

The Beacon on the Hill

C H U R C H O F T H E H O L Y S P I R I T
A N G L I C A N P A R I S H C O O L U M B E A C H

Happy New Year!

That may seem an odd thing to say before Christmas. However, the Church's year does not quite match the secular calendar. Our year ends with the Feast of Christ the King. Like all the great feasts of the Church, this feast lasts for a week. Then, we have our new year's day: the first Sunday of Advent. So, in this Advent edition of *Beacon on the Hill*, I wish you all a happy new year.

We're used to years being numbered, one after another in linear progression. 2019 followed 2018; next year is 2020, and then there'll be 2021. In the Church, our years are cyclical: A, B, C, then repeat. Each year has readings for every Sunday. Over the three years we read through the majority of the Bible with a particular gospel being the focus each year. Year A is Matthew, B is Mark and C is the year of Luke. Those three gospels are known as the synoptic gospels because their content and order is similar, although each has unique stories and their own 'take' on events. For example, only Luke tells us of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. Matthew alone describes the coming of the wise men. Mark has no story of Jesus' birth at all.

Then there's the gospel of John. It is a more theological and reflective gospel, with long discourses from Jesus. We read much of John's gospel during Eastertide and in Year B, along with Mark.

During 2019, we made our way through Luke's gospel in Year C. On the first Sunday of Advent this year, we began Year A, the year of Matthew.

New year is traditionally a time for resolutions. That's a tradition worth taking from the secular world. I have a suggestion for a resolution for this new year. *Beacon* is sent out to many people who have a connection to the Church of the Holy Spirit. Some come every week, some regularly but not often, some live too far away to come at all unless they are on holidays, and there are some who live nearby but only come rarely. My suggestion for a new year's resolution: reconnect to church if you no longer attend. This year, our 50th anniversary, is a good time to do that. If you do come, but infrequently, resolve to come regularly eg once a month. Obviously, if you live in Melbourne or the UK, this isn't possible, but perhaps you could include us in your prayers each week. And for those who do come every week, resolve to pray for the clergy and people here at Holy Spirit.

Advent blessings and a happy new year to you all.

- (The Revd Dr) Cathy Laufer
Priest-in-Charge



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 5.00 pm Family service with dressing up for the children, the nativity story and Holy Communion

Christmas Day 8.00 am Christmas Eucharist

Note that there will be no midnight service. The morning service is now at 8 am.

It's Our 50th!

The Church of the Holy Spirit was built and dedicated in 1970, so 2020 is our 50th anniversary. We are going to celebrate throughout the year with several special guests. Our guest preacher for our patronal festival, Pentecost Sunday, will be the Revd Greg March who was the priest here when Coolum became a parish in its own right. Greg will also lead our Quiet Day. Two weeks later the Archbishop will visit. Then, on the anniversary of the church's dedication, Bishop Jeremy will be our guest. There will be other events during the year – watch this space! Meanwhile, put these dates in your diary now:

Good Friday: 10th April
Easter Day: 12th April
Saturday 29th May: Quiet Day led by Revd Greg March
Pentecost Sunday 31st May: Guest preacher: Revd Greg March
Sunday 14th June: Visit of Archbishop Phillip Aspinall
Sunday 15th November: Anniversary of the Church's Dedication, Bp Jeremy Greaves

If you haven't been to church in a while, one of these days would be a good time to reconnect.

First Corinthians 13, Christmas Version

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust... But giving the gift of love will endure.

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And now these three remain:
Faith, Hope & Love.
But the Greatest of these is *Love.*
-Corinthians 13:13

Outback Progressive Dinner



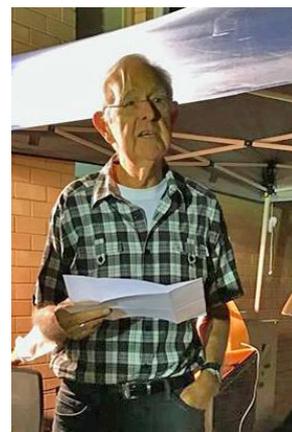
This year's progressive dinner, held on Friday, 1 November, was a huge success immensely enjoyed by all. Thanks to Mary and David Lupton for their fantastic organisation and hard work (including the wonderful outback dunny) and thank you to all those who contributed so much with cooking and preparation.

Our speakers, Jenny and Keith, inspired us with their passion and dedication to "Care Outreach" and we were delighted to be able to donate \$250 to such a worthy cause. Jan and Jim Christian entertained with their lovely music and had us all singing and an adventurous few, even dancing the



barn dance. Rob McFadyen had everyone in stitches with his rendition of "A Bush Christening" by Banjo Patterson.

