

CHURCH TODAY

9:30am: Mark
6th Sun after Epiphany

Bible Readings:

Ps 119:1-8

Deut 30:15-20

1 Cor 3:1-9

Matt 5:21-37

(Godly Play) is on today for children in K-Yr 3)

(Godly Science) is on today for kids from Years 4-9).

5pm Jesus Talk

NEXT WEEK

9:30am: Mark
Transfiguration Sunday

Bible Readings:

Ps 119:33-40

Lev 19:1-18

1 Cor 3:10-17

Matt 5:38-48

(Godly Play) is on today for children in K-Yr 3)

(Godly Science) is on today for kids from Years 4-9).

5pm Jesus Talk

The Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you gave the law to guide our lives: grant that we may never shrink from your commandments, but, as we are taught by your Spirit, may fulfil your law in perfect love; through Christ our Lord and Master, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

SUNDAY MEETINGS

Every Sunday

9:30am – each week

Prayer Praise Proclamation and
Holy Communion

5pm Jesus Talk

"the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy" (Rev 19:10) Jesus Talk seeks to be a "prophetic hub" where Christ- concentrated expressions of prayer, praise, and proclamation, can take place in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Contact

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Sermons – Audio & Video

www.stmarksbassendean.church/blog

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbassendean>

St Marks Bassendean YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkz-PyZ7TSSOOVSH7OUegQ>

Bank Account

Changes to BSB for payment to Bank Account

We encourage people to use direct deposit or direct debit.

(direct debit forms available at the back of the church)

Anglican Community Fund

BSB: 706 001 **A/c No:** 300070717

Name: Anglican Parish of Bassendean.

Please identify payment, i.e., offering.

No need to use your name if you prefer not to.

More info from Jenny

Welcome to ST MARK'S BASSENDEAN

*Discovering and demonstrating Jesus' love
in Bassendean and beyond.*

12 February 2023

Righteousness

Brothers and sisters,

We've seen that to be a Christian is to be brought from darkness into God's light in Christ, to be saved from condemnation, forgiven through the death of Jesus who came to rescue the lost and give his life as a ransom for many. We rightly sing of God's "amazing grace... which saved a wretch like me". But does God's grace mean it doesn't matter how we live? Shall we sin so that grace may increase?

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus could not be clearer in his answer. He says, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them... I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:17, 20) That would have been shocking to hear for Jesus' first disciples! For the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law were seemingly the most 'righteous' people around, the most serious about religion and obeying God's commands. In what follows, Jesus gives 6 'antitheses' where he says, 'you have heard it said... but I say to you...' We will look at them in our readings today and next week. To risk oversimplifying, I think the problem Jesus has with the standard of 'righteousness' espoused by the Pharisees and teachers of the Law is that it is was focussed on narrowly keeping the letter of the law. But the righteousness Jesus demands is one which reflects the righteous character of God himself: "be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect" (v.48).

Jesus' words are challenging, and we will see him address our personal interactions, sexual purity, marriage and truthfulness. If the readings raise anything you'd like to talk about more, please do come and speak with me, or other mature Christians.

Let me say two responses I, at least, feel are appropriate:

When I see Jesus' standard of righteousness, firstly I see my unrighteousness exposed, just how far short I fall, and I see my need for his righteousness to be given to me.

And, secondly, I see the righteousness he wants his disciples to pursue, in genuine Spirit-wrought likeness to God.

May we flee to Christ for his righteousness, and seek to reflect his righteousness in our lives.

In Christ,
Mark

WELCOME

Welcome to St Mark's. We are an active Anglican church of all ages and walks of life, seeking to grow in the likeness of Christ and welcome new members and visitors.

Please relax and enjoy the worship and fellowship. Are you **new to this church**? Please make yourself known to one of the ministers or service leaders. You may also like to complete and return the **Welcome Form**.

The **Order of Service** may be followed on the screen.

