REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday: 8.00 am Traditional Holy Communion followed by morning tea
        9.45 am Holy Communion with Sunday School and/or activities for children followed by morning tea.

Wednesday: 10.30 am Holy Communion (shorter than the Sunday Service) followed by morning tea.

Saturday: On 2nd Sat. of the month during school term is Messy Saints – All Age Worship—its great fun for everyone especially if a traditional church service doesn’t appeal! We start at 4.30 with a light meal in the hall, some craft then we go into the church for a story and holy communion as we learn about Jesus together.
        Everyone is welcome at all and any of these services and events!

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals contact our Priest.

IGNITE YOUTH GROUP YR’S 5,6,7, & 8 (ecumenical)
        Sundays during school term 5pm – 7pm.

REGULAR EVENTS

Craft, Coffee & Chat—Parish Hall —1st, 3rd & 5th Wed. 10—Noon
        Fellowship Morning Tea — Parish Hall— 2nd Wed 10.30 am
        Bible Study Groups – varies —contact the Parish Priest
        Belmont Men’s Group meets in the Hall at 6pm on 1st Tuesday
        Evening Mothers Union meets at 6.30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of month
        Day MU Group meets on 4th Wednesday after 10.30 am service.
        Cursillo (contact Bart Byrne 4938 0284)
        Parish Council meets 2nd Wed at 7.00 pm

ANGLICAN OP SHOP
        Shop 7/8, 600 Pacific Highway Belmont
        ‘Op Shopping is ethical and environmentally friendly, great fun and good for the budget’

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS
        Parish Priest: The Reverend Canon Janet Killen
        4945 9993; mobile 0408 491 681
        email: priest@belmontanglican.org.au
        Church Address: 24 Church St., Belmont NSW 2280
        (PO Box 116, BELMONT)
        Website: www.belmontanglican.org.au
*The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
*Ladies, don’t forget the Market Sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things you don’t want to keep. Bring your husbands.
*Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
*For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
*Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the Church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
*Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones.
*The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
*The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
*The local High School will be presenting Shakespeare’s Hamlet in the Church Hall on Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
*Weight Watchers will meet each Wednesday at 7pm in the Church. If attending please use large double door at the side entrance.
*Don’t let worry kill you---let the church help!
*Potluck Supper Sunday at 5pm---prayer and medication to follow.
If someone says to you that “I hope you have a good day,” there is no guarantee that the day will go well. To have a biblical hope is to have a sure anchor, not hoping for rain because the forecast says that there is a 60% chance of rain and you hope that you get your garden watered. That is not hope...that is wishful thinking and it is utterly undependable and has no power to bring anything to pass. Human hope pales in comparison to biblical hope.

In the biblical Easter story, it seemed that all hope was gone for those who believed that Jesus was Judaism’s long-awaited Messiah when they witnessed his crucifixion by Roman soldiers on a Friday at mid-day and saw their hopes and dreams die, too. But the biblical accounts reveal that some women went to give his body a proper burial on Sunday morning and found the tomb empty. The end had been transformed into a new beginning. In the pain and fear they experienced on Friday, they could not know that victory was just around the corner.

Dr. Richard Lischer an American author, memoirist, preacher, practical theologian, and professor emeritus...
Green the grass. Ripe the bud. Yellow the flower. Blue the sky. Beautiful the butterfly. Risen the Lord.

The butterfly, along with eggs, rabbits etc. are symbols of new life and resurrection.

New beginnings often spring out of painful endings. Who has not seen a person lose a job, only in time to discover a career? Or lose a relationship, only in time to discover a true and lasting romance? Or lose an exaggerated ego, only to discover an authentic life? Good Friday is a painful reality. But just around the corner from the shadows of every Good Friday is the breaking dawn of Easter.

The apostle Peter proclaimed, “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” (Peter 1:3 NIV). Our hope is built on Christ’s resurrection. In other words, the basis for Christian hope is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our hope is built on the historical reality of Christ’s work. Christian hope is a “living hope” as Peter described it. Its quality lies in its connection to the living Lord Jesus, who abides in those who believe on him. This hope is not merely an optimistic or positive “frame” of mind, but a strong conviction that all is well and that all will be well because of the living Christ. Christ’s resurrection is the basis of our hope. Christ’s abiding Spirit within us is the nature of our hope. And Christ’s return is the object of our hope.

May the blessing of Easter hope be yours this Easter.

