

# Wodonga Lutheran Parish

St John's Lutheran Church  
Victory Lutheran College



*Committed to Sharing Jesus*



14<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday  
after  
Pentecost

29<sup>th</sup>  
August  
2021

**Welcome to members, friends & visitors.**

We pray that you feel at home as you worship our Lord Jesus with us today.  
At the end of the Service we invite you to please join us for a cuppa and a chat. Our Lord's love and peace be with you.

Retired Pastors: Ernie Kiss (0475 000 637)  
John Simboras (0438 810 109)  
Graham Zweck (0427 815 795)

Chairperson: Jenny Simboras (0407 495 773)  
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**WORSHIP LEADER: John Simboras**

## READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND

**Deuteronomy 4:1,2, 6-9** Moses urges Israel to keep the Lord's commands  
**James 1:17-27** Listening and doing  
**Mark 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23** What makes people unclean

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday	Mark 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23	Thursday	Romans 12:1-9
Monday	Mark 7:15-20	Friday	Colossians 3:18-25
Tuesday	Mark 8:14-21	Saturday	Psalm 125
Wednesday	Romans 6:12-23		

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In our prayers this week:

- ***We pray for the following that are in need at this time:*** Shirley BULLOCK (ESTIA); Kevin DRAPER (at home healing after his car accident); Ruth FRAUENFELDER; Phyllis HEINER [Yackandandah Health Aged Care]; Robert HASLAM; Gregory JENNINGS; Laurel McRAE [Yallaroo Albury]; Dianne WILLIAMS.
- ***Wodonga Parish*** as we seek to find a new pastor to guide us in our mission and ministry in the Wodonga community.
- ***Please keep The Call Committee in your prayers*** – as they begin the task of finding Pastor Candidates to present to the parish.
- ***Please pray for the Confirmation Class*** – as their faith journey is put on hold due to the COVID lockdown. Also keep Rhonda Keller and Jenny Simboras in your prayers as they instruct these young people.
- ***Victory Lutheran College*** – We pray for the Learning Enhancement Team at VLC and the work they do to give support and care for students needing support in their learning and engagement at school. They all do a brilliant job.
- ***Greensborough Parish, congregations of Greensborough and Thomastown*** – Pastor Tim Stringer and Terri.
- ***Calvary Retirement Home*** – Manager Andrea Mathieson.
- ***Grovedale Parish, congregations of Freshwater Creek and Grovedale*** – Pastor Colin Simpkin and Tanya.
- ***Lay Worker*** – Michelle Filipovic.
- ***St Paul's Kindergarten*** – Director Lynda Lehmann and staff team.
- ***Anglesea Araluen Lutheran Camp*** – Manager Steve Burger finishing service this year and Darren Linke, Kerry Linke commencing in October, and staff team.

## LCA INTERNATIONAL MISSION – PRAYER REQUESTS

- Rev Dr – The dedicated staff serving in Thailand's Home of Praise: Head teacher Miss Kritayasai and teachers Nucharee, Cnantrapa, Auraiwan, Thiwaporn and Airin
- Craig Chidgey, Ivan Muster and Faith Lutheran College, SA as they partner with Tumbur Silaban and SMA HKBP 1 Tarutung school in Indonesia



LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF AUSTRALIA  
*where love comes to life*

# Wodonga Lutheran Parish

14 Havelock Street, Wodonga 3690

[www.wodongalutheranparish.org.au](http://www.wodongalutheranparish.org.au)

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021

Dear Members of Wodonga Lutheran Parish,

God's love and peace to you all now and always.

Once again, we are in lock down with many restrictions. Once again, our church building is closed and we cannot worship face to face. Even though our building is closed our loving Heavenly Father is still with us, encouraging us, comforting us, guiding us and most importantly, loving us.

The Call Committee has been working diligently over the past weeks, looking through 18 Pastor profiles. They have finalised a short list of 5 profiles to present to the Parish at a Call meeting.

Unfortunately, due to the restrictions and uncertainties placed on all of us at this time, a face-to-face Parish Call meeting is not possible. Over the weekend the Parish Council voted to once again have a preferential postal ballot to Call a new Pastor. The Postal Ballot has the approval of Bishop Priebsenow and the Victorian District.

The ballot papers will be posted to you in the week ending 11<sup>th</sup> September with voting to close on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September.

In the envelope to be sent to you via Australia Post you will receive :-

- Information on each Pastor candidate (5 in all)
- A voting slip (for all confirmed over the age of 18 years in the household)
- A stamped, return addressed envelope for voting papers.

