## Coolah~Dunedoo Anglican Parish Newsletter



Each week, at all centres, we will be learning the songs for the Confirmation Service. This week we will be practicing:

#### 'COME AS YOU ARE:

'Come as you are: that's how I want you. Come as you are; feel quite at home, close to my heart, loved and forgiven. Come as you are: why stand alone?

'No need to fear, love sets no limits: no need to fear, love never ends; don't run away shamed and disheartened, rest in my love, trust me again.

> 'I came to call sinners. not just the righteous; I came to bring peace, not to condemn. Each time you fail to live by my promise, why do you think I'd love you the less?

'Come as you are: that's how I love you; come as you are, trust me again. Nothing can change the love that I bear you; all will be well, just come as you are.'

Deirdre Browne OSJ, 1936-. Words and music by permission © Spectrum Publications, Melbourne. TiS 693



Trivia Night Friday 4th August at the Dunedoo Bowling Club, start getting your table together. Tickets from Milling Stuart.

Agnus Day Cartoon Used by Permission I THINK IT'S INTERESTING THAT

FEEL BAD FOR ALL



YOU ASSUME THAT



#### FR ROBERT TO RETIRE.

Fr Robert announced at Tuesday's Parish Council meeting that after much prayer, discussion with Family, the Bishop and Advisors, that he will be retiring from full time ministry following services on 31st December, 2017. Fr Robert and Rev. Beth plan to move closer to their family in Coonabarabran. Fr Robert and Rev. Beth give grateful thanks to Parishioners and the Parish Council for their prayerfulness and support over their 10 years of ministry in the Coolah Dunedoo Parish and ask for your continued prayers during this time of transition.

## LOVE AS COMMUNITY

Come together as a Parish and Celebrate

## Love as a Community of Grace

on 5th Sunday 30th July 10:00 am

St Andrew's Octagon, Coolah. Following a

> Contemporary Worship Service

There will be a BYO

**Everything To Share** 

Luncheon and Fellowship, With BBQ facilities, Tea & Coffee Available

ALL ARE WELCOME.

### FOR OUR PRAYERS:

V Merciful God: R hear our prayer.

Merciful God, hear us as we pray: Search our hearts and lead us, that we may work for the end of war, injustice, genocide and religious bigotry. V/R

Faithful one, call us to grace as your sons and daughters, change our hearts and lead us on your way, that by our lives we may proclaim your good news to the world. V/R You promise to bless all the earth,

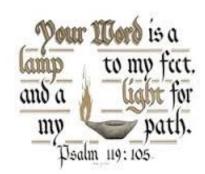
continue to comfort Sir Ivan Fire victims. Comfort them as they seek healing of mind and spirit, and to the land. V/R

Come Holy Spirit, lead Sam Bennetts; Meg Christensen; Hollie Copeland; Paul Sweeney; Malcolm and Brian Hellyer, Charlie and Sophie Kensit, into love for you and their peers. V/R

You walk with us in the heard times as our shepherd and guide. Comfort these pilgrims on their journey: Margaret, Evelyn Finch, Fay Jones, Shirley Edmed, Tracie Walsh, Kim Chaffey, John & Janet Kubowicz, Fred, Irene & Barbara Osborne; and, those known to your Father's heart. V/R

Search our hearts and leads us in the way of your truth that with all your saints we may dwell in your house forever. V/R

Faithful God, you promised to be with us and not abandon us enable to grow as the people of God in this Parish. Amen



## Pentecost +7 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2017

## Coolah~Dunedoo Anglican Parish Newsletter





#### PENTECOST +7

Continuing with the theme of the sowing of seeds, Jesus explains more fully for us this image he gives us of his Kingdom, and warns us of the eternal consequences for those among us who sow the seeds of weeds amongst the wheat. Using powerful dichotomous imageries, Jesus presents us with a choice...

Pray that we will remain faithful to God's word.

Give thanks for the Daehan Seong



Gong Hoe (대한성공회), the Anglican Church of Korea. Text: Jesse Poole Saint Peter's, East Maitland,



#### The Parish Survey Results

These comments and interpretation of the results for the parish survey conducted in March 2017 where presented to the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday night by Fr Robert.

