



a CHURCH alive

MCC of the Good Shepherd Western Sydney Inc. acknowledges and honours The Dharug People, the traditional custodians of the land of the Greater Eora Nation, Elders past, present and emerging.



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HEALING PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS and FRIENDS

Stephen D is now recovering at home from By Pass surgery. Thank you to Ross M for his assistance in Stephen's recuperation.

Alan B, Diane P , David P, David R, Shane A; Marc G; Peter S. Glen Shields. Peter S; Joseph & his Mother in Africa; Malcolm W's brother; Stephen P; Les G; Nathaan G; Lee F & Family; Jack R; Fr S; Dr Victor B. David P in the Burns Unit at Concord Hospital

FOR MCC Congregations

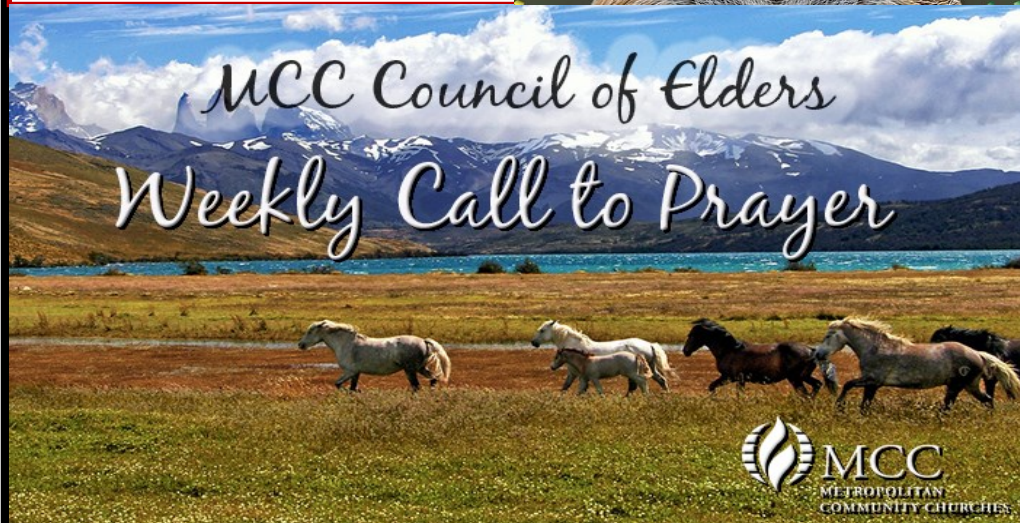
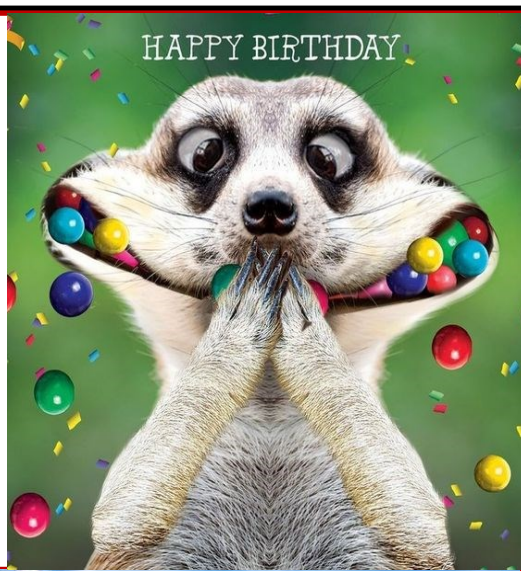
Crave MCC, MCC A Church in Progress and Oasis MCC Christchurch and especially for MCC Brisbane & MCC Sydney as they look for a new a Pastor.

FOR OUR LONG DISTANCE MEMBERS and FRIENDS:

Megan in Brisbane, John and Diane South West Rocks, Dianne & Emma in Repton, Eve and Jenny in Cronulla, Mary, Esta & Matt in Quirindi. Philip in NZ. And in Tasmania, Pat R, John D & David R, Christian & Peter

February

3rd Patricia R
Rev Elder Debbie M
9th Mark W
13th Tracy Wright.



God in Heaven, creator of all things.

I am a child of the Dreamtime and I pray you hear my words.

For many millennia we held a covenant with you to be caretakers of the land, but times have changed and we can no longer care for the land as before and now pray for your help.

With progress, comes change, and your creation is hurting. The air, water and rivers are becoming fouled with the pollution, the ice caps are melting and many animals have become extinct.

