

**Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
Good Shepherd Western Sydney Inc.
A Christian Church for All the Community.
NEWSLETTER & ANNOUNCEMENTS
January 2023**

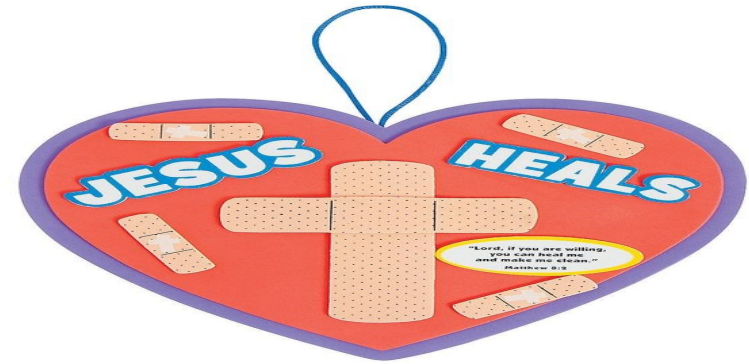


a CHURCH alive

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

Les G, David P, Stephen D, Alan B, Pat R, Shane A;
Peter S, Dr John D. Malcolm W's brother; Stephen P;
Father Stephen; Dr Victor B; Peter D,
Vince from Canberra—Friend of Les G

Is you would like to include someone in prayer or if they are not well? Call Pastor Stuart, 0406 0043 00 or email: stUARTsutherland36@gmail.com

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, David R, Christian & Peter

January

6th Shane A

16th Colin F

15th Rev Stuart

27th Malcolm W



*Be Not Afraid!
Speak Out.
Practice Safety.*

Fifty years ago, the largest psychiatric organization in the world passed a resolution declaring that “homosexuality” was not a mental illness or sickness. Though it took the World Health Organization 27 years to catch up, it surpassed that mark in 2018 by also removing “gender incongruence” from its compendium of disorders. Over the years, our LGBTQ communities have received increased human dignity and rights in many parts of the world. With those gains, though, have come resistance and pushback. Violence against our transgender siblings has increased. Anti-gay, anti-trans, and anti-drag legislation is being proposed in many regions. There are still far too many locations where being out and living proudly is unsafe or growing unsafe again. MCC’s voice is needed as much as ever.

In the USA, extremist groups have increased calls to protest drag events and LGBTQ events; protesters have arrived in full combat dress and openly carrying semi-automatic weapons. Rev. Elder Maxwell Reay has shared that the trans communities in Scotland are being targeted by “gender critical” groups as the Scottish government consider Gender Recognition Act reforms. . The Edinburgh congregation has faced protests for their LGBTQ - inclusive stance. During the recent observance of Transgender Day of Remembrance, we saw that the global number of deaths is staggering, and international mapping of transgender murders show how particularly dangerous it is – and has been since our names have been counted – to be trans in Latin America. Our sisters in Brazil are and have been at especially astounding risk.

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This is the season when we hear the angel messengers repeatedly say, “Do not be afraid.” MCC hears this as a call to be courageous and strategic in the face of protesters and violence aimed to create fear. We cannot be silent: as our early AIDS insurgents shouted in the streets, **silence = death!** Our LGBTQ communities need progressive, inclusive voices of faith to be heard, especially to interrupt and counter the insistence that this hate is faith-based or rooted in religious freedom. Trans communities need us because our siblings are mocked and attacked in so many locations. Our drag communities and performers need our voices and our support for their right to safe work and play. Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins (Sunshine Cathedral, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA) has taken the bold and remarkable stance of bringing drag right into the church with Drag Bible Story Hour!

We know from our sibling church experiences that, as we speak and act in support of the LGBTQ communities, human rights, justice, and equity, we may become the target of violent pushback against our churches. It is imperative to prepare prayerfully and practically. Some of the questions to consider include safety planning and crisis management:

- Does your church have safety protocols regarding protesters?
- Has the congregation been trained about not engaging protestors and other de-escalation?
- Are there local groups who will partner with you for this?
- Does your group have identified spokespeople?
- Have you designated point people to take emergency action, and to call law enforcement if necessary?
- Have you had an active shooter evaluation of your worship space and community training? In many places, law enforcement or community self defense groups are available to help with this.
- Have you mapped the entrances and exits to your worship space? Are they monitored? Many experts recommend that once worship begins, there be only one point of entry and that it be staffed.
- Do you have or can you install lights and video cameras in your parking and other surrounding areas?

