

TRINITY NEWS

Sharing Jesus for Life

THIS WEEK

Sunday 7 January

10.30am Combined service with Holy Communion followed by morning tea

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 14 January

10.30am Combined service followed by morning tea

Sunday 21 January

8.30am Traditional service followed by morning tea

10.30am Contemporary service followed by morning tea

Sunday 28 January

8.30am Traditional service followed by morning tea

10.30am Contemporary service followed by morning tea

Wednesday 31 January

10.30am Traditional service resumes followed by morning tea

From Andy's Desk...

Happy New Year!

What are you hoping for in 2024? Something better than last year? Or the same again? Are you excited? Or are you anxious about what this year holds? These past few years have been challenging for all sorts of reasons and I wonder how you are feeling about the year ahead.

In public and in private many people comment on how anxious people feel about life, our world and the future. We live in an age of anxiety. Anxiety of all kinds has been on the increase and lots of people are anxious about lots of different things. And that probably includes a number of us at church. Many of us present a smiling face and upbeat conversation on Sundays at church but I suspect many of us face quite challenging times: some of us battle loneliness, sickness, difficult daily relationships at home or at work, bereavement, financial worries, worries for people we love and so on. These different personal challenges will leave some of us feeling dreadfully anxious about the future.

How should we respond as Christians, as followers of Jesus?

God tells us again and again in his word, the Bible, not to be anxious, not to be afraid. Paul writes in Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

The secret Paul had learned and that we need to learn is this, spelled out a few verses later in Philippians 4:19

"God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

What are the riches of God's glory in Christ Jesus? God showed us two wonderful things in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Power - God has power to give life to the dead! There is nothing God cannot do. He created all things with a word and he raised Jesus from the dead. He can do anything.

Love - God loves us. Because God loves us, the Lord Jesus died for us, in our place. He loves his people more than anyone else could ever love us.

In our anxiety then, let us turn to the God who can do all things, loves us more than we can imagine, and will meet all our needs; so...

...do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation present your requests to God.

With love in Christ,

Andy Martin
Minister



Christianity Explored

Over 7 weeks, using Mark's biography of Jesus in the Bible, we explore who Jesus is, why he came to earth, and what it means to follow him. Plenty of opportunity to ask questions and find the answers, or just listen to the discussion. Contact Andy to sign up for the next course starting in February.

Ideas from the Bookstall

We have a church bookstall full of great Christian resources to buy as gifts or for yourself - Bibles for all ages, books for teens, devotionals to help you read the Bible on your own and more. Payment is easy and can be made by card or cash.

Brain Food & Fellowship in January

Paul Meeth, from our church family, will be giving three bible-related lectures, aimed at college-level. Sessions will be held at St James Presbyterian Church Hall, are free to attend and include hot drinks. For more details contact Paul on 0401 963 144.

Tuesdays 9th, 16th, 23rd January 10am-12noon

Repeated Thursdays 11th, 18th, 25th January 7pm-9pm

Summer Sunday Services times

While things are quieter over the summer and many of us will be away, we will have one combined Sunday All Age Service at 10.30am on 31 December, 7 January and 14 January. Normal services will resume on Sunday 21 January.

No Wednesday Services over the Summer

Our Wednesday 10.30am services has paused over the Summer. This service will resume on Wednesday 31 January.

Office Closure over the Summer

The church office has reopened and is open 9am to 1pm Monday to Friday.

Fellowship Groups

Our midweek small groups have paused for the summer. If you'd like to join a group in the new year, please contact Andy Martin for more details.

PARISH COUNCIL Next Meeting: Saturday 27 January

Andy Martin - *Rector*, Garry West - *Rector's Warden*, Rod Wykes - *Warden & Treasurer*,
Lynne Middleton - *Warden*, John Bosanquet, Lyn Atkins, Sandy Bosanquet - *Secretary*

If you have feedback, comments or questions for Parish Council please send an email to holytrinityorangesec@gmail.com or leave your contact details with the office and a member of Parish Council will contact you. Minutes will be available to read in the church office afterwards.

GIVING

If you would like to give financially to support the work at Holy Trinity of Sharing Jesus for Life, gifts can be placed in the baskets or gift-box at church or given online:

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