

ST FAITH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH    OCTOBER 2023

# COMMUNITY MAG

INSPIRE 2023



# MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

BEN MOLYNEUX



Dear Church,

I want to welcome you to St Faith's if you're reading our Community Mag for the first time, or if you've recently joined us at church and are taking steps to make St Faith's your home. You've come at a great time!

First, it's a great time because we're all about to go through a season of change here at church. Beginning on Sunday the 15th October, we will have new Sunday service times (see below!) and this will see a change for everyone in the time they meet, for others the day they meet, and still for others the 'normal' group of people that they meet with! So if you're new among us this is a great season to be joining our church as there will be plenty of movement happening!

Secondly, it's a great time to join as we kick off a new teaching series, 'From Grace Flows Goodness' based in the New Testament book of Titus written by the Apostle Paul. Titus was Paul's 'partner and co-worker' (2 Cor 8:23), who seems to have come to know Jesus through Paul's ministry (Titus 1:4). He accompanied Paul on various mission journeys, was involved in the church in Corinth, and was held in high regard by Paul who praised him for his affection and ministry. Importantly, this letter demonstrates Paul's emphasis, above everything, on sound doctrine - doctrine that points to transformed, purified, lives, producing 'good deeds' which come through the grace of God poured out in the Lord Jesus Christ (mentioned in Titus 2:7, 14, 3:8, 14).

We will be reminded that nothing is more significant than a solid foundation in Christ and nothing is more motivational than grace to live a life of good deeds.

So as we go through this season of change together, may we love what is good (Titus 1:8), teach what is good (Titus 2:3), be ready to do whatever is good (Titus 3:1) and devote ourselves to doing good to one another (Titus 3:8), so that God's grace may abound in us more and more.

God bless,  
Ben.

# NEW SERVICE TIMES

## STARTING SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER

**AM**

8.00AM

10.00AM\*

**PM**

4.00PM\*

6.30PM

\*Children & youth programs

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Pray for those expecting-**

Max & Roanize Irish (Night Church).

### **Congratulations-**

to the Druitt family on the arrival of baby boy number 5 - Finneas. And also to Chloe Cate & Jordan Molyneux on the arrival of a baby boy - Harley!

### **Those unwell-**

Larry Tolnay  
Trish Clifton  
Barbara Temperley  
Anne Robinson  
Heidi Schwarz  
Lin Johnson

Hello! I'm **Molly** and I've been going to St Faiths my whole life. I really loved growing up as a member of St Faiths Kids; being taught the big stories of the bible and having that as a foundation for my faith to be built on. I'm very passionate about equipping people to know and share the gospel and am super excited to be able to spend time doing this with the kids at St Faiths. When I'm not at church, I'm either studying to be an art teacher, going to gigs, spending time with friends or learning to surf.

Hi, I'm **Jadon**. I'm 23 years old. I joined the St Faiths family through Soulies in 2012 back in year 7 and directly joined the church community in 2016. Since then, I've been a regular attendee of the night church community, serving in the music team and as a leader Soulies, leading the yr 8, 9 and 10 boys. I'm excited to get started on this new role as Children's Ministry Assistant, having the opportunity to see kids to come to know Christ and grow in their faith.

# MEET MOLLY & JADON

## OUR NEW CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ASSISTANTS!



St Faith's  
KIDS



## SYNOD

### WHAT IS SYNOD?

Synod is essentially the parliament of the Sydney Anglican Diocese. St Faiths is part of the Sydney diocese. The main activity of Synod is to determine and carry out the main priorities of the Diocese.

### What were the 'hot topics' at Synod this year?

One major theme at this year's Synod was Anglican Schools. There are about 40,000 students attending Anglican schools in the Sydney Diocese, so it represents an enormous mission field for our church overall. Some of those schools are distinctly Christian. Others aren't. Synod prayerfully considered, and discussed, how it can best partner with the wide range of schools in the Diocese, as well as equip school governors and teachers for the mission at hand.

A second major theme was the good work being done by organisations





For what we preach is not ourselves,  
but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves  
as your servants for Jesus' sake.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

such as Anglicare, through various opportunities in the Community (ie. community pantries and retirement villages) to care for Sydney and in particular the more needy within it both practically and also taking up opportunities to share the good news of Jesus. We considered the new legislation regarding Voluntary Assisted Dying and how this impacts Christian nursing homes.

Thirdly, the Synod considered the implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Sexual Abuse. One specific outcome of this has been a proposed model for church worker support, development, and appraisal. This is now in the process of implementation.

