



# ANGLICAN PARISH OF BALLINA

*“An inclusive Christ-centred community,  
growing in our relationship with God  
and the wider community”*

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the  
Bundjalung nation, and pay respects to their elders past and  
present.*

**SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2023**

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Loving God, you alone give us the assurance of eternal life as we journey through this earthly life, learning more about you from your word and from your loving and faithful servants who journey with us. Keep us strong in our faith, loving in our acceptance of those who are yet to know you and generous in the way we share your love with others. Bring your peace into the world and show us ways to confidently encourage others in your way, bringing hope to those who are struggling in this life. We pray in Jesus name, Amen.

**Parish Prayer**

## PARISH PRAYER POINTS

**We pray for those who have asked for healing prayer:** Joy Swinbourne, Ros Rowe, Alex & Myra Arrighi, Gerri White's granddaughter, Phil and Felicity Ross, Ramin Nairyzi, Mavis McDonald, Betty Missingham, Damien Bourke, Josh Stanley and Margaret Saul.

**Birthday:** Beverley Grant, Colin Boots and John Bryen.

**Rev Mandy will be absent from Tuesday 14 November, returning to work Saturday 2 December.**

**What's in my Bible and how did it get there?** Join Rev Cathy and Rev Mandy for this study of the Bible that is not your usual Bible study. We'll explore how we ended up with a Bible in English; some of the history and culture behind the stories and places in the Bible; and more. Bring your Bible and an enquiring mind!

**Ballina - 2-3.30 pm on Tuesdays 14/11, 21/11**

**Lennox Head - 4-5.30 pm on Sundays 12/11, 19/11, 26/11**

**Mission of the Month for November - Angel Tree**

**Angel Tree- A Prison Fellowship Ministry** provides people with the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for children whose parent is in prison. In previous years, our parishioners have supported this very generously, often providing more than 70 gifts per year. To ensure we can keep our parishioners as safe as possible, but also in the hope that we can still provide generously for these children, our parish mission for November is Angel Tree. Your donations will allow the agency to provide the gifts and deliver them to the relevant families in time for Christmas. The donations cover not only the cost of a gift but in many families the cost of postage.

There are three ways you can help bring Christmas Joy to the children of prisoners this year:

- Place your donation in the Sunday offertory in the mission side of the envelope or in a separate envelope labelled Angel Tree.
- Drop it into the Parish Office.
- Make a direct transfer to the Parish Account using Angel Tree as a reference.

## **Faithfulness in Service Workshop- Tuesday 21 November 1pm-3pm**

The following volunteer roles require you to complete Faithfulness in Service every 3 years. Are you a new volunteer? Is it more than 3 years since you did this training?

Licensed Lay Ministers; Members of Parish Council; All leaders or coordinators of parish ministries e.g MU, Op Shop; Op Shop workers; Isaiah 61 volunteers.

Enrolment Forms are available at the back of each church, the Parish Office and Op Shop.

RSVP: 17 November to Parish Office, John Bryen (0417678564) or Op Shop. For more information contact John Bryen- 0417 678 564.

## **Celebration of 30 Years of Ordination of Women in the Diocese**

**Saturday 2 December, 10 am, Grafton Cathedral** You're invited to this day of celebration and hope. The first two women ordained as priests in the Diocese will preside at Holy Communion, and Archdeacon Emeritus Gail Hagon is preaching. Following the service there will be a lunch with a keynote address from the Reverend Dr Colleen O'Reilly.

If you would like to attend but need a lift, please contact the church office.

## **Changes to the Isaiah 61 Project in 2024**

We are making some changes to the Isaiah 61 Project in 2024. This includes the coming of Sleepbus to St Mary's. We are also exploring installing lockers at St Mary's for the use of homeless people.

The biggest change is to our Monday afternoon outreach, which will end on 18 December. Giving out food vouchers is no longer the best way for us to support the most vulnerable people in our community. Instead of vouchers, we are introducing a monthly cooked breakfast on a Saturday morning at St Mary's. We anticipate we will feed 60 people at this breakfast - that's a lot of bacon and eggs!

We will also be hosting the Community Christmas Lunch at St Mary's, where we anticipate we will feed 200+ people on Christmas Day.

In addition we will financially support other local organisations which work with the poor and vulnerable in our community, e.g. Anglicare, Sleepbus, Orange Sky etc.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Isaiah 61 Project financially, and with your time and prayer. Please continue to support this important outreach to our community.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Saturday breakfast, please let me know. There are lots of roles: cooking, serving, clearing/cleaning, talking to people, handing out clothing and toiletries, praying with people.

