



# The Abbey Church Epistle

1-63 The Abbey Place, Caboolture Q 4510 (Ph: 5495 1565)

## January 2015

And so we leave 2014 behind us and venture into the uncharted territory of 2015. For every one of us, 2014 brought the highs and lows of the human experience common to all of the seven billion + children of Earth – the highs and lows that help us to realize that we are all connected with each other around the globe, all sharing the experience we call *life*.

Yet each person is an individual, and unique, and it is in coming to know oneself that we begin to catch a glimpse of that God, far above space and time, yet hidden deep within our hearts – within the hearts of all people the world over.

So as we trim our sails to leave 2014 behind, and begin this exciting voyage called 2015, we pray the One who stilled the tempest will ever sail with us into the future, and help us to comprehend that even with dark and stormy skies with strong winds blowing us onward, we may be travelling faster on our individual and collective journey towards the Light.

And having Him standing with us at the tiller of our frail craft, no fear need accompany the raging storms, nor doubt assail during the gentle zephyrs, for He is Lord of all.

For we know with an inner knowledge, with a certainty none can shake, that we are sailing towards a safe harbour, sure lodging, and Peace at the last.

May we ever keep our compass set on the star seen above Bethlehem's stable, and know that our ship is named *The love of God*.

May that Love support, strengthen and uplift you all throughout this New Year.



Love's blessings Fr George



## JANUARY

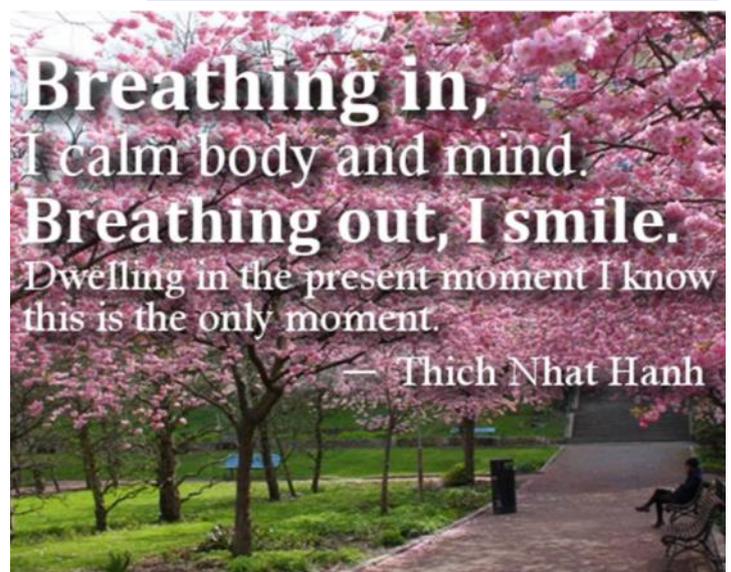
- 5 Museum Holiday Program (M-F)
- 11 Sunday Services
- 11 Church BBQ
- 12 Museum Holiday Program (M-F)
- 18 Sunday Services
- 19 The Abbey Church Guild 7.15pm
- 22 Benediction 7.15pm
- 25 Sunday Services
- 26 Australia Day

## FEBRUARY (quick look ahead)

- 7 Pot Luck Dinner
- 17 Shrove Tuesday
- 18 Ash Wednesday
- 21 AM Friends AGM & Floor Talk

### Sunday Services

- 9.30am Holy Communion
- 6.45pm Evensong
- 9.15am Sunday School (1st and 3rd Sun)



*A special welcome to all those who are attending our church for the first time.*

## **CHURCH NEWS**

- **Weddings/Baptisms/Funerals** - For the month of December we've had 3 Baptisms, 1 Wedding and 2 Funerals.
- **Christmas Carol Service** - This year a small group of students from St. Michael's College participated in the Carol Service by singing four carols including 'Little Donkey' and 'Do you hear what I hear?' It was a lovely evening with a 'packed' Church and lots of fellowship and food at the Hall. Congratulations to all our raffle winners. Our thanks to the Abbey Church Guild members for their organization and preparation for the evening.
- **Calendars** - There is a box of 2015 calendars available for all our congregation in the Church porch. Please take one so that you can keep up to date with our Church events in the New Year.
- **Thank you** - to all those who gave gifts, well wishes and cards this Christmas. The Community wish to extend their sincere appreciation of your loving generosity.
- **Donations** - In our Church gardens we have a new seat and three azalea bushes donated by the McCleery family to commemorate the passing of their mother Elsie Kriesch. Also, Pat Armstrong recently donated a beautifully carved Nativity set made out of olive wood from Bethlehem. It is set up on the font if you would like to see it up close.
- **Anniversaries** - RIP Bill Meacham whose first Anniversary of passing to Higher Service was on 1<sup>st</sup> January. We extend our loving prayers to Margaret and her families at this time.

