



Pentecost 17 19 September 2021

Dear Friends,

In our reading today from Mark's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to re-evaluate our thinking about greatness and social position. Aware that his disciples are struggling with his teachings about what is to befall him in order for him to fulfill the prophecies in the scriptures, he asks them why they have been arguing.

The disciples are silent. Imagine Jesus' disappointment

at this moment. Is there no one who understands his message and his mission? Do the disciples really still not yet understand that in order to truly follow him, they must love without measure, serve without counting the cost? Instead of chiding them, Jesus chooses a child to help illustrate his point, explaining that anyone who welcomes a child in his name (that is, freely and willingly caring for their needs) welcomes not simply a child, not even Jesus, but God the Father himself, because of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Thank you sincerely, once more, to those of you who support the parish financially with regular offertory. Our continuing ministry relies on your generosity in these difficult times. I ask you all to please give regularly, as you are able, according to your means. Offertory may be hand delivered to the Parish Office or sent by post: (St Luke's Church Mosman, PO Box 162, Spit Junction NSW 2088), or deposited directly into our bank account (St Luke's Church Mosman, BSB 032-291, A/C 810105). Or you can contribute your offertory via: <https://donorbox.org/st-luke-s-anglican-church-mosman-support> (type or copy and paste into your browser).

If you would like to make contact with me for any reason, either by email or phone, please use the contact details on the back cover. Be assured you remain in my thoughts and prayers. I am looking forward to that day when we can all meet to worship in person once more, in our beautiful church. Continued blessings to you all and to all those whom you love, also.

The Reverend Dr Max Wood, **Rector**



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



Our Diocese, Northern Region and our local church community

The Archbishop: The Most Reverend Kanishka Raffel
The Regional Bishop: The Rt Revd Chris Edwards
Northern Region: Parishes of Castle Hill and West Pennant Hills
Local churches: Scots Kirk: the Revd Brett Graham, clergy and people

Anglicare Sydney:

Mobile Community Pantry Program;
Bill Farrand, Anglicare Community Services Manager

Bush Church Aid:

BCA Indigenous Ministry Officer,
The Revd Neville Naden and Mrs Kathryn Naden

Anglican Board of Mission:

Sustainable Livelihoods Program, Kenya;
The Revd John Deane, ABM Executive Director

Those we are holding in prayer

Those Requiring On-Going Prayer:

John Dimitric, Irina Dimitric, Heather, Bernie Walsh, Shannour, Chloe Turner,
Denise Thomas, Jackie Lockhart, Robert Rowlands, Tim Bolot, Robb Crawford,
Dorothy Bashford, Robert Alexander, Jenny Willis

People in Residential and Home Care:

Dawn Holdaway, Betty Gemmell, Mary Shuttleworth, Elaine Porter, Helen Huby,
Pat Wood, Jean Barton, Robin Wilks, Denis Pearson, Nancy Lovitt

The Prayer for the Day

God and Father of all,
you have taught us through your Son
that the last shall be first,
and have made a little child the measure of your kingdom:
give us the wisdom from above,
so we may understand that in your sight
the one who serves is the greatest of all.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

BUSH CHURCH AID BOXES - SEPTEMBER OPENING POSTPONED

September is normally BCA Box opening month. Due to the present lockdown, it has been decided to wait until MARCH 2022 for the next BCA Box opening to take place. By then, it is hoped lockdown will have ended and a more normal pattern of life resumed. If you need a new BCA box because yours is full, please call Paula Turner, BCA Mission Contact Mb: 0421 151 290 or the Parish Office on 9969 6910.

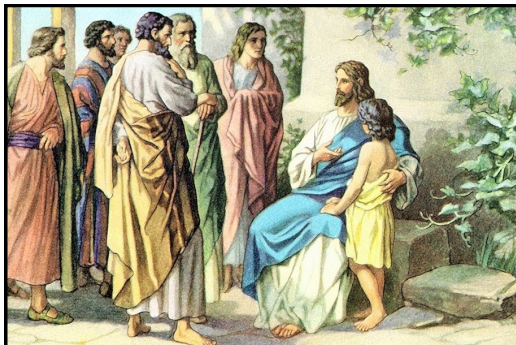
James 3.1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue - a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Mark 9.30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house Jesus asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”



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St Luke's is a place of rich and diverse liturgy, where life and faith connect. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation or religion.