

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona
St Clement's Altona Meadows
O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



*To proclaim God's love and life in Christ:
growing in faith † serving others † nurturing a common life*

14th March 2021 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
8:45am Holy Eucharist and Baptism, St Clement's
10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

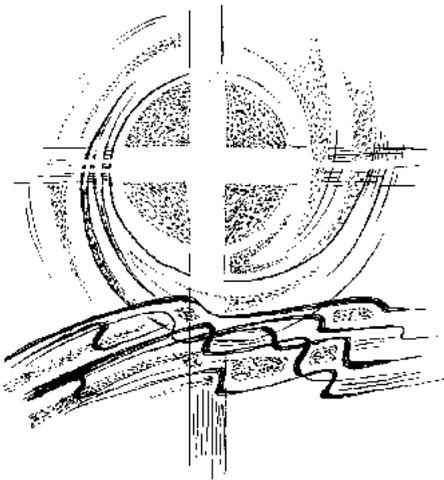
Wominjeka :: Haere mai
Welcome

A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting from elsewhere.

This booklet contains the full order of service: please join in the parts printed in bold type.

During these times we are all asked to take responsibility for COVID-safe precautions:

- ◆ If you have any symptoms of illness, now is the time to return home.
- ◆ Masks must be worn indoors.
- ◆ Please use hand sanitiser on arriving and leaving, refrain from physical contact with others, and maintain physical distancing where possible.



Our parish lies on the traditional country of the Yaluk-ut Weelam people within the Boonwurrung clan, part of the greater Kulin nation. We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations, and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing (including to Pay The Rent to local First Nations people).

LENT

The season of Lent covers the forty days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Easter Eve. It recalls the forty days spent by Jesus in the desert, fasting and praying. For us too it is a time of preparation, prayer and fasting: a wilderness time.

From early in the Church's history, Lent was principally viewed as a period of preparation for those to be baptised at Easter. As candidates for baptism were instructed in the Christian faith, the whole community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance. So too for us, Lent leads towards the renewal of our baptism at Easter.

Our worship has a different, more subdued character during these weeks: we omit the *Gloria in excelsis* (Glory to God in the highest), and there is a greater emphasis on penitence and renewal, experienced at its starkest in the Ash Wednesday liturgy. The liturgical colour is purple, symbolizing penitence and humility.

Our confession of sin moves to a later position in the service, as a response to the Ministry of the Word, allowing God to reveal where our lives need to be opened up again to God's work in us. It is immediately followed by the Greeting of Peace, as we turn to our neighbours and recognise an amazing gift: that because we have been reconciled to God, renewal and reconciliation and peace have also become possible in our human relationships.

As Lent progresses we are drawn inexorably towards the mystery of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. The dramatic and distinctive liturgies of Holy Week—Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday—lead us to a place of emptiness and desolation, into which the exultant alleluias of Easter burst with new life and hope.

God of all seasons,
in your pattern of things
there is a time for keeping
and a time for losing,
a time for building up
and a time for pulling down.
In this holy season of Lent
as we journey with our Lord to the Cross,
help us to discern in our lives
what we must lay down
and what we must take up,
what we must end
and what we must begin.

Prayer from the Church of Scotland

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

HYMN (at 8:45 & 10:30)

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
If we are silent, even stones cry out.

Lift high the cross...

Great is the cost of walking on this road,
to follow and suffer with the Son of God.

Lift high the cross...

Worlds to be born and children yet to be
come, take up this song into eternity.

Lift high the cross...