## **FROM THE ABBEY CHURCH GUILD**

The Guild raises funds to further the ministry of your church. To keep this little ship sailing, the following information is provided for the month of:

**NOVEMBER-DECEMBER:**

**Income \$4,276.00;**

**Expenditure - \$1,174.00**

**A lot of trouble would disappear,  
If only people would learn to talk to  
one another,  
Instead of talking about one  
another ...**

**Human Life Would Be Perfect If...**

**Anger Had A STOP Button, Mistakes Had A REWIND Button, Hard Times  
Had A FORWARD Button and Good Times A PAUSE Button !!**



**Good people are like candles, they burn themselves up to give others light. Anon**

**Reflections on the Carol Service from.....  
a Parishioner...**

Sitting in the Church, as we gathered there,  
This beautiful Service, with all to share.  
As we celebrate with our carol singing,  
And watch the children, to the stable bringing,  
All the animals, who in there dwelt  
Then the manger, by which Mary knelt.

The shepherds who hurried from their field,  
After the Angel to them, the birth revealed.  
The wise men who'd been following the star,  
Which had led them all from lands afar,  
Finally they carried in the tiny baby boy,  
Who, to our world, has brought so much joy.

No matter to how many, of these Services we've been,  
Our hearts fill with love, as we gaze at this scene,  
Our memories go back over many a year,  
As we remember long gone friends, we've held so dear  
We're gathered there, our praises to sing  
As we all await the birth of our King!

**JOIN US IN PRAYER**

Please pray for Brent  
Fitzsimmons, Allan Garnham,  
Michael Griffith and Lindy  
Whitchurch.

*Please keep the Ruygrok and  
Sexton families in your prayers  
at this sad time of the  
unexpected passing of  
Michael Ruygrok  
(Sister Veronica's brother)*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



We extend our well wishes to  
our congregation members who  
celebrate their birthday in  
**January!**

**LIFE IS SO SHORT...  
SO, THINK WHAT IS GOOD, SPEAK WHAT IS KIND,  
AND TRY TO LIVE YOUR BEST, THEN THIS WORLD WILL BE  
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL TO YOU**

**\*\*\* Date Claimers \*\*\***

**Church BBQ** This happens on  
the second Sunday of every  
second month. Next one is  
11<sup>th</sup> January. A great  
opportunity to catch up with  
each other as we don't have  
Baptisms that Sunday.

**Bus Trip** Please see flyer for  
details of our next bus trip -  
Saturday, 21st March 2015.

*Wish you all a great  
month!*



*The great Western disease is, 'I'll be happy when... When  
I get the money. When I get a BMW. When I get this job.'  
Well, the reality is, you never get to when. The only way to  
find happiness is to understand that happiness is not out  
there. It's in here. And happiness is  
not next week. It's now. [WWW.VERYBESTQUOTES.COM](http://WWW.VERYBESTQUOTES.COM)  
Marshall Goldsmith*

**An eye witness account from New York City, on a cold day in December, some years ago:**

A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said, 'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!' 'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply. The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her.

She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she then purchased him a pair of shoes..

She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.' As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her: 'Are you God's wife?'

A young couple moves into a new neighbourhood. The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman sees her neighbour hanging the wash outside.

"That laundry is not very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap." Her husband looked on, but remained silent. Every time her neighbour would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a *Nice* clean wash on the line and said to her husband: "Look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this." The husband said, "I got up early this morning and *Cleaned* our windows."

And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look.

**WHEN YOU TRULY CARE FOR SOMEONE ....**

**YOU DON'T LOOK FOR FAULTS, YOU DON'T LOOK FOR ANSWERS, YOU DON'T LOOK FOR MISTAKES, INSTEAD YOU FIGHT THE MISTAKES, YOU ACCEPT THE FAULTS, AND YOU OVERLOOK THE EXCUSES!**

**MAKE NEW YEAR'S GOALS.**

**The new year stands before us,  
like a chapter in a book, waiting to  
be written. We can help write that  
story by setting goals.**

***Warren McLaren***

**VERY OFTEN IT'S  
THE LAST KEY ON  
THE KEY RING  
THAT OPENS THE  
LOCK. DON'T YOU  
DARE GIVE UP!**



**FOR EPISTLE ENQUIRIES**

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