Drought, and floods, and the rivers can no longer sustain food to feed our people and the seas are becoming polluted.

Jesus, Son of the Creator, I pray that you will place into the minds of the world the need to heal our lands and seas and work with all First Nations peoples to heal the land.

To live with each other in peace, respect, and love.

Gracious Lord, I live with hope and give thanks to the God.

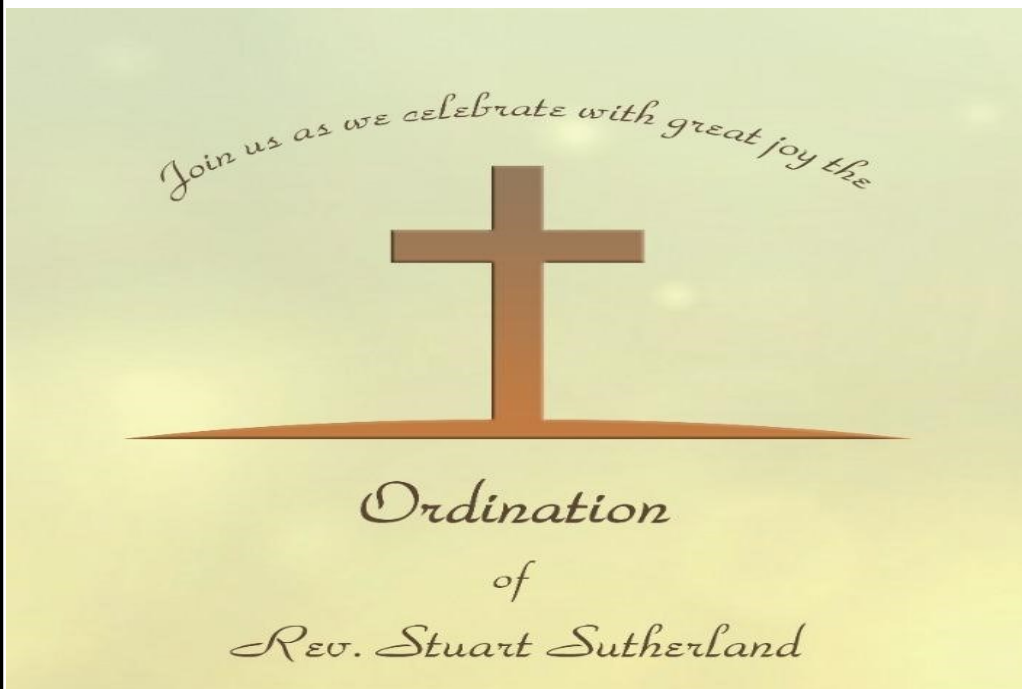
Amen.

PRAYER SUBMITTED BY: **KAREN BROWN OAM**

Karen is an indigenous woman, and a core team member at CRAVE Metropolitan Community Church in Gadigal Country, which is now called Sydney, Australia.



A Welcome back to In-Person church services. We restart at 7:00pm on Tuesday the 8th of February. Online streaming will continue as usual.





Please keep saving YOUR 5c COINS! This donation will go to the “Inner Wheel” in Western Sydney which raises money for selected charities. This year Inner Wheel is supporting Stewart House which provides a residential program (optometric, dental and medical treatment as well as emotional support), for underprivileged State School Children in NSW and the ACT.

Place your coins into the box on the small altar

CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH FINANCIALLY.

Thank you to all our church family who have continued to support the church financially by Direct Debit during this lockdown. Your commitment has enabled us to continue our outreach to so many per Zoom and Facebook.

Just like every household the church has financial commitments – Rent, Insurance – equipment, ability to stream, copyright, ability to use music – Wage, Church Supplies etc.