I thank God for this Parish and your passion for being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

Cathy

## **FROM NOVEMBER 2023 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**REPORTS:**                    **THE INCUMBENT:** The Reverend Cathy Ridd

**Clergy Retreat:** Our annual clergy retreat was held from 9 - 12 October at Invercauld House in Lismore. The retreat was led by the Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer, Dean of Newcastle Cathedral. The theme was 'How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?' It was an almost entirely silent retreat, which many of us clergy find very refreshing and a welcome break from our everyday work which involves a lot of speaking!

**Isaiah 61 Project:** Early in October the Mayor, Sharon Cadwallader, invited me to join her in a meeting with a Member of the Legislative Council (State Government). This MLC

was visiting from Sydney to learn more about homelessness in our area. It is good that the Mayor sees us as people who have a strong connection with people doing it tough. As part of that conversation I spoke about the coming of Sleepbus, which will be based at St Mary's.

A week later I was contacted again by the Mayor, asking if I'd be prepared to be interviewed on NBN news that night, for an item about Sleepbus. It meant leaving retreat for a brief time, but I was glad to be able to talk about Sleepbus and the difference it could make to our community.

**'What's in my Bible and how did it get there?':** Our Bible study for November has commenced and I'm delighted that so many people are keen to be part of this exploration of where our Bible came from, and the history behind some of the stories. At our first sessions we had 12 people at Ballina and 8 at Lennox Head.

**Diocesan tasks:** I continue to work on a number of projects and boards for the Diocese, including the presentation board (interview panel) for one of the parishes which is seeking a rector, and heading up the Inclusive Language working party.

**Called By God Podcast:** The Diocesan project which gives me most joy at the moment is 'Called By God': the series of interviews with ordained women for the 30th anniversary of the ordination of the first women priests in the Diocese. So far I have interviewed 18 women, with more scheduled for November. These interviews are being released each week on our Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans podcast.

**Couch Church returns!:** Couch Church has returned in audio form. Each week I am recording my sermon and it is released on our podcast. About 40 people listen to these each week, which is encouraging. The link is sent in the weekly email and is shared on Facebook. But people are also finding and following our podcast independently - we have 9 people in the USA listening! In the new year I'll train Rev. Mandy on how to do this so that her sermons will also be available.

**My Favourite Bible Verse:** At last I have finished editing 'My Favourite Bible Verse'. Now there are a few final steps to prepare it for publication. It will be available for purchase before Christmas.

**Rev. Mandy's ordination:** It has been a privilege to help Mandy to prepare for her ordination to the priesthood, and an absolute joy to be there as she celebrated her first Eucharist. This is such a special moment for a priest. It is so good to have Mandy sharing the priestly ministry here in the Parish.

**Advent and Christmas Planning:** It's hard to believe, but Advent is almost upon us. Preparations have begun for our Advent displays in both centres, our Advent musical reflections, and the various Christmas services and special events.

Preparation continues for the Community Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day. A notice went into the November Ballina Wave which is already generating enquires and interest. I spent a morning visiting businesses in River Street asking if they would be willing to support the lunch with a donation. We've had a few donations from those businesses. I hope more will follow

**THE ASSISTANT CURATE:** The Reverend Mandy Larkin

October was a big month! I was on study leave from 10th to 16th October completing end of university semester assessments. These have all been finalised and I am on break from studies until end of February next year. The other big event of the month was my ordination to the priesthood on Saturday 28th October in Christ Church Cathedral. A big thank you to all those who held me in prayer, attended the service in person and

watched online. It was truly a joyous occasion and a confirmation that my journey to this point has been well worth all the ups and downs. I'm confident I am walking in the path God has for me and I look forward to continuing ministry with the parish in my new role.

**Nursing home services:** Services ran as normal in October. John Philips kindly stepped in to take these services as I was on study leave and ordination retreat on the days they were held.

**Home Communion:** Home communion visits continue to be a special part of my day, especially in my new role as a priest. I was able to celebrate home communion with four parishioners in just the last week. The regular roster resumes in November.

**Isaiah 61 Outreach:** We are still seeing new faces coming to the Monday outreach. The number of vouchers each week has remained steady, with an average of 60 given out. We are regularly giving away the majority of the vouchers in the first half hour which keeps our dedicated volunteers very busy. Many are still facing living pressures and finding it difficult to make ends meet.

**Op Shop:** I had two shifts at the Op shop in October due to being on leave for study and ordination retreat. Working in the sorting room gives me the opportunity to build relationships with the other volunteers and to see the high quality of donations that are regularly given.