### **What can you do?**

Keep praying for the people who are responsible for implementing all

the motions that were passed by the Synod.

We were encouraged to write to our local members about:

1. The harm caused by poker machines. \$ 23 million is lost every day through poker machines in NSW.
2. Implementing a report of Federal Parliament to address the public health crisis caused by online gambling.
3. To take action in relation to the current cost of living crisis, towards improving our social welfare safety net and increased supply of affordable and public housing.

For more information, contact one of your Synod Reps – Cath McAdam, Robert Pryor, or our Senior Minister, Ben Molyneux.



# CHRISTIAN WISDOM FOR THE VOICE REFERENDUM

There are many different emotions, opinions and feelings that people have as we approach referendum day on October 14. We will be asked to vote 'yes' or 'no' on a single question:

"A Proposed Law: to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice."

Do you approve this proposed alteration?

Some of us have very strong views on either side, others are less concerned and may even feel apathetic towards the referendum. The purpose of this short note is not to persuade you one way or another, but to encourage your prayerful consideration regarding the opportunity you have to cast your vote on this matter.



To that end, I commend to you these two articles, written by Sydney Anglican ministers, who hold differing views. Both are well considered, biblical, and theologically reflective. Both express concern that this matter is one that requires Christian wisdom and discernment, rather than obedience on a matter of doctrine.

They avoid caricatures and inflammatory remarks of contrary positions, and I think they set a good model for conversations in our churches and fellowship together. I hope and pray that they are useful for you, provide you with some biblical framework and wisdom, and that God will give you clarity and direction as you cast your vote on October 14.

Please also be praying for our nation at this time, that God would direct our pathway forward. Pray particularly for Indigenous Australians who may feel vulnerable throughout this process, and for whom this matter may be deeply personal.

In Christ,  
Ben.



## ARTICLES

Dr Andrew Errington, 'Responding Generously to a Generous Voice', on behalf of the Social Issues Committee - [stfaiths.co/errington](https://stfaiths.co/errington)

Dean Sandy Grant, 'No, not this way: One Christian response to the Voice Referendum' - [stfaiths.co/grant](https://stfaiths.co/grant)

# OCTOBER PRAYER DIARY

SUN 1	Pray for energy for <b>Ben Molyneux as he preaches</b> across all services at St Faith's on Hebrews 10:19-25 and for <b>Lloyd Bennett preaching at WAC</b> . Pray we will clearly hear God's message to persevere in gathering, faith and hope.
MON 2	Give thanks for <b>JESUS CLUB</b> , a ministry which seeks to share the good news of Jesus to people with intellectual disabilities, in a community where they are welcomed and loved. Give thanks for our leaders who serve our members so faithfully and generously and to any new leaders and new members to feel welcomed.
TUE 3	<b>WAR VETS</b> - Give thanks for the new Bible Study Recovery Group for Veterans. Pray they will continue to come and turn their lives over to God. Pray for Gina and Tony who will be on holidays from 8th to 21st October. Pray they will be refreshed physically, emotionally and spiritually. Pray for Chaplain Bob and the volunteers who pick some extra tasks that God will strengthen and enable them all.
WED 4	<b>THE VILLAGE CHURCH (TVC) in Jindabyne</b> - It is the end of the snow season and the end of our preaching series on Paul's letter to the Philippians. Pray that, like Paul, our church will learn to be content in all situations through Christ Jesus. Pray for the kids ministry, called 'Kids Village' as they restart their program now that winter has passed. Ask God to grant the leaders wisdom and grace to not only teach well, but also model Christ's likeness among the children. Pray the children will form good friendships and grow in their love for Jesus.
THU 5	<b>COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS MEETING</b> - Give thanks for all our Community Group leaders and for the love and care they show to those in their groups each week. Pray for them tonight as they meet to discuss and hear from Ben on our Titus and Advent series for Term 4. Pray for a great night of encouragement and building one another up in our time in the Word together.