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020),
based on G W Kitchin and M R Newbolt.
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Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.
**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

silence

Holy God,
**holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

THE COLLECT

Everlasting God
in whom we live and move and have our being,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you:
give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,
that no selfish passion may hinder us
from knowing your will,
no weakness prevent us from doing it;
that in your light we may see light,
and in your service find perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PARISH PRAYER

**Creator Spirit, God beyond our knowing,
your love has been poured into our hearts.
Renew our trust in you,
and shape our lives to the call of Jesus,
our crucified and risen Lord.
Make us a people of blessing and hope,
so that neighbours and strangers may be drawn
to the compassion of Christ. Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book Numbers

(21.4-9)

The entire Israelite community marched from Mount Hor on the Reed Sea road around the land of Edom. The people became impatient on the road. The people spoke against God and Moses: "Why did you bring us up from Egypt to kill us in the desert, where there is no food or water. And we detest this miserable bread!" So the LORD sent poisonous snakes among the people and they bit the people. Many of the Israelites died.

The people went to Moses and said, "We've sinned, for we spoke against the Lord and you. Pray to the LORD so that he will send the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

The LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous snake and place it on a pole. Whoever is bitten can look at it and live." Moses made a bronze snake and placed it on a pole. If a snake bit someone, that person could look at the bronze snake and live.

(CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good: for his loving mercy is for ever.
Let the Lord's redeemed say so: whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,

And gathered in from every land, from the east and from the west: from the north and from the south.

Fools were far gone in transgression: and because of their sins were afflicted.

They sickened at any food: and had come to the gates of death.

Then they cried to the Lord in their distress: and he took them out of their trouble.

He sent his word and healed them: and saved their life from the Pit.

Let them thank the Lord for his goodness: and for the wonders that he does for the children of Adam;

Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving: and tell what he has done with shouts of joy.

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

(2.1-10)

At one time you were like a dead person because of the things you did wrong and your offenses against God. You used to live like people of this world. You followed the rule of a destructive spiritual power. This is the spirit of disobedience to God's will that is now at work in persons whose lives are characterized by disobedience. At one time you were like those persons. All of you used to do whatever felt good and whatever you thought you wanted so that you were children headed for punishment just like everyone else.

However, God is rich in mercy. He brought us to life with Christ while we were dead as a result of those things that we did wrong. He did this because of the great love that he has for us. You are saved by God's grace! And God raised us up and seated us in the heavens with Christ Jesus. God did this to show future generations the greatness of his grace by the goodness that God has shown us in Christ Jesus.

You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. This salvation is God's gift. It's not something you possessed. It's not something you did that you can be proud of. Instead, we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives.

(CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

God loved the world in this way: he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(3.14-21)

[Jesus said:] “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won’t perish but will have eternal life. God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him isn’t judged; whoever doesn’t believe in him is already judged, because they don’t believe in the name of God’s only Son.

“This is the basis for judgment: The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil. All who do wicked things hate the light and don’t come to the light for fear that their actions will be exposed to the light. Whoever does the truth comes to the light so that it can be seen that their actions were done in God.”

(CEB)

For the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for all people and for the church throughout the world.

The response to the prayers is

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.

Silence

Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

With our hearts turned to God in repentance,
with the knowledge of our sins laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ,
in the name of the living God, your sins are forgiven.
Receive God's mercy, take hold of your forgiveness,
and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, walk in the light of Christ.
Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Everyone is invited to turn to those around, and offer a greeting of peace from where you stand. Offerings of money or groceries can be placed in the basket/box provided.

HYMN (*at 8:45 & 10:30*)

With joy we meditate the grace
of our High Priest above;
his heart is made of tenderness,
and ever yearns with love.

Touched with a sympathy within,
he knows our feeble frame;
he knows what sore temptations mean,
for he has felt the same.

He, in the days of feeble flesh,
poured out his cries and tears;
and in his measure feels afresh
what every member bears.

Then let our humble faith address
his mercy and his power;
we shall obtain delivering grace
in each distressing hour.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) alt

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest prays on behalf of all, praising God for God's mighty acts. All respond:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Last Supper is recalled, including Jesus' command to continue sharing bread and wine: in memory of him, and proclaiming his death and resurrection.

