



Bible Readings

Matthew 14:13-21

Response after Bible Readings
Leader: *Hear the word of the Lord*

Response: *Thanks be to God*



8am—Worship
includes Communion
Led by Mike Strong
and Dean Drayton

9.30am—Worship
includes Communion
Led by Daniel Gibb
and Dean Drayton

KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8

11.30am-2pm
Picnic at Caber Park

6.45pm—Worship
Led by Barbara Gibb
and Abby Sim

Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.
Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.
OPEN FROM 9.30AM

Livestreaming at
8am & 9.30am only

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

What's happening this week at St. Matthew's

MONDAY 7 AUGUST

9am—Sorting & Pricing
for Op Shop lower hall
3pm—Care and Prayer
at the church

TUESDAY 8 AUGUST

9am-2pm—Op Shop
9.30am—Christian Meditation
in the church

WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST

9am-2pm—Op Shop
10am-12pm—Women's Fellowship
upstairs hall and church
7.30pm—Church Council
Executive Meeting

THURSDAY 10 AUGUST

9am-2pm—Op Shop

FRIDAY 11 AUGUST

5pm-7pm—Fusion Youth Group
'Games Night' upstairs hall

SATURDAY 12 AUGUST

No Scheduled Events

SUNDAY
13 AUGUST

8am—Worship

9am—Worship @ the Willows

9.30am—Worship

KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8

6.45pm—Worship

includes
Table Talk Conversation
Community Meal



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS
MINISTRY WORKER

DANIEL GIBB *Part Time*
Email: daniel@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

SENIORS PASTORAL CARER

MICHAEL STRONG *Part Time*
Email: mike@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARIES:

ROBYN MORRALL AND LYNN SAMUEL

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM MON-FRI

OFFICE : 9686 3003

LOCATION:

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS
BAULKHAM HILLS

POSTAL ADDRESS:

BAULKHAM HILLS UNITING CHURCH
PO Box 773 BAULKHAM HILLS 1755

WEB SITE: www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Weekly newsletter available on website

EMAIL: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

FACEBOOK:

[@stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills)

PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR 9639 8570

SONALI WANIGESEKERA

PO Box 321 BAULKHAM HILLS 2153

EMAIL: director@stmatthewsps.net.au

Thank you to all who have
contributed to this publication.

Lectionary Notes

Pentecost 10

August 6

Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob's name means supplanter, usurper, deceiver. He spent most of his life living that out. He bargained and received Esau's birth right, he deceived his father Isaac to get his blessing, he ran away from Esau to avoid his retribution. Then, as we have seen in the last two weeks, he is deceived by Laban. The result is deep tensions are let loose into the house of Jacob with two wives, and one loved more than the other. In this chapter all his chickens come home to roost. He is returning home to Palestine to be with his parents. Now he cannot avoid confronting his brother. He hears Esau is coming to meet him with 400 warriors at his side. He desperately sends offerings to appease Esau, in a series of gifts one after the other.

Will all be lost at this final hurdle? Yet God's promise was that God would be with him to bring him home. That night he is left alone. A man appears and wrestles with him all night until daybreak when the assailant puts his hip out of joint. This time he hasn't been able to supplant an opponent who refuses to identify himself but blesses Jacob instead, and says, "You shall no longer be called Jacob but Israel" (Israel means true). Jacob called the place Peniel, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." And the house of Jacob became the house of Israel! The next day Jacob is confronted by Esau with his company, and at the head of his family goes to meet him. But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him. A new name and a new future had been given him as he wrestled with his God who had come to him incognito.

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21.

It is helpful to memorise a few verses of a Psalm. It is surprising how rich and life giving the words are. In this Psalm the Lord is at the forefront of the Psalmists worship. Here the Lord's presence involves graciousness, goodness, provision, help, mercy, and justice. Here is a God shaped world.

Romans 9:1-5

There are 16 chapters in the book of Romans. The first 8 chapters finish with "Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." In the last 8 chapters Paul wrestles with how his own people, Israel, have stumbled over the coming of Jesus Christ. He is clear that they are still God's chosen people. To them belong adoption, glory, covenants, the giving of the law, and the promises and wonder of worship. To them belong the patriarchs from whose line the Messiah comes. Yet the reality is they "have stumbled over the stumbling stone", (Rom 9:32) for they could not see that the Christ brought the law to fulfillment. How could Israel's obedience of the law fail to see God's gift of the obedience of faith to patriarchs and gentiles alike? In Romans the crucial issue is the way the obedience of faith is disclosed to be God's way of bringing the obedience of the law to fulfillment for Israel, and the Gentiles too.

Matthew 14:13-21

In Matthew's gospel, when Jesus heard that John the Baptist had been beheaded, he left for a deserted place by boat to be alone. But he was seen as he went and word spread. Instead of stepping ashore into the solitude of a deserted place, he was confronted with a great crowd. He stayed with them. "He had compassion on them, and cured their sick." It seems he was ministering for a long time because he was still at it when it was evening. The disciples urged him to send the crowd away. Jesus said to the disciples, to whom he had already given the authority of the kingdom, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." When they said, "We have nothing but five loaves and two fish", he said, "bring them here to me". The crowd was directed to sit on the grass. Then "taking the five loaves, and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples who gave them to the crowds." No words or teaching, but the blessing of a meagre gift. The crowd received their daily bread, and fish as well. Generous provision for the hungry, compassion for those searching, and healing for the sick. Wherever he was, the kingdom of God/heaven was present. Father give us this day our daily bread.