FRI 6	<p><b>MISSION - CHRIS AND KAREN WEBB - BROOME PEOPLES CHURCH</b> - Praise God for the Kimberley Christian Fellowship Convention that happened in July. Give thanks for Derby Peoples Church who hosted about 100 people from around the Kimberley. Thank God the Bible talks from Pastor Tony Riches were encouraging and people were spurred on in their faith by gathering together. Give thanks for the opportunity that Chris had in September travelling to Noonkanbah Aboriginal community for the Kimberley Leaders Training weekend, teaching some seminars on the big story of the Bible and showing how the Old Testament points to Jesus. Give thanks that last month our family joined other families that minister in the Anglican Diocese of North West Australia for our Fellow Workers Conference in Perth. Pray that the conference will encourage all of us to keep serving Jesus with joy and energy.</p>
SAT 7	<p>Give thanks for the many years that <b>SATURDAY CHURCH</b> has been running at St Faith's and for those who have served faithfully in this congregation over this time, growing to maturity in Christ together. As tonight will be the last service, pray for a wonderful night of thanksgiving together, for unity, and that as service times change, Saturday Church members will settle well in a new service.</p>
SUN 8	<p>Pray <b>Neil Souter as he preaches across all services</b> at St Faith's on 1 Peter 2:4-12 and for <b>Colin Sheehan preaching at WAC</b>. Pray we respond with open hearts to the message of God's gracious and faithful love.</p>
MON 9	<p><b>GUMNUT KINDY</b> - Pray for refreshment, safety and happy memories for the families who travelled in the holiday period. Pray the children learn about the power of forgiveness and how it brings peace and the lasting friendships they are creating at Gumnut. Praise God for the good result received by the NSW Department of Education meeting the National Standards. As the end of the year is coming closer, pray for the strength, patience and continuous love for the Gumnut Team and finish 2023 the way we started. Pray for Bev in her next journey with her family as she makes the move to Newcastle. Pray for one of our lovely educators to recover well after her surgery in September.</p>

TUE 10	Pray for <b>STUDENTS AND TEACHERS</b> as they return for term 4. Pray they are refreshed and energised for another term of learning. Pray for the scripture classes that the children will continue to be eager to learn about Jesus and his love for them. Give thanks for Jo Harpur who coordinates scripture every year.
WED 11	Pray for our <b>HSC STUDENTS</b> starting their exams today. Pray they have prepared well and they remain focused over the next few weeks, especially those who have exams spread over the four weeks. Pray God would sustain them and give them His peace and reassurance of their identity in Christ.
THU 12	Thank God for our faithful team of <b>COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS</b> who give of their time, energy and hospitality to lead us in bible study each week. Pray God would continue to strengthen, encourage and refresh our leaders as groups meet for term 4.
FRI 13	<b>NPSRE CROMER CAMPUS</b> - Give thanks for the many blessings so far this year. Ask that God would give Phil wisdom in his planning for Scripture in Term 4. Pray for opportunities to challenge Year 8's with the gospel.
SAT 14	Pray for the <b>MEN'S MORNING</b> being held at church today. Pray for great conversations, encouragement and a wonderful time of fellowship amongst the men. Give thanks Simon Manchester, speaking from the book of Haggai.
SUN 15	Give thanks for the launch of the new <b>4PM SERVICE</b> today. Pray many will attend, for people to get to know each other and support this service, and with God's help being committed to seeing this gathering grow in number and maturity. Pray for the other services as people adjust to the new times and ask that through these changes, God would grow our church and reach more people with the gospel.
MON 16	Pray for the <b>PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN AUSTRALIA</b> . Pray for wisdom and guidance for lawmakers. Pray their hearts would be open to hearing from those who advocate for religious freedom. Pray for courage and boldness for Christians who may face difficult choices under unjust laws. Pray for comfort, provision and community for Christians who experience bullying or pressure or who lose friends, family or employment.

TUE 17	<b>WAC</b> - Pray for preparations for this last term through to Christmas; for opportunities to engage with residents especially those newly arrived in the village; for plans to have a special Christmas celebration with hospitality in lieu of a 'back-to-church' Sunday that has suffered from 'completion-of-works-postponement'. Praise GOD that HE has been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or HE brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting HE is God ... (Psalm 90).
WED 18	Give thanks for <b>GUMTREES PLAYTIME</b> and those that are involved in that ministry - Steph, Tilly, Linda, Michelle, Kelly and others. Pray God would sustain them as they oversee such an important ministry. Give thanks for the many non-church families that come along regularly each week. Pray they will know Jesus love for them through the actions of those leading this group. Ask God to raise up more people from church willing and able to want to be involved in this ministry.
THU 19	<b>QUILTING AND NEEDLEWORK CLUB</b> - Thank God for the fellowship and friendship shared each week amongst the women and the wonderful work they do for charities. Give thanks to Judith Baker who coordinates this group. Pray new members from the community will feel welcomed.
FRI 20	<b>LIGHTHOUSE</b> - Pray the children keep coming along and build friendships amongst the others. Give thanks for the faithful leaders who disciple the children who attend each week. Pray the children continue to be encouraged and be bold enough to tell their friends about Jesus. Give thanks for Lyndal Foote who oversees this ministry.
SAT 21	Give thanks to God for the freedom to hold biblically based discussions at the <b>SYDNEY ANGLICAN SYNOD</b> held last month. Thank God for our Synod Reps, Cath McAdam & Robert Pryor, who, along with Ben Molyneux, represented the Narrabeen Parish at Synod. Pray that all matters discussed and motions passed will have long term gospel impact, for the glory of God.
SUN 22	Pray for <b>Philip Selden and Marcus Druitt preaching</b> at St Faith's on Titus 1:10-16, and Ben Molyneux preaching at WAC on Titus 1:5-9. Pray their talks will help us to love God more wholeheartedly.

