



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

LENT AND PRAYER

REV. MATT GOODMAN

As we embark on another Lenten season, we are called to reflect upon the profound journey of Jesus in the desert, a period of forty days and forty nights marked by spiritual testing and temptation.

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During this time, Jesus demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the truth of God's Word, resisting the allure of worldly desires and affirming His devotion to the Father.

In the Gospel accounts, we witness Jesus confronting each temptation with the resolute declaration, "It is written." Through His example, we learn the power of Scripture to guide and fortify us in the face of adversity. Just as Jesus knew the Father intimately, so too are we invited to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, meditation, and study of His Word.

The Apostle Paul, in his letter to Timothy, echoes this sentiment, urging us to cling to the truth amidst a world rife with deception and false teachings. Paul's urging to "have nothing to do with godless myths" resonates deeply in our current cultural landscape, where the allure of instant gratification and self-reliance often obscures the path of righteousness.

Just as athletes train their bodies for endurance, those who run the race of faith understand the process of growth. Like building muscle, developing godliness requires persistence and dedication. Through spiritual training, we cultivate self-control and adapt to a life centered on Jesus. Despite occasional stumbles, this discipline enables us to bounce back stronger, guided by a rhythm of faith that sustains us through life's challenges.

Lent, therefore, becomes a season of intentional training in godliness, a spiritual discipline akin to physical exercise. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of service, we strengthen our spiritual muscles, forging a deeper connection with our Saviour.

In our church community, we're blessed with the opportunity to engage in a 'core' discipline of prayer through the prayer labyrinth to be constructed by David Rietveld and his team. This labyrinth invites us to walk a path of contemplation, pausing along the way to commune with God and reflect on His presence in our lives.

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As we journey through the labyrinth, we're reminded of the importance of prayer as a gift from God, grounding us in His love and truth. It's a tangible reminder that we're not alone in our struggles, but rather cherished and valued by our Creator.



LENT PRAYER

14TH FEB TILL 30TH MAR



AGM 2024

Our Annual General Meeting for 2024 is quickly approaching! We would love for you to join us as we gather together as God's people and vote on important matters within our church.

The night will be hosted in our Auditorium at the Ministry Centre on Tuesday, the 19th of March, at 7pm. Nomination forms will be made available at the Connection Desk from this Sunday, or at the 2pm Service next week.

If you have any questions, please have a chat to a staff member or call the office on 4261 1001.

Empty Nesters

We had such a great time at our latest Empty Nesters event. Check out all of these smiling faces (plus many more)! We were joined by 38 long time and new friends. Praise God for the people and community he blesses us with.



Working & Cleaning Bee

Could you help us out? We have tasks suitable for all ages. Why not come as a Growth Group or Family. We'll need help with:

- Window Washing
- Dusting
- Weeding
- Vacuuming
- Painting
- Fixing Chairs
- Sorting Hardware
- Trips to the Tip
- Steam Cleaning Chairs

We will hire one, but would also appreciate the loan of any household steamers.

Friday 1st March, 10am till 12pm
Saturday 2nd March, 9am till 12pm



Connect Men go to the Movies

Let's go to the movies next weekend, the 24th of February. Paul Burgess will be picking a movie, which we'll announce next week. Keep your eyes peeled and save the date in your calendars!



Safe Ministry

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help.

Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Christ, who came to call
not the righteous
but sinners to repentance:
help us in this season of Lent
to hear and respond to your call;

that by your grace
we may turn from whatever in our lives
is at variance with your will,
and walk in the way of holiness and love,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Lisa and Matt G; Katie and Phil C.

HOSPITAL

Please pray for Alan C (8am), who is in rehab in Wollongong Hospital following surgery on his broken leg. Also, please pray for Mary J's (10am) husband, Michael, who has had surgery on his broken leg and arm following a fall.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R, Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Gordon M, Beth W, Betty B (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendye C, Helen K (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong).

8AM/2PM

Please continue to pray for Jill S who fell recently and fractured her T12 vertebrae. Please pray for pain management and healing. Please pray for Mavis B's daughter in-law, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and has just started Chemotherapy. Also, please pray for Deb P's brother who is very unwell.

10AM

Please pray for Margaret G who is recovering from surgery; Also, please pray for Andy H following surgery due to a severe laceration to his hand. Also, please continue to pray for Ruby D that her health will improve; And please continue to pray for Andrew W and his health issues.

6PM

Please pray for continued healing for Christine L who has an insertional Achilles tear in her foot.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please continue to pray for Lynne N and her family with health problems.