



*“Church in the Trees”* -Morisset Uniting

## *RUSTLING LEAVES*

*6TH MAY 2020*  
COVID 19 EDITION 4

**SUNDAY REFLECTIONS BY BARBARA DUFTY**

### **MOTHERS DAY**

How should Christians view Mothers Day?

Is it just an over-commercialised opportunity for us all to spend money?

Is it a purely secular festival – akin to Valentines Day – when everyone takes the opportunity to express their love?

Or is it a celebration that have a meaningful place in our Christian journey?

It is all of the above!

^ The Bible tells us “Honour your father and your mother”. Proverbs says, “Honour her for all that her hands have done,” and then “her children rise up and bless her.” Mothers Day gives us a reminder and an opportunity to do just that.

^ Jesus shows his tender love for his mother when on the very cross, he looks at her lovingly and tells his disciple John to take her into his home and treat her as his own mother. On Mothers Day we think of the loving ways our mothers cared for us over the years, and how we can repay that love through others.

^ The Bible talks frequently about the fatherhood of God, but there are also times when it portrays God as a mother. Hosea compares God's anger to a mother bear who's been robbed of her cubs. And Jesus, weeping over Jerusalem, says how he longed to gather his children together like a mother hen.

So as we approach Mothers Day and remember our own mothers, we think of God's mothering love, and give thanks for love for us and for his gift to us of the mothers who enriched our lives.

## Prayer Points for this fortnight

- **For Governments around the world:** Pray for wisdom as leaders make informed decisions about the ongoing global health and economic crisis. We pray particularly for Scott Morrison and his cabinet that they will be given your strength and your wisdom to guide all Australians through these un-navigated waters.
- **Pray for families in country areas who are struggling.** Thank you for the work of Frontier Services; we pray for the visiting padres, asking for your wisdom and strength to equip them for their task. Help us to be generous in our giving and praying to ensure this work continues.
- **Pray that God may give wisdom and inspiration to scientists,** in countries around the world, who are working on a vaccine for the COVID-19 virus. Lord God, we pray with a sense of urgency that a solution will be expedited.

## Lectionary Readings

May 10; Easter 5 Acts 7:55-60 Ps 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Pt 2:2-10 Jn 14: 1-14

May 17; Easter 6 Acts 17:22-31 Ps 66:8-20 1 Pt 3:13-22 Jn 14:15-21

## Pastoral Care Team

**HELLO!** To members of our family of faith

**H.....** How are you?  
**E.....** Everything all right?  
**L.....** Like to hear from you!  
**L.....** Love to see you soon  
**O.....** Obviously, we miss you....



So, **Hello Everyone!**

*(this was shared on Facebook)*

There isn't much that we can do at this time of isolation; but we hope you enjoy a phone call or a reminder such as this leaflet, that we still care (even though we are not meeting in person).

We hope that by keeping in touch with those with whom we have a natural affinity will make a difference.

Caring and sharing are intertwined - whether it be thoughts, hopes, sorrow, fears, burdens or happiness. We can also share a prayer with you and Joan Horgan would be happy to hear from anyone who feels in need of special prayers. Phone. 49736135

- SOCIAL SNIPPETS:
- Rhonda Vickery has moved into Lakeside Retirement Village and is absolutely loving her new home, replacing roses with succulents in the garden
- Good News: Barbara Dufty's son Stewart will finally be able to return home from India, having been unable to leave for some time
- A special milestone - Darrell and Betty Small recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary and
- Congratulations to Bob and Chris Starling who are delighted with their new granddaughter "Myra Christina" first child for Mark and Ashy, they are all doing well.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions in relation to pastoral care.

Betty Small

Coordinator

Phone: 49 733181

## **Forum**

Last issue I challenged you to create a find a word around the topic Morisset Uniting Church. Here is Rob Currey's contribution and thanks to Rob for all the effort she has put into it.

