

# Surf Report

Bringing Jesus to our Gold Coast community

Hello Surfers!

I can't believe it's been a year! What a whirlwind, and I'm so looking forward to many more with you from here on in.

**PARISH MEETING  
TODAY (19th)  
AT 8.30 am**

Today's Old Testament reading speaks to us of the anointing of Israel's third King (while the second was still alive!) (1 Samuel 16:1-13). David was the youngest son of Jesse from Bethlehem, was small in stature, handsome to the point of being 'pretty', and a keeper of the sheep. When viewing all the sons of Jesse, the prophet of God, Samuel, thought the oldest was the most likely to receive the anointing, but God had other plans. Verse 7 in this chapter is telling:

*But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.'* (NRSV)



Praise God that His ways are not our ways. That same youngest son would write for us arguably the most recognisable psalm that brings comfort to so many even today, and is our assigned psalm (Ps. 23). Only a shepherd King could understand the importance that a shepherd brings to the life of their flocks, how spiritual presence brings comfort in the face of fear and evil, and how at the end of this life there is another that awaits us that lasts forever.

**Our New Testament readings speak to us of light and vision.**

The Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus exhorts us to live as children of light, and that the fruit of that type of living produces goodness and righteousness (Eph. 5:8-14). Paul encourages us to not only keep away from the works of darkness, but in fact to expose them where we find them. The things that may – for a time – bring short term gains are simply not worth the long term costs.

In our Gospel reading we find Jesus again using one of those 'I am' (Yahweh) statements, describing Himself as "the Light of the world" (Jn. 9:1-41). In such a long text it can be difficult to put together a sermon that covers what is assigned without blowing out our time together, and this text has two theological themes that can cause us issues; i) the relationships between sin, disability and healing, and ii) the use of the phrase 'the Jews' in such a derogatory manner.

Rather than taking up our whole hour together this morning exploring those themes, I will instead be focussing on what it means for Jesus proclaiming Himself to be "the Light of the world", spiritual blindness and how we might look at the implications for us when we truly see Jesus for who He is.

God bless. Jim Raistrick, Priest-in-charge.



**BIBLE READINGS**

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (pg 226)  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14 (pg 951)  
John 9: 1-41 (pg 871)

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

Sandra Carey on Holidays Pauline in office

8.30 am Morning Prayer  
9.30 am **CRAFT (Communion)**  
6.00 pm **MARRIAGE COURSE**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

8.30 am Morning Prayer  
9.30 am PAINTPOTS  
10.00 am **CMS/BCA Fellowship**  
3.00 pm PURE DANCE

**Wednesday 22<sup>st</sup> March**

8.30 am Morning Prayer  
10.00 am Holy Communion  
3.00 pm PURE DANCE

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

8.30 am Morning Prayer  
3.00 pm PURE DANCE

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March (Jim's Day off)**

9.30 am MAINLY MUSIC  
11-1 pm PURE DANCE

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

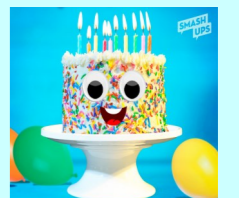
9.00 am Music practice (S Uptin)

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

7.30 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Holy Communion

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

19th Colleen Andrews  
21st Faye Busch  
23rd Antony Flower  
25th Lima Bray



Congratulations to Rev. Lima Bray who celebrates her birthday on Saturday 25th March



Congratulations to the Raistrick family who celebrated 1 year of survival at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Surfers Paradise.

God Bless you all and thanks for been with us.  
From your parish family.

In Remembrance



Kenneth John Alderson (26.3.20)

**BCA BUSH & BIBLE DAY - LIVESTREAMED**

Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 9.00 am to 12.00 noon

To help with set-up numbers, please put your name on sheet in foyer  
All welcome

**Please bring in your BCA Boxes for counting during the month of March.**



**JOIN A BIBLE STUDY GROUP in 2023**

Most groups starting February

Please phone/email a contact person to join a group

**TUESDAYS** 12.00 pm Lyn Aitken 5538 1731  
(in recess till April) 3.15 pm Jim Raistrick jim@surfersanglican.org.au  
7.00 pm Sandra Uptin sandrauptin@icloud.com  
7.00 pm Robert Kelly 0439 339 395  
**WEDNESDAYS** 11.00 am Judith Atkins 5532 0798

**MISSION PARTNERS**



**THANK YOU for continuing to give to fund the ministry and mission of Surfers Paradise Anglican Church. Please continue your generosity as we seek to make Jesus known across our city.**

You can do this electronically WESTPAC Account BSB 704-901 Account: 00000630  
Anglican Parish of Surfers Paradise OR ...if you would like to arrange a direct debit contact the office—we will email you the ANFIN Parish Direct Form  
or for one-off donations use our EFTPOS machine (come in or over the phone).

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Office open 8.30 am—12.30 pm

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**The Rev Jim Raistrick**  
0499 773 570  
Email:  
jim@surfersanglican.org.au

**Surfers Paradise Anglican Crisis Care Inc.** trading as  
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