DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday	Patchwork Group meet @ 12.30pm
Tuesday	Funeral Service for Doug Fitzgerald @ 10.30am
Wednesday	Golf Group meet @ 6.45am
Thursday	Rev Josie @ church @ 10am

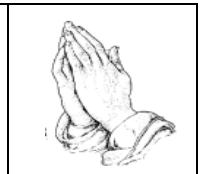
FUNERAL SERVICE for Doug Fitzgerald will be held here at St John's this Tuesday 27th August at 10.30am. After the service we will share some light refreshments in the hall. Please could those who are coming bring along a plate to share eg sandwiches, biscuits, slice.

FETE ITEMS NEEDED - Plant Stall – Paul, Nola & Carol will be running the plant stall at our fete; but would like some help with planting vegetable and flowering seedlings in early September. If you can help that would be fabulous. **Cake Stall –** Judith would really appreciate it if you could please bring in Plain Flour, Mixed Fruit, Brown Sugar (not raw), Eggs, Butter to go towards the various cakes. **Raffle Stall –** please could you start bringing in items for the raffle prizes eg food tins, wine, tasty nibbles, chocolates etc.

THANK YOU – for being so faithful in the offertory you give each week. Over the last 3 months we have managed a small surplus each month. This has not happened for many years. A true blessing.

Please pray for: Paul; Keena; Cheryl; Elsie; Isla; Charlotte Cameron; Kieth; Bhav; Joyce; Gazza; Derek; Meredith, Justin, Simon; Peg, Ross, David

This week Johnny is with Neil & Merle Jennings





Happy birthday to Praise Longrande on 28th; Wally Dunne on 30th

Wardens -	Phil Goulding	Phone: 9247 4978
	Judith Smith	Phone: 9246 3745
Parish Priest –	the Reverend Josie Steytler	Phone: 0421 115 438

Electronic giving: Account Name - Anglican Parish Greenwood
BSB - 706 001 **Account Number** - 3000 3969
Website: https://greenwoodanglican.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodanglican
Email address: greenwoodanglican@gmail.com
Phone Number: 9447 9243

ST JOHN'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH GREENWOOD

Welcome to Worship

Pentecost 14

25th August 2024

We are a warm-hearted community who are delighted to have you worshipping with us today …

Our Mission is to

- **Know God personally**
- **Love and respect one another deeply**
- **Disciple and serve those around us**

Sentence: Jesus said, "It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." *John 6:63*

Collect of the Day
Everliving God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear the prayers we offer for all your faithful people, that in the ministry to which you have called them each may serve you in holiness and truth; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Today's readings:
1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43
Psalm 84
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

Next Week:
Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-23



Pentecost 14 – John 6:56-69

Simon Peter answered Jesus, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Today's concluding section of the "bread of life" discourse from John's Gospel is a turning point for the disciples of Jesus. Will they join the ranks of the sceptics who have dismissed Jesus and his talk of "eating his flesh" or will they commit themselves to Jesus – and the shadows of the cross that begin to fall? We can hear the pain in Jesus' question: "Do you want to leave me, too?" Peter's simple, plaintive answer is the confession of faith voiced by disciples of every age who have come to sense the Spirit of God acting in and re-creating their lives.

The true demands of the Gospel are hard to "endure": the justice and reconciliation required of the faithful disciple runs counter to the conventions of society; the attitude of humble servanthood Jesus asks of us puts us at odds with the "me first/win at all costs" philosophy of our culture. But, as Peter acknowledges, the words of Jesus are the only way to transform and restore our lives and our world in the life of God.

Hopelessness can easily become a way of life; the sense that God has abandoned us or that God just doesn't exist in our lives can cripple us emotionally and spiritually. But the faithful disciple understands the reality that God is the only constant source of anything and everything that is good.

Peter's simple, plaintive answer is a confession of faith in the God of life and resurrection who is not present in the darkness of evil but in the light of goodness that seeks to shatter that darkness.

The faith that Christ comes to reveal is not a "warm fluffy blanket" under which we hide from whatever we find unsettling or painful nor a protective coating designed to ward off every form of sin and evil; faith is a light that illuminates our journey through life's challenges and obstacles, a lens through which we are able to see God's grace at work even in the most confusing and difficult times.

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