



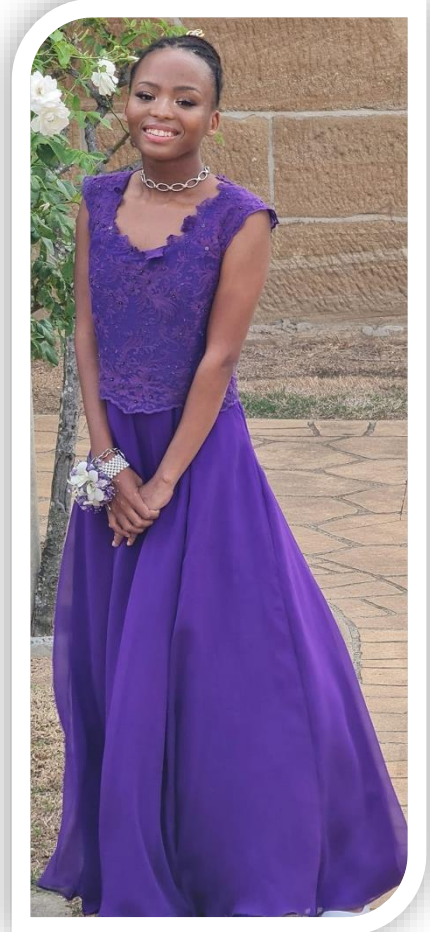
# NEW HORIZONS



The monthly newsletter of the Warwick/Killarney Parish

MARCH 2024

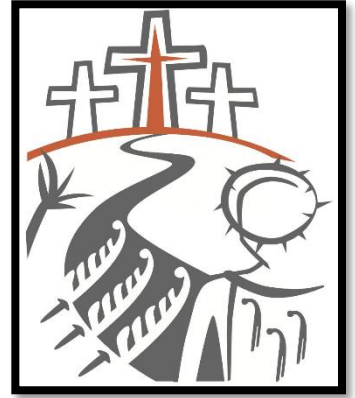
## WHAT A MONTH!



# PASTORAL PONDERING

Dear Church

As we find ourselves in the Lenten season, I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation for every one of you. The start of this year has been nothing short of busy, filled with numerous events and activities that have brought us closer together as a community. Your unwavering dedication and commitment to our church have not gone unnoticed, and for that, I am truly grateful.



First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the disciples who have generously given their time and energy to ensure the success of our recent events. From organising our market to hosting the marriage course, to the courtyard coffee Fridays, and hosting the World Day of Prayer event your efforts have been instrumental in fostering a sense of unity and compassion within our community. It is through your selfless acts of service that we can make a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of worship teams, preachers and our Church Council members who have tirelessly guided us during the first three months of 2024. Their thought-provoking sermons, spiritual guidance, and unwavering support have been a source of inspiration for many. As we continue to prepare for Easter, let us remember the significance of this season and reflect upon our spiritual growth. May we use this time to deepen our relationship with God and seek God's forgiveness and grace.

As we approach Easter 2024, I am filled with hope and anticipation for the joyous celebration that awaits us. Let us gather together as one united body, rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. May this Easter be a time of renewal and rebirth, both for our faith and for our community.



Once again, I extend my sincerest gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support and dedication. It is through your collective efforts that our church community continues to thrive. Together, let us embark on this Lenten journey, growing in faith and love as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of Christ.

On a personal note, I am thankful for the invitation to minister in this Parish until 2030 and I give thanks to God who calls and sustains us in this journey.

Yours in Christ and because of Christ

Ansie Liebenberg





## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE**

Since 1812, women have encouraged one another to engage in personal prayer and lead communal prayer within their mission groups.

Now it is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

Every year, worship service focuses on a different country and a specific theme. World Day of Prayer National/Regional Committees of that country prepare the order of worship on these themes to be used on the next World Day of Prayer.

