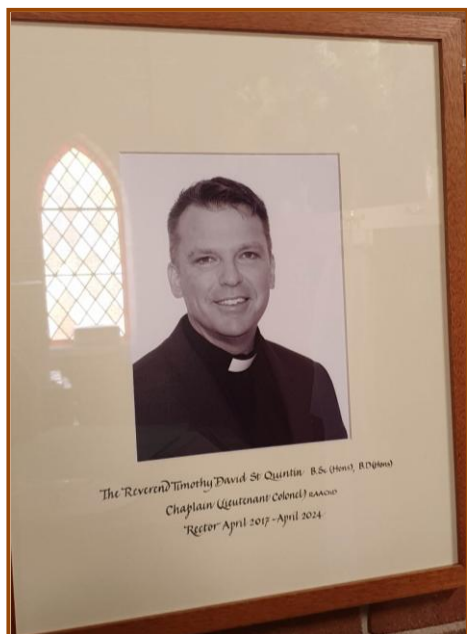
Tim’s family were all in attendance: Sarah his wife, children Will, Callum and Kate, parents Graham and Lizzie and sister Jenny.

Those from congregation who were able to travel up included Christine Morgan who gave the fine tribute to Tim from St Peter’s during the service, Warden Helen Matheson and Kevin, Noreen and Ken Bernie, Prabhu & Sharon Boddu and Neil Modra.



Pictured here after the service are the servers from St John the Evangelist, Mudgee, Bishop Mark Calder, Tim and Sarah, Bishop of the Defence Force Grant Dibden, Bishop Ross Nicholson and Bishop Chris Edwards of North Sydney Region. On the right is Rev’d James Boardman with Hannah.

FR TIM ADDED TO THE ROGUE'S GALLERY IN THE VESTRY



The italic text reads:

*The Reverend Timothy David St Quintin B.Sc [Hons] B.D. [Hons]
Chaplain [Lieutenant Colonel] R.A.A.ChD
Rector April 2017-April 2024*



On the southern wall of the Priest's Vestry hang framed photographs of each of the 13 rectors of St Peter's with the dates of their incumbency.

MISSION NEWS FROM NUNGALINYA COLLEGE | DARWIN

Nungalinya is the premier Combined Churches Training College for Indigenous Australians. The College is formally supported by the Anglican, Uniting and Catholic churches of the Northern Territory. St Peter's supports this mission outreach. Below is an excerpt from the current newsletter.

Indigenous Staff



It has been very encouraging to have more and more Indigenous staff join the Nungalinya team. With some extra funding, we have been able to commit to Indigenous co-teachers in each class in 2024! This is an amazing answer to long-time prayers and we are so thankful. The Indigenous Teachers mostly come in to College for 5-week blocks for class design and delivery. They bring a wealth of skills experience and wisdom to their roles.



We have also been overjoyed to see younger Indigenous staff joining our casual pool in the property and residential teams.

www.stpeterscremore.org.au