

**Sunday, 25 February**

**Reading: 2 Corinthians 1:20-24**

- Pray for our church; that we might be welcoming and inclusive to all who attend; that we are willing to leave our comfort zone to get to know others; draw them into fellowship; seek to have conversations that are sincere, encouraging others in their Christian walk; that we will be alert as we listen to others for things that we can be praying for them and/or giving practical help. Ask God to help us have servant hearts.

**My prayer points/God's answers:**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- *Give thanks that Heather Welsh's brother, Ian, has had some encouraging news; doctors are doing further scans as they cannot find the cancer in his colon and the liver lesions have shrunk; Ian has also had opportunities of sharing his faith with other patients; may God be glorified in all He is doing.*
- *For those who remember Coral Peterson, she died on Thursday. She and Colin attended church regularly until health issues prevented it. Pray for her family.*
- Please continue to pray for people with ongoing health issues: Vicki Lowden's father with metastatic cancer; Catherine's mum who is recovering following spinal surgery; For Antwanet Jamous (Nashua's mum) with ovarian cancer; Elise Isaacs (more surgery is being considered in April); Geoff and Heather Welsh; Willow; Eleanor Wood (wearing a spinal brace)—that each will know God's comfort and peace in their situation.
- Ambika Buniya has been very unwell with severe headaches and dizziness; please pray that as she has various scans and sees specialists, a correct diagnosis is made and appropriate treatment given. Pray for Ambika to have relief from her symptoms and trust and peace as she waits.
- We have been praying for the granddaughter of a Coffee break lady; pray that as she attends a new school, she will make trustworthy friends; that she will settle into her new environment; that there might be a Christian influence in her life.
- Jacki's daughter, Sarah—continuing good health for her and baby for the remainder of her pregnancy.
- Dianne Morphett—doctors are waiting to see how she progresses before commencing chemo—pray it may not be necessary for her to have this treatment.
- Those grieving loss of loved ones.
- Pray for those who are looking for work;
- Pray for those who have suffered abuse in their lives that as a church family we will be sensitive to any who share their pain with us; that we will be an accepting, welcoming church and reach out with genuine love to those hurting.
- For those who have addictions; for their families.
- For Carers of elderly parents or children with special needs.
- Pray for those who serve our country in the defence forces, particularly remembering Greg Edward's cousin, James Francis, who is serving in Afghanistan with the Australian Army until October.



**St Marys Anglican Church**

**19—25 February 2018**

**Monday, 19 February**

**Reading: Ephesians 1:1-6**

**Psalm 118:24 "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."**

- Ask God to help us start each day with thanksgiving and praise to Him; that despite our circumstances we will rejoice in Him and be glad for all He has given us, particularly for Jesus. Pray we will prioritise time with Him in prayer and reading His Word; that in each situation in our day, we will look to Him to give us guidance, wisdom and perseverance; that our eyes are open to see the blessings He gives us to encourage us and remind us that He is with us, knows what we are going through and cares; that He is sovereign in all things.
- Give thanks that there has been positive contact with the local schools where Pete is teaching SRE; pray for him and other teachers/helpers; that they will have time to prepare well; for wisdom and creativity as they work out how best to teach their lessons in an age-appropriate way and for grace and love as they interact with the young people in their classes; Pray for their own walk with God—for time to spend with Him each day and for protection from Satan and his attempts to stop this ministry
- Bible Study groups; give thanks particularly for new people who have joined groups; pray for leaders to have good preparation time and be able to adapt questions to help those in their groups to understand and grow in their knowledge of God and particularly experience in a very real way how the Holy Spirit works in Christians, as we see Him help us in our studies and change our lives to be more godly and a greater witness to those around us.

**My prayer points/God's answers:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tuesday, 20 February**

**Reading: Ephesians 1:7-14**

- Pray for our ministry team, Trent, Pete and Richard; they are not exempt from the things that affect everybody else; pray for their personal needs—that they remain humble and teachable before the Lord; for their relationships; their health; self-discipline in prioritising their time; wisdom in knowing when 'no' is the right answer; that they will rely constantly on the Holy Spirit to help them in their ministry. Pray for their families; for spiritual freshness daily; time for preparation for teaching and preaching; that they hold themselves accountable to God and to the people they lead and minister to.
- Ask God to help us be an encouragement to them; that when there may be disagreements we act in a godly way that leads to resolution that is honouring to God and helpful for others.

