

CHURCH THIS WEEK

9:30am: Mark
**Twelfth Sunday of
Pentecost**

Bible Readings:
Ps 133
Gen 45:1-15
Rom 11:13-36
Matt 15:1-20

(**Children's Church** is on
today for children in K-Yr 3)
(**Kid's Time** is on today for
kids from Years 4-9).

5pm Jesus Talk

NEXT WEEK

9:30am: Mark
**Thirteenth Sunday of
Pentecost**

Bible Readings:
Ps 124
Ex 1:8-2:10
Rom 12:1-8
Matt 16:13-28

(**Children's Church** is on
today for children in K-Yr 3)
(**Kid's Time** is on today for
kids from Years 4-9).

5pm Jesus Talk

Sentence of the Day:

Jesus said, "What goes
into someone's mouth
does not defile them,
but what comes out of
their mouth, that is what
defiles them." (Matthew
15:11)

The Prayer of the Day

Grant to us, Lord, we ask you, the spirit to think and
do always such things as are right, that we, who
cannot do anything that is good without you, may by
you be enabled to live according to your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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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>

SUNDAY MEETINGS

Sundays at 9:30am – Prayer, Praise,
Proclamation & Holy Communion

Sundays at 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

Church Council

Church Wardens:

Shirley Landon
Roger Wright

Councillors

Alan Hunt
Mary Lindsey
Jennifer Murray
Marilyn Wright

Welcome to ST MARK'S BASSENDEAN

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

20 August 2023

The Heart of the Problem

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we look at our world, at the news, at our communities, and even at ourselves – what accounts for what is wrong? Why do people do what is wrong? Many different answers are given, often pointing to external factors: a person's environment, or education, or examples, or evil spiritual forces. And the Bible affirms that all of those do play a role. But is that the whole picture? In our passage from Matthew's gospel today, Jesus gives his key diagnosis, and I think we can put it this way: "the heart of the problem, is the problem of the heart".

The Pharisees are upset that Jesus' disciples don't wash their hands before they eat, supposedly 'defiling' their food, and so themselves. But Jesus responds: What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them... the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them. For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander" (Matt 15:11, 18). Purity and uncleanness before God does not depend on what goes into us, but what comes out of us, and like water welling up from a spring, what we say and do wells up from our 'hearts'.

This is humbling, for it means that what is at fault is not just 'out there' but 'in here', in me. And it means that it can't be fixed with more education, or even more religion (like hand washing!). As Jesus warns in the passage, it's possible to be very religious but still have hearts far from God (Matt 15:7-9). No, I need cleaning up *inside*. We need a remedy for our spiritual heart-disease.

Yet the wonder of Jesus is that on the cross he died for the dirt of our sin, so that we may be 'cleansed by his blood'; his Spirit washes us and gives us 'new hearts', from which wells up love for God and others. However dirty our hearts, if we turn to him he delights to cleanse us inside. "Wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God... But you were washed... in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor 6:9,11)

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:** 19/8, 2/9, 16/9

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 19th August at 8am in the Church Hall.
For more info see Roger.

There will be a **Pastoral Carers meeting** on
Sunday 27th August after the 9:30am service.

Coffee & Chat is in the Church Hall from 10am – 12pm on the **1st and 3rd Fridays of the Month**

Upcoming Prayer Services:

Prayer for Healing – Sun 20 August straight after the 9:30am service.

Prayer for Ministry & Mission – Sat 2 Sep 3-5pm

See Mark 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 6:30pm in Bayswater – 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 Bassendean at Charles and Charmaine's place. Contact Charmaine – 0421 868 321

MISSION PROJECT UPDATE Information for your Prayers

Jesus Ministries Myanmar

Whilst civil strife continues across the nation, there have been positive dialogue between the military junta and representative Christian organisations.

Meanwhile, in the far northern state of Nagaland, on the Indian border, there is peace. 16 students have completed and graduated from the Powerful Youth Centre Detox centre in this region founded by Jesus Ministries. This year 17 students have enrolled, they are studying the Bible and going out to preach the gospel.

There are plans to build and open a Christian school in the area, so believers won't have to send their children to a Buddhist run institution. Meanwhile, a new church, Zion, has been opened for the local community. 50-80 people gather weekly hungry for the Word of the Lord.

A number of congregations from across Nagaland wish to join Jesus Ministries.

Please pray for continued church growth across the Myanmar, and for future free and fair elections.

For more info, please speak to John.

Women Together – Saturday 16 September from 2-4pm at Barb and Verna's Home – 65 Bernley Drive, Viveash for Afternoon Tea with **Guest Speaker – Cara Heng** speaking on the topic of Caring for the iGeneration.

Please RSVP to Barb Wadley: 0407 476 436

Future Dates for Women Together for 2023: 25 Nov – Various music and poetry

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 provided.

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

Term 3 Dates: 26/8; 9/9

Contact Andrew, Ros, or Brenton

Financial Information for July 2023:

Total income: \$15,164.96 made up as follows:

Envelopes - \$1,613.05

Direct Giving - \$7,401.00

Open Plate - \$965.00

Other - \$5,185.91

Total Expenses: \$11,474.20

Bank Account Details:

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***

We encourage people to use direct deposit or direct debit (forms available at the back of the church).