

Prayer of the week:

Almighty God, whose beloved Son for our sake willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross, give us courage and patience to take up our cross daily and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

MARMINGATHA

Stories to Inspire



WEEK ENDING 2 AUGUST



National Council of
Churches in Australia

SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER

Sunday 2 August 2020

The National Council of Churches in Australia is calling all churches and denominations to a day of prayer this Sunday 2 August.

We all know the impact of the pandemic overseas and here, including on some of our own loved ones.

What we can offer again now are our prayers together. Hence this encouragement to you all. It is comforting when we know we are all praying together to our Saviour.

Further detail is available [here](#).

UNITED IN PRAYER

Holy Trinity Coburg

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope. Ephesians 4

Last week, the Holy Trinity Coburg, asked all the Arabic speaking leaders of churches in Perth, Sydney and Melbourne to unite in praying for Australia (leaders of the government and the leaders of the churches). 28 clergy from different Arabic speaking denominations met in a zoom meeting last Saturday. It was a very encouraging time. It was the first time for all the Arabic speaking leaders of churches to come together. We believe that God will answer our prayers and protect our beloved country, Australia, People and leaders.

- The Reverend Farag Hanna

KEEPING OURSELVES & EACH OTHER SAFE

All Age Bible Talk - St Paul's Cathedral

In a special Bible Talk as we in Melbourne are getting used to wearing masks to go out,

Prof Kate Drummond AM, Lay Canon of the Cathedral and regular 'Bible Talker' shares some tips from her workplace at the Royal Melbourne Hospital on how to keep ourselves and others safe during this time.

Click here to see and share the video.

ONLINE FOR KIDS & ADULTS ALIKE

St Alfred's Blackburn North

St Alfred's Blackburn North 4pm congregation has lots of young families. In term 2, we kept our familiar all-age service format and ran it over zoom. By the end of term 2, several parents said trying to give their children a Sunday school activity in their homes while also engaging in the sermon and prayer was not working. So for term 3, we are experimenting with a new format. At 4pm we meet on zoom for a 30-minute kids church (song, Bible story & discussion, a craft or colouring activity and a family prayer).

Then at 8pm (with most of the children in bed), the grown-ups log into zoom again, this time for a song and the sermon followed by time to share and pray in breakout rooms. A couple of the parents commented that it was the first time they'd been able to focus on and enjoy the sermon without distractions in quite a while!

- The Reverend Dr Mark Simon





LET'S STAY CONNECTED FUND

Helping Communities Stay Connected During COVID-19 & Beyond!

The fund provides grants between \$5,000 and \$200,000 to support community-led initiatives.

The program will support innovative, community-led and community-based initiatives that build connection, reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation and can be implemented quickly – providing much-needed support across the state. It will also support existing initiatives that can be rapidly scaled up to a local, regional or state level – delivering innovative and practical solutions that will benefit communities as soon as possible. Applications are to be submitted no later than 31 August 2020.

Click here for further information & how to apply.

ONLINE TRAINING

Upcoming Sessions

Evan Englezos is leading the following seminars;

- **Beginners Guide to live streaming from church | Thursday 30 July @10am | Register here free**
This 2 hour practical workshop will assist you with how to live stream in church on a small budget and with a small technological footprint. Topics include; video & audio for live streaming, connecting hardware & software together – and managing the feed.
- **Effective communication for small churches | Tuesday 4 August @10am | Register here - \$15**
This workshop will be co-presented with Leroy Coote to provide guidance on how to; Communicate with your congregations as we emerge from lockdown and into post-COVID-19 church; Equip yourself to communicate to congregations in the 21st Century and beyond; use technology to simplify communications across multiple modes and channels.
- **Reach your community with Facebook advertising Thursday 6 August @11am | Register here - \$20**
Nigel Preston from Chatterbox Marketing will share stories & insights on how churches and faith organisations can use this platform to effectively reach their local communities and across the country. If you are considering using paid advertising on social media, then this is the workshop for you!



My prayer is that you will find comfort, strength and hope as you join in the call to prayer with other Christians this Sunday.

Click here for this weeks' video message from the Archbishop

Please keep sending your stories to inspire...
+Genieve