It is disheartening to discuss protecting ourselves from attack, and we hope for a future where all people are safe from violence. Until then, consider making safety plans that consider these and other concerns.

Together, let us take heart from the message of the angels: Do not be afraid; God is with you! Together, let us feel and embody Mary's power to proclaim justice. Together, let our love be the thunderous ringing of an angel choir.

For support or resources, please contact:

coe@MCCchurch.net

RevDexterBrecht@MCCchurch.net

Resources@MCCchurch.net

A Word from Our Pastor

Dear Friends, This time of year is a lonely time for many as activities take a break and we pray that those who are lonely that they find companionship and feel loved. Remember that Jesus is our constant companion. For many, this is a time of reflection and for planning direction in the year ahead! Proverbs provide us with such guidance "Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me, finds life, and obtains favour from the Lord:" Proverbs 8: 34- 35 Happy New Year and have a fantastic 2023. Our prayers of healing go out to Stephen Robinson. Our first service for 2023 will be this Tuesday night 3rd January.

Blessings

Pastor Stuart



A Word From the Editor

To our Siblings, Sisters, Brothers, Family members and Friends of MCC Good Shepherd Western Sydney.

What an amazing year we have had, even with all the trials and tribulations that we have endured. Some things have changed and some things remain the same e.g. Covid is still with us, We will miss our Good Shepherd members such as JD John Donohoe a founding member of our community of faith. At times our world appears a little less bright and shining. We soon realise that just like any and everyday when the sun goes down and the stars and the moon appear in the sky yet we loose them every morning only to have them replaced with new suns, stars and moon.

I also at this time would love to acknowledge and thank our Elders past, present and emerging.

Starting with the past and the very foundation that is Good Shepherd, our Pastors / Reverends from the past. So with this in mind I acknowledge and thank our previous Reverends, Cliff Connors and Robert Clark. I also acknowledge and thank Pastor Stuart who is our present Reverend.

Next I wish to acknowledge our Elders past and present who have been part of the backbone of Our community, Barry Heller, Fr Stephen, Steve W, Evelyn S, Mark D, Wally C, Meryl W, Teddy M.

Last but not least, I wish to acknowledge a future leader.

Orana, Kia Ora and Welcome to Lee F who has taken on the roll of Vice Moderator.

I personally wish to thank all our members and friends from Good Shepherd for their participation in our community of faith and wish everyone a fabulous New Year and May 2023 be amazing and full of wonder.



All readings are taken from the

“Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible” unless otherwise stated.

Isaiah 40: God’s People are Comforted

1 “Console my people, give them comfort,” says your God. 2 “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem’s heart, and tell it that its time of service is ended, that its iniquity is atoned for, that it has received from YHWH’s hand double punishment for all its sins.” 3 A voice cries out, “Clear a path through the wilderness for YHWH! Make a straight road through the desert for our God! 4 Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low; let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges become a valley! 5 Then the glory of YHWH will be revealed, and all humankind will see it.” The mouth of YHWH has spoken! 6 A voice commands, “Cry out!” and I answer, “What will I say?” “All flesh is grass and its beauty is like the wildflowers: 7 the grass withers and the flower wilts when the breath of YHWH blows on them. How the people are like grass! 8 Grass withers, and flowers wilt, but the promise of our God will stand forever.” 9 Go up on a high mountain, you who bring good news to Zion! Shout with a loud voice, you who bring good news to Jerusalem! Shout without fear, and say to the towns of Judah “Here is your God!” 10 YHWH, O Sovereign One, you come with power, and rule with a strong arm! You bring your reward with you, and your reparation comes before you. 11 Like a shepherd you feed your flock, gathering the lambs and holding them close, and leading mother ewes with gentleness. 12 Who else measures the waters of the sea in a hollowed hand, and by the breadth of a hand marks off the heavens?*** Who else holds the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighs mountains on a scale and hills on a balance? 13 Who has directed the Spirit of YHWH, or has instructed God like a counselor? 14 To whom does YHWH go to for enlightenment? Who taught God the rules of life? Who taught YHWH knowledge, and showed God the way of understanding? 15 Surely, the nations are like a drop in a bucket to YHWH, like dust on the scales; to God, entire islands weigh no more than a fleck of dust. 16 Not even Lebanon has enough firewood for a sacrificial fire large enough for God, nor does it have enough animals for an adequate burnt offering. 17 All the nations are as nothing before God; they are reckoned as less than nothing, like primeval chaos. 18 To whom, then, will you compare God? What likeness will suffice? 19 A carefully crafted idol overlaid with gold by a metalsmith with a silver chain, 20 sitting on a base of precious mulberry wood carefully selected because it does not decay so that the idol is firm and won’t topple?

