



The Abbey Church Epistle

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

April 2016

Welcome to The Abbey Church. We are a welcoming, inclusive community where questions are encouraged and everyone has a place at God's table. We hope your time with us is special and that you are able to join us after the Service for tea or coffee and some morning tea. If you are visiting from another Church or tradition and you wish to do so, you are welcome to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion with us this morning. Children are welcome to come up for a blessing as well.



April message from Fr George...

WE have just passed through the celebrations of Holy Week and enjoyed a wonderful Easter day with many new faces and friends. It has taught us so many important lessons –the greatest of which, perhaps, is the transient nature of earthly praise when for a moment or two we seem to be popular and loved by all. Our life is a stage, where praise and blame alternate, and joys and sorrows follow each other inexorably in the dance of life. When we dare to love, we will experience the darkness of Good Friday, as well as Easter Sunday when the rising sun shatters all illusions and fears. We will be stretched out between opposites in our lives holding on or letting go, deciding when to stand up and speak, or when to listen with gentleness and remain silent—the same choices Jesus had to make again and again throughout his life. We follow Jesus and the Path which He trod, is the Path that we all must tread; so in our lives we travel the Via Dolorosa as He did, and we also share the joy of the Resurrection. Jesus gives us Hope even when we are surrounded globally with so many acts of terrorism, genocide, refugees, and starving millions. Hope like the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus tells us that despair and darkness are never the end of the story. Defeat is never the last chapter. The last Chapter in the Christian story is always entitled *Resurrection, Renewal Rejoice!!!* Hope helps us change ourselves first and then the world.

May the Blessings of the Risen Christ be with you all as you send out His Light to the suffering world.

My Love to you all

Fr George



Actions speak louder than words. Let us consider the impact of random acts of kindness this month at the Morning of Prayer.

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars, for one star differs from another star in glory. (1 Corinthians 15:41)

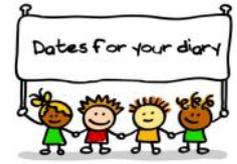
Quiet places... HOW DO WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN NATURE?

WE are commencing something new at our Church. It's called The Quiet Garden. A Quiet Garden is not a display garden. It is a place open to anyone wanting to draw aside from their busy lives to rest, think, pray, reflect, meditate or simply "be"

This is a time when we use the beautiful gardens and surrounds of the Abbey Church to search for what the garden is saying to us in our spiritual journey.

WE are very fortunate in having Judith Kennedy as our facilitator for this year. The Quiet garden starts with morning tea on the Abbey verandah at 9.30am. You and your friends are invited to our first Quiet Garden experience themed "How does God speak to you in the garden" at 10.30am after the morning tea.

WE will be trialling two sessions this year on June 10 and in October. Why not come along and spend some time meeting new people, gathering together in fellowship and prayer and perhaps encountering the 'divine' so that we can learn to see the world in which we live as a world in which Heaven and Earth exist side by side?



APRIL

- 13 Morning of Prayer 9.30am
- 14 Benediction 7.15pm
- 19 Confraternity Meeting 7.15pm
- 28 Benediction

MAY

- 1 Church BBQ
- 5 Ascension Thursday Communion 5.30am
- 11 Morning of Prayer 9.30am
- 12 Benediction
- 15 Whitsunday
- 16 Abbey Church Guild Meeting 7.15pm
- 19 Confraternity Meeting
- 21 Pot Luck Dinner and Trivia Night
- 22 Trinity Sunday
- 26 Benediction 7.15pm
- 28 COLLEGE FAIR

Sunday Services

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We extend our well wishes to all the congregation members who celebrate their birthday in April



We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sr Mary Cleophas for the many baptismal robes she has sewn throughout the years. Through her generosity and time, hundreds of families have been able to take away these robes as a memento of their child's Baptism at the Abbey Church. WE are now seeking another seamstress to continue this legacy. With our love and gratitude to you Sister!

Jesus said "Come with Me by yourselves and get some rest" (Mark 6:31)



WE are interested in starting up *Messy Church* for our congregation, their friends and perhaps many other families with young children on a Sunday afternoon between 4—6pm.

The aim of the afternoon is to welcome all generations so that

they can enjoy spending time together, meeting others, and joining together in a special celebration in the Church after an hour of activities - making and creating interesting and fun things around a theme.

WE are interested to know if there are any people who would like to form part of a planning team so that we can get started organizing our first Messy Church.

The afternoon concludes with sharing a BBQ or meal together. However, please note that there will not be an evening Service that night.



Please continue to pray for those on our sick list, especially at this time for Marion Lewer and Rob Bettridge. We also send Light and Peace to all those who are homeless, disadvantaged and sad in the world.



CUBA THE FOCUS OF WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Abbey Church was decorated with Cuban flags made by Sr Maria , an old car was parked outside the Church to remind the visitors of the embargo placed on Cuba by the USA for over 60 years, and the Committee members were dressed in aprons and head scarves representing the 'old Cuba' ..all was in readiness for the World Day of Prayer. This is an email received after the Service..

Many people commented to me , that they thought the Service was lovely and very meaningful . Several people who had never had the pleasure of being inside the Abbey before, were absolutely amazed and delighted with what they saw and also the lovely surrounds, all tucked away inside a massive forest. On behalf of the WDOP Committee from Bribie, our thanks and appreciation for your wonderful hospitality. Yours in Christ, Gloria Finlay.

A big thank you to all our congregation who came along and helped make the morning such a success. (Photos on the next page)

MORNING OF PRAYER

This month Edith will be leading the group with a focus on Right Action. The Dalai Lama says..

In order to carry a positive action we must develop here a positive vision

You are most welcome to come along, bring your friends and be part of this Morning of Prayer. Come and share your thoughts about your own spiritual journey with others of like mindedness.

There's a lovely morning tea afterwards on the verandah of the Abbey.



The Censing Angels

On either side of the High Altar are two beautiful stained glass windows of censing angels. These panels are English and date to the 1880s. They were made by the famous Victorian English glass makers firm of Clayton and Bell. From the 1850s, a number of young designers, including John R Clayton and Alfred Bell, worked with [Gothic Revival](#) architects to provide stained glass for new churches and for the restoration of old.



The angels are classical in design and exquisitely executed. Below each angel is a shield, on the right the shield is divided in two. One side with a red background shows a portative organ- the symbol of St Cecilia. The other side with a blue (azure) ground has the wheel of St Catherine of Alexandria.

The shield on the left widow depicts an equal-armed cross in white with a blue background which is the Arms of St. Michael's College.

CHURCH NEWS

On 28th March we remembered the first Anniversary of our dear friend Ethel Mills.

In March we also had the Anniversaries of Joan Saunders, Norm Morris and Ray Kendrick. Please keep these families in your prayers.

Church member for many years Nell Hewitt, passed away on 24 March and her funeral was here in the Abbey Church last Wednesday

with 150 people attending. May all these loved ones Rest in Peace.

APRIL

On 6th April we remember Wally Short who passed away 2 years ago.

Congratulations to Br Edward's daughter Lizzie and husband Rick on the birth of their beautiful baby boy Jed Timms.