# Unique, original Morisset Uniting Church Find-a-Word

B	J	C	A	L	C	O	R	S	M	U	R	D	J	N
O	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	D	P	I	O	O
B	H	O	R	G	A	N	J	E	H	O	V	A	H	I
L	S	I	P	D	V	A	E	M	A	R	Y	N	N	N
E	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S	B	I	B	L	E	W	U
P	I	A	N	O	C	H	U	R	C	H	K	A	T	M
E	R	K	Q	U	X	A	S	E	O	L	D	S	Z	M
O	I	X	S	N	T	U	H	A	M	J	E	T	T	O
P	T	U	Y	G	O	D	Y	D	P	K	R	E	E	C
L	E	N	T	M	P	F	E	Q	U	L	P	R	S	Y
E	E	I	R	N	S	I	N	G	T	R	E	E	S	A
F	R	T	U	W	H	E	A	V	E	N	A	O	I	D
Y	A	I	S	L	O	V	E	M	R	K	C	T	R	N
O	C	N	T	I	P	S	A	L	M	S	E	H	O	U
J	Z	G	P	R	O	J	E	C	T	O	R	V	M	S

Bible	Easter	Mary	Save
Bob		Morisset	Sing
Bread	God		Spirit
			Sunday
CALC	Heaven	Old	
Care		Op Shop	Trees
Choir	Jehovah	Organ	Trust
Christmas	Jesus		
Church	John	Peace	Uniting
Communion	Joy	People	
Computer		Piano	Young
	Lent	Prayers	
Diane	Love	Projector	
Drums		Psalms	

## *Bonus*

We have a bonus find a word for those who haven't had enough. It is in the second attachment in this email and on the same topic, or talk to the Pastoral Carers team who have some hard copies spare.

When you have all the words listed, the remaining letters are jumbled but spell something important to Church people. It is 3 words. Answer P8

### **The challenge for next issue , make a find-a-word same size as today titled People in the Bible.**

Due by **I will need it by Sat 16May for our next edition.**

Also in our last Rustling Leaves we had a game of unscrambling people and the activities they have enjoyed while in lockdown. I haven't heard yet of anyone who got them all right. However I have had several others let me know what they have enjoyed. So here are a few more contributions.

1. Margaret Arbon; I have enjoyed cooking and eating my Anzac biscuits. The recipe is from a cooking book now 96 years old. It was written by the combined Congregational and Baptist churches of South Australia."
2. Gordon Robertson; I have read 4 novels and about 2/3 way through a 5th. I have now decided to sort out the collection of various folders from the cruises, coach tours and Heron Airlines tours that Joan and I had enjoyed since the early 1980's.
3. Barbara Dufty I decided to brush up on my piano playing which has become very rusty, so I resurrected some of my old music and try to spend time practising every day.
4. Joy Farr I'm enjoying my music, both playing and listening.

*If you have something you have enjoyed, let us know*

**Evensong: Anzac  
Commemoration | May 9**

I know some of you attend performances at Avondale and I think you would enjoy this one on line this Saturday.

A live stream performance of story and song with historian Professor Daniel Reynaud and Avondale Conservatorium solo artists as part of the 2020 Avondale Concert Series.



Featuring readings from Reynaud’s new book, *The Anzacs, Religion and God*, and performances by staff and students” Presented by the Conservatorium of Music at Avondale University College. Live stream from the Avondale University College

([www.facebook.com/avondaleaustralia](http://www.facebook.com/avondaleaustralia)) and Avondale

Conservatorium ([www.facebook.com/AvondaleConservatorium](http://www.facebook.com/AvondaleConservatorium)) Facebook pages, Saturday, May 9, 5 pm.

**Church Council**

Church Council met again on line with a Zoom meeting on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April. The two main issues we talked about were

Treasurer; Parriss, as our new treasurer reported on the state of our finances

Church Administrator; Peter Robinson reported how he is going in this newly created position. Under the current circumstances it is slow and steady but things are moving forward



Morisset Uniting Church BSB 032-524  
Account number 12-1985

If depositing though the bank or on line please tag your deposit with a short description of approx. 4 to 6 letters e.g. beginning of surname, so the treasurer knows where it is to go.



## Fun Time

Who is the first person mentioned in the Bible?

