



James Douglas and Anne Mason  
working in the meadow

## Keeping our garden beautiful

Lavender Bay is the home of many notable gardens and Christ Church has one of them. Led by **Anne Mason**, a small group have been beautifying and 'turkey proofing'.

The meadow, beside the pre-school comprises rows of native grass, Lomandra and Salvias. In the shade of a very old native Cheese tree, there are clumps of Cetanthe, Bromiliads, Irisene, Agapanthus.

It was almost 10 years ago when Anne, with her expertise from a background in landscape design, offered to help around our beautiful park-like grounds.

The Meadow is one of the many fruits of her labours. Currently, she is making an orchid-studded rockery at the base of a camphor laurel tree near "the bridge".

Quite often, Anne is assisted in the work by **James Douglas**.

If you would like to help out occasionally on a Saturday morning, call Anne on 0407 943 143.

## August Diary

Sun 6 10am Communion  
5pm The Gathering

Sun 13 10am Morning Prayer  
5pm The Gathering

Wed 16 7am Parish Council

Sun 20 10am Holy Communion  
5pm The Gathering

Sun 25 10am Morning Prayer  
5pm The Gathering

### Offertories update

By the end of June, we had budgeted to receive \$105 000 and have actually received \$107 424. We are 2.3% ahead of budget.

## August and September Sermon Series (beginning 13 August)

In July, the **New Yorker** magazine published The Therapy Issue, a nod to therapy as a distinguishing feature of modern life. According to the editors, 'If our current moment has a defining impulse, it's the drive to feel good again'. Faddish treatments and self-improvement regimes abound and yet after a pandemics disruption, so many remain isolated and out of sorts. What tools do we have for coping with despair? By contrast, Paul's letter to the Philippians strikes a different note, that of 'joy' - the word appears sixteen times! We hope you will join us in August and September to unpack this treasure.

It's one of the strange twists of modern life, that faced with all the things I can't change, I'm so slow to speak to the one who can change them. Jesus says that I have a Father in heaven who is very keen to hear me and answer.

So, if your prayer seems one dimensional at best - here are some tips that might rejuvenate you. It takes a good 5 minutes during a quiet part of the day. It is a new day, so God's mercies are new (Lamentations 3:23).

Remind yourself of God's will and goodness just as the Lord's Prayer leads us to do (Matthew 6:9-13).

Bring burdens to Jesus as he invites you to (Matthew 11:28) such as guilt, hardships, anxiety and worry.

Each day there is real opposition and opportunity. Ask God to protect and use you (Colossians 4:6).

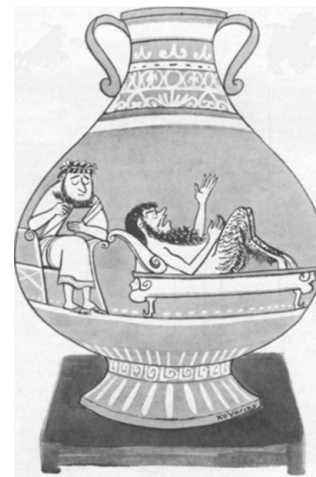
Pray for loved ones and spiritual life in the home, remembering that God's power is "more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20).

Think ahead in your prayers, committing to God the things of the week and think out in your prayers to people far away (John 4:35).

Finally, "Lord what I know not please teach me, what I have not, please give me and what I am not please make me - for Jesus' sake, Amen".

Sometimes praying is easy and natural, but mostly the mind wanders. Give yourself the best chance - remove any obstacle. Whatever it takes, do business with God.