MON 23	<p><b>ESL</b> - Thank God for the blessings of ESL last term. Give thanks for the students keen to attend and to learn more English, for students regularly staying back to learn English around the Bible and for a sense of community and caring amongst the students and the team. Give thanks for our dedicated team of teachers, who so clearly show God's love to everyone. Pray as we continue classes in term 4, for God's wisdom in how we plan and run the classes. Pray particularly for our Welcomers and set up people, who are the first point of contact for new students. Pray for Chris Roderick who coordinates Welcoming, and for his helpers: Nick Molyneux, Rod Smith, John Moore, David Castle and Guy Amon. Pray for Vernon Nabb, Adrian Humphrey, and James Franklin, who provide extra help when we need it. Pray God keeps these men well and healthy, that they are able to continue to be a blessing to the classes.</p>
TUE 24	<p>Pray for all persons suffering from the war between <b>UKRAINE AND RUSSIA</b>. Ask God to protect those who serve in the armed forces and to give them strength to endure great hardship. Pray for protection of refugees, victims of war and those separated from their loved ones. Pray for healing of the wounded and ask God to sustain the homeless and hungry. Ask God to transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and to sustain those who continue to seek peace during this time of war.</p>
WED 25	<p><b>MISSION - DAN AND LIV WEBSTER - NAMIBIA EVANGELICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY</b> - Thank God that he works through our weaknesses to do great things. Ask God that we would embrace our weakness and trust in God's power. Praise God for the Bible study started at Side by Side. Pray the staff at Side by Side would grow in faith and be comforted by the Lord despite recent disturbances. Give thanks for the visit of our friend Kylie.</p>
THU 26	<p>Give thanks for those who serve on the <b>PARISH COUNCIL</b>, including Bob, Tones, Jeanette, Christina, Ellie, Meredith, Molly, Al and our Wardens, Sarah, Tim and Stuart. Give thanks for their commitment to serve. As they meet tonight, pray God would give them wisdom and discernment as they discuss matters that impact our Parish.</p>

FRI 27	Pray for the youth who attend <b>SOULIES</b> each week, that many young people would come and grow in their faith in Christ. Give thanks for the leaders and pray God will guide them in their leadership. Pray that many of the youth's friends will be excited to join their peers to interact and hear God's Word. Pray they will feel welcomed and that they form strong friendships.
SAT 28	Pray for the <b>PERSECUTED CHURCHES WORLDWIDE</b> . Pray for strength for the suffering believers to endure the pain and pressure of persecution. Pray for provision for those who are faced with poverty, loneliness and isolation. Pray for the Gospel to advance, for the believers to be bold and wise in sharing their faith and that despite the challenges, people would come to Christ.
SUN 29	Pray for <b>Ben Molyneux as he preaches</b> at all services at St Faith's and for <b>Philip Selden preaching at WAC</b> . Pray as they talk on passages in Titus that we hear clearly the message of living righteously.
MON 30	<b>MISSION - IRWAN AND CATHERINE AFES AT UNI OF WOLLONGONG</b> - Praise God for the Mid Year Conference where students immersed in knowing God and the wonder of His love. Pray God will continue to transform lives in accordance to His good news. Praise God for the 50 individual students who took part in the walk-up evangelism. Pray for them as they follow up with friends and contacts, that God will be merciful and change hearts through reading Mark's gospel together. Pray for wisdom and insight in preparing the training materials and for students to grow in their heart conviction in the gospel to reach out to the lost.
TUE 31	Thank God for his continual financial provision for <b>THE COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE</b> through donations and grants. Pray for those in the community who are in need of counselling. Pray for wisdom and insight for the counsellors in knowing how to best meet the needs of their clients in a compassionate and godly way.



# COMING UP...



**Safe Ministry Training** at  
Newport Anglican Church  
on Sat 11 November 2023.  
For more details go to:  
[www.safeministry.training/  
face-to-face-training](http://www.safeministry.training/face-to-face-training)



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