Please be understanding as the Parish Council and Call Committee did not envisage that we would need to have another postal ballot, it will take longer to get a result and to some this is frustrating.

On your behalf I would like to thank the Call Committee, Sheryl Parsons, Sue Housego, Laurel and Kevin Wiencke, Nicole Keller, Paul Schirmer and Lenore de Garis for their time prayerfully seeking Pastor candidates to present to you for consideration.

Serving Him with you,

Jenny Simboras

Chair Wodonga Lutheran Parish

Chair Call Committee



Caring Conversations

Share your highs and lows of the day, or respond to the following questions:

1

Imagine life without words or speech. What would it be like?

2

The apostle James (Tuesday's reading) says that if we think we are following God but don't keep our tongues from speaking bad things, we are fooling ourselves. Why is it so important to control our tongues?

3

James also says we should be 'quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry'. Why is this good advice? How can hearing God's word help us to control our words? Where else in the Bible does God speak of this?

Devotions



Daily Bible Readings

<b>S</b>	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Authentic faith
<b>M</b>	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9	God commands obedience
<b>T</b>	James 1:17-27	Hearing and doing the word
<b>W</b>	Micah 6:6-8	What God requires
<b>T</b>	Matthew 15:1-20	Tradition of the elders
<b>F</b>	Amos 5:21-24	The importance of justice
<b>S</b>	Psalm 15	Who worships the Lord?
<b>S</b>	Mark 7:24-37	Jesus heals the Gentiles

Discuss the bible reading. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAYER

Lord, please make us clean from the inside out, so that what we think, say and do pleases you. Amen.

BLESSING

(Name) – God chose to give you a new birth through the message of truth, may you know every good and perfect gift is from him.

Putting God's word  
into practice.

## Creative Response

*Our tongues are powerful instruments.*

They can do great good, but they can also do great harm. We must all be conscious of using our tongues in kind ways to bless each other. Discuss and list as a family or household the ways you can use your tongue for good.

Here's some ideas to get you started...

- Pray for each other daily
- Be lavish with your praise and encouragement. Look for opportunities to build each other up, even the little things are worthy of compliments
- Make your home a 'no put-down zone'
- Develop a culture of sharing mistakes and asking for forgiveness.

### mealtIME prayer

*Plates of food, gifts from above, signs of our God's gracious love. Amen.*

verse for the week

*'Don't just listen to the word. You fool yourselves if you do that. You must do what it says'.*

JAMES 1:22

## Service



Read James 1:17-27.  
Being "doers of the word" implies a meekness that is not prideful. Instead, it acts with mercy that includes caring for "orphans and widows in their distress" (v. 27).

Orphans and widows represented those who were vulnerable and did not have a social safety net to keep them fed, sheltered and safe. Think of those locally and around the world who lack security of food and shelter and think of ways you can be 'doers' of God's word to help them.



## VLC "VOICE OF VICTORY" NEWSLETTER

<https://www.vlc.vic.edu.au/news-and-events/newsletters>

## VICTORIAN/TASMANIAN DISTRICT eVOICES

Read the latest Vic/Tas District eVoices here:

<https://lutheranchurchofaustralia.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/t/FDD3F9A294392E282540EF23F30FEDED/5068D6C3513CC68E2018F019E6F15D33>

## AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

<https://www.shopacr.com.au/home.php>

They have some great ideas for Father's Day gifts

### THIS WEEK:

Sunday	29 Aug	9:30am	Trad HC Service ( <b>JS</b> )
Tuesday	31 Aug	11am-3pm pm	Church Office OPEN Band Practice
Wednesday	1 Sept	9am-1pm 9:45am	Church Office OPEN Women's Fellowship Meeting
Thursday	2 Sept	11am-3pm	Church Office OPEN
Sunday	5 Sept	9:30am	LAY Service ( <b>PE</b> )

### LAST WEEK: 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021

Congregation	Attendance	Communion	Notes:
St John's – 9:30am			NO Service due to snap COVID lockdown
<b>Total Attendance:</b>			

### NEXT WEEKEND: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST READINGS

Sun 9:30am Wod LAY Service (**PE**)

Isaiah 35:4-7a

James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

### ROSTER FOR THIS COMING WEEKEND (5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER)

#### Communion/Altar

Reader	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Andy Enever (note 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading being used above)
PowerPoint	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Carla Vogelsang
Usher/Counters	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Gutsche Family
Morning Tea	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	after service Not until advised it is OK to resume
Church Cleaning	Aug 30 <sup>th</sup> - Sept 5 <sup>th</sup>	Lenore de Garis
Mowers	Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Sept 5 <sup>th</sup>	Andrew Keller & Ralph Behrends