

weekly bulletin

29 March 2020



Growing in Christ | Showing Christ | Going Christ's Way

Bible readings:

Lent 5
Psalm 130; Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Weekly reflection

As we enter week two of no physical gathering as God's people, it is important that we remain confident that God is with us. In our Gospel reading today, we find the story of Lazarus, a beloved brother of Mary and Martha, and a beloved friend of Jesus. In the story we see the true nature of Christ as he comes and finds his friend has died. Jesus weeps for his friend, weeps out of his love and compassion, weeps because of the sorrow of the community around him.

As we continue the journey of Lent in this strange new situation that we find ourselves in, may we know the compassion of the God who weeps with us and for us, who comes alongside us in our grief and our fears and comforts us on the journey. Reach out to this God with your fears; reach out with your grief and let God's compassion surround you and your family at this time.

Grace and Peace.

Rev. Andrew

Please pray for:

- those who are unwell or having ongoing treatment - Del A, Claire M, Brian R, Margaret R, Lorraine I, Margaret A, David W, David G, Isobell K, and their families who are supporting them.
- the congregation of Maroochydore UC and their Minister, James Stevenson.
- strength and courage for those in positions of leadership in government and health who are guiding the Australian response to Coronavirus.
- please pray for our frontline medical staff who are putting their own health at risk as they care for the sick at this time.
- prayer for our emergency services personnel who continue to work around the clock to keep our community safe and well.
- pray for those people who have lost their jobs due to this crisis.
- pray for families who are dealing with the death of a loved one and are limited in their ability to gather together and mourn.
- pray for parents who will need to make arrangements for their children as schools close.

Contribute:

Email notices.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com by 7pm Thursday with notices for next week's bulletin.

Ways to keep in touch

During this time of no gathering, it is more important than ever to keep in touch with each other.

Here are some options that you might consider.

1. Weekly worship online.

Our worship services are being recorded and uploaded online to our website at oxleydarrauc.org.au. Please share this website with as many people as you can. It is also on our Facebook page.

For those without internet access, DVD's of the service are being produced. Please contact Rev. Andrew to get a copy delivered.

2. Call someone.

Make it your aim to call at least one person from church every day. Our church directory was recently updated. If you would like an electronic version, please contact Rev. Andrew.

3. Keep up to date via email.

If you have an email address that we don't currently have or an updated address, please let us know. Send an email to communications.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com to be added to our email distribution list.

4. Don't sit in silence.

Give Rev. Andrew or Sharyn Sinnamon a call (0410064675) and let us know how things are going for you.

Rev Andrew Gunton

Minister

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Devotional resources

The following resources are freely available to be used at home as you continue to spend time with God.

- Lenten Bible studies by Rob Duncan, which I have attached to this email. These are a great resource and easy to use.
- Lectio 365 follow this link for a free online daily devotional that can be downloaded as an App to your phone or tablet.
- Seasons of the Spirit Children's activity sheets are attached to this email. Please read the story as a family and create the booklet to share some of Lenten journey with Jesus.

Giving in a time of Isolation

Giving of our resources for the work of God in our world is an ongoing covenant we make with God. During this time, when we cannot make our physical offering via the collection plate, you might consider giving via direct debit, even if it is only during this current crisis. The details for our bank are as follows.

Account Name: Oxley-Darra UCA
Parish Offerings Account
BSB: 064 011 (Commonwealth Bank)

Account Number: 1003 2190

