



October 10th 2021



The Prologue to John's Gospel

A note from the Rector:

One of the first questions I was asked when I returned to work on Wednesday was, *When are we re-opening for services?*

A lot has changed since I went on holidays 2 weeks ago. For NSW has reached the 70% vaccination mark and we've changed our Premier and Deputy Premier. This means that we and the Diocese have been waiting for the new Premier to release his new roadmap for the easing of restrictions come Monday. At the same time, the Central Coast is lagging behind on vaccination rates due to a lack of supply and so we are yet to reach the 70% mark and, finally, COVID is now impacting our local community like never before.

In the meantime I've been taking time to listen to other church leaders to see what their plans are for re-opening. Most church leaders I've spoken to plan to re-open after the 80% NSW vaccination mark is reached - at the earliest. At the same time, from Monday, churches in regional areas will face greater restrictions, with non-vaccinated people being barred from attending until the 80% NSW vaccination mark is reached.

With these things in mind, the wardens and I met on Thursday to discuss the way forward. Due to the uncertainty of how COVID numbers will fare in our community after restrictions are eased and the need for all our attendees and volunteers to be fully vaccinated to be able to attend and assist, we have decided to re-open after we have reached the NSW 80% vaccination mark. This will most likely mean that our first face-to-face service will be held on **Sunday October 31**, but please watch this space.

When we do return you MUST check in using our QR Code. If you don't have a smartphone then either get someone to add you as a dependent OR obtain a COVID-19 check-in card by calling Service NSW on 13 77 88 or by registering online at service.nsw.gov.au OR, if all else fails, we can manually check you in on the day. Thankfully, you will NOT need to show us proof of your vaccination status.

Allan

This week's Zoom links:

Sunday Morning Church via Zoom 9.00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89163303726?pwd=MjRxbW5HNWU2OVIEYWlrVzZ5TW9DQT09> (Meeting ID: 891 6330 3726, Passcode: 687242, or dial 8015 6011)

The recording of the service will be available on our website at **noon on Sunday**.

Tuesday's Prayer meeting 9.00am <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/787794144>

(Meeting ID: 787 794 144 Passcode: 813312)

John 1:1-18 (NIV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome^[a] it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. **8** He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. **11** He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. **12** Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— **13** children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") **16** Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. **17** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and^[b] is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

MISSIONARY PRAYER POINTS

Our link missionaries: Brownings, Buchanans, David & Jenny, and Kyngdons

Andrew Browning and Barbara May Foundation

Andrew left this week (all being well) heading for Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. Please pray for:

- Safety in travel between countries and safety for well over 100 patients who will be having fistula surgery.
- Stephanie, William and Christopher while Andrew is away. He hasn't been away since April but he may be away for 2 months which would include 2 weeks of quarantine. However, the government may change the rules and allow Andrew to quarantine at home.

The Barbara May Foundation (BMF) in this financial year enabled special donations to supply food to pregnant women in The Afar where drought, locusts and the influx of refugees from neighbouring provinces resulted in many pregnant women presenting malnourished.

While Andrew was able to visit Africa twice this financial year, it was encouraging that modern technology allowed him to supervise both fistula surgery and hospital operations from Australia.

The Lutheran Church opened a new maternity hospital in South Sudan in June 2021 with which BMF partner with fistula surgery and support for maternity services.

The Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid organisation has announced a fundraising partnership with the Foundation to assist in raising money towards their projects in Africa. Anglican Aid historically supported the work of Dr Catherine Hamlin in Ethiopia and is now pleased to support Dr Andrew Browning, who worked closely with Dr Hamlin in his early years in Africa, as he and Valerie Browning continue to develop and run projects providing free maternal healthcare and fistula treatment in the name of Christ.

To find out more about the Barbara May Foundation go to: barbaramayfoundation.com



SAMARITANS PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: Lola Way has come up with another option if you want to send box/es this year. Lola asks you to contact Wendy Hounslow via email (wendy@wyeepharmacy.com.au) or Robyn Bourke, who lives at Long Jetty, on 0404472311 who can both supply boxes and order forms for box fillers at very good prices.

Giving to the work of the Parish

Thanks to everyone who has continued to contribute financially to the work of the Parish at this time. To give online use the following account:

Kincumber Anglican Parish, BSB: 705077 (Indue), Acct No: 00040910

PARISH PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for those in need: Remi Carnaby, Nathan (Skehan), Robyn Small, Mavis Vyner, Betty Greenfield, Maggie (Dibley), Vera and Doris, Michael Sanderson and Clarice Grose.
- Pray for our Bishops - Peter, Charlie and Sonia. Pray for their leadership: that they may have confidence in God's written Word and correctly handle and preach the *word of truth* so that they may lead our Diocese into all truth.
- Pray for wisdom for the leaders of the Anglican Church of Australia, Gafcon Australia and our Diocese as they respond to the crisis within the Australian Anglican Church.
- Pray for our new Premier, Dominic Perrottet, and our new Deputy Premier, Paul Toole, along with the State Government, as they lead our state out of lock down. Pray for Dominic as he balances his workload and family and as he endures criticism for his Christian beliefs.
- With restrictions easing from Monday leading to a potential increase in COVID numbers, pray for our frontline workers and, in particular, our paramedics and hospital workers, for safety and protection from COVID.
- Pray for those businesses and workers in our area who will continue to suffer financially until all restrictions are lifted.
- Pray for our community, especially for our Christian brothers and sisters, as Australians undergo a form of segregation from Monday as new freedoms roll out for the vaccinated. Consider how you might serve your brothers and sisters and community, during this unique moment in our history.
- Pray for revival – that, in His grace, God may pour out His Spirit on the people of our nation and our world through this pandemic. Pray that the Holy Spirit may empower God's people throughout the world, including us, so that others may be drawn to join us in worshipping our God.

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