**Pastoral visits:** I had the opportunity to visit with and spend time with a few of our parishioners in the last month and learn some more about their lives and stories. It is lovely to hear of the wide variety of experiences our parishioners have had during their lives.

**Healing Service:** The healing ministry team have continued to meet each week for prayer in preparation for the launch of the ministry. These have been some wonderful opportunities to listen to the Spirit and pray with and for one another.

### **TREASURER:**

The transition from Michael Wareing to Cathie Guest as Bookkeeper is complete. The P & L for the Parish for September and Year to Date January to September were presented and discussed.

Income - a little ahead of budget.

Expenditure: less than budget. Overall deficit less than budget.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

**Ordination Gift: Reverend Mandy Larkin:** Financial donation towards a Home Communion Set, flowers and special morning tea and Ordination Cake.

**Isaiah 61 Project- Vouchers:** Following a review it was decided to finish distribution of the weekly vouchers each Monday afternoon at the end of 2023. Instead, a monthly breakfast will be provided on a Saturday morning, subject to sufficient volunteers being available. Parish to investigate financially supporting other groups/organisations who provide vouchers or similar support e.g St Vincent de Paul, Anglicare North Coast. Other support such as the Op Shop vouchers would be available at the breakfast.

**SleepBus:** No date set for commencement. More volunteers required, especially for the overnight supervisors. Open Day will be held prior to commencement.

**Street Lockers:** Altonville Red Cross have offered to fund the purchase of 12 lockers and set up costs. Suggested location - northern side of the shed. Awning will need to be constructed over the lockers. Approach the Men's Shed for assistance. Office Administrator will distribute keys and record the person's details. Key to be

returned to the Office on a box at the shed. Lockers will need to be checked weekly. Additional information will be provided to the next meeting of Parish Council.

**Parish Office:** Hours Christmas to New Year: Office will be closed from COB on 22 December and re-open on Tuesday 2 January 2024. Office Administrator will work from home on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Favourite Bible Verse:** Bulk purchase - \$15 a book through the Parish Office. Books can be ordered online.

**Men's Gathering- Brothers in Alms:** First gathering on Wednesday 22 November, 8.30am to 9.30am in the Function Room. Co-ordinator- John Phillips.

**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services:** 8am and 10am services - Advent 4. Christmas Family Service St Mary's Church 6pm.

Christmas Day: 7am or 7.30am: Beach service at Lennox Head similar to Easter. 9am: Combined service St Mary's Church Ballina. Community Christmas lunch- Function room.

**Sunday 31 December:** Combined service- St Mary's Church Ballina 10am.

**Clergy:** One Sunday off every two months. Alternate between two clergy. Commence 2024.

### **OP SHOP MANAGEMENT:**

**Insurance Claim for Flood Damage:** Insurance claim paid. Book shelves in shed arrived and ready for installation. Working bee Saturday 11th / Sunday 12 November - 8 am. All volunteers welcome, just let Ann know.

**Community noticeboard:** all parish information to be displayed on left hand front window, next to door above glass cabinet. Any Parish posters to be left with weekly parish bulletins ready to display on Mondays.

**Volunteer parking permits:** Response received from Ballina Shire Council. Follow-up letter sent.

**Sales:** October sales \$33,340. Sales up 30% on last year already. 40% of our customers are using card for over 53% of sales. A great achievement and congratulations to all volunteers.

**Volunteers:** New volunteers - Ella Scott, Michael McCusker, Colleen Westland, Mandy Haywood and Pamela Hose - all going well. Alexia Harriss is returning when required.

**Christmas trading hours:** closing 24/12 and reopening 2/1/2023.

**Volunteer Aprons:** Ann has ordered some but they may need some adjustments. If any volunteers would like to help in the adjustments or maybe making new apron in the future please contact Ann.

**Vacuum Cleaners:** Quotes being obtained for a commercial vacuum cleaner.

**Christmas Thank you lunch:** 10th December at Cherry Street Bowling Club.

**Square information folder:** to be updated.

**Volunteer Hand Bags:** Please do not leave on floor – trip hazard - but placed in cupboard provided.

**CD/DVD/Records:** All CD/DVD/Records to be 50c or as priced until Christmas.

**Purple T-shirts from Rotary – We say NO to Domestic and Family Violence:** Letter to be sent to Parish Council requesting permission for volunteers (if they wish) to wear the T-shirt on Friday at the Op-Shop.

