



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

JESUS AS UNIQUE AND YET FAMILIAR

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

This weekend, billions of Christians around the globe will gather together to mark a once for-all-time event in history enacted by a unique individual.

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God became man in the flesh. Jesus Christ was exceptional in his nature and conduct. He embodied what it means to express our God-bearing image in the flesh. He did this perfectly, beautifully, and compellingly.

Yet the very people who were most awaiting his coming missed the moment. Jesus "came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:11)

That (most) of Israel missed the Messiah is a surprise. That anyone and everyone who believes in Jesus has the right to become children of God is mind-blowing.

No one else is born without an inclination towards self and selfishness. No one lives a perfect life, without sin. No one loves God and others more so than they love themselves like Jesus does.

Then Jesus willingly lays down his life so that sinners might be saved.

Jesus' life is so holy, so other... and yet... at times strangely familiar.

He ate, slept, wept, loved, hurt, was betrayed and suffered – as do we. He did not float six inches above the ground and above all earthly concerns. He was tempted as we are and yet remained pure. And he is fully human as we are, meaning he can empathise with us, and modelled for us how to live life and its trials and possibilities.

Finding the balance between Jesus' otherness and familiarity is, at times, elusive. There are errors at both extremes. Jesus can be so hallowed we imagine ourselves unable to imitate him. Or we can get too familiar with him and lose sight of his exceptionality.

Which brings me to Donald Trump, who, this week, likened his persecution to that of Jesus. A billionaire who has to give up hundreds of millions, versus the Son of God taking on God's wrath and punishment for all of humanity's rebellion. No comparison, Donald. All praise to Jesus.

Rectors Warden: David Langley
Wardens: Jim Bailey and Michael Vesey

2024 AGM

RESULTS

Parish Council:

- Greg Batten
- Julie Houghton
- Brian Lane
- Bethany Vaughan-Floyd
- Blake Bailey
- Zoe Vesey

Continuing from 2023

Parish Nominators:

- *Greg Batten*
- *Janice Vesey*
- *Lorraine Miller*
- *Vanessa Webb*
- *Alex Williams*

Rectors Nominated

Parish Councillors:

- Ann Rogerson
- TBC

Parish Synod Representatives:

Jonathan Miller
James Brown



Ministry Reports



Connect Men Picnic



Join Connect Men for a relaxing picnic at William Beach Park in Brownsville on the 30th of March (Easter Saturday) at 12 noon, weather permitting.

Bring your own lunch, snacks, and folding chair (there's also a BBQ available at the park). It's a great opportunity to catch up, chat, and enjoy the outdoors together.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Prayer Labyrinth

This is the last week for our prayer labyrinth. There are 3 stations, each with instructions. Take your time and go at your own pace. Work your way through the stations. Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity to connect with God.





No Programs on Good Friday

There will be no Connect Fridays or Dapto Youth on Good Friday, the 29th of March.

CONNECT
FRIDAYS



Join us for our Easter Services

Tenebrae	Thursday 28th March 7:30pm, St Luke's Brownsville
Good Friday	Friday 29th March 9am, The Ministry Centre
Easter Sunday	Sunday 31st March 8am, Communion Service 10am, Family Service 6pm, Contemporary Service



Happy Easter from the DAC Staff team! We hope these next few days are a humble reflection of the loving sacrifice God made when he sent Jesus to die for the sins of this world. Then three days later, Jesus rose again, conquering sin and death! A kind reminder that our Office will be closed on Good Friday (the 29th of March) and Easter Monday (the 1st of April). We can't wait to see you at our Easter services.

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 or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus,
we praise you for your redeeming love
and for all that you have done for us.
As we bow in penitence before your cross
we gratefully acknowledge the debt we
owe.

For ours were the sins you bore,
ours was the ransom you paid,
ours is the salvation you won.
Lord Jesus, accept our thanksgiving
and make us more worthy of your love,
In your name we pray. Amen

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Katie and Phil C.

HOSPITAL

Please continue to pray for Rick W (10am), who is still in hospital quite unwell and waiting for further surgery. Please continue to pray for Ray G (8am) who is still in hospital and rather unwell. Also please continue to pray for Brian L (2pm) who is still in hospital with respiratory problems. Also, please pray for Tamia McN's (10am) mum, Cathy, who is in hospital with a cancer diagnosis.

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.); Wendye C, Helen K (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong).

8AM / WED 2PM

Please continue to pray for Allan C who is recovering at home. Please continue to pray for Mavis B as she is recovering, and also for Mavis's daughter-in-law, who has started Chemotherapy. Also, please continue to pray for Deb P's brother who is very unwell.

10AM

Please pray for Sharon L's mum, Marie, who will be having major spinal surgery on 3rd April. Pray for James B's sisters, Debbie and Sue, with serious health concerns. Pray also for James as he coordinates their care plans. Also, please pray for Ann R's mother, who is unwell. Please continue to pray for Barbara H who is recovering well. Also for Andy H, that his hand will heal well. Also, please pray for Ruby D for freedom from pain. Also pray for Andrew W and his health problems.

6PM

Please pray for Anna P as she recovers from surgery.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please continue to pray for Lynne N and her family with health problems.