If any of our generous supporters is able to assist with any of these church expenses, we would be extremely grateful either contact our Treasurer, Paul Prior (0409 667 144) or simply contact your bank or financial institution and ask them to Direct Debit a specific amount to:

ANZ Bank BSB 012 356 Account 222 02 1237

Mid Year Meeting

Saturday 26th of February 2022

At 3pm in the church hall at Granville. Come along and participate in the future of MCC Good Shepherd

Colossians 1: 3 to 14

Paul Thanks God for the Colossians

3 We always give thanks to the Abba God of our Savior Jesus Christ whenever we pray for you, 4 ever since we heard about your faith in Christ Jesus and the love you show toward all the holy ones, 5 because of the hope stored up for you in heaven. It is only recently that you heard of this, when it was announced in the message of the truth. The Good News 6 which has reached you is spreading all over the world; it is producing the same fruit there as it did among you, ever since you heard about God's grace and understood what it really is. 7 Epaphras, who taught you, is one of our closest coworkers and a faithful laborer of Christ on our behalf, 8 and it was he who told us all about your love in the Spirit. 9 Therefore, since the day we heard about you, we've been praying for you unceasingly and asking that you attain the full knowledge of God's will, in perfect wisdom and spiritual understanding. 10 Then you'll lead a life worthy and pleasing to our God in every way. You'll multiply good works of every sort and grow in the knowledge of God.

11 And by the might of God's glory you'll be endowed with the strength needed to stand fast and endure joyfully whatever may happen. 12 Thanks be to God for having made you worthy to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light! 13 God rescued us from the authority of darkness and brought us into the reign of Jesus, God's Only Begotten. 14 And it is through Jesus that we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2479). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



Mark 11: 20 to 26 The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree

20 Early the next morning, as they were walking along, they saw the fig tree withered to its roots. 21 Peter remembered and said, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered up." 22 In reply Jesus said, "Put your trust in God. 23 The truth is, if any of you say to this mountain, 'Get up and throw yourself into the sea,' and you don't doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will happen, it will happen. 24 That's why I tell you that whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have already received it, and it will be done for you. 25 "And when you stand praying, forgive anyone against whom you have a grievance, so that your loving God in heaven may in turn forgive you your faults."

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2206). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

1 John 1: 5 to 10 God is Light

5 This, then, is the message we heard from Jesus and declare to you: God is light, and in God there is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have intimacy with God while still living in darkness, we are liars and do not live in truth.

7 But if we live in the light, as God is in the light, we are one with each other, and the blood of Jesus, the Only Begotten, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we say we are without sin, we lie, and the truth is not in us. 9 But if we admit our sins, God, the faithful and just One, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all injustice. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we call God a liar and show that God's Word is not in us.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2541-2542). Sheed & Ward.

Kindle Edition.

Romans 3: 21 to 31 Righteousness through Faith

21 But now the justice of God has been manifested apart from the Law, even though both Law and prophets bear witness to it; 22 the justice of God works through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. There are no exceptions: 23 everyone has sinned; everyone falls short of the glory of God. 24 Yet everyone has also been undeservedly justified by the gift of God, through the redemption wrought in Christ Jesus. 25 God presented Christ as a propitiatory sacrifice, for the atonement of all who have faith in Christ's blood. And God did so to manifest divine justice—because God showed forbearance by remitting sins committed in the past, 26 in order to demonstrate divine justice in the present—so that the Most High might be both a just judge and the One who justifies those who believe in Jesus. 27 What room is there then for boasting? It is ruled out. In what law do we boast—the law of works? No: only the law of faith. 28 We maintain that one is justified by faith—apart from keeping the Law. 29 Does God belong to the Jews alone? Isn't God also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles too. 30 And because there is only one God, it is the same God who will justify Jew and Gentile through the same faith. 31 Do we then render the Law null and void? Not at all—we give the Law its true value!

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2405). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

Matthew 6: 25 to 34 Do Not Worry

25 That's why I tell you not to worry about your livelihood, what you are to eat or drink or use for clothing. Isn't life more than just food? Isn't the body more than just clothes? 26 "Look at the birds in the sky. They don't sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet our God in heaven feeds them. Aren't you more important than they?"