In grace and peace,

Dean



PEOPLE NEWS

Ann Cotterill
Jesse Cameron

Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

The Op Shop are in need of a replacement vacuum cleaner. If you have a spare lightweight stick vacuum cleaner that you could donate to the Op Shop they would be very appreciative.

Please contact the church office.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle 6 – 12 August

*Cameroon, Central African Republic,
Equatorial Guinea*

AUGUST SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

at the church

6 August - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm
includes Communion

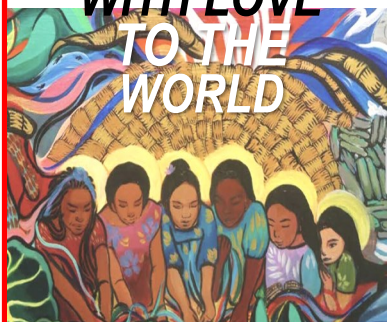
13 August - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

20 August - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

27 August - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

Live streaming morning services only

CREATION WITH LOVE TO THE WORLD



a daily Bible reading
guide based on the
Revised Common Lectionary

**Volume 17, Number 4
14 August
to**

12 November 2023

is available in the
church foyer.

**Please place \$6
in offering bag
to cover costs.**

The St. Matthew's Uniting Church weekly Newsletter is available to view at the end of each week for the upcoming Sunday on the St. Matthew's website www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Click on the metal dove image / publications or find in recent posts.

ST MATTHEW'S PICNIC IN CABER PARK

When: Sunday 6th August 11.30am-2pm

Where: Caber Park Winston Hills

Who: EVERYONE from St Matthew's is welcome!

What to bring: A picnic lunch, picnic chairs, rug, tennis racquets, balls, scooters etc.

Contact Noni: nones81@gmail.com for more information



Welcoming everyone at St. Matthew's

Welcome one another,
therefore, just as Christ has
welcomed you, for the glory
of God. (Romans 15:7)



We suggest that we all try to talk to our visitors and newcomers, not only on the first day but the next time as well, and then if possible please include them in your circle of friends. Introduce them to others.

Warren also says: For a first-time attender it is vitally important that the person is acknowledged with at least a "good morning" add to that a pleasant "welcome" or "lovely to have you with us" because it will make that person feel that they have been acknowledged.

The last thing a first-time attender would want would be not too be spoken too at all. Following up with them the next time they come will only enhance the welcome experience.

Adele
and
Warren





As we approach a referendum later this year on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament, we will be holding a Table Talk conversation to dig deeper into the referendum and how we can be better informed around the conversations involved with the vote. This will be held on **Sunday, August 13** as part of the **6:45pm** service community meal. Come along with your questions about the Voice and an appetite for a conversation filled with deep listening. If you plan on attending, please let me know so that we can make sure we have enough food and resources.

Daniel Gibb

JAZZ ON HAMMERS

Come and join us each month for an evening of live music, dinner and fellowship.

When: Aug 20, Sep 17 and Oct 15 from 6-8pm

Where: Northmead Uniting Church, 3-7 Hammers Rd Northmead

Cost: Donations welcome for pot luck dinner

Who: All ages are WELCOME!

For more information contact Noni Medcalf: nones81@gmail.com



Organ & Strings Benefit Concert
Sun 20th August 2:30pm
 Leigh Memorial Church,
 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta
 Tickets \$20 each or \$50 Family (2 adults & 2 children)

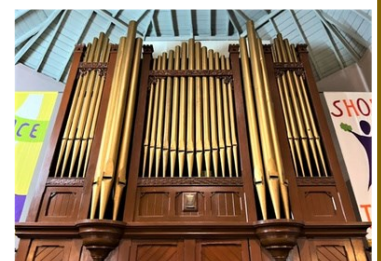
Sydney Organs Group is arranging and producing a benefit concert featuring Organ and Strings at Leigh Memorial Uniting Church, Parramatta, to raise funds for its associated Parramatta Mission. Parramatta Mission provides assistance to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities to assist them in transforming their lives.

The concert program is in two parts: In Part One an octet featuring string **students from primary and high schools** will be accompanied by organ in a selection of sacred music by Bach, Franck, Mozart and Schubert. A soprano will join the octet in the Schubert and Franck pieces. In Part Two, solo organists will perform one or two short pieces each by a variety of composers, including Clarke, Lemmens, Bach, Bruhns, Charpentier, Boellman, Attridge and Collins.

A complimentary afternoon tea will be served in the Parramatta Mission coffee shop following the performance.

Seating is limited Tickets on sale July 17th

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO



To purchase tickets, scan the QR code or visit <https://events.humanitix.com/winter-classics-concert>