

TRINITY NEWS

Sharing Jesus for Life

THIS WEEK

Sunday 9 February

8.30am Traditional Service followed by morning tea

10.30am Contemporary Service with Kids' Group, followed by morning tea

3pm Pastoral Care Team Meeting in Trinity Centre

Monday 10 February

7pm Monday Evening Fellowship Group

Tuesday 11 February

10am Prayer Group

1pm Tuesday Afternoon Fellowship Group

7.30pm Tuesday Evening Fellowship Groups

Wednesday 12 February

7am Wednesday Morning Men's Fellowship Group

10.30am Traditional Service followed by morning tea

7-8.30pm 3-2-1 Course in the Trinity Centre

7 & 7.30pm Wednesday Evening Fellowship Groups

Thursday 13 February

7am Thursday Morning Ladies Fellowship Group

10am Thursday Morning Ladies Fellowship Group

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 17 February

7.15pm Believing Out Loud online evangelism training course begins

Wednesday 19 February

9.30-11am Playgroup restarts

Thursday 20 February

5-6.30pm Kids' Club restarts

Sunday 23 February

9.30am Combined Service & Lunch at St Barnabas

Sunday 9 March

AGM & Lunch

Saturday 22 March

Diocesan Day in Dubbo

From Andy's Desk...

Why do you think some people reject and ignore Jesus?

Many people say that they have rational reasons for rejecting Jesus as God in human form, and as Saviour and King - and I suspect that many of us have friends and acquaintances who would claim that that is why they are not Christians. Others today simply assert that they are not religious, as though believing in Jesus was something built into some people's DNA.

In Luke's gospel today we see a group of people who rejected Jesus very strongly, indeed it seems they even wanted try to throw him off a cliff! This is particularly surprising because they were the inhabitants of Jesus' home town, Nazareth. It is also surprising because only a short while before they had been impressed and amazed by his teaching.

So what happened?

In the synagogue in Nazareth that morning, this extraordinary person, Jesus, about whom everyone in the region was talking, had declared himself to be God's Anointed, Spirit-filled, Suffering Servant. This Servant had been promised in the Old Testament as the rescuer and restorer of God's people, and as the one who would show non-Jewish people the truth about God. He would bring freedom, truth and grace. It sounded incredible and it was; *'All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips.'* Luke 4:22.

But then Jesus reminded his Jewish listeners of something - that again and again in the history of Israel, they had rejected the prophets sent by God. God's people had not listened to God's word or his prophet, not because of some careful, thoughtful reasoning, but because they wanted to do their own thing. Old Testament Israel wanted to do the things the nations around them were doing - which generally involved cult prostitutes and child sacrifice and other unmentionable things - they rejected God and his prophets.

In the same way, Jesus said, Nazareth would reject him. They would reject God's anointed Spirit-filled Servant. This may sound to us as though Jesus was winding them up, after all so far they've been pretty happy with him. But Jesus knew what he was doing - he always asked a question or said something that revealed just what was going in the hearts of people around him. And their reaction showed us he was right. Rather than recognise their danger and turn to Jesus for help as God's Anointed Servant, they threw him out of the synagogue and tried to throw him off the nearest cliff.

Why? It had nothing to do with rational, thoughtful argument, but everything to do with a their hearts. They did not want to listen, they did not want to come to Jesus to ask for help; perhaps they were too proud, too convinced of their own goodness to think they needed God's rescuer. They expected someone who would tell them they were fine; instead Jesus said they needed forgiveness and rescue. And no-one likes to be told they're not ok.

The same is true of people today. Reason and rationality have very little to do with it. In every heart is a fierce, rebellious streak that says I don't need God and I don't want God - I am fine as I am. Praise God for his grace to us!

With love in Christ

Andy Martin,
Rector



PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES**Believing Out Loud - begins Monday 17 February at 7.15pm**

Presented by Kevin Simington, this free 6-week practical course via Zoom is designed to help us speak more naturally and confidently about Jesus in everyday conversations. Zoom link is available from Louise Hickey in the diocese office: administration@bathurstanglican.org.au

Playgroup - Wednesday 19 February 9.30am-11am

Playgroup will resume this week, for kids aged 0-5 and their parents/carers. For more details see the flyer or Amanda Martin.

Kids' Club - Thursday 20 February 5-6.30pm

Kids' Club will resume this week, for kids in school years 2-6. For more details see the flyer or Caitlyn White.

Combined Service and Lunch with St Barnabas, 23 February at 9.30am at St Barnabas

Join us at St Barnabas for a combined service at 9.30am, followed by morning tea and then lunch. There will be **no services** at Holy Trinity this Sunday.

Fellowship Groups

These groups are a great opportunity to meet together to study the bible, pray together and encourage each other. For more details see the leaflet and to join a group contact Andy Martin.

Bathurst Diocese Day Conference in Dubbo - Saturday 22 March 9am-3pm

Gather with others from across the Diocese, for a wonderful day of inspiration and practical help as we look at how we can be missionally minded in our local and wider communities, with Pete Stedman.

Annual Meeting, 9 March

Please save the date and join us for our Annual Meeting after church on 9 March.

MISSION NEWS**Bruce Cox & Kathy Cummins in Nigeria**

Praise God for the recent dedication of the gospel of Luke in Iceve, and that lots of copies have already been bought and/or given away. Pray for people to read them and put their trust in Jesus.

PARISH COUNCIL Next Meeting: 16 February 2025

Andy Martin - Rector, Garry West - Rector's Warden, Rod Wykes - Warden & Treasurer
Lynne Middleton - Warden, Sandy Bosanquet - Secretary
John Bosanquet, Charles Jones, Elyse Gilbert, Steve White, Daniel Willis

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. Meeting Minutes are available to read in the church office.

GIVING FOR THE GOSPEL

If you would like to give financially to support the work at Holy Trinity of Sharing Jesus for Life, please take a copy of our **Giving** leaflet and prayerfully consider how you might contribute.

Gifts can be placed in the baskets or gift-box at church, or given online:

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Orange - NAB - BSB 082 774 - Account 391-842-618

SAFE MINISTRY

At Holy Trinity Orange we are committed to Safe Ministry and have zero tolerance for any kind of abuse. We adhere to the NSW Child Safe Standards (see posters for more details).

If you need to speak to someone about a concern please contact Andy Martin (Rector) or our Safe Ministry Coordinator, Heather Morgan (safeministry@holytrinityorange.org.au).

Alternatively, you can directly contact the Bathurst Diocesan Office (louise@bathurstanglican.org.au)

HOLY TRINITY ORANGE

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