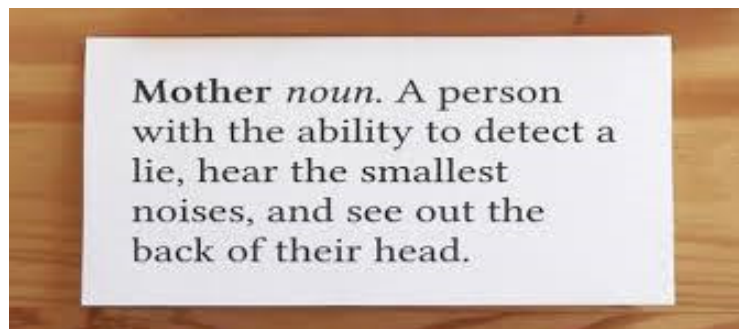
Chap 1

When was tennis first mentioned in the Bible?

When David served in the court of king Solomon.

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

Samson. He brought the house down.



Why is Mothers' Day different in the UK?

Because it's not "Mother's Day", it's "Mothering Sunday". ... It was traditionally a day off for servants, who could use it to return home and visit their mothers, since they wouldn't get to see them during the rest of the year, on average. Its on 25<sup>th</sup> March.



## News from Church Synod

Information on how you can support young people in the next school climate action on Friday May 15<sup>th</sup>

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All of us are doing our best to adapt to this strange new Covid world, one that has emerged so quickly and with little warning. We know that this has been a particularly challenging time for churches, communities and leaders; and we have been inspired to see your rapid and creative responses to the crisis. Yet while Covid 19 still dominates the news, other issues have not disappeared.

One of those issues is climate change. A key element of our Synod Climate Action Strategy was our resolve as a church to support young people in the School Strike 4 Climate actions. The next action will take place on Friday May 15<sup>th</sup>. Because we can't physically gather it will take the form of an interactive live broadcast between the hours of 4pm and 8pm (join in when you can). For more information go to <https://www.schoolstrike4climate.com/>

The School Strike 4 Climate movement has three core asks:

- 1 No new coal, oil or gas projects, including the Adani mine*
- 2 100% renewable energy generation and exports by 2030*
- 3 The funding of a just transition and job creation for all fossil fuel workers and communities*

Answer to the bonus find a word 'Cake and slices'



K	S	E	D	D	N	O	U	S	C	H	U	R	C	H
P	R	A	Y	E	R	E	T	A	E	H	J	O	A	N
G	P	A	P	H	I	L	I	C	N	U	O	C	A	M
R	R	L	P	S	G	K	G	N	I	R	E	F	F	O
A	A	T	P	R	D	N	L	E	C	T	U	R	N	R
P	Y	E	T	I	A	N	I	W	O	R	G	A	N	I
E	I	R	E	E	A	C	I	S	N	E	Z	I	E	S
O	N	H	A	T	T	N	D	L	T	N	O	F	W	S
P	G	S	S	A	A	R	O	E	B	N	O	N	O	E
S	R	D	A	W	N	B	A	T	L	A	M	A	E	T
H	E	E	F	F	O	C	L	T	C	B	u	J	E	A
O	K	K	A	M	I	L	K	E	H	H	A	L	L	B
P	L	I	S	C	A	E	L	R	N	E	A	S	B	L
LI	A	M	E	V	H	O	M	E	A	O	C	C	I	E
D	W	E	L	C	O	M	E	R	F	T	R	A	B	H

The words you are looking for:

Alter	font	offering	sermon
banner	grape	op shop	sing
bible	hall	organ	SLCEA
blinds	heater	Owen	sound desk
church	home	Phil	table
clerestory <sup>1</sup>	Jan	piano	tea
coffee	Joan	praying	team
council	lecturn	preach	Tetrateca <sup>2</sup>
Dawn	mike	Rat <sup>3</sup>	Val
disabled carpark	milk	Ron	Walker
drums	Morisset		Welcome
fellowship	Newsletter		zoom

1 Clerestory windows are windows high up on the wall like the side of our worship space.

2 Tetrateca Juncea is the endangered native plant on our site which only exists between Wyong and Newcastle.

3 Signs of a rat in the office since we have vacated the buildings.