Rev’d Janet Killen

Easter thoughts

Green the grass. Ripe the bud. Yellow the flower. Blue the sky. Beautiful the butterfly. Risen the Lord.

The butterfly, along with eggs, rabbits etc. are symbols of new life and resurrection.

The caterpillar doesn’t argue that it would rather be a butterfly. It simply submits to the plan that God created for it and curls up inside the cocoon when the time comes for the miracle to take place. And what a miracle it is. When the transformation is complete, a different creature – different in form and different in ability – emerges from the cocoon and flies away to begin its new life with wings.

In His mercy, God transforms you as well – if you let Him. He exchanges your impatience for grace and your anger for compassion. After His work is complete in you, you emerge as someone better than you were before. With God’s love and grace within you, you like Him, become slow to anger and to judge and quick to love.

Easter is really for Jesus

Easter is not just for the bunny, with goodies and treats that he brings. Easter is when we celebrate and alleluia is the song that we sing! Easter is really for Jesus who died and then rose from the dead. We must always remember the love Jesus showed and all of the things that He said.
Get Into The Stew!!
It’s getting to be the weather for it!
It’s common, cheap, and used around the world. It has stirred up wars, led to the establishment of trade routes, and paid the salaries of soldiers. Today it serves chiefly as a preservative and a flavoring. What is it? It’s that crystalline substance we call salt.

Jesus, who was master of using ordinary things to illustrate spiritual realities, talked about salt when He was teaching His disciples how they were to serve as agents of His Kingdom. He said, “You are the salt of the Earth” Matthew 5:13

If we think of salt as a preservative, we can assume Jesus wants us to prevent moral decay in our society. And if we think of salt’s ability to enhance flavor, we can be sure He wants us to help people discover the joy of knowing and living for Him.

Salt stored away on a shelf is not fulfilling its function. In a similar way, unless we are actively at work sharing God’s life-enhancing truth, we are not serving as spiritual salt. After all, the place for salt is in the stew of human activities. Instead of just criticizing the corruption of our culture as well as the flatness of the life so many people endure, let us get into the stew – for we are the salt of the earth.

Called to be salt and light in this world,
Called to preserve and to shine,
Called to reflect the glory of God –
Oh, what a calling is mine!

A SALTY CHRISTIAN MAKES OTHERS THirstY FOR JESUS,
THE WATER OF LIFE.

EASTER CROWNS

Crowns have always been the sign of authority and Kingship. Charlemagne, whom historians say should deserve to be called “great” above all others, wore an octagonal crown. Each of the eight sides was a plaque of gold, and each plaque was studded with emeralds, sapphires and pearls. The cost was the price of a king’s ransom. Richard the Lionheart had a crown so heavy that two earls had to stand, one on either side to hold his head. The crown that Queen Elizabeth wears is worth over $20 million. Edward II once owned nine crowns. Put them altogether, from all of Europe and from the archives of the East, all of them are but trinkets compared to Christ’s crown.

Revelation 19:12 says Christ has many crowns. He wears a crown of righteousness. He wears a crown of Glory. He wears a crown of Life. He wears a crown of peace and power. Among those crowns, one outshines the rest. It was not formed by skilled fingers of silversmiths, nor created by the genius of craftsmen. It was put together hurriedly by the rough hands of Roman soldiers. It was not placed upon its wearer’s head in pomp and ceremony, but in the hollow mockery of ridicule and blasphemy. It is a crown of thorns. The amazing thing is that it belonged to you and me. We deserved to feel the thrust of the cruel thorns. We deserved to feel the warm trickle of blood upon our brows. We deserved the pain. He took away our crowns of thorns. He offers us instead His crown of Life, the crown that does not fade away.

His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns...
Rev 19:12
Anglican Rosary Beads

Prayer beads, also known as rosaries, date as far back as the 8th century BCE and are found in every major religion. Their purpose is to aid people in meditation or contemplation. By associating each bead with a prayer and fingering each bead, one stays focused on the prayers. The most familiar and common rosary in the Christian tradition is the Roman Rosary, through which persons contemplate the life of Christ using a series of prayers, including the Ave Maria or Hail Mary, a prayer to the blessed Virgin Mary. The Anglican Rosary was developed in 1980 by Episcopal priest Lynn Bauman and offers a way of meditation and contemplation unique to the Anglican tradition.