21 Did you not know? Have you not heard? Was it not told to you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? 22 YHWH sits above the vaulted roof of the world, and its inhabitants look like grasshoppers! God stretches out the skies like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent for mortals to live under! 23 God reduces the privileged to nothing and throws the rulers of the earth into chaos. 24 No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root on earth, than God blows on them and they wither, and a storm wind sweeps them away like chaff. 25 “To whom can you liken me? Who is my equal?” says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes and ask yourself who made these stars, if not the One who drills them like an army, calling each by name? Because God is so great in strength, so mighty in power, not a single one is missing. 27 How can you say, tribe of Leah and Rachel and Jacob, “My destiny is hidden from YHWH, my rights are ignored by my God?” 28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? YHWH is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. This God does not faint or grow weary; with a depth of understanding that is unsearchable. 29 God give strength to the weary, and empowers the powerless. 30 Young women may grow tired and weary, young men may stumble and fall, 31 but those who wait for YHWH find a renewed power: they soar on eagles’ wings, they run and don’t get weary, they walk and never tire. (pp. 727-731)

Psalms 98 Praise the Judge of the World

1 Sing a new song to YHWH, who has worked wonders, whose right hand and holy arm have brought deliverance! 2 YHWH has made salvation known and shown divine justice to the nations, 3 and has remembered in truth and love the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. 4 Shout to the Most High, all the earth, break into joyous songs of praise! 5 Sing praise to YHWH with the harp, with the harp and melodious singing! 6 With trumpets and the blast of the shofar, raise a shout to YHWH, Ruler of All.



**Myers-Briggs
Bible Personality
Types**

7 Let the sea and all within it thunder; the world and all its peoples.
8 Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy 9 before
YHWH, who comes to judge the earth, who will rule the world with justice
and its peoples with equity. (pp. 1303-1304)

Romans 8: 18 to 28 Future Glory

18 Indeed, I consider the sufferings of the present to be nothing compared
with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 All creation eagerly awaits the
revelation of the children of God. 20 Creation was subjected to transience
and futility, not of its own accord, but because of the One who subjected it
in the hope 21 that creation itself would be freed from its slavery to
corruption and would come to share in the glorious freedom of the children
of God. 22 We know that from the beginning until now, all of creation has
been groaning in one great act of giving birth. 23 And not only creation, but
all of us who possess the first fruits of the Spirit we too groan inwardly as
we wait for our bodies to be set free. 24 In hope we were saved. But hope
is not hope if its object is seen; why does one hope for what one sees? 25
And hoping for what we cannot see means awaiting it with patient
endurance. 26 The Spirit, too, comes to help us in our weakness. For we
don't know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit expresses our plea with
groanings too deep for words. 27 And God, who knows everything in our
hearts, knows perfectly well what the Spirit is saying, because her
intercessions for God's holy people are made according to the mind of
God. 28 We know that God makes everything work together for the good of
those who love God and have been called according to God's purpose.

(pp. 2411-2412)

Isaiah 43: Restoration and Protection Promised

:1 But now, Leah and Rachel and Jacob, hear the word of YHWH the One
who created you, the One who fashioned you, Israel: Do not be afraid, for I
have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. 2 When you
pass through the seas, I will be with you; when you pass over the rivers,
you will not drown. Walk through fire, and you will not be singed; walk
through flames and you will not be burned. 3 I am YHWH, your God, the
Holy One of Israel, your deliverer. I give Egypt as ransom for you, Nubia
and Seba in exchange for you. 4 You are more precious to me than
Assyria; you are honored, and I love you. I will give people in exchange for
you, whole nations in exchange for your life.

