

Christ Church Cathedral and **St Peter's Hamilton**



Weekly News Sunday 5 April 2020

PASSION SUNDAY OF THE PALMS



Welcome to worship today, especially all who are visiting

JOIN OUR SERVICES ONLINE

Sunday

8.30am: Eucharist – Bishop Peter, Presider & Preacher

5.30pm: Evening Prayer

Then 8.30am and 5.30pm each day on YouTube, Christ Church Cathedral Facebook and St Peter's Hamilton Facebook.

Dear Parish Family,

Wednesday Morning Prayer opens with these words from 1 Thessalonians 5. 16-18: "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus." As I pray, I pray that you are all safe and well, as we discover our 'new normal'.

Last week I said that the life of the Cathedral continues, and it does, but in new ways. Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday about the need to stay home as much as possible, I made the decision to close the Parish Office to the public. Fortunately, a technology upgrade earlier in the year has meant that Lisa can work remotely, and I am thankful for your patience as we work out any glitches.

I have been greatly encouraged by those who've contacted me to say that their Prayer Resource package has arrived, and how much they appreciate it. I'm thrilled that some people have asked for additional copies to be shared with friends and family. Please let me know if you or someone you know, hasn't received their Morning and Evening Prayer Booklets yet. Likewise, if you are speaking with someone who is not receiving these emails, could you please encourage them to let us know.

Thank you too for those who have contacted the Parish Office to ask how they can continue to financially support the work of the parish at this time. Our stewardship is an expression of our thankfulness to God, offering as we have received. Could I encourage you please, if you do not already give electronically to support the work of the parish, that you begin to do so during this time.

The account details are:

Name: Electronic Giving Account

BSB: 705-077

Account Number: 00040917. (The 8 digit account number (including the three 0s) should be included in the account number.)

If you would like information on how you can contribute to the Music Fund, Missions, and other ministries, please contact the parish office so we can share those details with you. Thank you for your generous support, which enables ministry now and in the future.

Finally, last week I shared that I am a person who is fed by poetry. I am finding that I am dipping deeply into my poetry books. I offer this poem as we approach Palm Sunday.

The Donkey
When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born.

With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.
G.K. Chesterton

With my thanks and prayers.

Dean Katherine

Donations for Flowers – we look forward to when we can fill the Cathedral again with flowers. **If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one** or as a **thank-offering** to be remembered when the cathedral is open once more, please advise Suzanne Evans on 4955 9170.



MAINLY MUSIC IS CURRENTLY IN RECESS

Please check our Cathedral Ministry Facebook page and our Cathedral Facebook for fun activities and resources you can do at home!

Creativity at the Cathedral: We need your help! This initiative cannot run without people who are willing to share their creative endeavours: art, poetry, photography, needlework, music – the list is endless and limited only by our imaginations. Please consider submissions for the season of Easter as we journey through this time together. Please send your offerings to johnson.n@planetmail.net, or phone Naomi Johnson on 0405 819 350.

From the Cathedral's Director of Music, Peter Guy...

This week is going to be odd. It doesn't feel like Palm Sunday, and it sure doesn't feel like we're entering the great paschal mysteries of Holy Week. At the start of this week Jesus entered Jerusalem to the cries of his "adoring fans" with shouts of Hosanna! How strange a feeling that our shouts of hosanna and our procession won't be into the temple, but perhaps around our own house. We can still enjoy beautiful music, though. And for Palm Sunday, I suggest you listen to this recording of Thomas' Weelkes "Hosanna to the Son of David": https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FC2WTqIbp5Y

Weelkes was a contemporary (roughly) of William Byrd and organist and choir master of Chichester Cathedral for the first two decades of the 17th century. Evidently, he may not have been a person of the highest integrity. As David Brown writes in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography: "he was not the only disorderly member of the cathedral establishment, though in due course he would become its most celebrated"! His setting of this text from Matthew's gospel was probably intended as a secular anthem. This proposition is supported by the fact that no manuscript is known in any liturgical sources, its "unusual" scoring (2 soprano, alto, tenor, 2 basses) and the use of the Latin "Hosanna in Excelsis Deo" at the culmination of the work (Latin was not the flavour of the month in the newly established Church of England). The work consists of both homophonic (chordal) sections and counterpoint (each part having its own melody). The strong homophonic sections tend to focus on the word Hosanna, as if all the people are crying out to the Lord in one, unified voice!

While we're not together to sing "Ride on, Ride on in Majesty" on Sunday, perhaps you'd like to reflect on, and prepare for, Holy Week while listening to Grayston Ives' setting of that text which you will find here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJAiKBdq-jc

I'm working on having available a selection of hymns to make available for reflection for Good Friday and Easter Day... Once they are ready, I'll make sure that the parish knows where to find them. Keep an eye on Facebook, and if you're not there, we'll make sure they're on YouTube, as well! Stay safe, everyone!

As part of our isolation, Naomi Johnson is undertaking to write a blog post for the choir once a week. She expresses beautifully the feelings that so many of us share. These are posted on the choir's Facebook page, but if you are not on Facebook, head to https://newcastlecathedralchoir.wordpress.com to keep up to date. New posts will generally appear on Saturdays.

Support a choral cause!... There's still time to top up on your wine supplies at discounted prices and to assists with fundraising for the choir. With every carton of Brokenwood wine that is sold, \$20 is donated to the UK Choir Tour 2020 fund. At a 30% discount, this is too good an opportunity to miss!



Spread the word (and the code!) to your family and friends and help us to send all our choristers to England! Order online at www.brokenwood.com.au/Fundraisers and use the promo code: CHOIR

Please send any notices for inclusion in the pew sheet to cathedral@newcastlecathedral.org.au by 9am on Tuesday



Message from the Samaritans:

In this unusual time there is a greater need for your support



counselling session for a child recovering from trauma.



could give emergency assistance to a woman fleeing domestic violence.



support worker for a NSW family living in poverty.

Your donation provides hope and stability for the community in Newcastle & beyond. Support your local community.

ONLINE: Click <u>here</u> to Donate online to Samaritans today.

PHONE: To donate by phone please call 1300 656 336 and one of our staff will assist you in making a donation using your credit card.

We have taken measures to ensure that the Cathedral is a safe environment for all. All who work with children or youth have completed Safe Ministry Training and all clergy, staff and volunteers are subject to strict employment measures such as working with children checks. The Cathedral is committed to being a place where survivors of abuse experience care and support. For a confidential discussion, please call or email the Director of Professional Standards 1800 774 945

dps@newcastleanglican.org.au or survivorsupport@newcastleanglican.org.au

CLERGY

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WARDENS

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