Create your own Anglican Rosary

Materials and preparation: A cross, five larger beads and 28 smaller ones, string/fiber. Thread both sides of the strand coming from the cross through the first two large beads. Then on each side, string seven smaller beads, a larger bead and seven smaller beads again. You will have used all but the final larger bead. Put both of the two strands together again, and add the last bead, then tie off with a knot, and cut the string close to the knot. You’re done. Looking at a picture of the beads as you string your own set will make these directions easier to follow.

See sample prayers on page 7.

We will shortly celebrate another Anzac Day. Last year saw 100 years since the end of World War 1, but each year brings an increase in crowds attending Dawn Services and marches. This demonstrates a patriotism, a desire to honor those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, particularly those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and a fervent desire for world peace.

Rosemary is a plant that has come to symbolize this important day, and is worn as a sign of remembrance. The significance of Rosemary to ANZAC day is simple—it grew wild on the Gallipoli peninsular in Turkey. Rosemary has a long history and legend has it that the Virgin Mary spread her cloak over a small white flowering mint bush and the flowers were turned to the blue of her cloak. From then on it was known as the Rose of Mary. In ancient times Rosemary was believed to have the ability to strengthen memory. Through the ages it was used for many medical purposes. In the middle ages it was used to prevent infection, and French Medics in World War II used to burn a mixture of Rosemary and Juniper berries in field hospitals for the same purpose.

Now Rosemary is generally used as a garden plant for its flowers and aromas and as a herb. So, season your Easter lamb with it and wear your sprig on ANZAC Day.
A Rosary for Easter

† Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

- Almighty God, grant that we who celebrate with joy, the day of the Lord's resurrection be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit. Amen.
- Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. (Luke 24:5b)
- On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)
- The Lord's Prayer

† Thanks be to God, who gives us victory over death through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Rosary for Uncertain Times

† The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)
- I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living: wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord. (Psalm 27:13–14)
- The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22–23)
- Our Lord, in all generations you have been our home. You have always been God—long before the birth of the mountains, even before you created the earth and the world. (Ps 90:1–2)
- The Lord's Prayer

† The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)

On Friday 1st March we hosted The World Day Of Prayer service, with folk from Belmont Baptist, St Luke’s Uniting, Belmont Catholic, Eastlakes Salvation Army, New Life Baptist all taking part along with us. The Rev’d Robyn Fry (below) was our guest speaker and she spoke on the theme of invitation and inclusion. After the service fellowship was enjoyed over a lovely morning tea.

The World Day Of Prayer is as it name implies a world wide organisation, in Australia under the wings of The Australian Council Of Churches and The Bible Society and the day of prayer always takes place on the first Friday in March. Each year a different country compiles the service for all to use. This year the service was written by the people of Slovenia, a fairly new country in Europe with a population of a little over 2 million and only about 1/3 the size of Tasmania. This is part of the joy of W.D.P. learning about the history, customs and cultures of different countries. The service kit sent to us included a lovely photographic display of this very scenic country. We were also able to enjoy some of the traditional recipes of Slovenia thanks to recipes included in the package and our clever cooks.

As well as the fore mentioned blessing of this act of worship is the added benefit of worshipping with other Christians in our area, all the participating churches take turns in hosting the event, and knowing that people of faith all over the world are also praying along with us. Next year the people of Zimbabwe are responsible for writing the service and our local service will be at Belmont Catholic Church.
BARGAINS GALORE: Are to be found at our Op Shop near the Commonwealth Bank. You will receive friendly, helpful service from our great team of volunteers. We are thankful for them and the kind folk who donate good quality goods for us to sell. We are looking at moving to larger premises later in August. Watch this space!

CELEBRATIONS: On November 3rd this year we will celebrate All Saints day, which is our patronal festival. It will be 60 years since our current church was dedicated. We are planning a special service and luncheon on that day if you know of people with connections to All Saints, who no longer worship there please tell them about it or let Canon Janet know their details so that they can be invited.

KID’S CAPERS: For the last month we have hosted the ecumenical youth group for school years 5, 6, 7 & 8 called “Ignite”. The boys and girls enjoy all the activities and the meal provided on Sunday evenings. Messy Saints a group aimed at younger children and their parents meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month for craft, story, games, worship and a meal. Both these groups operate only during school terms. (For more information contact Canon Janet).

EASTER is near. We do hope that you will participate in some of the inspiring & meaningful worship over that season commencing with the traditional lamb meal, foot washing and commemoration of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday night (18th).