The prayer then calls on God's blessing and looks to the fulfilling of all things within the goodness of God, and concludes:

...All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

**Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.
This is the Lord's table. All who seek God's mercy are welcome.

Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing: please come forward as indicated and stand at one of the places marked in white. Children who have been baptized are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion, please indicate when the priest comes to you.

During this time of coronavirus restrictions, only the communion bread will be shared; the communion wine will be received by one on behalf of all.

Prayer candles can be lit at the conclusion of the service.

NOTICES

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

HYMN (at 8:45 & 10:30)

To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life in atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in,

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! great things he has done!*

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! great things he has done!*

Words: Frances Jane van Alstyne 1820-1915) alt.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified
a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin
forgiven;

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

From your priest...

Dear friends,

Identification documents occasionally include a section for “distinguishing features”, perhaps some sort of mark that belongs uniquely to that person, whether from birth or acquired later in life.

As well as these superficial markings, we are all marked less visibly by the experiences of our life, our loves and losses, joys and sorrows. We are marked by certain conversations that changed the course of our life. We are marked by the people we have significantly shared time with along the way. We are marked by the values and assumptions of our families and culture.

As Christians, we carry another mark which cuts across all of these: the sign of the cross from our baptism, with which we are “marked as Christ’s own forever”. It’s not visible in the way that a birthmark or tattoo might be, but that doesn’t mean that it shouldn’t be a “distinguishing feature” of who we are. Indeed, we might say that the journey and call of discipleship is that our belonging in Christ might become more and more the distinguishing feature of our lives: no longer a visible mark, but a whole shape and pattern of being. What would that look like in your life? Where have you seen that in others?

At our baptism, we are marked with the cross with the oil of chrism—beautiful and fragrant, a sign of God’s grace and abundance. But each year as Lent begins (in normal times!), on Ash Wednesday that same mark of the cross is instead traced in ash. It is a vivid reminder of our fragility and mortality, and so too of God’s grace: for we are invited back to life, recognising that following Jesus on the way to life means following the way of the cross.

And then, at Easter we renew our baptismal commitment and celebrate once again God’s gift of life, abundance and joy.

Do take a moment, in your own prayer, to retrace that mark of the cross on your own forehead, and your own life. We are the people who say: “I turn to Christ.”

With my prayers for each of you,
Chris

Readings for next Sunday: 21 March (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

Jeremiah 31.31-34; Psalm 119.9-16; Hebrews 5.5-14; John 12.20-33

Readings for midweek Eucharists and for reflection during the week:

Jeremiah 31.27-37; Psalm 119.73-80; Mark 15.1-20

For our prayers:

The world and nation: For peace and stability in Myanmar. For our Premier recovering from injury.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. For Christians who are persecuted and martyred today, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: Diocese of Perth.

Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; St John's, Healesville with St Paul's, Yarra Glen.

Our parish & community:

For Mei, Rachel and Emily as are baptised today.

Those for whom prayers have been asked:

Particular current prayers: Hannah, Jeremy, Nancy, Jemma.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Ryan Morgan (14), John Millichip (16), Vera McAllister (18), Ron Atkins (20).

Ongoing prayers (*remembered at Morning Prayer through the week*): Sharilyn, Ruby, Paul, Mavis, Belinda, Joseph, Daniel, Stuart, Nick, Vahid, Malek, Jimmy, Jayden, Ashlee, Tanatha, Elly, Patricia M, Tim, Faye, Gustavo, Peter, Olivia, Patricia.

To add names to the prayer list, either those needing prayers now (with their agreement) or those to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please send details to parish@anglicanaltlv.org.au or give to the Vicar.



GROWING IN FAITH DURING LENT

- **Lent studies** are under way—if you're unable to join a group but would like to work through the material in your own time, study books are available for \$5. Please talk to Rev'd Chris if you would like one.
- **Reading through the Passion:** during each week you are invited to share in reading a portion of Mark's Gospel, telling of the events leading to Jesus' death. We explore this passage at the midweek Eucharists, and a video reflection is available online each Wednesday. This week's passage is Mark 15:1-20.

