

### Services – Sunday 7 April, 2024

#### **Easter 2**

**9.30am** Five Dock

*Preacher:* Rev Wattson Pualilo

*Reading:* Acts 4: 32-35

*Theme:* "All for one and one for all"

*We are glad to have you with us today in worship.*

*It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.*

### DIARY DATES



**Monday Afternoon Bible Study** commences a new study: "Growing through Life's Challenges"

*Reading:* Exodus 2 & 4

*Theme:* 'Growing through rejection'

#### **Lent Event Update**

Lent Event this year focused on Pacific nations suffering from climate change. Videos of Pacific nations were shown during each service in Lent. Congregants are reminded to forward their donations to the Church Office

**Anzac Day** will be recognised during part of the service on **Sunday 28 April**.

**Mother's Day** will be celebrated on Sunday 12 May.

The **Pastoral Carers** have met to review the list of people in the congregation for whom they care. Few changes have been made.

The group has agreed to meet following worship on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the months of May, July and September to oversight their role.

#### **Wednesday 22 May 2024**

##### **Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea**

Kay has been approached by the Cancer Council to run this event for this year. Kay has received the relevant information to host this function. Volunteers will be needed to organise and serve the morning tea.

The **PAC** meeting set for Wednesday 20 March has been rescheduled to **Wednesday 15 May** at 11.30 am.

#### **Sunday 26 May**

**Church Council** will meet following service.

As part of our growing association with **Kitty Doyle**, our congregation was invited by Karen, the Chaplain at Kitty Doyle, to attend an Easter service held on Maundy Thursday. Some members of our Congregation attended.

Just a reminder that, by law, all current **Meals on Wheels** volunteers must complete regular food and safety training. There are 13 Online Training Modules to be completed.

The minutes of the **Congregation meeting** held on Sunday 24 March are on the Church noticeboard.



### **Praise and Prayer Points.**

#### **Learning more about God's love, grace and power**

*In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps* Prov. 16: 9 (NIV)

Rev Pualilo recently led us through 2 Corinthians 12 which recounts Paul's experience of a thorn in his flesh and his ultimate understanding that the thorn served to both curb his pride and intensify his efforts to focus on his relationship with the Lord.

Do we consider the challenges in our modern lives as different to those of Paul?

We might experience more subtle challenges more often, such as plans delayed or halted and have been taught that God responds to our prayer requests with yes, no or wait.

Maybe we just don't register these challenges in our minds as linked to God's plans for us. Perhaps it is only in situations where, like Paul in 2 Corinthians 12, we feel so threatened that we respond and act as bravely as our prayers direct.

Some of us have then been fortunate enough to be lifted out of scary and disheartening conditions into joyful rewarding places not previously imaginable.

These outcomes obviously strengthen our faith in God and in turn encourage us to serve as witnesses to God's love, grace and power.

While none of us know how our lives will progress, we have every reason to choose to live as closely with God as we can.

*"Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the one who makes me who I am."*

Philippians 4:13 (The Message)