



# WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

## THE NEWS OF WAR

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

It is with interest I note my emotional response to reading the news of war. It often begins with horror. How could humans indiscriminately bomb, kill, or take hostages like they have? Then, it might graduate to morbid fascination.

How many people died today? What further atrocities have been committed?

At times, there is side-taking and wanting the good guys to win. Has Ukraine made further advances? At times, my response is compassion. How might the relatives of hostages feel? What would it be like to be in a hospital with no power, no medicine, and under attack? What do the mothers and families of soldiers make of the sacrificing of their sons?

Across the world, there are protests and rallies. This is another way people are responding to the injustice and horror of war.

Perhaps most often, it is emotional fatigue. I see the headlines and think, "I cannot bring myself to read more. It is depressing, and I am unable to do anything."

Behind this mixed bag of thoughts and feelings sit some deep assumptions. War is wrong, human life is invaluable, atrocities ought to be stopped, and justice and prevention must re-assert itself.

Contrast this with the news of Julius Caesar and his defeat of the Gauls (French). According to some historical accounts, Caesar slaughtered one million Gauls and enslaved another million. Then Caesar has his press secretary boast about his achievements. The conquest and plundering of France was great PR for Caesar's desire for power in Rome.

In classical Rome and Greece, life was cheap, and people were fodder to be exploited for personal and national gain.

Our assumptions about the horror of war and the sacredness of human life are not universal and not shared across history. Instead, they are a consequence of the Christian view of life. God has made all humans in his image. Jesus shared our human condition. That is why we value every life.

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# 6pm Day Retreat

Saturday 25th November



\$20 per person  
Rego NOW

6pm-ers! It is your very last chance to register for dinner for our 6pm Day Retreat. We'll close rego at midday tomorrow (Friday, the 24th of November). You're still welcome to come, but you'll need to bring your own dinner. A wet weather call will be made at 2pm tomorrow, you'll receive a text from us with the plan. For more info, contact [nathan@daptoanglican.org.au](mailto:nathan@daptoanglican.org.au)

## Letter Box Drop

We have ordered in some Christmas Experience flyers for those who would like to drop to their neighbourhood. If you would like some, please visit the office!



# Fundraising for our Fence

\$6,500 needed for the fence  
\$1,000 needed for signage



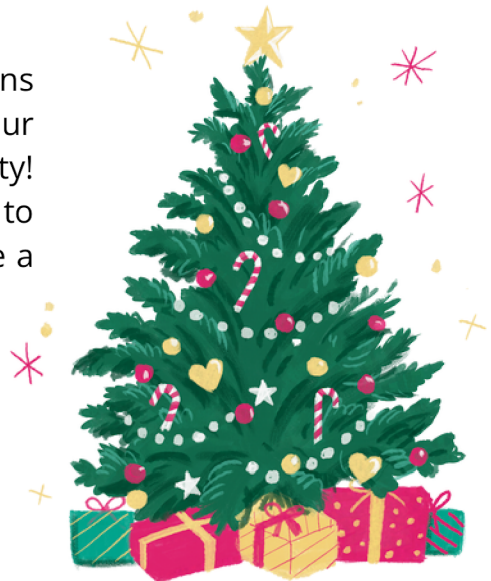
Contact the office to find out how you can donate!



# Christmas Events

'Tis the season for Christmas parties and celebrations as we conclude another year of loving and serving our great God throughout DAC and the wider community! Head over to our website [www.dapto.church/events](http://www.dapto.church/events) to see all the great things coming up that you could be a part of! These include:

- Christmas Experience
- Seniors Luncheon
- Empty Nesters Dinner
- DAC Women
- Music and Tech
- And more!



## Brightening Christmas for Children in need



This Christmas help St Luke's Preschool and Dapto Anglican Church give a special gift to those children who miss out on Christmas. Getting alongside Anglicare, the Preschool has set up a Christmas Tree in the Foyer. We are inviting families to bring a NEW unwrapped toy to place under the tree. These gifts will be used to bless our broader community.



If you would like to contribute bring in your gift by **Friday 8th of December.**



## Can you help us?

Have you finished uni for the year? Have some spare time coming up in the next few weeks? Love to paint?

We need to put another 1 or 2 coats of paint on the Op Shop donation bins. If you can help, please let the office know!



# Seniors Christmas Luncheon

With songs by The Blowhole Buskers  
Ukulele Group

**Friday 8th December**  
**12 noon**

**Ministry Centre - Main Hall**

**\$20 for Lunch**

Please let the office know if you would like to attend

Phone: 4261 1001

Email: [office@daptoanglican.org.au](mailto:office@daptoanglican.org.au)





# PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

We praise you, Lord God, that when we turned to you in faith and repentance you forgave all our sins and made us new in Christ. We humbly ask that you will give us grace to enthrone Jesus in our hearts so that he will shape all our thoughts, our desires, our ambitions, our actions. As we submit all to you may we resist the devil and see him flee from us. So may our lives and words shine with your light to those around us. In Jesus' name, Amen

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### EXPECTANT PARENTS

Tara and Nathan O; Lisa and Matt G.

### HOSPITAL

Please pray for Ivy E (8am) in Sutherland Hospital following her surgery.

### VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R, Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Gordon M Beth W, Betty B (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendy C, Helen K (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong).

### 8AM / WED 2PM

Please continue to pray for Ray G, Jim B, Phil W and Wal S.

### 10AM

Please pray for Penny, Michael and Janice V's granddaughter, who has a fractured femur and is recovering at home. Pray for the family as they care for Penny. Please continue to pray for Andrew W and Phillip P who have health issues.

### CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Keep praying for Lynne N's brother, Stephen, that his Targeted Chemo works on his Melanoma. Also keep praying for Lynne N as she goes through the protocols for her new medication for her Crohns and that the Squamous Cell treatment on her ear works well.

## Safe Ministry

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help.

Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email [safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au](mailto:safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au) or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945