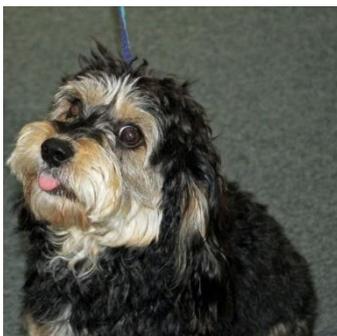
The prize for the best outfit went to Carol and Ian Smeeton whilst Lyn Rostirolla was the recipient of the Lucky Door Prize. The raffle prize of a beautiful quillow made by Ros Thurairathnam was won by Jan Christian. A really wonderful evening was had by all!



Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus, the saviour of all people

BLESSING OF PETS

Again this year St Francis Day was joyfully celebrated at Holy Spirit by all parishioners and a number of very well behaved dogs.



Jenny and Len Peel have been stalwarts of Holy Spirit for many years. They both have served as parish councillors - Jenny as Parish Secretary and Len as a Church Warden. They are still very actively involved in the life of the Parish. Jenny is involved with the Prayer Chain and Baptism ministries and is our Bush Church Aid representative. Both also regularly take an active part in our worship as readers. Jenny is a Liturgical Assistant and assists with preparing morning teas and Len is a regular sidesman with a big smile welcoming everyone as they enter the church. Before they left on their recent trip I asked Jenny to write a "Parish Personalities" article for us. (Ed.)

Parish Personalities – Jenny & Len Peel

A few weeks ago, Len and I returned from (probably) our last trip to Europe, this time, for our granddaughter's wedding in Berlin, followed by a delightful Continental river cruise of the Danube, Rhine and Mein Rivers, and a return for me, on my birthday, to the house where I was born in Surrey, England.



My life had begun during WWII, at a time when the hospitals were under great pressure coping with injured military personnel and victims of the relentless bombings, creating a need for babies to be born at home with the help of midwives, and so my life began in my family home. As it was wartime, my father, a Cold Stream Guard, was overseas, serving with the British Army and my mother was contributing to the War Effort by working part-time in communications. As our home in Surrey was on the outer edge of London and a major railway line was very close by, we came under threat from the pilotless bombs, popularly called "doodlebugs", which were coming across the Channel, aimed chiefly at major railway lines and similar vital targets. They made a droning sound as they travelled and when the sound stopped, they dropped, causing death and destruction. My brother and I, playing in our garden, soon learned that the droning noise meant terrible explosions close by, and we would run in terror to the house.

After the war, I went to a Church of England school and later, joined the Brownies, but great changes were ahead for me, as my father responded to the Australian Government's offer for British Army Officers to emigrate and my life in Australia began.

Len was born in Warwick Queensland, one of eight children, four brothers and three sisters, five of whom attended Teachers' College. Warwick was renowned in those days, as a centre of education, having several Christian boarding schools of different denominations, two State Primary schools and the State High School, all of which contributed largely to an atmosphere of great sporting opportunities, both in school and inter-school competition. Len's great love of sport flourished during his primary school years as he contributed to football and athletics teams, competing in matches with local schools. At high school, he achieved well at football, tennis, athletics and

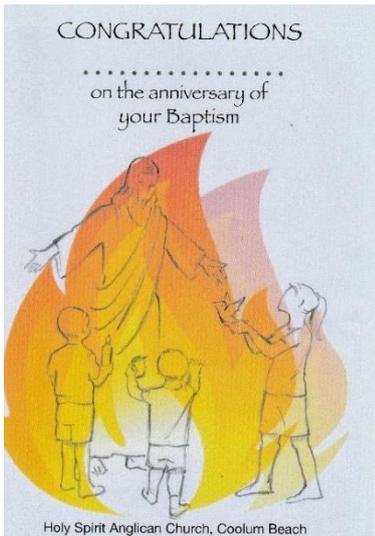


cricket. During school holidays, he worked at Woolworths and in his senior years, at a men's clothing store. Both Len and I attended Warwick High School, though by the time I began there, Len had completed Senior and moved on to primary teacher training at Kelvin Grove, later attending Queensland University to complete an Education Degree. Our lives had taken different paths and perhaps we would never have met, had it not been for a Past Students Dance to be held in a local hall. Len and some of his former school friends decided to attend, as did my girlfriend and I – and so we met! We danced together a number of times, beginning a friendship which flourished, in time, into a romance and eventually, our marriage in St Mark's Church of England in Warwick.

Over the following years, we were blessed with five children, two sons and three daughters, all of whom now have families of their own, giving us sixteen wonderful grandchildren. As yet, we have no great grandchildren, but one grandson and three granddaughters have married recently, though there is no mention of babies, as all of them are too intent on their careers!