5 Have no fear, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east
and gather them from the west. 6 To the north I will say, 'Give them up!' and
to the south, 'Do not hold them back! Bring my daughters and sons from afar,
return them from the ends of the earth 7 everyone who is called by my Name,
whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made! 8 Bring forth this
people a people who have eyes but cannot see, a people who have ears but
are cannot hear!' 9 All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble.

Who among them foretold this and revealed to us the former things? Let
them present their witnesses to verify their words, that the jury might say, 'It
is true.' 10 You are my witnesses, says YHWH, my chosen Servant, so that
you may know and believe me and understand who I am. Before me no god
existed, nor will there be one after me. 11 Who am I? I am YHWH, and there
is no Liberator except me. 12 It was I who made it known; I who declared it
and saved you; It was I who was in your midst, and not some foreign god,
and you are my witnesses it is YHWH who speaks that I am God. 13 I am
God from all eternity, and no one can take you out of my hand. What I do, no
one can undo!" 14 These are the words of YHWH, your Redeemer, the Holy
One of Israel: "For your sakes I will send an army to Babylon and make all
the Chaldeans fugitives in their ships of which they are so proud. 15 I am
YHWH, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your Ruler." 16 Thus says YHWH,
who made a road through the sea, a path in the mighty waters, 17 who led
chariots and warriors to their doom, a mighty army fallen, never to rise again,
snuffed out and extinguished like a wick: 18 "Forget the events of the past,
ignore the things of long ago! 19 Look, I am doing something new! Now it
springs forth—can't you see it? I'm making a road in the desert and setting
rivers to flow in the wasteland. 20 Wild beasts will honor me the jackals and
the ostriches for I will put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland for
my chosen people to drink, 21 these
people whom I formed for myself so
that they might declare my praise. 22
Yet you did not call upon me, O Leah
and Rachel and Jacob! You grew
weary of me, O Israel! 23 You didn't
bring me your lambs for burnt
offerings, nor honored me with your
sacrifices. Did I burden you with
requests for offerings? Did I weary
you with demands for frankincense?
24 You didn't buy me any fragrant
calamus reeds with your money, or
sate me with the fat of your sacrifices.

**I miss the good old
days...when you could
actually have an
opinion without
offending somebody.**

25 Who am I? I'm the one who wipes out your offenses! For my own sake, I do not remember your wrongs. 26 So order me to appear, and let us argue the matter together! Make your case, and prove your innocence! 27 Your earliest ancestor sinned, and your priests and prophets rebelled against me. 28 So I profaned the dignitaries of your temple, put the people under a solemn curse, and made a laughingstock out of Israel. (pp. 738-741)

Ephesians 4: 17 to 24 Old and New Life

17 So I declare and testify together with Christ that you must stop living the kind of life the world lives. Their minds are empty, 18 they have no understanding, they are alienated from the life of God all because they have hardened their hearts. 19 They've dulled their sense of right and wrong, for they have abandoned themselves to sensuality in order to indulge in every form of licentiousness and greed. 20 That is hardly the way you have learned from Christ, 21 unless you failed to hear properly, when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. 22 You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which is being corrupted by following illusory desires. 23 Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution, 24 so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's likeness, in the justice and holiness of the truth.

(p. 2470)

2 Corinthians 5: 11 to 21

Ministry of Reconciliation



(See Daniel 6)
REMEMBER THAT TIME WHEN YOU GOT THROWN IN OUR DEN AND EVERYBODY THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO EAT YOU ... THAT WAS AWESOME!
10-17-2011

11 It is because we know "the fear of God" that we try to persuade others. What we really are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. 12 No, we are not attempting to commend ourselves to you once again. We are just giving you a reason to be proud of us. In that way you will have an answer for those who boast of what is seen, rather than what is in the heart.

