



By Margaret Hamilton
Thoughts on a Pandemic
 Written at the time of the first wave of the Pandemic. With apologies to P B Shelley's "Adonais"

*O Weep! Our lives are held in Death's dark hand of fear.
 A land of sun and hope so dismally betrayed,
 Lost in a mist of grief and tears.
 The young, uncomprehendingly, delayed.
 But all are anchored to a truth so weighed,
 That none can see a future once so sweet,
 Now lies desolate beneath our feet.*

*Death, the foe of innocence and care,
 Has snatched from us the ones we loved so dear.
 All are left with nothing but despair.
 We cannot always grieve for what is lost.
 Our elders and our invalids have left.
 So many children and innocents bereft.
 So many loves have gone and at what a cost?
 We meet at funerals and weep our sorrow,
 How can there ever be a new tomorrow?
 Month after month of woeful news and grief.
 Grim Death may never grant to us, relief.*

*We look to the turning of the year, the start of Spring.
 Can Nature soothe our spirits and bring
 The budding blossoms, and with tender care
 Replenish our scorched earth, and soothe our fears?
 A year of grief beyond imagining.
 Can Spring yet give to life returning,
 The joy that once was ours, and guide
 Us once more to our rightful place?
 Those who are left, can we survive?*

*O never more to tread this Earth so wide,
 And fold us in the warmth of their embrace.
 Their days of loveliness denied,
 Lost to a plague of dread and loss and waste.
 Our lost ones live now in the Splendour of the Light,
 Beyond all fear and pain and blight.
 We, the ones below, are left behind,
 Wrapped in the memories of our minds,
 While they like stars, through all Eternity, shine.*



August
 8th Joan Buchanan & Jenny Fothergill,
 9th John Buchanan,
 10th Joy McNiven
 11th Victoria Hansen & Jai Morton
 13th Neil Jones

What is this expression?

"IPSESC"



Thank you for the donations of wool. Here are some of the beanies and mittens for St John's already completed.

In Remembrance

††
 Rowland (Rowley) Edwards (12.8.11)
 Rita Wiggles (13.8.19)

TRIP TO TARA 14-17 October, 2022

Cost: 3 nights' accommodation and meals, plus contribution to travel costs. If you are interested in being involved in this ministry to the people of Tara, please put your name on the list in the foyer or speak with



Judith Atkins.

Geoff and Carol Vidal are looking forward to joining us on the trip.

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Phone a contact person to join a group

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|--|
| TUESDAYS | 12.00 pm | Lyn Aitken 5538 1731 |
| | 3.15 pm | Jim Raistrick jim@surfersanglican.org.au |
| | 7.00 pm | Sandra Uptin sandrauptin@icloud.com |
| WEDNESDAYS | 11.00 am | Judith Atkins 5532 0798 |
| | 7.30 pm | Robert Kelly 0439 339 395 |

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).

Surfers Anglican Church 5592 1543
 73-75 Salerno St, Surfers Paradise
 office@surfersanglican.org.au
 www.surfersanglican.org.au
Office Manager: Mrs Sandra Carey
 Office open 8.30 am—12.30 pm

Priest-in-Charge
The Rev Jim Raistrick
0499 773 570
Email:
jim@surfersanglican.org.au

Surfers Paradise Anglican Crisis Care Inc. trading as
 St John's Crisis Centre
 36 Hamilton Ave Surfers Paradise
 5531 6013
 admin@stjohnscc.org.au

Surf Report

9th Sunday after Pentecost
 7th August 2022

Bringing Jesus to our Gold Coast community

Hello Surfers!

Welcome to August! Today we begin a new sermon series from the book of Hebrews: **By Faith; Holy Kingdom, Holy Life.**



Although the lectionary readings continue where we left off last Sunday with Luke's gospel account of the final march of Jesus to Jerusalem, where Luke tells us Jesus warned those who would follow Him to not be afraid, to be ready for service and watchful for His return, I believe it will be a good change of pace for us to instead look deeper into the ways and manner to which we can live lives that are God focussed.

We begin today in chapter 11 of Hebrews where the writer describes what it is to have faith: faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see here and now. They then discuss various examples throughout the Bible of those who exemplify lives of faith. We'll be focussed on Abra(ha)m and Sarai(h) in today's sermon.

Our Psalm for today is Psalm 50, described as being written by Asaph, in which he describes using prophetic images the judgement of God upon His people. If anyone would like bonus points today they could get back to me about what this psalm has to do with the coat of arms of Spain. In it we hear that God does not desire sacrifices of burnt offerings, but rather charges His people for their heartfelt devotion (and faith).



Interesting that in the Old Testament reading for today (Is. 1:10-20) we hear that God a similar message; He is sick of receiving from people sacrifices and meaningless offerings, but would rather His people stop behaving terribly and prefer what is right, true and just: defend the oppressed, take up the cause of orphans, plead for widows.

We are confident in our faith because God never changes. He has always preferred the heart inclined to Him. His is the just cause and the path of righteousness. Blessed be God forever.

If you weren't with us last Sunday you would have missed the outline of our church **STORY**, which I have asked Sandra to make available to you along with the Surf Report this week. The **STORY** is a feedback to us as a community of a refining of the 63 responses I received asking for what we believe our church to be. We are a **Caring, Traditional, Faithful**, yet **Older** community of Christian believers. That is our **STORY**, and that will be our guide for how we will be able to move into the future from here.

I pray you have a blessed week. Jim Raistrick, Priest-in-charge.

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 1.1,10-20
 Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24
 Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16
 Luke 12:32-40

What's Happening this Week

Monday 8th August

Pauline in Office this week

8.30 am Morning Prayer
 9.30 am Craft

Tuesday 9th August

8.30 am Morning Prayer
 10 am **(new time)**
 Paintpots Playgroup
 3-5 pm Pure Dance

Wednesday 10th August

8.30 am Morning Prayer
 10 am Holy Communion

Thursday 11th August

8.30 am Morning Prayer
 3-6 pm Pure Dance

Friday 12th August (Jim's Day off)

9.30 am Mainly Music
 11-1 pm Pure Dance

Saturday 13th August

9.00 am Music practice (S Uptin)
 11.30 am **Church Luncheon**

Sunday 14th August

7.15 am Holy Communion
 9.30 am Holy Communion
 4.30 pm 4Thirty

Memorial Flowers in Loving Memory



*of my mum
 Mary
 Johnston*

*from Susan
 Legge*

CHURCH LUNCH SATURDAY 13th August

from 11:30 am -1pm in Church Hall

Bring a plate of food to share

A time of getting to know one another

Sign up sheet in foyer

EVERYONE WELCOME