Len and I have travelled extensively during our retirement, around Australia and New Zealand, on ocean cruises and on several trips to Europe, though now, we enjoy our home in beautiful Peregrin Beach, grateful for the blessing of a happy marriage and a loving family.

BAPTISM CARD

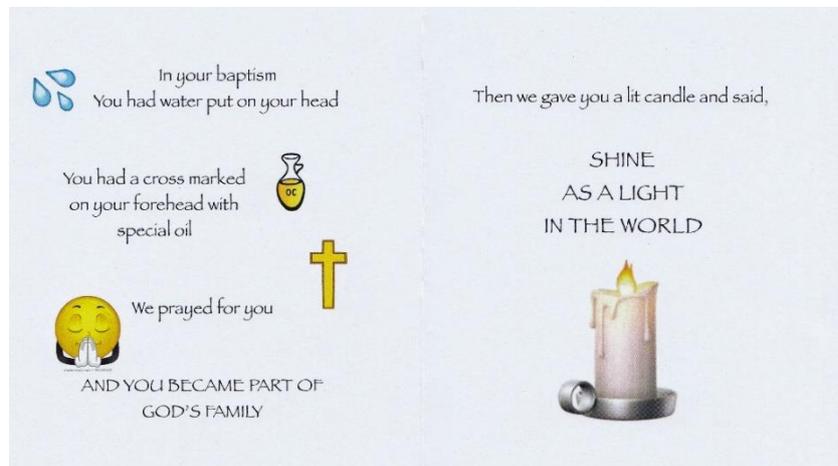
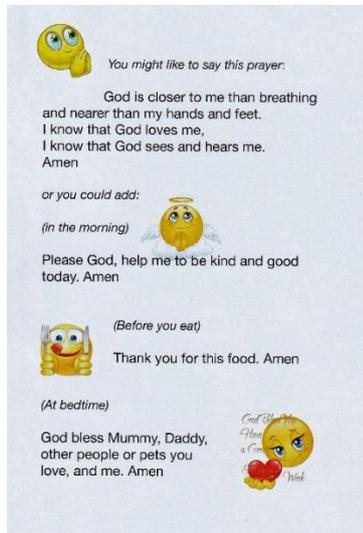


In a previous *Beacon on the Hill*, I wrote about our Baptism Ministry which includes praying for the baptised person and sending them a letter and card on their anniversary. When the child is very young, we send this to the parents. However, once they are old enough to be able to read, this is sent to the child, as we know how children love to receive a letter for themselves.

During the year, we designed our own card, which contains information which we thought was relevant to baptism and could serve as a reminder of what baptism is about. Adele Doulin has done a wonderful job of illustrating our card and we have been delighted with the finished result. A few people have seen the finished product, but we wanted to share it with all of you.

Revd Joc Pitt

front



centre

back

On Sunday evening, December 1, members of our congregation were invited to a delightful Christmas BBQ hosted by the Guild. Many people contributed delicious salads and desserts whilst John Roth worked his usual magic over a hot BBQ producing a great supply of sausages and onions. Everyone enjoyed a time of warm fellowship and we are fortunate to have such a caring and



inclusive church community. Carol Roth won the Lucky Door prize. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and effort to create such an enjoyable time.

SCOTT WINDRED'S PRIESTING



When Cathy & I arrived at St Johns, the bells were pealing out, setting the tone for the ordinations which were to follow. The Cathedral is such a place of beauty and holiness and this seems to add to the richness of any worship there.

The Ordination service itself is always very meaningful, the music seemed particularly beautiful, and the readings for St Ambrose Day appropriate



for the occasion. Those of us who know Scott and Sarah were suitably proud of Sarah's reading from Sirach. There were six people deaconed and six priested, so that it was quite a long service. Our Anglican Church is Apostolic in nature and one of the ways we signify this is that when someone is priested a number of priests present signify this Apostolic succession by laying hands on the newly ordained. We clergy from Holy Spirit Coolum were pleased to be able to show our affirmation of Scott by joining in this ritual after his vows and commendation by Archbishop Phillip.

Ordained ministry is such a responsibility and yet such a privilege and our congratulations go to Scott as he begins his priestly ministry.



Revd Joc Pitt

Please pray this prayer each day for rain to ease the drought and quench the fires

God our heavenly Father
through your Son you promised
to those seeking first your kingdom
and your righteousness
all things necessary for bodily welfare:
send us, we pray, in this time of need,
rain to water the earth,
that we may receive its produce
to strengthen and sustain us
and always praise you for your bounty;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Rain (p205 *A Prayer Book for Australia* 1995)



ABCD SCRAMBLE BREAK-UP



Our wonderful ABCD Scramble ended this year with the letter "U" and a great deal of fun and laughter from our children, mums/carers and helpers. The sausages and ice cream were a big hit with the adults and children.

