



Oakhurst
Anglican Church
To Make and Grow Disciples of Jesus Christ

May 17, 2020

97 Hyatts Rd Oakhurst, 2761

<http://www.oakhurstanglican.org.au>

A warm welcome to everyone at church today. Let us worship God together and seek to grow in our ability to follow him more closely and grow in our love for one another. The service should be available at the church website, (www.oakhurstanglican.org.au) or the church Facebook page

Overall Series Title: They will know that I am the Lord their God

Today's Sermon: God Vs Pharaoh?

Bible Reading: O/T Exodus 7 N/T 2 Corinthians 2:12-3:6

GOD Vs **Pharaoh**

Praise and Prayer Points

- Give thanks the Op shop opened for 2 mornings this week, pray it continues to open next week, even for only part time, as many people may need our cheaper priced clothes and blankets with winter coming.
- Pray protection for teachers and children as the children gradually return to school. Also be praying we make responsible decisions, as some restrictions are slowly lifted.
- Uphold those known to us who have lost their jobs or had hours cut. Pray their everyday needs are met.
- Uphold those not well, many suffering for a long time now. Pray for those who are caring for them also.
- Continue to pray for Scott Morrison, his advisors and State Premiers as they lead us out of the COVID 19 lockdown. Pray also for our country as we are now facing an economic situation never known for many years.
- Pray for Jason as he leads us out of COVID 19 in our church and the wardens and Parish Council as they work through the economic situation of our church as a result COVID 19.



Rector Writes

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

These words from 2 Corinthians have been a great encouragement to me. For the apostle Paul writes of his own weaknesses in a way which does not despise them but instead rejoices in them, for his weaknesses simply display more and more of God's power. We always need reminding that God's grace is sufficient for us. I have had to remember that while our church has been weakened because we cannot do what we would usually do, God's grace is sufficient for us all.

We will need to keep this in mind as we prepare for further relaxation of restrictions. You will be aware that the government has outlined a three step process, and that step 1 has just begun. This step allows religious gatherings at church property of up to 10 people across the whole site, as well as 10 guests at a wedding and 20 at a funeral. Step 2 allows for gatherings of 20 and step 3 allows for gatherings of 100, where the space is big enough for physical distancing. This is certainly good news, but we should not think that we will be back at church any time soon. The wardens and parish council are still working out how the new regulations will apply to us, and they need your prayers as they digest government regulations and diocesan advice.

However, what seems clear is that there is no prospect of public meetings at church until at least step 3, and even then they will be curtailed by physical distancing requirements. Even when we are able to meet, we will be required to gather and keep contact details of every person who attended for the purposes of contact tracing in the event of a positive diagnosis, and we will be required to clean the building after each use. Please wait on advice from our hard-working wardens and parish council.

In the meantime, it may be possible to meet in small groups (up to 5 invited guests) in your home. Please take care to observe good hygiene, as we are used to doing. But this will be a good opportunity to perhaps invite a small group over to watch the church service if all are healthy. Some of our Bible study groups may also be able to meet in homes too.

Please keep praying for our governments, our community and one another. Pray that God will continue to be known by his son Jesus, and that many will put their faith in him.

Notices

Op Shop

The op shop is now open on Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30 to 12. Please be praying for staff and customers, and give thanks that we are able to serve our community in this way.

COVID-19 Restrictions

While restrictions are gradually being lifted, it will still be some time before we can meet in person. In the meantime, would you like to be part of a Bible Study group? These are great ways to keep up with others and, most importantly, great ways to make sure we are not giving up on God. There are groups which meet, mostly on Zoom at the moment, on most days of the week. Some are at night and some in the daytime. It will be possible for groups to meet at the church building quite soon. Please be in touch with Jason if you would be interested in joining a group, or being part of a new group!

From the Wardens

We are encouraged by the response to our request for Parishioners to use electronic banking for the Church's offertory, during this time of crisis and restricted liberty. In the name of Christ, we graciously thank you for your continued giving. If you have not already transferred to electronic giving, we encourage you to do so.

For members of our congregation who are not able or desire not to transfer to electronic giving, and wish to contribute their tidings to our Lord through other means or by cash, please contact a Warden and we will make the necessary arrangements with you.

We again acknowledge that with job losses and reduction in salaries and wages, it may not be feasible for congregational members to tide, so in these circumstances, we only ask that you give what you can afford.

In the name of our Lord,

Wardens.

We will have a Zoom catch up at 3pm on Sunday afternoon. The details are as follows:

It was great to catch up with some church members over Zoom last Sunday, so we will make this a regular event at 3pm on Sunday afternoons. Here is the link to join the meeting each week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/217396806?pwd=VUJkL09ITnI5OHVEODg4SGZwS0ZiQT09>

Meeting ID: 217 396 806

Password: 745380

If you wish to ring in on the phone, then dial 80156011, then enter the meeting ID and the password. If you can't make an afternoon, but would be interested in an evening catch up, please let me know.

If you would like to put a notice in the newsletter please send an email to Darlena at bndwilson7@gmail.com by Wednesday so it can be added in time.

Next Week's Roster For 24/05 Service

Service Leader: Steve

Bible Reader: Ros Dempsey

Bible Readings: O/T Exodus 12 N/T Luke 22:7-23

Prayers: Brad

Banking Details

BSB - 062-310 Account - 00903634



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