On the first Friday of March, then, in services all over the world that country becomes the focus of prayer and understanding. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, women worldwide learn how their sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the biblical passages in their context. They learn of the concerns and needs of those women and to empathize and feel in solidarity with them.

The country for 2024 is Palestine. Although chosen a number of years ago, this caused some consternation because of the events of last October 7<sup>th</sup>.

In March 2023, the members of the Warwick Uniting Church accepted the invitation to be the host church in 2024. How to approach this with compassion and sensitivity? As always Rev Ansie knew the best way forward and asked the members of the Ministers Association to their assistance. This resulted in the preparation and presentation of a service of worship shared with 61 men and women and 6 students from Scots PGC. The worship was enhanced by the blended voices of Rev Duncan McDiarmid, Jenny Pearce and Christine Brown leading the singing. Rev May, Pastor Donna from the Churches of Christ and Anna from Scots PGC told the stories of three women of Palestine about Resilience, Truth Telling and Flourishing from the resources and Father Franco assisted Rev Ansie in the Intercessory Prayers. Each person attending received a bookmark with an olive branch attached and during a time of passing the peace exchanged their bookmark with one another.

The message was presented on video by Rev Dr Greg Jenks as he was unable to attend in person. He was recommended by Ian Darnell who had met him in the Middle East a number of years ago. Dr Jenks had served as the Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem, he spoke of his time there the situations of the people, the many challenges they face daily and the ways they are working quietly among their varied groups to improve relationships within Christian, Moslem and Jewish communities.

Thanks to the generosity of the Courtyard Coffee group, a warm time of fellowship was enjoyed following the worship.

Thank you to all who ensured this was a time of blessing to all.

The booklet with the Order of Service and world day of Prayer information is available from the office if you would like a copy.

Let us continue to hold the theme for 2024 close to our hearts.

**I Beg You – Bear With One Another in Love**

## ***Food for Thought....The Church Library Revamped***

Some years ago, my eldest son gave me a wall hanging that said,  
***“Between the Pages of a Book is a Lovely Place to be.”***

What made it very special was that he is not a reader, but he had watched what it meant to his mother. Those of us who are avid readers can echo this saying as another world opens us up to new thoughts, new places, new insights into the human psyche, and many light bulb moments. Even though we might use a kindle instead of paper pages, we are still transported into another realm and made to think more deeply about the world around us.

Some years ago, a lady came to see me about having a church library. Her sister had just died and had left a huge library of Christian fact and fiction and she wanted to give them to a church. She worshipped elsewhere and had found it difficult to find a home for all this amazing array of books. Immediately, I grabbed the offer with both hands, and we started to imagine where we could house them all. Darell built the bookcases, and our library began to take shape.

Because we had accommodated these precious books, the lady who had offered them became one of our members until she left Warwick to move to Tasmania! I began to organise them into categories and others began to bring in more books to overflow our shelves. Down the line, things became a jumble and only a few were borrowing what they could find amidst the muddle.

The time has come to revamp our Library and I will be doing this little by little. It appears that Christian fiction is in demand, and I have many of this genre to donate when I can cull and empty some of the shelves. So, each time I sort books out, I will leave some on a table for people to take before I offer them to Lifeline. Check these out as they stay over a couple of weeks and take home any you think might interest you before they disappear.

As I began this project, I picked up a couple to peruse. Both of them became very hard to put down! The first one was titled, “Son of Hamas” and was published in 2012 in America where it quickly became a best seller. The author grew up in Gaza where his father was one of the founders of Hamas where he really wanted it to be an organisation that cared for the poor and the widows. Sadly, as it grew, it became much more militant, and it morphed into terrorism. His story goes from throwing stones at Israeli trucks and buses through his desire for peace and finally into baptism as a Christian in America!