Matthew 6: 25 to 34 Do Not Worry

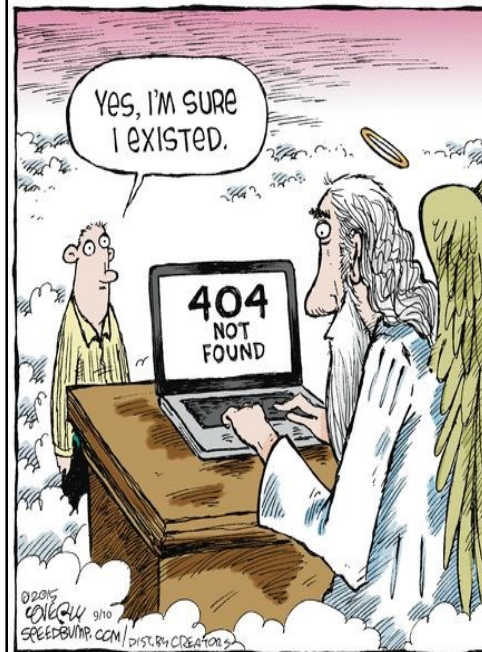
27 Which of you by worrying can add a moment to your lifespan? 28 And why be anxious about clothing? Learn a lesson from the way the wildflowers grow. They don't work; they don't spin. 29 Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in full splendor was arrayed like one of these. 30 If God can clothe in such splendor the grasses of the field, which bloom today and are thrown on the fire tomorrow, won't God do so much more for you—you who have so little faith? 31 "Stop worrying, then, over questions such as, 'What are we to eat,' or 'what are we to drink,' or 'what are we to wear?'" 32 Those without faith are always running after these things. God knows everything you need. 33 Seek first God's reign, and God's justice, and all these things will be given to you besides. 34 Enough of worrying about tomorrow! Let tomorrow take care of itself. Today has troubles enough of its own.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2133-2134). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

Acts 10: 34 to 48

Gentiles Hear the Good News and Receive the Holy Spirit

34 So Peter said to them, "I begin to see how true it is that God shows no partiality—35 rather, that any person of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. 36 This is the message God has sent to the people of Israel, the Good News of peace proclaimed through Jesus Christ, who is Savior of all. 37 "You yourselves know what took place throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee with the baptism John proclaimed. 38 You know how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how Jesus went about doing good works and healing all who were in the grip of the Devil, because God was with him."



39 We are eyewitnesses to all that Jesus did in the countryside and in Jerusalem. Finally, Jesus was killed and hung on a tree, 40 only to be raised by God on the third day. God allowed him to be seen, 41 not by everyone, but only by the witnesses who had been chosen beforehand by God—that is, by us, who ate and drank with Christ after the resurrection from the dead. 42 And Christ commissioned us to preach to the people and to bear witness that this is the one set apart by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43 To Christ Jesus all the prophets testify, that everyone who believes has forgiveness of sins through this Name.” 44 Peter had not finished speaking these words when the Holy Spirit descended upon all who were listening to the message. 45 The Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were surprised that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also, 46 whom they could hear speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter asked, 47 “What can stop these people who have received the Holy Spirit, even as we have, from being baptized with water?” 48 So he gave orders that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. After this was done, they asked him to stay on with them for a few days.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2366). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



“Careful, Eve, you might spend all of your time on it.”



Looking for a Wedding Celebrant?
Check with Pastor Robert,
www.weddingswithflair.net

HELP WITH COUNSELING AND CRISIS SITUATIONS.

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Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

NSW Mental Health Access Line 1800 011 511

QLife 1800 043 470 - 1800Respect

Covid & Pride Counselling
www.acon.org.au



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1 Corinthians 1: 18 to 31 Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

18 For the message of the cross is complete absurdity to those who are headed for ruin, but to us who are experiencing salvation, it is the power of God. 19 Scripture says, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and thwart the learning of the learned." 20 Where are the wise? Where are the scholars? Where are the philosophers of this age? Has not God turned the wisdom of this world into folly? 21 If it was God's wisdom that the world in its wisdom would not know God, it was because God wanted to save those who have faith through the foolishness of the message we preach. 22 For while the Jews call for miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, 23 here we are preaching a Messiah nailed to a cross. To the Jews this is an obstacle they cannot get over, and to the Greeks it is madness—24 but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, Christ is the power and the wisdom of God. 25 For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. 26 Consider your calling, sisters and brothers. Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were influential, and surely not many were well-born. 27 God chose those whom the world considers foolish to shame the wise, and singled out the weak of this world to shame the strong. 28 The world's lowborn and despised, those who count for nothing, were chosen by God to reduce to nothing those who were something. 29 In this way no one should boast before God. 30 God has given you life in Christ Jesus and has made Jesus our wisdom, our justice, our sanctification and our redemption. 31 This is just as it is written, "Let the one who would boast, boast in our God."



Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2424-2425). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

John 3: 1 to 21 Nicodemus Visits Jesus

1 A certain Pharisee named Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, 2 came to Jesus at night. "Rabbi," he said, "we know you're a teacher come from God, for no one can perform the signs and wonders you do, unless by the power of God." 3 Jesus gave Nicodemus this answer: "The truth of the matter is, unless one is born from above, one cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said, "How can an adult be born a second time? I can't go back into my mother's womb to be born again!" 5 Jesus replied: "The truth of the matter is, no one can enter God's kingdom without being born of water and the Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh; what is born of the Spirit is Spirit. 7 So don't be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. 8 The wind blows where it will. You hear the sound it makes, but you don't know where it comes from or

where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9 "How can this be possible?" asked Nicodemus. 10 Jesus replied, "You're a teacher of Israel, and you still don't understand these matters? 11 "The truth of the matter is, we're talking about what we know; we're testifying about what we've seen—yet you don't accept our testimony. 12 If you don't believe when I tell you about earthly things, how will you believe when I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has gone up to heaven except the One who came down from heaven—the Chosen One."



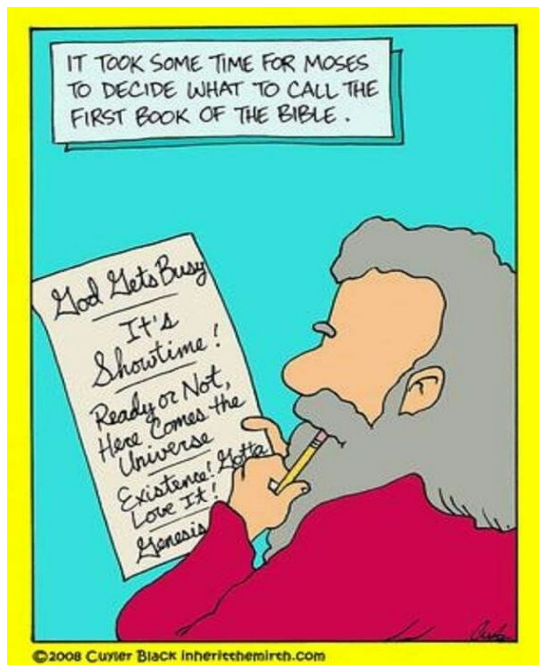
14 As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so the Chosen One must be lifted up, 15 so that everyone who believes in the Chosen One might have eternal life. 16 Yes, God so loved the world as to give the Only Begotten One, that whoever believes may not die, but have eternal life. 17 God sent the Only Begotten into the world not to condemn the world, but that through the Only Begotten the world might be saved. 18 Whoever believes in the Only Begotten avoids judgment, but whoever doesn't believe is judged already for not believing in the name of the Only Begotten of God. 19 On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light came into the world, people showed they preferred darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. 20 Indeed, people who do wrong hate the light and avoid it, for fear their actions will be exposed; 21 but people who live by the truth come out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what they do is done in God."

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2283-2285). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

Matthew 22: 34 to 40 The Greatest Commandment

34 When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they gathered together, 35 and one of them, an expert on the Law, attempted to trick Jesus with this question: 36 "Teacher, which commandment of the Law is the greatest?" 37 Jesus answered: " 'You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 "That is the greatest and first commandment. 39 The second is like it: 'You must love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments the whole Law is based—and the Prophets as well."

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2166). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition. .



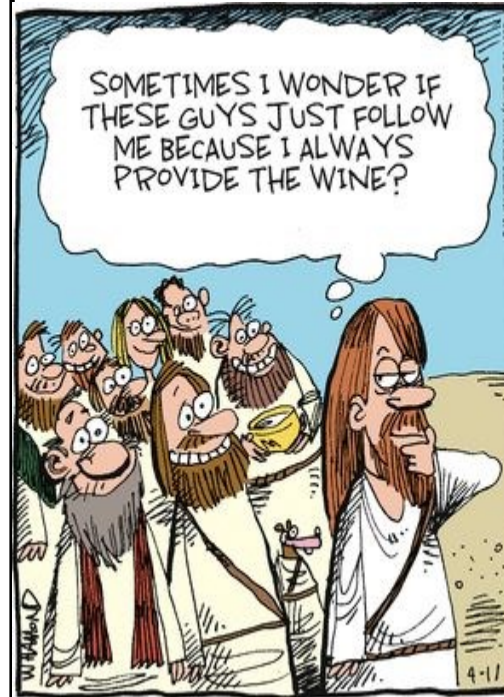
John 13: 31 to 35 Love One Another

31 Once Judas left, Jesus said, "Now is the Chosen One glorified and God is glorified as well. 32 If God has been glorified, God will in turn glorify the Chosen One and will do so very soon. 33 My little children, I won't be with you much longer. You'll look for me, but what I said to the Temple authorities, I say to you: where I am going, you cannot come. 34 I give you a new commandment: Love one another. And you're to love one another the way I have loved you. 35 This is how all will know that you're my disciples: that you truly love one another."