The **Holy Communion** is open to all believers. Visitors are welcome to receive Communion if they normally take it in their own church. Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the minister when you come to communion.

Praying Together This Week: Help to live & share the gospel & for people to come to Christ; Those who are unwell; Christians being persecuted; Myanmar; Afghanistan; Ukraine; Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Mark & Kate Grobicki, our Youth Group, our Children's Ministries.

Regular Parish Prayer Meeting.

When: Every second Saturday 11am-12pm **Dates:** 18/2, 4/3, 18/3

Where: in the church

Why: that the Lord might pour on us his Spirit in power so that we become a true missional (apostolic) congregation. **More Info:** please talk to Shirley or Mary.

The next **Men's Breakfast** is on **Sat 18th February at 8am** in the Church Hall. For more info see Roger.

Women Together 2023 – Save the Dates – Sat 18 March & Sat 27 May

The Disciplines of the Father – Understanding how God the Father perfected Jesus through relationships & how he will do the same in us.

7 Free Public Meetings by John Yates

South Perth Uniting Church – 2 Sandgate St, South Perth

Wed evenings starting 15 Feb 23 6:30-8pm. See John for more info.

Bible Study Groups

Women's Bible Study:

Mondays 7-7:30pm catch up, 7:30-9pm Prayer & Study in Bassendean – Contact Donna – 0401 615 819

Men's Bible Studies:

Tuesdays 7pm in Bassendean/Bayswater TBC – Contact Mark – 0406 659 249
Also **Tuesdays** 6:30pm - location varies between Swan View and Bassendean
Contact Roger – 0408 096 022

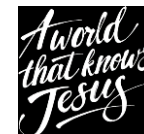
Wednesdays 5-6pm in the church – Contact John – 0405 640 740

Men's & Women's Bible Studies:

Wednesdays 9-10am in the church led by John - 0405 640 740

Thursdays 7:30pm in Caversham at Charles and Charmaine's place. Contact Charmaine – 0421 868 321

MISSION PROJECT UPDATE Information for your Prayers



CMS – Church Missionary Society

The Church Missionary Society's vision is a **World that Knows Jesus**.

CMS missionaries work hard to learn native languages and cultures. However, is this necessary? Absolutely, as although 20% of the world's population speaks English, for most people it is a second or "other" language.

People that missionaries work with say: "When I speak to you in English, I feel like I'm at school. When I speak to you in Maltese, I feel like I'm at home".

Because God is a **speaking God** who spoke to people directly and through His prophets, he wants us to speak and to speak the "heart" language of the people.

"My word that goes out from my mouth, it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55: 10-11)

Speaking the gospel really matters and speaking is the means that God uses to grow His church. A culturally appropriate understanding of and coming to grips with Bible concepts such as "righteous", "worship", "fellowship", and "justification" and being able to explain them in culturally appropriate terms to your audience takes a skilful learner who is able to think "outside the box". Research has shown that studying foreign languages produces lateral thinkers.

CMS believes that learning the local language is critical to allow people to hear and understand. Also reading the Bible in their own mother tongue is of paramount importance so that people all over the world may see that "God speaks our language".

For more info speak to Barbara Mallett.

Coffee & Chat is still in recess for the Summer months. It will start again once the weather cools down.

Youth Group

Youth Group meets fortnightly during term time for young people in years 4-9.

We play crazy games then share a meal and learn about Jesus together. Dinner is provided.

Saturdays 4-6pm, at the Church Hall - all welcome.

Term 1 Dates: 11/2, 25/2, 11/3, 25/3

Contact Andrew, Ros, Brenton, or Steph.

Financial Information for December 2022:

Total income: \$10,105.00 made up as follows:

Envelopes - \$2,445.00

Direct Giving - \$6,450.00

Open Plate - \$995.00

Other - \$215.00

Total Expenses: \$13,000.23

Please note church bank account details on the back page.