The next is a work of fiction written by Ted Dekker titled “Outlaw”. Ted grew up as the son of a missionary family in Irian Jira and that’s where the story is set...a real page turner! So, an idle moment in front of our library can turn up just the book you needed to read! We started to create borrowing cards, but quickly abandoned this because we just want you to enjoy what is there to interest you. We trust you to return it...or keep it should it be just what you needed to read and reread!

The Library is not mine...it is yours! And it might just be God talking to you through the written word! It will be a long process...but, hopefully it will help us to move deeper into our faith. Keep reading, Shalom, Jean.



**SCOTS PGC  
COLLEGE**  
Warwick, Queensland

## A Royal Honour

SCOTS PGC College is honoured to share the exciting news of our inclusion in a special commemorative publication 'The Commonwealth at 75'. Published by St James House, London, this prestigious publication will be an official commemorative hardback album marking the 75th Anniversary of the Commonwealth. The invitation was unexpected and indicated that our small College in Warwick is making a mark and being recognised internationally.

Of the 56 independent nations that make up the Commonwealth, we are very proud to be showcased as one of the Commonwealth's leading educators. We were informed that we are one of twelve educational institutions that will feature in the publication.

As you would expect, we asked 'Why SCOTS PGC?' We were humbled by the response. The College has received attention for its high standard of teaching, dedication to the future, human dimension, and incredible living environment and of course the focus and impact SCOTS PGC College has when it comes to enriching regional, rural and local communities.

We were also drawn to your inspiring history and incredible community focus. Your commitment to facilitating the development of sound educational judgment impacts and extends to the individual students it serves and larger society. This aligns with the Commonwealth's long-term plan to serve communities and improve global education.

We feel you have a wealth of stories to share based on your rich foundation, heritage and continued inspired work within Agriculture, aligning with King Charles's passion for farming, sustainability and conservation within his vision for the new Commonwealth.

– Kian Husain Bor Partnerships  
Manager, St James's House



SCOTS PGC has a proud historical connection with the royal family; our College Student Leaders and College Pipe and Drum Band wear the Cameron of Erracht kilt, the same tartan as worn by the late Queen's Own Cameron Highland Regiment.

This is a unique opportunity for the College to be showcased internationally. We believe this opportunity is in recognition of the College's work historically and, just as significantly, is in recognition of the Colleges' recent growth and development and its unique current standing as a leader in Education, not only in our region and Australia but across the Commonwealth.

The publication will officially be launched later in 2024 at Westminster Abbey and we are very excited at the prospect of being able to take part in these momentous celebrations.

## Changing of the guard

When a very capable person does a job for quite a while it looks effortless – all information is complete and correct, creative ideas keep coming and a good product just miraculously appears.

Well – Marg Wells is no longer the leader of our Communication Task Team, so I beg your tolerance as I get up to speed on all the skills, tasks and knowledge that Marg has perfected over the years she has led our team.

In the next few weeks, you might notice some changes in the communiques – probably some glitches, some new items, some things no longer included. But over time I hope to be able to bring our news and general information up to the standard that Marg has passed it on.

The Communications Task Team at present consist of:

- Angela Lester - who edits notices, compiles the New Horizons and provides a reflection with the emailed notices.
- Gordon Bratby - who is our significant link to the professional side of communications.
- Alison Baistow - who assists with general tasks of delivering notices and posters, etc.
- Marg Wells – as an exofficio member and holder of all knowledge and skills
- Myself – Sue Campbell – who will endeavour to set up notices, complete with rosters and general weekly information, admin for facebook etc.

But there is room for one or two other people who can assist in – maybe photocopying, writing articles, taking photos of events, designing posters. Also, any info regarding events that might be pertinent to our community can be contributed and if there is room can be included in either weekly notices or monthly New Horizons.

If you'd like to offer your services, contact Sue Campbell on [sue.campbell@wkuc.org.au](mailto:sue.campbell@wkuc.org.au) or [communications@wkuc.org.au](mailto:communications@wkuc.org.au).

At present Task Team meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month but that is negotiable.