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2323). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

John 15: 1 to 27 Jesus the True Vine and the World's Hatred

1 "I am the true vine, and my Abba is the vine grower 2 who cuts off every branch in me that doesn't bear fruit, but prunes the fruitful ones to increase their yield. 3 You've been pruned already, thanks to the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Live on in me, as I do in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, neither can you bear fruit apart from me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who live in me and I in them will bear abundant fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Those who don't live in me are like withered, rejected branches, to be picked up and thrown on the fire and burned. 7 If you live on in me, and my words live on in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. 8 My Abba will be glorified if you bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples. 9 As my Abba has loved me, so have I loved you. Live on in my love. 10 And you will live on in my love if you keep my commandments, just as I live on in Abba God's love and have kept God's commandments. 11 I tell you all this that my joy may be yours, and your joy may be complete. 12 This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

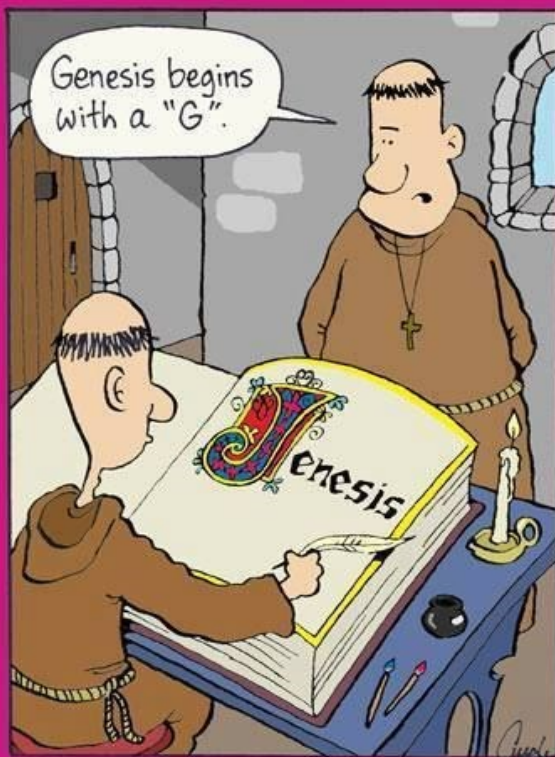


13 There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 And you are my friends, if you do what I command you. 15 I no longer speak of you as subordinates, because a subordinate doesn't know a superior's business. Instead I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learned from Abba God. 16 It was not you who chose me; it was I who chose you to go forth and bear fruit.

Your fruit must endure, so that whatever you ask of Abba God in my name God will give you. 17 This command I give you: that you love one another. 18 If you find that the world hates you, remember that it hated me before you. 19 If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own; but the reason it hates you is that you don't belong to the world—because I chose you out of the world. 20 Remember what I told you: a subordinate is never greater than a superior— so know that they will persecute you as they persecuted me, they will respect your words as much as they respected mine. 21 They'll do all this to you because of my Name, for they know nothing of Abba God who sent me. 22 If I hadn't come and spoken to them, they would have been blameless. But as it is, they have no excuse for their sin. 23 All those who hate me also hate my Abba. 24 If I had not done among them the works that no one else has ever done, they would be blameless. But as it is, they have seen and hated both me and my Abba. 25 Yet all this was only to fulfill what is written in the Law: 'They hated me without cause.'

26 When the Paraclete comes— the Spirit of Truth who comes from Abba God, whom I myself will send from my Abba—she will bear witness on my behalf. 27 You too must bear witness, for you've been with me from the beginning.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2327-2330). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



Psalms 3 Trust in God under Adversity A Psalm of David, when he fled from his son Absalom.

