

## BULLETIN

**This Sunday, *EASTER SUNDAY*, we gather again online.**

**A memory** has given me an idea for how we might celebrate Easter in lock-down mode.

A few years ago, I attended an Easter Service in London hosted by a pan-African community. It was an amazing experience, not for its theological emphasis ( that left me quite unmoved) but for the sensational quality and colour of the hats and head-scarves that people wore to the event.

**So, here's the idea – I'm inviting you to join the on-line service in the most colourful head-wear you can muster – but only if you want to – males and females.**

**See you on SUNDAY AT 10.30 AM – access will be available from 10.15am**

### **BIBLE STUDY ON THE PARABLES: SESSION 6**

**Last study on understanding the Parables will be this WEDNESDAY 15th April at 5.45pm.** 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 my ministry life reading and studying 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. David Pargeter**

**It has been decided to continue the Bible Studies on Wednesday evenings without taking a break. More information next week.**

This poem: *In a Time of Distance* by **Alexander McCall Smith** was sent to David from our friend Larry Marshall, he thought we would appreciate its insights:

The unexpected always happens in the way  
The unexpected has always occurred:  
While we are doing something else,  
While we are thinking of altogether  
Different things — matters that events  
Then show to be every bit as unimportant  
As our human concerns so often are;  
And then, with the unexpected upon us,  
We look at one another with a sort of surprise;  
How could things possibly turn out this way  
When we are so competent, so pleased  
With the elaborate systems we've created —  
Networks and satellites, intelligent machines,  
Pills for every eventuality — except this one?

And so we turn again to face one another  
And discover those things  
We had almost forgotten,  
But that, mercifully, are still there:  
Love and friendship, not just for those  
To whom we are closest, but also for those  
Whom we do not know and of whom  
Perhaps we have in the past been frightened;  
The words brother and sister, powerful still,  
Are brought out, dusted down,  
Found to be still capable of expressing  
What we feel for others, that precise concern;  
Joined together in adversity  
We discover things we had put aside:  
Old board games with obscure rules,  
Books we had been meaning to read,  
Letters we had intended to write,  
Things we had thought we might say  
But for which we never found the time;  
And from these discoveries of self, of time,  
There comes a new realisation  
That we have been in too much of hurry,

That we have misused our fragile world,  
That we have forgotten the claims of others  
Who have been left behind;  
We find that out in our seclusion,  
In our silence; we commit ourselves afresh,  
We look for a few bars of song  
That we used to sing together,  
A long time ago; we give what we can,  
We wait, knowing that when this is over  
A lot of us — not all perhaps — but most,  
Will be slightly different people,  
And our world, though diminished,  
Will be much bigger, its beauty revealed afresh.



**'Super' moon over Botany Bay Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020 B.Kent**

- **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. The only identification needed is 'offering' . By mail: PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183**
- **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)**

