



ST. STEPHENS DIARY SEPTEMBER 2026

No. 232

MINISTER: Rev. Juliette Maua'i

PHONE: 0456 690 291



117 Melbourne Rd

Williamstown

Phone 0468 365 434

SEPTEMBER Worship Services

6th 9.30am Rev. Juliette Maua'i **Fathers' Day**

13th 9.30am led by Rev. Juliette Maua'i
 Service of Holy Communion

20th 9.30am led by Sunday School Team
 All-Age Service

27th led by Rev. Juliette Maua'i

COMING EVENTS



PLANT & GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY 19th September
8.30 – 12.30

St. Stephens Uniting Church

Our Vision: St. Stephens Uniting Church

is a growing, active Christian influence in our community and welcoming to all people.

Our Mission: Led by the Holy Spirit,
our mission is to empower people to love
one another, and be a visible Christian presence
within the community.

Fund Raising and Responsible Recycling



Have you been saving your bottles and cans for this St. Stephens fundraiser. The last delivery to the CMD Depot – Racecourse Rd netted \$21. When you

make a delivery scan the barcode to that funds will go direct to St. Stephens All helps to pay the bills!

THURSDAY MORNING TEA 10am

The table is always spread so beautifully with delectable delights prepared lovingly by Ted every Thursday. A wonderful time of conversation and hospitality. All welcome 10am

ST. STEPHENS CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Council Chairperson

Contact Heather Russell 93976405

Diary: Deadline for October Diary is **Sunday27/9**

Forward items to elainepeck412@gmail.com

Next Church Council meeting:

12.30pm Thursday 17th September

Your weekly offering to the Church

can be made on-line to

BSB 633-000 A/C NO. 1252-34211

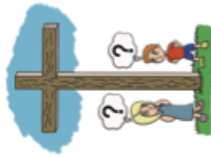


SPRINGTIME BLESSINGS
TO ALL READERS,
ESPECIALLY TO THOSE
OF YOU WHO FEEL THE
NEED FOR SOME EXTRA
WARMTH AND LIGHT IN
YOUR LIFE JUST NOW

Name

Matthew 16:21-28

Jesus explains that being a follower will not always be easy, and that whoever puts themselves first will end up coming last.



Family time

Talk How can we put others first instead of ourselves?

Do Challenge each other to find several things that are 'as hard as they are good' (e.g. sport, faith, hobbies) to try out this week.

Pray Dear Lord, thank you for teaching us that the path of following you is not always easy. Please give us patience, strength and help us to focus on the journey. Help us to know that it is worth carrying on. Keep us close to you, now and always. Amen.

Activity time



Add to the Bible things which are at the heart of Jesus' story.



Can you find these key words from today's Bible passage in the word search?

s	b	i	i	c	w	e	h	i	t
c	s	f	q	p	x	s	n	h	w
z	g	e	e	s	i	u	e	a	x
q	k	t	i	f	p	m	j	i	c
h	e	v	i	f	s	j	e	s	x
r	o	e	c	e	l	b	s	s	r
g	s	z	i	r	p	e	u	e	u
x	q	v	d	r	o	L	s	M	g
s	e	i	p	i	c	s	i	d	e
s	f	o	i	l	o	w	s	u	w

cross	selfless	Messiah
themselves	Jesus	follow
Lord	Peter	selfish
	disciples	



Write the missing words in the correct gaps to discover what Jesus said.

_____ said: 'Whoever wants to _____ me should stop putting _____ first, and take up their _____'.

cross follow Jesus themselves

HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



to all celebrating this month including:
Denise Kerss, Heather Russell,
Peter Tee, Enid Jowett, Ian Rae, John
Robbins, Paul Young,
Aaron Bratby, Tate Bratby-Williams,
Jennifer Robbins, Mark Young, Beth Robbins, Hugo
Hillier, Stephen Knight



Wednesday Walkers



A bit of sunshine warms up the muscles and the resolve to get going on our regular walking tour up and down the streets finishing at the Strand which is a delightful place to be at any time. Much conversation occurs, in between stopping and starting as the dogs enjoy their sniffing and snuffling along the way. A relaxing way to spend an hour any Wednesday morning. All welcome.

Leaving from 4 Bunbury Street at 9.30am.

Routes suited to all walkers. Dogs too!



Beginners Ukulele

Beginners are going great with new members enjoying playing at a slower pace and an opportunity to practice new chords.

A great space for learning and sharing – no pressure!