Sue Campbell, Communications Task Team Leader

### **EASTER SERVICES**

#### **Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

- Killarney 8:30am
- Warwick: 9:30am
- Freestone: 7:00pm

#### **Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Killarney 8:30am  
Warwick 9:30am

### **Memorial Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March:**

Warwick Uniting Church  
9am-12md

*A time of reflection*

Bring flowers to remember  
loved ones.

Surprise everyone on Easter  
Sunday with beautiful flowers.

## “Our Autumn Market - a high flying affair”

On a fine but very gusty March 9th, our first market day for 2024 was a ‘roaring’ success. The proceeds for the day totalled just over \$8200, our best ever autumn market.

Congratulations to all involved and a big thank you to each stall convenor and their helpers for another great team effort.

The market featured our marvellous plants maestros in the courtyard together with a wonderfully well organised “treasure and trash” event in Williams Hall. Did you happen to discover a piece of treasure? Our Courtyard cafe crew extended their footprint throughout the market site and were admirably supported by the ‘regular staples’ team - Sausage Sizzle, 'Baked Goods' and 'Treat Yourself’.



Entertainment was different at this market. The gusty day provided exciting moments for all stall holders, in particular when a gazebo ‘treated itself’ to a perch on the roof of the nearby walkway. Fortunately, no harm came to stall workers, patrons or the gazebo. On a more calming note, the entertainment in the church proved popular on such a challenging day.

Our next market will be on August 17 and feature a major books market in Williams Hall and a courtyard full of native plants. Until then, enjoy the treats you may have bought and the friends you caught up with at our ‘high flying’ event.

Cheers,  
Scott Young and David Angell (Market Convenors)

<b>WUC MARKET DAY</b>		<b>March 9 2024</b>
<b>PROCEEDS FROM STALLS</b>		
Plants		\$2,721.20
Trash and treasure		\$2,279.60
Books		\$602.30
Café		\$506.00
Home baked		\$940.80
Treat yourself		\$722.00
BBQ		\$511.00
<b>NET TOTAL to date</b>		<b>\$8,282.90</b>

*Thanks to Margaret Bryant for the following poem which truly emphasises that we should never judge on face value.*

*This is a sad time for the Bryant family with the death of Tom's brother Ron. A man who was very well known in the Warwick community and a member of the Wesley Bowls Club in recent years. I am sure you all extend your love and prayers at this difficult time.*

Today, upon a bus, I saw a very beautiful woman and wished I were as beautiful.  
When suddenly she rose to leave, I saw her hobble down the aisle.  
She had one leg and used a crutch. But as she passed, she passed a smile.  
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine. I have two legs; the world is mine.

I stopped to buy some candy. The lad who sold it had such charm.  
I talked with him; he seemed so glad. If I were late, it'd do no harm.  
And as I left, he said to me, "I thank you, you've been so kind.  
It's nice to talk with folks like you. "You see," he said, "I'm blind."  
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine. I have two eyes; the world is mine.

Later while walking down the street, I saw a child I knew.  
He stood and watched the others play, but he did not know what to do.  
I stopped a moment and then I said, "Why don't you join them dear?"  
He looked ahead without a word. I forgot, he couldn't hear.  
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine. I have two ears; the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go.  
With eyes to see the sunset's glow.  
With ears to hear what I'd know.  
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.  
I've been blessed indeed: the world is mine.

**Just a simple reminder that we have so much to be thankful for!  
Give the gift of love. It never comes back empty!  
I have been truly blessed with AWESOME FRIENDS!**

**When did you last enjoy a Roast Lunch?**

**Not for a while?**

**THEN**

**The Who Cares catering Team invites you to**

**Come to Lunch next Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> in Williams Hall.**

**An opportunity to share in a time of fellowship  
with members of our Parish and bring your friends.**

**Cost \$5.00 with proceeds towards the Pastoral Care funds.**