1 O God, so many people have turned against me! So many are in open rebellion! 2 More and more are telling me, "No deliverance is coming to you from your God!" —Selah*— 3 But you, YHWH, are my protection, my glory, the One who helps me hold up my head. 4 I cry aloud to you, YHWH, and you answer me from the mountain of your holiness. —

—Selah— 5 Now I can lie down

and sleep, and then awake again, for you have hold of me— 6 no fear now of those tens of thousands who stand against me wherever I turn. 7 Arise, YHWH! Save me, my God! You struck all my enemies with a blow to the jaw, and broke the teeth of the violent. 8 From you, YHWH— deliverance; to your people—blessing.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 1159-1160). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



**Rainbow Recovery
Club Meetings (When Safe)
42 Macarthur St Ultimo**

Alcoholics Anonymous 6pm to 7pm Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Narcotics Anonymous 8pm to 9pm Thursday

Gamblers Anonymous 7pm to 8pm Saturday

For a complete list of various meeting please refer to

<https://www.rainbowrecoveryclub.org.au/>



Thanks to Matt Hagan

12-31-2007

FOR ENGLISH, PRAY "I", FOR SPANISH, PRAY "2" ...

Ephesians 2: 11 to 22 One In Christ

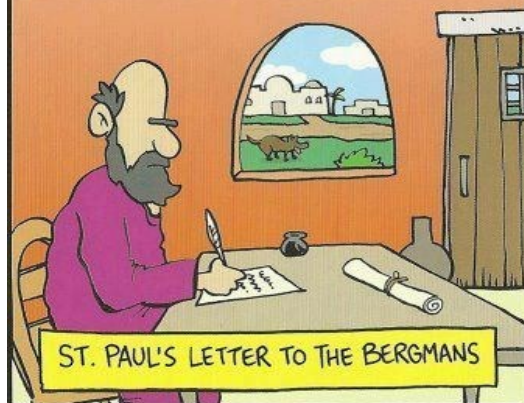
11 Bear in mind that at one time the men among you who were Gentiles physically—called “the Uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the Circumcised,” all because of a minor operation—operation—12 had no part in Christ and were excluded from the community of Israel. You were strangers to the Covenant and its promise; you were without hope and without God in the world.

13 But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

14 For Christ is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of hostility that kept us apart. 15 In his own flesh, Christ abolished the Law, with its commands and ordinances, in order to make the two into one new person, thus establishing peace 16 and reconciling us all to God in one body through the cross, which put to death the enmity between us. 17 Christ came and “announced the Good News of peace to you who were far away, and to those who were near”; 18 for through Christ, we all have access in one Spirit to our God. 19 This means that you are strangers and aliens no longer. No, you are included in God’s holy people and are members of the household of God, 20 which is built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, with Christ Jesus as the capstone. 21 In Christ the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in our God; 22 in Christ you are being built into this temple, to become a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2468). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

I, Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, greet you in the name of the Lord, and ask you to keep your dog out of my petunias.



ONLINE & IN PERSON CHURCH SERVICES:

Please check with individual Churches:

Acceptance Catholics Friday 8.00pm Bedford & Stations St's Newtown

Anglican Community Church of Our Lady of Advent Sunday 10am
Fr. Thomas Peacock 0427 287 776: 8004 9878

Cathedral Church of the New Jerusalem, Sunday 4.30pm
Pingaree House, Brand St, Dundas Archbishop Ron Langham. Bishop Paul Kingsmen

Christ Our Hope Community - Bishop Peter Johnson 0419 464 353

Crave Church Sunday 4pm, 197 Macquarie St, Martin Place,
St Stephens Rev Dr Karl Hand

Leichhardt Baptist Church Sunday 10am Forster & Lord St's,
Leichhardt, Rev Don Wright

MCC Brisbane Sunday 6pm 52 Merthyr Rd, New Farm (Uniting Church)

OASIS LITE MCC Christchurch New Zealand

Cnr Knowles St and Nancy Ave. Sunday 1700-1830 <http://oasislite.org>

MCC Sydney Sunday 10am & 6.30pm 96 Crystal Street, Petersham

Spark Church 5pm every 2nd Sunday Pastors Elizabeth Plant & Bec Apted 3
Bridges Community Centre 23 St Georges Rd (just off Forest Rd) Penshurst
0481911 895 for more info

The Open Door Community of Christ Sunday 6pm 74 Laycock St, Cranebrook
Pastor Sue Palmer
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Phone Pastor: 0412 481 195 / Office / 0431 361 519

Email: mccgoodshepherd3@gmail.com

Web: www.mccgoodshepherd.com

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[pwd=KzZLSkFvM0dQQ2JqRnZqZXhNSIRiUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87561753418?pwd=KzZLSkFvM0dQQ2JqRnZqZXhNSIRiUT09)

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