Come to 4 Bunbury Street, 11am on Wednesday mornings. Ukuleles available for borrowing if you wish to give it a try. Very good for the brain and finger dexterity. More info? ring Jodie 0487 263 7

PLANT & GARAGE SALE REPORT

What a wonderful day we had with lots of early, eager customers and some great new stock to entice and excite the buyers.

Thank you to everyone who helped with set-up, clean-up and giving stuff for sale.

The other exciting thing was having a skip delivered on Friday which enabled the grounds surrounding the shed to be tidied up: getting rid of a lot of junk that had been accumulating.

Thanks also to Ted who did multiple runs to the metal recyclers. The skip allowed workers to dispose of broken, damage items or things that have been around too long and would never sell or even just be taken away.

So well done everyone. Not only a successful day financially, and socially but also a great clean-up working-bee.

Total sales for the month was almost \$700 and great news that Reni had taken the initiative to find a buyer for some donated LPs which were in demand and produced a good reward. Well done Reni!

This then is a reminder to all of you who are cleaning out your treasures which have accumulated over the years:

there are some things that have value to others even if you are over them.

Our next Sale is on 19th September. Come along and find a new plant for your garden or as a gift, or a treasure from the shed. Volunteers on the day are always welcome.

ALL-AGE WORSHIP

Last Sunday was a very fine morning with lots of lovely new songs to sing. Once again our young leaders stepped confidently into their roles: readings, prayers and bible passages,

We broke into our various activities groups, which provided a mixture of jovial singing and dancing, quiet meditation, robust conversation and working on the activity sheet provided (on page 3 you can have a try at completing the sheet too!)

Thank you to everyone who helped to prepare and present the worship service.

A highlight was the addition of the final song “Don’t worry, be happy/I’d like to teach the world to sing” accompanied by a line dance. A spontaneous reprise of the song provided a joyful finish to a happy and worshipful Sunday morning.

Some feedback from group members:

Ted said: “Laura led a wonderful guided meditation that was enjoyed by a good number of people. A new enjoyable, relaxing experience for all who attended. Thanks Laura.

In the singing group we were thankful to Joyce for providing piano backing to the singers and ukulele players as we learned the medley of “Don’t worry, be happy/I’d like to teach the world to sing.”

While we took a breather from singing, we discussed whether “don’t worry be happy” was a good philosophy,

which led to the group sharing how they were feeling about the terrible disasters happening in our world, both natural and man-made” Elaine

Debbi reported on Peter's discussion group: last Sunday we discussed the main reading in each of its 4 sections, and what the words meant for us as Christians today.

Bev said: We needed a bit more time to get our steps together. It was certainly challenging but we made it in the end. Thanks to Rosa and Jodie for putting the line dance together.

ACT FOR PEACE

An urgent invitation to stand with communities in Nepal
Calling on churches and individuals to donate

At this devastating time, **we're inviting churches across Australia to pray for the people of Nepal and stand alongside communities as they respond and recover.**

Thousands of households need urgent assistance, including emergency shelter, food, clean drinking water, sanitation and hygiene supplies, healthcare and protection. MORE
DONATION INFO:

<https://actforpeace.org.au/how-to-help-give/give-now/nepal/>

ADVANCE NOTICE – FUND RAISER



**St. Stephens Williamstown
SUPPORT ACT FOR PEACE
AID FOR NEPAL**

Soup and Sandwich lunch

**THURSDAY 8th October 12.15pm \$10 entry
Pre-lunch entertainment with the**

Ukulele Group in the Church from 11.15am

ST MARY'S PRAYER *Nature Walk* PRESENT TO GOD IN NATURE



Walk through the beauty of Williamstown
Esplanade and connect to faith.

Lead by Anne Slingo (Jesuit & Ignation Spirituality)
you will be guided to reflect upon the nature that
surrounds us and connects us to God.

Provision to be seated will be made for
those with limited mobility

SEPTEMBER 12TH 10:15AM - 12:00PM
MEETING AT:
ST JOSEPH'S BY THE SEA
16 ESPLANADE WILLIAMSTOWN

COST: Suggested
donation amount \$15
or what you can afford

BOOKINGS AT:



www.trybooking.com/DOOQN

Thursday Morning Music

Thursday music group continues to be a highlight of the
week – we have many new songs in our play-
book – some quite challenging – so we are



enjoying the mix of old sings which we can play very well and some great new tunes.

It is always lovely to be able to welcome new people to join us as we sing, learn and play.

WEST WELCOME WAGON are collecting new toys for Christmas - especially sports stuff like balls (soccer, tennis, bat, cricket stuff, swimming. We need them by mid-late November ideally please.
Speak with Debbi Barnes for more info.