

## Contact Details

St John's & St Paul's (03) 5962 6620  
Postal PO Box 191, Healesville, 3777  
St John's 5-7 Symons Street, Healesville  
St Paul's 43 Bell Street, Yarra Glen

## Online

Website: [www.stjohnshealesville.org.au](http://www.stjohnshealesville.org.au)  
Sermons: [www.stjohnshealesville.org.au/sermon](http://www.stjohnshealesville.org.au/sermon)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/YarraValleyAnglican](http://www.facebook.com/YarraValleyAnglican)

**Pastor - Rev Matt Smith** (Day off - Mondays)

0421 213 790 Email - [minister@stjohnshealesville.org.au](mailto:minister@stjohnshealesville.org.au)

## Wardens

Rob Colombo, Peggy Marriner, Berys Nixon (vicar's warden)

## Parish Council

Narelle Allison (treasurer), David Green, Simon Green

### Child-Safety Commitment

Yarra Valley Anglican Church is committed to the welcome, safety, and value of the children under our care and has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Our child-safety officer is Claire Bennett.

For further information please see the Anglican Church Child-Safe Policy available from the information table.

### Giving to Yarra Valley Anglican Church

Please give generously to the Mission and Ministry of our church:  
*'Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.'* (2 Corinthians 9:7)

### Church Banking Details

A/C Name: St John's Anglican Church  
BSB: 063 689 A/C No: 1006 5060

# Yarra Valley Anglican Church



**St John's Healesville and St Paul's Yarra Glen**

## Newsletter - September 2020

Our church buildings will remain closed for the duration of the Covid-19 lockdown. We are not sure how long this will be, however digital services are available online from our website.

<https://stjohnshealesville.org.au/online/>

You are invited to join us for 'virtual morning tea'  
10:00am Sunday mornings via Zoom. Meeting ID: 5962662000.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5962662000>

### Current Sermon Series: Praying the Psalms

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight,

LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. Ps 19:14.

## Online Services

Friends, a reminder of how our church is meeting online each week.

- We have a weekly Sunday service from our website or YouTube.
- You are welcome to join us each Sunday for morning tea at 10am via Zoom.
- Morning and Evening Prayer are on each Wednesday, 9am and 8pm via Zoom.
- We are hosting a fortnightly Friday Trivia Night, 8pm this Friday via zoom. Invite your friends!

We also have a weekly prayer email for those who sign-up, and a physical mailing list which includes the sermon notes for those who can't connect online. Please be in touch with me if you would like to sign-up for either of these.

I hope and pray our church is also connecting in more organic ways, as members get in touch with each other. From our church family, who haven't your heard from or seen in a while who you could reach out to? If there are any specific prayer requests from our members, please pass those on to me!

## Coming-up at Church

We have completed our sermon series on the life of Jacob. I'd love to hear what stood out for you from Jacob's life? In the month of September we'll be learning how to Pray the Psalms, and Rev Ben Soderlund from Mentone Anglican Church will be assisting me in this series. Below is what you can expect over the coming Sundays:

- Sept 6<sup>th</sup>: Psalm 77 – A Prayer of Lament
- Sept 13<sup>th</sup>: Psalm 107 – A Prayer of Thanksgiving
- Sept 20<sup>th</sup>: Psalm 19 – A Prayer of Praise
- Sept 27<sup>th</sup>: Psalm 32 – A Prayer of Penitence

## Pastor's Update - Rev Matt Smith

I was interested to read the following article based on [recent research by Mark McCrindle](#). According to a survey of over 1,000 Australians, more than a third (35 per cent) said they were praying more and 41 per cent were thinking about God more. A quarter said they were reading the Bible more. Nearly a half (47 per cent) said they had thought more about their mortality and the meaning of life.



I wonder how your prayer life, Bible reading, and meditating on God and his word has been affected by this pandemic and lockdown? Has it gone up or down? My prayer for you at this time is that you may flourish in the means of grace, connecting with the Lord and receiving from him more than ever!

I also wonder who around you may be more open to conversations about faith and Christianity? I believe this is a strategic time for us to be sharing our faith with others, and inviting them along to the Alpha Course we will run in term 4. People are looking for answers about life, death, meaning and truth, and of course we have the answers they're looking for: Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6).

Anglican Bishop of South Sydney Michael Stead reflects: "The enforced slow down and isolation of the COVID restrictions have meant that people have been forced to step off the treadmill and realise there is more to life than the endless grind of work and pursuit of material ends... It has given people an opportunity to reflect more deeply on what is the ultimate meaning of life and hence to dig into spiritual resources to help answer those kind of questions. There is a degree where we are all thinking about our own mortality now and that is forcing a reconnection back to God."

Please prayerfully consider if you can participate in the Alpha Course (especially if you've never done it before), and prayerfully consider who else you can invite to it. We plan to run it online via zoom, but possibly also in person if there's interest. Register on our website.