

## BULLETIN

### A Message from David Pargeter

Hi folks

I trust that everyone is doing ok. Week 1 of physical isolation is behind us and I suspect most of us have settled into new patterns of daily life.

Strange isn't it. But it's equally amazing just how quickly people adapt and adjust. Darwin's theory of evolution is often paraphrased incorrectly as 'the survival of the fittest or the strongest'. **What he actually said was survival is determined by those who learn to adapt and learn to adapt quickly.**

This week has shown just how quickly we can overcome resistance to change and adapt to our new circumstances – when we need to. Especially when our lives might depend upon it. **Funny how the threat of a microscopic, virtually invisible, virus can bring the planet to a standstill, while the very visible threat of global warming has produced nothing but denial, resistance and inactivity. Go figure!!**

Maybe it's because the COVID 19 threat is more immediate and actually unfolding on our TV screens.

Anyway, I digress.

Over the past few days we have gone from meeting together in a small space to meeting together in cyberspace; and it's been quite ok. More than ok really. There is a very different kind of intimacy about bringing ourselves and our surroundings into those meetings.

**Instead of seeing the backs of people's heads – which is what usually happens, we see warm smiling faces. So, if you haven't joined in yet for all sorts of reasons, don't be shy, join us this Sunday at 10.30. If I have your email address, an invitation will come to you at 10.15 am.**

**Let me know if you want to join in by emailing at [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)**

L'Chiam – For Life

Best wishes

David

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

**We meet online again tomorrow - Sunday – the first day of Holy Week.**

It's also the day on which we usually celebrate communion together. Now I know that this is one of those activities in our worshipping lives that brings us together and not just as a local faith community but as a global faith community. Around the world in different cultures and languages people of the Christian Faith break bread and share wine – and they do this to remember the life of Jesus, to demonstrate solidarity with his ministry and to symbolise that we are part of a much larger body of faith which stretches back through history.

- **So, in preparation for this Sunday please have in front of you a small glass of wine or juice, water, milk or whatever, and a piece of bread. We will celebrate communion together.**
- **Also, please have in front of you a piece of paper and a pen – preferably a black marker type pen. I will be asking you to write something and to hold it up in front of your camera.**

See you on Sunday if you can join us 😊

### **BIBLE STUDY ON THE PARABLES: SESSION 5**

**On Wednesday 8 April at 5.45 we gather on-line for our 5<sup>th</sup> session on understanding the parables.** By exploring and understanding the social and political context of the time, I hope to bring to life the parables and reveal their deeper meaning. I have spent much of ministry life reading and study the historical and social context of what is known as the intertestamental period - the period between the 'end' of the Hebrew texts and the beginning of the Christian texts, especially the life and values of the rural poor among whom Jesus exercised his private and public ministry.

**If you would like to join this study session send an email to [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com) and I will send you the invitation that you will need to access the on-line meeting.**

### **A poem: A very COVID Easter**

It feels like such a long time ago now

Since we learned to pronounce names like Hubei and Wuhan

They also seemed so far away

And in a very remote kind of way we watched the numbers grow

The number of cases

The number of deaths

Busy streets strangely empty

It was all happening over there. (cont.)

Then suddenly it was all happening everywhere  
Then it was happening over here.  
We learned that a virus can travel quicker than a refugee.  
That it has no ethnicity No religion too.  
No age or gender preference  
It knew no boundaries  
It had no personality  
Only the singular desire to survive and replicate  
'Going forth into the world to multiply'  
No border force could hold it back  
Multi-billion dollar military toys were useless against it.  
Only isolation and cleanliness equaled protection.  
"Cleanliness is next to Godliness" my mother used to say.  
(I thought she was only talking about my bedroom)  
And, my neighbour waved to me today.  
Usually she just smiles and nods.  
She called out 'Good morning' from across the street.  
In the midst of physical isolation  
The notion of community is experiencing some kind of resurrection.

David Pargeter 2020

- **If you are in need of pastoral care please contact David Pargeter 0412 334 334**
- **If you haven't already, please visit our website: [www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au)**
- **For those who are able to continue to financially support the church during this time that would be very much appreciated. The best way is through bank transfer: 013 427. Acct 3108 34465. Please identify who it is from.**
- **Contributions to these bulletins welcomed – please send to [desleighk@ozemail.com.au](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)  
(photos, articles, poems – anything you would like to share with others)**