13 If we are beside ourselves, it is for the sake of God. If we are in our right minds, it is for you. 14 The love of Christ overwhelms us whenever we reflect on this: that if one person has died for all, then all have died. 15 The reason Christ died for all was so that the living should live no longer for themselves but for Christ, who died and was raised to life for them. 16 And so from now on, we don't look on anyone in terms of mere human judgment. Even if we did once regard Christ in these terms, that is not how we know Christ now. 17 And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old order has passed away; now everything is new! 18 All of this is from God, who ransomed us through Christ—and made us ministers of that reconciliation. 19 This means that through Christ, the world was fully reconciled again to God, who didn't hold our transgressions against us, but instead entrusted us with this message of reconciliation. 20 This makes us Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making the appeal directly through us. Therefore we implore you in Christ's name: be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake, God made the One who was without sin to be sin, so that by this means we might become the very holiness of God. (p. 2449)

Psalms 31: Prayer and Praise for Deliverance from Enemies

1 In you, YHWH, I took refuge; never let me be disgraced! In your justice, deliver me! 2 Turn your ear to me! Hurry! Rescue me! Be the rock I hide behind; be the walled fortress that saves me! 3 Because you are my rock, my fortress, and for the sake of your Name, lead me, guide me! 4 Pull me out of the trap they set for me, for you are my refuge! 5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, YHWH, God of truth! 6 I hate those who cling to useless idols; but I trust in you. 7 I'll be happy, I'll rejoice in your love for you saw my despair, you knew the dark night of my soul. 8 You didn't hand me over to the enemy, but gave my feet boundless freedom. 9 Now take pity on me, YHWH, for I'm in trouble again. I cried so much that I'm exhausted and not only my eyes, but my mind and body as well. 10 My life is consumed by sorrow; my years are worn out with my sighs; my strength fails me because of my despair; my bones are getting weaker. 11 Because of all my oppressors I'm held in utter contempt, even by my neighbors; my friends are afraid of me, and people who see me on the street hurry past me. 12 I am forgotten, as good as dead in their hearts, like something that has outlived its usefulness. 13 I hear their endless slanders, and threats from every quarter as they conspire against me, plotting to take my life. 14 But I put my trust in you, YHWH; I say, "You are my God!"

15 My times are in your hand; save me from the hands of my enemies and persecutors. 16 Smile on your faithful one; save me in your love! 17 Don't let me be disgraced, YHWH, for I cried to you; let disgrace fall instead on the corrupt in their silence, let them go to Sheol, 18 their lying lips sealed shut because of their sneering contempt for those who do right, because of their overwhelming pride and arrogance. 19 How great is the goodness reserved for those who revere you! You bestow it n front of everyone on those who take refuge in you. 20 Safe in your presence, you hide them from the world's insidious schemes; inside your tent, you shelter them, far from the war of tongues! 21 Blessed are you, YHWH, for you showed your wonderful love to me in a city under siege! 22 In my alarm I exclaimed, "I've been snatched from your sight!" Yet you heard the sound of my cries when I called to you for help. 23 Revel in your love for God, you whom God has touched! For YHWH protects the faithful but will repay the arrogant in full. 24 Be strong, let your heart be bold, you who hope in YHWH.

(pp. 1195-1198)

Lamentations 3: God's Steadfast Love Endures

1 I am the one who has known grief under the rod of Most High's anger. 2 I am the one who was led away left to walk in the night, far away from the light. 3 The hand of God has been turned against me again and again, both day and night. 4 God has torn away my skin and muscle and broken my bones. 5 God has surrounded and besieged me with bitterness and calamity. 6 God has cast me out into the darkness like those long dead. 7 God has walled me in there is no escape and has weighed me down with shackles. 8 Even when I call out for help, God ignores my plea. 9 God has obstructed my path with huge boulders and blocked my every step. 10 God lies in wait for me like a bear or like a lion prowling its prey, 11 forcing me into the briars throwing me to the ground and leaving me in anguish. 12 The Most High has bent the bow; I am the target for God's arrows. 13 God has pierced my heart with shafts from the quiver. 14 Everybody laughs at me; I am the butt of their songs all day. 15 God has filled me with bitter herbs, and sated me with gall. 16 God has broken my teeth on the rocks and trampled me into the dirt. 17 There is no peace in my life; I have forgotten what prosperity is. 18 "My light is gone!" I cry; the Most High is my only hope. 19 I remember my woes and wanderings the wormwood and the gall. 20 Those memories are so clear to me, and they fill me with despair. 21 Yet it is because I remember all this that I have hope.

