

Prayer for Trinity Sunday:
Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, and evermore defend us from all adversities, for you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

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Stories to Inspire



WEEK ENDING 7 June 2020

CONNECTING OFFLINE

St Edward's Blackburn South

Locum Reverend Geoff Milton shares with us the following; We are an older congregation in Blackburn South, thankful for what God has been doing in the current difficult time. We stay connected as a Christian community - caring and praying for one another primarily by phone and mail. About one third of our members don't have internet access so we set up a telephone pastoral care network with three co-ordinators encouraging a team of pastoral carers who call an allocated group of members regularly. They find out how the person is going, share a Bible verse of the week and pray for them. Some members feel our pastoral connections have actually improved under the Covid19 restrictions. Those without email, appreciate the printed newsletter with a short Bible reflection, prayers contributed by members, church news, prayer points and even a Dad joke.

Our Parish Council has encouraged members to change from collection plate giving to electronic giving via bank transfer and the ADF system. Most members have taken up this option and we thank God that our giving has actually increased. We have appreciated the online Sunday worship services and preaching by Bishop Paul, and as locum. I have learnt (somehow) to record and upload a mid-week YouTube sermon to help us reflect further on the word of God.

BLESSING ALICE – THE TUNNEL BORING MACHINE

Christ Church South Yarra

The Reverend Roxanne Addley shares with us the following; In late March this year, Christ Church South Yarra was approached by the Metro Tunnel Project to bless their new Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) "Alice" prior to her starting to make the tunnel between the Domain Interchange and South Yarra. As we had just gone into lock down, we were uncertain as to how this would play out, especially as we were no longer physically holding services and gatherings of people. The project team came back to us in April with the appropriate health and safety protocols and urged us again to consider the request. TBMs are traditionally blessed along with a shrine to St Barbara, the patron saint of miners and tunnellers, at the beginning of any tunnelling project.

As we opened up for services of up to ten people in May, we agreed to hold the blessing as per project schedule on Thursday May 14, 2020. It was exciting to engage with a community that we didn't normally interact with.

The TBM, the team and the shrine for St Barbara were all blessed and prayed for in hard hat, safety glasses and white stole. While we had just the team in attendance underground, other Tunnel Project members were able to watch from ground level 20 meters above us. More news and pictures of Alice are contained in the [Metro Tunnel website](#).



Click here for this weeks' video message from the Archbishop

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