EASTER GARDEN: On Saturday 20th April from 9 am onwards we will decorate the church with flowers, greenery, and pot plants to celebrate the joy and promise of new life that Easter Day brings. If you are able to donate flowers or greenery and/or loan pot plants we would be most grateful. Assistance to help with the set up would also be most appreciated.
The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Books of Matthew and Mark

Bible Crossword No.3

Across
1 where they laid Jesus after He died (Matt. 27:60)
4 the place where Jesus died (Matt. 27:33)
5 Jesus and two thieves were together (Matt. 27:39)
8 mother of Jesus
9 The angel said "He is not here" (Mark 16:6)
10 They made Jesus wear a scarlet (Matt. 27:28)
12 Jesus was betrayed for pieces of silver (Matt. 27:3)
14 Jesus was of any crime (Matt. 27:4)
15 The 12 companions of Jesus

Down
2 Jesus shed His blood for our sins
3 Judas Iscariot (Matt. 27:4)
5 Roman commander of a hundred men (Matt. 27:54)
6 Jesus said "My God, My God why hast thou (anointed one) (Matt. 27:46)
7 a title of Jesus (it means anointed one) (Matt. 27:17)
11 They laid the of Jesus in a tomb (Matt. 27:59)
13 our Lord and Saviour

Easter Word Search

P I E R C E D S
I A S L R U R P
E C S A S A T K
C N E S C I B L
E P D W O R N B
S N O F Z V I Y
O O S L S O E F
D R O B E Q B T J T O S T D O Y U V V X C L Z S E V E I H T
E T H R E E D A Y S S I C L K F I O H V I E J C F A G W A N
A P O S T L E S S D E L E O U L G N O I X I F U C R N U
T N J T N Y Q V Y C P V R T I C R O W N O F T H O R N S T V
H I G H P R I E S T H E R F V G J U D A S I S C A R I O T I
R U V B C Y L U
R S K P S T P C
B E T R A Y A L
Q R T Q O S E T
T D V S N X N G
F O R A A H E O
N B M I K E R L
V O O B I B Y G
R P V I N W C O
Q D R T G V F T
D M J J C F O H
B L O O D E N A
C B X V L S O J
I S G P L E M E
S R M I T T I S
A E A A X S S S
T N L V T H Y S
P I G O C R S C
P U N E A V R H
D E U V L O R E
M A N S S I I
T A R A C C D S
C I R K M L T
V R Z Y N B O Y
R Y O R E E S G
K I C S Y D S G
P N H N S Q E S

ANGELS
APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
BLOOD
CALVARY
CRUCIFIXION
DARKNESS
DEATH
EARTHQUAKE
EASTER
GOLGOTHA
HIGH PRIEST
JESUS CHRIST
JOSEPH
JUDAS ISCARIOT
KING
LAMB
M A R Y
N A I L S
P A S S O V E R
P I E C E S S I L V E R
P I E R C E D
P I L A T E
R E S U R R E C T I O N
R O B E
R O M A N S
S A C R I F I C E
S I M O N O F C Y R E N E
S O L D I E R S
S O N O F G O D
S P E A R
S T O N E
T E M P L E
T H I E V E S
T H R E E D A Y S
T O M B

Sunday/School Resources.co.uk
The Easter Story

Most of the crowd spread their coats on the road ahead of Jesus, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.
Matthew 21:8

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went to the leading priests and asked, “How much will you pay me to betray Jesus to you?” And they gave him thirty pieces of silver.
Matthew 26:14-15

As they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread and asked God’s blessing on it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take it and eat it; this is my body.”
Matthew 26:26

Peter declared, “Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will.”

“Peter,” Jesus replied, “the truth is, this very night before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”
Matthew 26:33-34

He went on a little farther and fell face down on the ground, praying, “My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will, not mine.”
Matthew 26:39

The soldiers made a crown of long, sharp thorns and put it on his head, and they put a royal purple robe on him.
John 19:2

Then the soldiers nailed him to the cross.
Mark 15:24a

They gambled for his clothes, throwing dice to decide who would get them.
Mark 15:24b

Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a long linen cloth. He placed it in his own new tomb, which had been carved out of the rock. Then he rolled a great stone across the entrance as he left.
Matthew 27:59-60

He isn’t here! He has been raised from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.
Matthew 28:6