#### **General Questions**

5 Questions: The General Questions tell us that there have been lots of years of worship ie a lot of wisdom and practice in prayer and worship and the average parishioner has worshipped in the parish for 30 years. We are a committed and dedicated worshipping, prayerful mob! We need to attract young people and more people. But we feel time/other attractions/ commitment are the reason why people do not come to worship. We offer worship, fellowship, friendship and fundraising.

# Pentecost +8 Sunday July 30th

10:00 am 5th Sunday Celebrations followed by
BYO everything to Share lunch.
Tea, Coffee, BBQ available

#### **NOTICES:**

- St Andrew's Anglicare Op Shop is very low on winter items and stock, jackets ,jumpers, blanket, woollies, long sleeve garments etc. If you can help with a donation it would be appreciated.
- Late Valentine's Day Dinner September 1 coming soon with guest speaker Andrew Dunkley, Radio Presenter and author of 'All I see is MUD'. Further information available after the Trivia Night.
- If you are aware of people who need support in the wake of the February Fires, please give their details in writing, to an LLM or one of the clergy
- The AWA will be celebrating AWA Sunday in mid-August. It was carried forward as many were away at the regular time.

#### Sermons

2 Questions: There seems to be a high proportion of parishioners who prefer sermons to stay the same, especially when in the second question "don't change" is the 3 most popular answer. Although the range of answer scores in the second question suggest a mixture of topics for sermons would be acceptable.

#### Parish Vision

5 Questions: As a parish, we seem to know what a vision or focus statement is and does. We seem to be split in focusing on ourselves and on other people, where as our desire is for growth in numbers. We are split on whether we need a vision or focus statement with a slight

#### **MEETING NEXT:**

- Confirmation Next Classes
   Dunedoo Monday 31/7/17 @
   3:30 pm and Mendooran School
   Tuesday 1/8/17 @ 3.10 pm
- AWA 7/8/17 at 7:30 pm in the Dunedoo Church Hall.
- Parish Council 7:30 pm 15/8/17 at Dunedoo

majority opting for a vision statement. We want all parishioners and the parish council to be involved in deciding what that visions statement says, which would be difficult seeing just under half the responses were 'we didn't need one'.

#### **Worship Services**

3 Questions: It's understandable that those who have a monthly service would be reluctant to make changes to their regular service. Most Dunedoo answers were in favour of changes to the way we do church services whilst most Coolah answers were not. There seem to be an appetite for change but not to current services.

#### **Logistics**

- 4 Questions: We see that our vision should be to Appeal/encourage/attract non-Christians, young people, families If we had new services they should be:
- 1. family services, services with other denominations, or special events,
- 2. have more well known hymns
- 3. take place monthly in the morning of a Saturday or Sunday.

This would mean that, if these new services are to be held on a Sunday, once a month Sunday services would need to change. Yet we are reluctant to change our normal service.

A full copy of the results are available from Fr Robert.

#### PARISH OF COOLAH-DUNEDOO — DIOCESE OF BATHURST — ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

St Andrew's Coolah - All Saint's Dunedoo; Elong Community; St Chad's Mendooran; St Laurence's Neilrex; St John's Uarbry; including the villages of Merrygoen, Birriwa and Leadville] **Office:** 55 Cobborah St, Dunedoo **Phone:** 6375-1246, **Fax:** 6375-1659 **E-mail:** anglican.coodun@bigpond.com **Website:** http://www.anglicanscoolahdunedoo.org.au **Rector:** The Reverend Robert Bowman. Phone 6375-1246 **Honorary Associate Priest:** The Reverend Beth Bowman

Rector: The Reverend Robert Bowman. Phone 6375-1246 Honorary Associate Priest: The Reverend Beth Bowman Licensed Lay Ministers: Jenny Tunks 6886-6205; Lloyd Graham 6375-1218. Parish Secretary: Jenny Tunks 6886 6205

Parish Treasurers: Sue Graham 6375-1218 Administrative Assistant: Barb Smith 6375 1246