22 YHWH'S favor is not exhausted, nor has God's compassion failed. 23 They rise up anew each morning, so great is God's faithfulness. 24 "YHWH is all I have," I cry. "so I will wait in patience." 25 The Most High is good to those who hope in God, to all who seek God's presence. 26 It is good to wait patiently for YHWH to set us free. 27 It is good for anyone to bear a burden from youth. 28 Let those who bear such a burden, sit in silence for YHWH has laid it on them; 29 or lie prostrate on the ground for there may yet be hope. 30 Let them offer their cheek to those who would strike them; let them submit themselves to grave insult. kaph 31 For YHWH will not reject them forever. 32 God may punish now, but will show compassion and the fullness of love. 33 God does not willingly torment or punish any human being. 34 To tread underfoot prisoners anywhere on earth; 35 to deny people their rights in opposition to the Most High; 36 to twist justice in the courts do you think YHWH does not see? mem 37 Who can command—who has ever commanded unless YHWH has permitted it? 38 Are not both good and evil from the Most High's mouth? 39 Why should any among the living grumble when being punished for their sins? nun 40 Let us reflect on our path and examine it, then return to YHWH. 41 Let us lift high our hearts and our hands to the God of heaven. 42 Let us say: "We have sinned and rebelled, and you have not forgiven us." 43 You covered yourself with anger and hounded us, and slew us without mercy. 44 You cloaked yourself in the clouds, far beyond the reach of our prayers. 45 You treated us like scum and trash among the nations. 46 Our enemies laugh at us with open mouths. 47 The snare and pit of the hunter lie ahead of us devastation and ruin! 48 Rivers of water run from my eyes because my people are destroyed. ayin 49 Tears flow continuously from my eyes, refusing all comfort 50 all of this while YHWH watches from the heavens. 51 My spirit is grieved as I see the fate of children in my city. 52

If Cats were a!!!



Those who became my enemies without provocation chased and harangued me like a bird. 53 They threw me in the grave alive to silence me and rolled a stone over the entrance. 54 Waters rose to engulf me; they told me my time had come! 55 But I called your Name, O God, from the depths of the pit. 56 You heard me call: "Don't close your ears when I cry for mercy!" 57 You came to me when I called. "Fear not!" you said.

58 O God, you took up my cause; you came to my rescue. 59 You bore witness to the injustices I endured and judged in my favor. 60 You saw how deeply vengeful they were; you saw all their schemes against me. 61 You heard their sarcastic disdain, O God, and all their scheming, 62 the rumors they whispered about me all day long. 63 See! whether they sit or stand, I am the butt of their jokes. 64 Pay them back for what they have done to me, O God! Give them what they deserve! 65 Show them how hard your heart can be, and let your curse fall on them. 66 Chase them down in anger and destroy them from under your skies, O God!

(pp. 1573-1578)

It is better to
have a friend
with two chins...
than to have one
with two faces.



**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/>

**CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR
CHURCH FINANCIALLY.**

**TITHES &
OFFERINGS**

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



Pizza & Chat

7pm Saturday 14th January
MCC Sydney

96 Crystal Street, Petersham

Rev Elder Karl Hand will speak about what is happening in MCC today. A question and answer time will follow

Everyone Welcome

Gold coin donation appreciated.

Hi everyone! Next Saturday (14th) I'm (Rev Karl Hand) going to an MCC Sydney pizza night to talk about some of the things happening in MCC today 😊

World Pride Fair Day Ecumenical Stall
10am to 4pm, Sunday 19 February 2023
Victoria Park, Broadway 2008

Acceptance Sydney is proudly organising a Fair Day stall in partnership with the Queer Christian Roundtable for World Pride (of which Acceptance Sydney is a member). If you would like to assist in volunteering/participating in the stall by representing Acceptance Sydney for an hour on the day, it would be very much welcomed. Please email your interest to Acceptance Sydney at info@gaycatholic.com.au

Ecumenical Shrove Tuesday Service
6pm-9pm, Tuesday 21 February 2023
Pitt Street Uniting Church

Ecumenical Shrove Tuesday service for World Pride, hosted by the Queer Christian Roundtable for World Pride at Pitt Street Uniting Church to officially begin the Pancake Pride Celebration - an evening including worship, music, food, reflection, presentation and prayer. Registration details to come.