**Rev Greg Webster, Rector**



Anatol Kovarsky December 29, 1956

## Contacts

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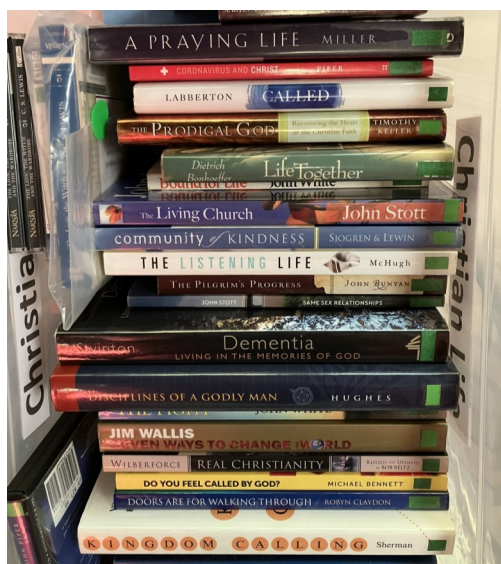
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## Enrich your spiritual mind

The Christ Church Library went "live" on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2021. All books donated by members of the congregation. Every now and then, lovely "fairies" leave an extra book or two (or three!) to add to the collection, either for borrowing or some (especially tracts and Bibles) to give away to anyone who could be encouraged by them. So the collection is growing.

Our subject groupings include: Historical and Bible study materials, biographies and auto-biographies, Christian Life, evangelism, apologetics and theology as well as some novels and other books for young readers.

We have talking books in CD format and even a couple of movies.



## Preschool a stepping stone

**Laura Rivera** recalls the first time God planted the seed in her heart to run a pre-school attached to a church. Fast forward about ten years and now she is the director of the growing Lavender Bay Preschool.

"Our aim is to provide outstanding early childhood education where children will also hear about Jesus".

"I feel like the Lord has something special and exciting planned for the lower North Shore" "There are so many 'thirsty' people out there and yet going to church can be a big leap. We hope our preschool might be a stepping-stone."

For more information on Lavender Bay Preschool, call (02) 6181 0991 or email [office@baypreschool.com](mailto:office@baypreschool.com)

## September Diary

Sun 3 10am Holy Communion  
5pm The Gathering

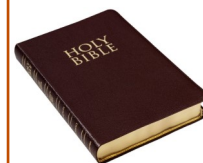
Sun 10 10am Morning Prayer  
5pm The Gathering

Wed 13 7am Parish Council Meeting

Sun 17 10am Holy Communion  
5pm The Gathering

Sun 24 10am Morning Prayer  
5pm The Gathering

Sun 31 10am Family Service  
5pm The Gathering



## The Bible in my Life

Jessie Cherian  
- evening congregation

"So, do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."  
-Isaiah Chapter 41, verse 10

Of this passage, Jessie says:  
"This verse has been a source of encouragement while navigating grief and life's rough waters. It has served to remind me that God is in complete control, especially when I'm afraid or worried about the future."

**Join a Bible Study Group.**  
Like to know more? Email  
[dnicolios@bigpond.com](mailto:dnicolios@bigpond.com)

Monday nights (fortnightly)  
(Keith & Anne Mason)  
Monday nights: (Geoff Kells)  
Tuesday nights: (James Flynn)  
Wednesday nights: (Di Nicolios)  
Thursday mornings: (Di Nicolios)

## Buzz from the Bay



### Rectory hospitality

During May our minister **Greg Webster** and his family generously opened the renovated rectory to play host for a home-made pizza night. Members of both morning and evening congregations were invited by Greg. It all came about because his son **Jonno** had bought a pizza oven, helped by Jonno's wife **Sophie** and sister **Grace**. Look out for an invitation to periodic Sunday dinners in the rectory.



### Meeting the Edwards

In June, **Chrissy Fulcher**, parish councillor, took time off to catch up with our former minister **Lachlan Edwards** and **Bec Edwards**. Lachlan is now Dean of Geraldton Cathedral in WA. (He had been ordained in Perth and ministered in Broome and Exmouth before returning east.) "It was great to see the spectacular sights and spend time with the Edwards", says Chrissy.



### Myla's baptism

On June 4, our **Rev Di Nicolios** led the baptism of Myla, daughter of **Chris** and **Beckie Pearson**. The baptism party was joined by a Pearson contingent from NZ, while Beckie's family enjoyed the occasion via live stream. Picture: Di, Chris's brother & Myla's Godfather **Mark**, Beckie & Chris with Myla and Godmother **Helen Worthington**. Footnote: Chris helps on the tech desk while Beckie is in our choir.