

Prayer of the week:

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you, that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises which exceed all that we desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MARMINGATHA

Stories to Inspire



WEEK ENDING 12 JULY 2020

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PROGRAM EXTENDED

St Alfred's Blackburn North

& St Luke's Vermont

Our children's holiday program is online this year. It seems to me there could be many families out there with children who need something to do. If you would like to forward this on through your networks then please be our guests.

Each year for over 20 years we have been doing this program. We call it "Going Bananas." This year we have managed to put 50-60 minutes of content online plus a resources page for the five days of this week. The theme is "Brothers and Sisters." The team will look at various brothers and sisters from the Bible. Each day there will be some singing, craft, puppets, stories, prayer, cooking, games and a few other mad things. The kids can either just watch or they can go to the resources page for each day and then do some of the activities. That might keep them occupied for a bit longer.

The GB team are all from St Alfred's including many young adults and teenagers and very well led by two staff members, Ross Curnow and Naomi Bird, our Children & Families Ministers.

There is no cost. No need to register. Any children anywhere in Melbourne, Australia or even overseas can join in.

FOR | Primary aged children and anyone with a sense of fun

WHEN | We will leave the content online for a couple of weeks so it will cover the extra week of holidays that many children will get in Melbourne.

WHERE | No need to register. Just sit back and enjoy the program online in the comfort of your own lounge room.

Please **click here** to view GB@home.

This is our gift to other churches and families in this difficult period.

- The Reverend Peter MacPherson



WELLBEING ZOOM SEMINAR

Sleep Hygiene Workshop

WHAT | Sleep Hygiene Workshop for Clergy and ASLMs led by Anna Johnson.

WHEN | Wednesday, July 29, 12 noon -1pm.

REGISTER | **Click here** for details.

GOING BANANAS 2020



Over the past couple of weeks I have been talking with clergy grappling with another round of uncertainty in light of COVID-19. Whether it is about numbers – thinking we were going to be allowed gatherings of 50 people but no – still 20. And now, not able to meet for worship at all. As one priest said to me, who had begun to lead services for 20 people, it was with a tear in his eye that he closed the doors this time. I've felt it myself – postcode 3031 where I live suddenly in lockdown and what that means for my leave plans for August (minor compared to the experience of those living in the nearby Tower Blocks.)

Even those of us who would describe ourselves as being resilient around change and living with uncertainty – able to go with the flow – are feeling it. Let me encourage you to say yes to Jesus' invitation to rest in him. In the midst of your weariness, in the midst of what burdens you, to rest in him and so be able open yourself up to the new thing God is doing.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."
(Matthew 11:28-30)

Don't forget all clergy and families are eligible for the Diocesan Employee Assistance Program **Click here** for more information

*Please keep sending your stories to inspire...
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