ABM LENT APPEAL Envelopes are available in both churches to contribute to the Anglican Board of Mission Lent Appeal, supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants. Donations can also be made online at www.abmission.org

 ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION <i>Working for Love, Hope & Justice</i>	 LENT 2021
	<p>Please support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants</p> <p><i>"When we have prayer over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country."</i> Statement from the Heart</p> <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants support mission activities led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. With guidance from the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAAC), ABM makes small grants available to projects which express the mission of the Church of Australia and benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p>
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Dates for your diaries

28 March	Palm Sunday: 9:30am combined service
1 April	Maundy Thursday
2 April	Good Friday
4 April	Easter Day (NB Daylight Saving ends)

See separate listing for details of Holy Week and Easter services

THE MELBOURNE ANGLICAN The March issue of TMA is available today, with apologies for the delay due to a delivery mix-up.

WILMA TUDHOPE The funeral service for Wilma Tudhope will be at 11am on this Tuesday 16 March, at St Clement's.

PALM CROSSES Everyone is welcome to come and fold crosses for Palm Sunday — no prior experience is required! 10:30am on Friday 26 March, in the courtyard at St Eanswythe's.

BUSH CHURCH AID DONATION BOXES Beryl Brown is in the process of taking up these boxes: kindly return any box you may have in your possession to her at your earliest convenience.

COLLECTIONS Where possible, regular giving by online/direct payments is much appreciated: it remains safer for all of us to minimise contact via the exchange of cash, as well as significantly reducing the tasks of counting and banking. Please talk to Pat Baines if you would like to make (or change) a regular pledged amount.

Deposits can be made to the parish Bendigo Bank account at any time (BSB 633 000, account number 157 594 722, account name "St Eanswythe's Altona with St Clement's Laverton Anglican Churches"). For further details see anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving

Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Please take this pew sheet with you, for your reference and prayers during the week.
- ⇒ If you are or have been away for a Sunday, you can see recent pew sheets on our website at www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets
- ⇒ Visit www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav for photos, links, news and other updates.
- ⇒ If you don't already receive occasional emails regarding news, changes of service times, and other updates, please send your email address to parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Please send all material for the pew sheet to parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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St Clement's, 85-95 Central Ave, Altona Meadows
St Clement's telephone [when church is attended] - 7012 6800

Vicar:

The Rev'd Chris Lancaster
0423 199 850 chris.lancaster@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Curate:

The Rev'd Katie Bellhouse
katie.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Priest & Maori Minister:

The Rev'd Danny McRoberts
0448 841 196 dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Lily Griffin
Anita McAnda
Scott Pitcher

Child Safe Officers:

Sandra Hansen (St Clement's)
Anita McAnda (St Eanswythe's)

This week in our parish:

Sunday 14th March

Fourth Sunday in Lent

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
8:45am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Tuesday 16th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10am Tiddlers playgroup, St Eanswythe's
10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open
11am Funeral service, St Clement's

Wednesday 17th

8am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10am Lent study group
10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open

Thursday 18th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open
7pm Lent study group

Friday 19th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
9:30am Clementines playgroup, St Clement's
10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open
2pm Lent study group

Sunday 21st March

Fifth Sunday in Lent

7:45am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
8:45am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
10:30am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45am St Clement's and 10:30am St Eanswythe's

Groups meeting regularly in the parish:

Altona Tiddlers Playgroup: Tuesdays in term time, 10am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993)

Clementines Playgroup: Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's. Contact Louise (9395 5472)

Reflective Bible Study: monthly at the Vicarage, first Tuesday evening at 7:30pm.

Mothers' Union: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661)

Caritas: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday evening at 7:30pm. Contact Joan Meiers (9398 1906)