



***The Lord's heart was moved with pity
for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd***

"Come Away By Yourselves"

Living the Gospel

There is no doubt that we live in a very busy, frenetic, 24/7 culture. It is an accepted fact that most Australians are now having more demands placed on them by employers. Families require two incomes to keep ahead of day-to-day finances. In addition, over the last 25 years, with the increase of secularism the traditional Sunday day of rest and worship has become a thing of the past.

So the Gospel message of today is important: "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest awhile". Given the factors of our society mentioned above that seems remote possibility. Yet those concerned with mental health today say that rest and spiritual renewal of heart and mind are vital. For the growth of our spiritual life, our life-in-Christ, it is essential. This may not be easy and certainly the Gospel notes that it was not easy for the disciples – the demands were constant.

One of the methods is to create a routine and a habit of turning the heart and mind towards the Kingdom – towards the heart of Christ. The methods are quite simple; the difficulty is *the desire, the will and the discipline* of engaging in the process. If you begin with just 10 to 15 minutes a day you begin a discipline that is not hard or demanding and is easily achievable – the same time to drink a cup of coffee! Take a Bible study, or go to our web page, click on *Prayer*, then *Sacred Space*, then the little icon of a *candle* and do a guided meditation. You can also say Morning or Evening Prayer. This process begins to create within you the quiet place of spiritual rest – and a desire to do more. In the midst of a busy life, with the Lord create a still centre within.



Good Shepherd

We rush to find you too

Where and when shall we look for you?

In the crowds and in the deserted places?

*When carrying others and when we ourselves
are being carried?*

Wherever we are, in whatever we do

let us find you

O Lord

NEXT WEEK Parish Council 7.30pm Thursday 23 July

Today's Mission Giving

Collection for the Chaplaincy Camp Hill Primary School

The Walking Group

There will be an outing at 3pm Sunday August

This will be a river walk at Kangaroo Point – details for gathering will be announced soon.

Ecumenical News:

The National Council of Churches in Australia

the former assistant Bishop of our Diocese, **Richard Appleby** has now retired from being the President of the National Council of Churches. **Bishop Michael Putney**, the Catholic Bishop of Townsville, has been elected the new President of the Council. The purpose of the Council is to promote Christian unity and help the Churches work together on key issues of theology, peace, and justice.

This is a key step as only a few years ago the Catholic Church was not a formal member of the Council.

Currently the Council has a total membership of 17 national Churches, including the Anglican, Catholic and Uniting Churches, 7 Eastern and Oriental Churches, and a range of Protestant Churches, the Salvation Army, and the Quakers.

Persecution of Christians

In Australia Christians tend to think of the persecution of the Church as something in the remote past. Yet today the Christian Church is one of the most persecuted faiths in the world. On a weekly basis churches are destroyed, Bishops, priests and ministers are assassinated and lay people are bombed in churches or their homes destroyed. These are regular events in Pakistan, Iraq, India Iran, and in many places in South America and Africa. In the last few years the Christian population in the Middle East, including Israel has dramatically fallen as they escape from persecution. Last week 8 churches were bombed in Baghdad and a priest assassinated in Havana.

150th. Anniversary of the Diocese

Celebrate Dedicate Anticipate

CATHEDRAL CONSECRATION

One of the big events will be the consecration of St John's Cathedral to celebrate the completion of the building 7.30pm Thursday 29 October. It is hoped that representatives from each parish will attend.

150TH ANNIVERSARY CANDLE

Each Parish received a candle to mark the countdown to the days to the Cathedral consecration. Many thanks to Fr John Campbell has made a special stand for this out of the wood of the mango tree in garden of the old Rectory.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Sunday on 13 September. Though this is a national event with 20 Anglican dioceses across the country involved, we can use this as part of the 150th Anniversary celebrations.

We can take this opportunity to invite anyone who has had an association with this parish to come back and celebrate the life and history of our parish and our diocesan family in this anniversary year. The Parish Council will meet next week on how we can best implement this programme. In-the-meantime go to the national website and find out more on www.backtochurchsunday.com.au

Readings for next week: Sunday 26 July

17th Sunday of the Year, also known as Pentecost 8
2 Kings 4:42-44, Psalm 145, Ephesians 4:1-6, John 6:1-15

Morningside Fair on Sunday 26 July

9am-3pm on Thynne Rd Morningside. We will be holding a cake stall & **need donations of cakes, biscuits, sweets, jams. Workers are also needed for the stall.** To indicate your help please sign up on the form available on the back desk. For further info see Janelle Read, Robyn Casey or Viv Cowie.



www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au

Regular Sunday Services

8am Family Service

Easy to follow PowerPoint Service with Crèche & Sunday School

9.30am Sung Eucharist

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Hall Bookings Go to our web page www.easternhillsanglicans.com.au
check the *Hall Bookings Calendar for availability and then*
E-mail request to: rector@easternhillsanglicans.com.au

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