**Faithfulness in Service workshop:** Tuesday, 21st November at St Mary's Church, 1pm - 3pm.

## **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:**

**Edger:** John and Beverly Grant have kindly donated a Makita Edger and a Makita Whipper Snipper to the Parish. The edger replaces the broken Honda edger at St Mary's and the whipper snipper is to be used at St John the Baptist. Letter of thanks be sent to John and Beverly.

**Grounds:** Minimal maintenance has continued in the period due to dry conditions. The appearance of the Labyrinth and surrounding area including the garden is being attended to in preparation for the blessing in early December.

**Op Shop:** Bookshelves have been purchased to replace shelves damaged by the March '22 flood. The purchase is covered by a successful insurance claim. Installation is planned to take place on 11 November.

**St John the Baptist Security Lights:** Faulty external lights have been replaced by Eli Electrical.

**Op Shop Security Camera System:** The system requires replacement due to three of eight faulty cameras and full hard drive in Digital Video Recording System. It is hoped the current setup will not have to be fully replaced. Cost of replacement system is \$571 (excl GST). Eli Electrical will instal.

## **EMMANUEL ANGLICAN COLLEGE:**

**Anticipated Enrolment for 2024:** 885 students.

**Chaplain for 2024:** The Reverend Richard Browning. Reverend Richard has been interim Chaplain in Term 4.

**Strategic Plan- Towards 2030:** As well as increasing the size of the College to 1080 students, a major focus of the plan is the development of a holistic learning approach aligning wellbeing attributes (responsible decision making, relationship skills, social awareness, self awareness, self management) and learning attributes (persistence, problem solving, communication, reflection, adaptability, inquiry) to the purpose statement. This is being done in partnership with Melbourne University Assessment Community. EAC is part of a research project involving 30 schools across Australia to determine effective ways to assess and report on the attributes. Students have been involved in integrated real world curriculum units with an emphasis on increasing the level of engagement in the learning process.

## **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:**

**Visit to Ballina Historical Museum:** On Wednesday 11 October 2023 a visit to the Ballina Historical Museum at Pimlico was enjoyed by a group of parishioners from the Anglican Parish of Ballina.

The museum is now housed in a hall at Pimlico. It seems fitting for the museum to be here as the hall itself is part of the history of this area. It was originally the heritage listed Pimlico Community Hall built in 1937.

A delicious morning tea was enjoyed before strolling around the hall looking at photos and many mementos of yesteryear. The Mayoral Chair is part of the display of the history of Ballina Shire Council along with photos of past Mayors. Their names we now see as street names and signs.

Furnishing of homes and schools are on show with some antiquated household and farm machines. There were some great stories as moving around the hall brought up many memories for the group.

We were very grateful for the hospitality extended to us. I urge those who couldn't attend or who have not been to plan a visit and note it in your diary.

**Nup to the Cup Luncheon:** On Tuesday 7 November 2023 a group of parishioners from the Anglican Parish of Ballina and my friends who had been volunteers at Ballina and District Riding for the Disabled Centre met for lunch at my home. The Nup to the Cup event is a way of creating awareness of the cruelty of horse racing with a focus on the Melbourne Cup, gambling and domestic violence. The lunch also focused on celebrating animals in our life. It was a lovely time of sharing stories about animals, enjoying lunch and a glass of champagne and wearing fancy hats!

These are some of the words which were expressed by the group of the day:- kindness, tolerance, love, empathy, thankfulness, understanding, truth, contentment, happiness.

A donation of \$200 is being given to the Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses. "All big things come from small beginnings" - James Clear.

**Another Social Activity** is planned for Friday 10 November 2023 - Concert by Dean Doyle, The Richmond Room, Ballina - 10-11.30am - cost \$15.

The proposed activity for December, the River Cruise, has been postponed until the new year. Instead, you are invited to a High Tea at Summerland House on Thursday morning 7 December - cost \$40.00.

**Plans for 2024:** Am thinking of another Morning Tea for Volunteers at the Gallery Cafe in January.

It is planned to send a survey to all with a list of suggested activities to check interest eg Crawford Cottage, Bangalow Heritage House and Museum, Bangalow Bowlo (guest speaker), Brewery and Distillery Tour, Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum, Eltham Hotel (guest speaker)

#### **OTHER DECISIONS and INFORMATION:**

**Australian Charities Not-for-Profit Commission Self Evaluation:** Governance Standard 6: Maintaining and enhancing public trust and confidence in the Australian Not-for-profit sector. Requirements being met by the Parish. This completes the self evaluation. Parish Council members are better informed regarding their obligations as Responsible Persons for a not-for-profit organisation.