"Thanksgiving Mass: For the gift of LGBTIQA+ folk in the church and world"
7pm, Friday 24 February 2023
Location TBA

On the occasion of Sydney World Pride and the Sydney Mardi Gras Festival this Eucharistic celebration is supported by Acceptance Sydney and Equal Voices, and co-hosted by the Rainbow Catholics InterAgency for Ministry with The Congregation of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

Those who wish to contribute to the celebration through liturgy, music, hospitality, etc., please contact rainbowcatholicsinteragency@gmail.com by Friday 27th January 2023.

Registration and location details to come. Acceptance's 50th Jubilee Celebration will begin at this World Pride LGBTIQA+ Thanksgiving Mass and conclude with a special Acceptance Jubilee Mass and Dinner Reception in June 2023.

Eastertide Mass at Newtown
7pm, Friday 14 April 2023

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Newtown 2042 (Cnr Bedford St & Station St)

As the first Friday in April is Good Friday, a Mass will be held on the second Friday of the month.

Mass at Newtown
7pm, Friday 5 May 2023



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Newtown 2042 (Cnr Bedford St & Station St)

Regular monthly Masses start again on the first Friday of every month.

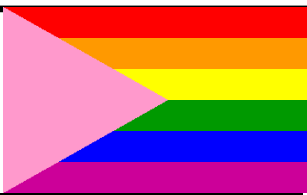
January

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
2	6 Church 7pm Birthday Shane A 	4	5
9	13 Church 7:00pm	11 Birthday Colin F 	12
16	17 Church 7:00pm	18	19
23	27 Church 7:00pm	25	26 Australia Day
30	31 Church 7:00pm		

January

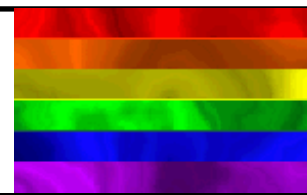
Fri	Sat	Sun
		1
6	7	8
13	14 Social Activity Pizza & Chat Night MCC Sydney 7pm	15 Birthday Rev Stuart 
20	21 Social Activity Day trip to Manly on ferry, meet Circular Quay 11;30am	22
27 Birthday Malcolm W 	28 Board Meeting 7pm	29


February



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
		1	2
6	7 Church 7:00pm	8	9 Birthday Mark W 
13 Birthday Tracy W 	14 Church 7:00pm	15	16
20	21 Church 7:00pm <i>Ecumenical Shrove Tuesday Service 6pm</i>	22 Beginning of Lent	23
27	28 Church 7:00pm		

February



Fri	Sat	Sun
3 Birthday Pat R & Rev Debbie M  Acceptance Catholics restart for 2023 at St Joseph's Newtown 7pm	4	5
10	11	12
17	18	19 Social Activity Mardi Gras Fair Day Victoria Park - Times to be discussed.
24 Board Meeting 7pm Thanksgiving Mass 7pm	25 Social Activity Mardi Gras - World Pride Parade, Oxford St, times tba	26

March

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
		1 Birthday Alan B 	2
6	7 Church 7:00pm	8	9
13	14 Church 7:00pm	15	16
20	21 Church 7:00pm	22 Birthday Rev Don W 	23
27	28 Church 7:00pm	29	30

March

Fri	Sat	Sun
3 Acceptance Catholics @ St Josephs Newtown 7pm	4	5
10	11	12
17	18 Movie Dinner Night 6:00pm	19
24	25 Board Meeting 7pm	26 Birthday Stevie K 
31 Birthday Dianne H 		



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

HELP WITH COUNSELING AND CRISIS SITUATIONS.

Emergency Assistance (triple zero) 000

Beyond Blue 1300 224 636

Lifeline 13 11 14 24/7

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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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 5.30pm
 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 into

The Open Door Community of Christ Sunday 6pm 74 Laycock St, Cranebrook
 Pastor Sue Palmer

Contact Us

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Phone Pastor: 0406 004 300 / Office / 0431 361 519

Email: mccgoodshepherd3@gmail.com

Web: www.mccgoodshepherd.com

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

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

FACEBOOK <http://www.facebook.com/marcgoodacre>