**My prayer points/God's answers:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wednesday, 21 February**

**Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23**

- Mid-week monthly service this morning, preceded by morning tea together with Coffee Break ladies; pray for helpful conversations that build relationships and trust; ask God to use the service to encourage and challenge those attending to keep persevering in their Christian walk; for any who may not be Christians, that the Holy Spirit would be moving them towards Jesus.
- Please pray for the ladies who come to Coffee Break; that as Patsy Williams speaks on a Bible verse each week, they will be drawn to find out more about having a personal relationship with Jesus;
- Pray for the Multicultural lunch planned for 4 March; that it will all come together smoothly; that many will attend and take the opportunity of getting to know more about other members of our church. Ask God to help us be interested in others and as we learn from one another, be able to show respect and understanding about different cultures and customs.
- Pray for the ministry at Ropes Crossing; there can be times of discouragement as Pete and Liz see numbers attending church dropping and they face lack of leaders and resources; pray that they will draw closer still to God and depend on Him for the way forward; that there will be those with whom they can speak and share; pray for a movement of the Holy Spirit in lives that brings renewed commitment and service.

**My prayer points/God's answers:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, 22 February**

**Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10**

- Parish Council meeting tonight; pray that God will help this group as they look at the draft budget for the year; that accounts and reports will be ready for our AGM coming up on March 11; give thanks for those who have been serving as wardens and on parish council these last 12 months; pray that God will direct people with gifts to the right ministry; that each of us will ask God to search our hearts and convict us if we are holding back on serving in some way; as we have been seeing from our current sermons and studies...if God gives us a task, He will equip us for it through His Holy Spirit...we just need to be available.
- Pray for those who are mentioned on the back page; that they will know the Lord's strength and peace as they endure whatever trial they are facing.
- Continue to pray for the young people in our congregations who are starting a new journey with their education—university/colleges; new schools. These changes can bring excitement and also anxiety and fears as they have to adapt to things being different and new people and routines; pray they will look to the Lord for strength and peace and that parents are wise in how they guide and encourage—that they are godly role models of patient love.

**My prayer points/God's answers:** \_\_\_\_\_

For inclusion of prayer requests, please contact Sabrina Mellor—9625 8764 or email: mellors2766@gmail.com. If you are submitting a request for someone else, please remember to ask for their permission.

**Friday, 23 February**

**Reading: Romans 8:28-32**

As we prepare to celebrate with our Multicultural Lunch, here are some facts that can help us pray more specifically for those in countries with no such freedoms:

*Over 65 million people worldwide are currently fleeing conflict or persecution because of their race, religion or political beliefs. In the Middle East, the massive suffering from Syria's 7 year civil war has now displaced more than half its population. Iraq continues to be a battleground, and Yemen is now nearing its third year of war.*

*Africa is home to long running and intensifying conflicts, including South Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria, which have created catastrophic malnutrition crises. Tens of thousands of people continue to flee Afghanistan's long running civil war. Bangladesh has become the latest refugee 'hot spot' with over half a million Rohingya people now forcibly displaced from Myanmar.*

*In some countries, government-sanctioned circumstances or anti-Christian laws lead to Christians being harassed, imprisoned, killed, or deprived of possessions or liberties because of their witness. Christians may also be prevented from obtaining Bibles or other Christian literature. Even in countries where governments do not actively oppose Christianity, believers suffer severe persecution from family, friends, neighbours, political and religious groups or rebels because of their witness.*

We can be praying for nation's leaders; aid agencies; Christian pastors and church leaders; Christian brothers and sisters facing persecution. There is great need for medical care and also mental health now is an increasing issue for many refugees. (in coming weeks there will be prayer points for specific nations)

**My prayer points/God's answers:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, 24 February**

**Reading: Romans 8:33-39**

- Pray for our services tomorrow; that people will make it a priority to be at one; for Trent as he continues the series on the Holy Spirit; that his words will be clear and applicable to our lives; that we will come with ready hearts to worship, praise and receive His Word and to act upon it as the Holy Spirit challenges each of us. Ask God to convict us of sin in our life that needs to be confessed; that we will turn away from it and seek to live godly, transformed lives. Pray for any who do not know Jesus as Lord and Saviour; that they will be cut to the heart with the conviction of their sin of rebellion and turn to Him in penitence and faith.
- Pray for Children's Church and Followers Inc; as they look at Genesis this term, pray for the teachers to have creativity and clarity as they present lessons; that the children's interested will be piqued and they want to come back each week and hear more. Give thanks for those involved in teaching our young people at all levels and pray that what is planted in their lives now will continue to grow; that they will come to the point of accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour and continue to walk with Him all their lives.

**My prayer points/God's answers:** \_\_\_\_\_