**Resolution:** That Parish Council supports the wearing of the No to domestic and family violence T-shirts on Fridays at the Op Shop and any purchase costs involved.

**Resolution:** That the quote from LJ Signs for the upgrade of St Mary's noticeboard be accepted. (\$450 plus \$185 for each magnetic strip)

**Resolution:** That a donation from the Isaiah 61 budget of \$1000 be made to SleepBus towards the ongoing cost of providing this service.

Tony Pearce announced his resignation as a member of Parish Council due to his commitments in Rotary. Reverend Cathy thanked Tony for his contribution to Parish Council.

**Let There be Light – FIAT LUX Sunday, 19 November, 3.00pm** We have another concert coming up with the wonderful cellist Eleanor Streatfeild from Sydney, and our local women choir ensemble SYRINX. Under direction of Hamsa Arnold they present a colourful program of vocal and instrumental works reaching from St Hildegard, to Bach, Durufle and Alice Chance. Tickets \$25 / \$ 20 Concession available at the door.

**THIS FORTNIGHT TOGETHER**

<b>Monday - Friday</b>		9.00am - 3.30pm	Op Shop-OPEN
<b>Saturday</b>		9.00am - 1.00pm	Op Shop-OPEN
<b>Sunday</b>	12 November	8.00am	Holy Communion-St John the Baptist
<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b>		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
		4.00pm	What's in My Bible?-St John the Baptist
<b>Monday</b>	13 November	12.00pm	Taizé-St Francis Xavier Catholic Church
		2.00pm	Isaiah 61 Project Outreach-St Mary's
<b>Tuesday</b>	14 November	9.30am	Craft Group-Admin Building
		2.00pm	What's in My Bible?-St Mary's
<b>Wednesday</b>	15 November	10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
<b>Thursday</b>	16 November	10.30am	Coffee 'n' Chat-Gallery Café,
		2.00pm	Cherry St Ballina
			Singing Group-St Mary's
<b>Sunday</b>	19 November	8.00am	Holy Communion-St John the Baptist
<b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
		3.00pm	Fiat Lux Concert-St Mary's
		4.00pm	What's in My Bible?-St John the Baptist
<b>Monday</b>	20 November	2.00pm	Isaiah 61 Project Outreach-St Mary's
<b>Tuesday</b>	21 November	9.30am	Craft Group-Admin Building
		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Andrews Village
		2.00pm	What's in My Bible?-St Mary's
<b>Wednesday</b>	22 November	10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
<b>Thursday</b>	23 November	10.00am	Coffee & Conversation-Rise Café, Lennox Head
		10.30am	Coffee 'n' Chat-Gallery Café, Cherry St Ballina
		2.00pm	Singing Group-St Mary's
<b>Sunday</b>	26 November	8.00am	Holy Communion-St John the Baptist
<b>Christ the King</b>		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
		4.00pm	What's in My Bible?-St John the Baptist

**Are You Interested in Reading at Our Services, but struggle to get up to the lectern?** We have 'roving' microphones which enable you to read the Scriptures and intercessions from your seat. So if this is you and you'd like to go on the reading roster, speak to Kerry Johnston (Ballina) or Vicki Goulding (Lennox Head).

**Social Activities for December** You are invited to join a group of Coffee n Chatters at a High Tea at Summerland Farm on Thursday 7 December at 10.30am. The cost is \$40.00 per head. Please note your name on the Attendance Sheet at the entrance of the church and if you need transport. Any questions please ring Kerry Johnston 0407257129. We will need your payment by Sunday 19 November.

Incumbent	The Rev'd Cathy Ridd	<b>Parish Office Administrator</b>	Cathie Guest
Assist. Curate	The Rev'd Mandy Larkin	<b>Parish Office Hours</b>	9.00am to 1.00pm, Mon - Fri
Parish Phone	6686 2094	<b>Rev Cathy Ridd Email</b>	<a href="mailto:revridd@gmail.com">revridd@gmail.com</a>
Email	<a href="mailto:office@anglicanballina.com.au">office@anglicanballina.com.au</a>	<b>Rev Cathy Ridd Mobile</b>	0427 836 988
Op Shop Phone:	6686 0868	<b>Rev Mandy Larkin Email</b>	<a href="mailto:mandylarkin08@gmail.com">mandylarkin08@gmail.com</a>
		<b>Rev Mandy Mobile:</b>	0460 872 944

**Bank Account: BSB 705077 / Account 00040134**

**EFTPOS is available for any payments in the Parish Office.**

*The Anglican Parish of Ballina in the Diocese of Grafton is committed to protecting your privacy.*