Carol Roth and her band of willing helpers enjoy the company of the children and their

parents/carers each Thursday morning during school terms commencing at 10am. The first half hour is spent singing, dancing and listening to a story all based around the letter of the week. This is followed by morning tea of fruit and water for the children and scones, cakes, slices, dips, coffee and tea for the adults.

This year we said farewell to Olivia who has been with us since she was a baby but her mum and little brother, Rocco, will be back with us next year.



What's on at Holy Spirit and when

Most groups are in recess during January.

Please speak to the contact person for details of resumption dates

ABCD SCRAMBLE - 10am each Thursday during school term -A fun group for Mums/Dads/Carers & Tots looking at the alphabet and ABCD resources followed by morning tea.

Contact: Revd Carol Roth Ph 5446 5334 Cost: \$3.00 for one child or \$5.00 for a family

BIBLE STUDY – 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 10.15am in the Undercroft.

Contact: Jocelyn Pitt Ph 5448 8059

BEER ON THE BALCONY - 2nd Wednesday of each month 4.30pm-5.30pm - All men invited

Join with other men for a beer and chat (non-alcoholic drinks available). Pick up and drop off can be arranged. **Contact:** John Roth 5446 5334

CRAFT MORNING – 4th Friday of each month at 10.00am – An informal group which meets to enjoy working on craft items, learning new craft. Everyone welcome to either participate or just have a cuppa and a chat.

Contact: Roslyn Thurairatnam 5471 7755

CURSILLO GROUPS – Meet regularly
Contact: Jan Christian: 5448 2092

GUILD - 3rd Wednesday of each month following a short service at 9am and morning tea - The Guild is a group dedicated to organising various activities with the aim of promoting fellowship opportunities. Membership is open to men and women and new members would be made very welcome. **Contact:** Roslyn Thurairatnam 5471 7755

HEALING SERVICE - Last Friday of each month at 5.00pm - This is a service of Evening Prayer with a focus on prayer for the sick.

As all of us need healing in some way, anointing is available for all present, for our own healing and for those for whom we pray. Everyone is welcome.



CHRISTMAS BOWL



The Christmas Bowl is an ecumenical appeal bringing together the 18 member churches of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

In 1949 Rev Frank Byatt believed he had a responsibility to share the joy of his Christmas with his brothers and sisters in urgent need. So he called on his congregation to “get a bowl to put on your Christmas dinner table as a Bowl of Remembrance and see if you can get everybody round the table to make a generous gift so that you can share”.

Each year we as a parish support this appeal. This year we have a “bowl” on the back table as well as envelopes. If you would prefer to just pop some money into the bowl rather than take an envelope please do so. Any money in the bowl will be collected at the end of each service and given to the Treasurer who will forward all our donations to the Christmas Bowl appeal at the end of December. You can also donate directly to the appeal through the website: <https://www.actforpeace.org.au/Christmas-Bowl>.

We have in this parish a group of dedicated people who pray regularly for others. This group of people offer a special prayer ministry for anyone who is seeking confidential prayer support for all situations and issues.

You are assured that the strictest confidentiality will be maintained and that your concerns/needs will not be discussed outside the prayer chain members. It is acceptable to ask for prayer without giving any details.



God knows all our needs.

Please contact Prayer Chain Co-ordinator Jenny 5448 2885 or Cathy 5351 1215

Church of the Holy Spirit Anglican Parish of Coolum Beach

Corner Perry St & Beach Road Coolum Beach
PO Box 5, Coolum Beach 4573



REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

9.00am Holy Eucharist

Midweek services:

Morning Prayer: 8.30am Thursday & Friday
Evening Prayer: 5.00pm Friday

Healing Service/Evening Prayer

5.00pm **LAST Friday of each month**

Morning service:

9.00am **3rd Wednesday of each month.**

Parish Directory

Priest-in-charge: Revd Dr Cathy Laufer

Phone: 5351 1215

email: celaufer54@gmail.com

Parish Office (Thursdays & Fridays):

Phone: 0447 002 573

email ang.coolum@gmail.com

Website: www.anglicanchurchcoolum.com

Deacon: Revd Carol Roth

Phone: 5446 5334 M 0411 690 058

Church Wardens:

David Lupton 5471 7099

Jan Christian 5448 2092

Carol Smeeton 5446 2372

Prayer Chain Jenny Peel 5448 2885

Guild: Roslyn Thurairatnam 5471 7755

Cursillo: Jan Christian 5448 2092

Casserole Bank: Roslyn Thurairatnam
5471 7755

Pew Bulletin & Beacon on the Hill

email: hsnews4573@gmail.com

The church is unlocked on Fridays for private prayer