ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona St Clement's Altona Meadows O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



To proclaim God's love and life in Christ: growing in faith \$\psi\$ serving others \$\psi\$ nurturing a common life

24th April 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

> Wominjeka :: Haere mai Welcome

A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting from elsewhere.



This booklet contains the full order of service: please join in the parts printed in bold type.

During these times we are all asked to take responsibility for COVID-safe precautions:

- ♦ If you have any symptoms of illness, you should be remaining at home.
- ♦ Please use hand sanitiser on arriving and leaving, check in by the QR system, and maintain physical distancing where possible.
- ♦ All are encouraged to share refreshments outdoors, and only those who have been vaccinated may do so indoors.

Our parish lies on the country of the Kulin nation. We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations, and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing (including to Pay The Rent to local First Nations people).

EASTER

The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period: seven weeks in which the Church celebrates the risen Christ with wonder, love and praise.

After the starker, penitential liturgies of Lent and Holy Week, Easter arrives with a burst of light and joy. We proclaim the resurrection in our liturgical greeting ("Christ is risen...") and in the repeated *Alleluia* acclamation. The Easter (Paschal) Candle burns prominently in our midst throughout this season, and the liturgical colour is festive white, emphasising the light and brightness of the resurrection.

Easter is closely associated with our baptism, our own passing over into life in Christ: "when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead." (Colossians 2.12) The liturgies of the Easter Vigil and of Easter Day include a renewal of our baptismal promises, and throughout this season we say the Apostles' Creed, the baptismal statement of faith. The baptism font stands prominently in our midst, as the foundational place of forgiveness, of release into the freedom of the children of God.

So Easter recalls us to the identity in the risen Christ which is ours both individually and as the Church, the Body of Christ. We are the people who have proclaimed "I turn to Christ"; we are the people who have passed through the water and emerged into a place of new beginning and new life.

Since the late fourth century, the fortieth day of Easter has been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (the fiftieth day) completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

The power of the Creator who brings life out of death, be in this place.

The risen Christ be your constant companion.

The healing embrace of the Holy Spirit encircle you so that you see resurrection ever about you.

A blessing by Chris Polhill

Gathering in God's name

We meet in God's name, as God's people – children of God in all our rich diversity, with all that we carry from the complexity of our lives.

We turn to God in praise and prayer; this includes recalling all that has separated us from God, and claiming the love and forgiveness that is always held out to us.

The Collect then 'collects' these prayers and turns our attention towards the Bible readings which will follow.

HYMN 376 I know that my Redeemer lives (at 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Christ is risen. Alleluia! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Welcome.

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Jesus Christ, risen and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection. In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing. In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in the new creation. In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our praver. For you alone are the Holy One. you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Living God, for whom no door is closed, no heart is locked: draw us beyond our doubts, till we see your Christ and touch his wounds where they bleed in others. This we ask through Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Opening the Scriptures

The readings come from different parts of the Bible: different perspectives on the great story of God's presence and purpose among us. In the psalm we respond with the ancient words of prayer of God's people.

The sermon adds to our own reflections on the readings, and then we respond by affirming the faith as handed to us from previous generations.

We bring our prayers for the world and the Church, trusting that all things and all people are in God's hands.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The apostles were brought before the council where the high priest confronted them: "In no uncertain terms, we demanded that you not teach in this name. And look at you! You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching. And you are determined to hold us responsible for this man's death."

Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than humans! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God has exalted Jesus to his right side as leader and saviour so that he could enable Israel to change its heart and life and to find forgiveness for sins. We are witnesses of such things, as is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

(5.27-32; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

The Lord is my strength and my song: and has become my salvation.

The sounds of joy and deliverance: are in the tents of the righteous.

The right hand of the Lord does mighty things: the right hand of the Lord raises up.

I shall not die but live: and proclaim the works of the Lord.

The Lord has disciplined me hard: but he has not given me over to death.

Open me the gates of righteousness: and I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord: the righteous shall enter it.

I will praise you, for you answered me: and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected: has become the head of the corner.

This is the Lord's doing: and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, save us, we pray: O Lord, send us prosperity.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord: from the house of the Lord we bless you.

The Lord is God, and he has given us light: guide the festal throng up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God and I will praise you: you are my God, I will exalt you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good: and his mercy endures for ever.

(118)

SECOND READING

A reading from the Revelation to John of Patmos.

John, to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace and peace to you from the one who is and was and is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before God's throne, and from Jesus Christ—the faithful witness, the firstborn from among the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, who made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and always. Amen.

Look, he is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. This is so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "the one who is and was and is coming, the Almighty."

(1.4-8; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 691 Faith will not grow from words alone (at 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he

breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!"

Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

(20.19-31; CEB)

For the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for all people and for the Church throughout the world.

The response to the prayers is

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with our Parish Prayer

God of this ancient land, holy beyond time and place, you search us out and name us your beloved children. Work in us to fulfil your longing and compassion for every person. Send your Spirit to renew our life, and give us courage to rise and follow where Jesus calls. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Everyone is invited to turn to those around, and offer a greeting of peace from where you stand.

Offerings of money or groceries can be placed in the basket/box provided.

Celebrating at the Lord's table

Our offerings of money and groceries remind us that we are called to participate with our lives and livelihoods in the coming of God's kingdom of justice, healing and peace.

In the Great Thanksgiving, the priest voices the prayer of the whole assembly, recalling the mighty acts of God, Jesus' saving death and resurrection, and his last meal with his friends. The prayer calls on the Holy Spirit to make Christ present in our sharing of bread and wine, and to remake us as Christ's body in the world. We respond with the Lord's Prayer, as the crucified and risen Jesus prays anew through us.

Our sharing is a gift of grace, a communion with Jesus and with each other. There is a place here for each and every person.

HYMN 382 Now the green blade rises (at 8:30 & 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest prays on behalf of all, praising God for God's mighty acts. All respond:

...while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Last Supper is recalled, including Jesus' command to continue sharing bread and wine: in memory of him, and proclaiming his death and resurrection. All respond:

...we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The prayer calls on God's blessing and looks to the fulfilling of all things within the goodness of God, and concludes:

...all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread and says

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

We are one body, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Come, let us celebrate the feast. Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ on your hearts with thanksgiving. **Alleluia!**

Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing: please come forward as indicated and stand at one of the places marked in white. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

Holy, holy, holy My heart, my heart adores you My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you, Lord.

Words: Anonymous (originated in Argentina)

Going into the world

The Eucharist is food for the journey of faith, whatever awaits us as we go out to the rest of our lives. We have been renewed, transformed, and blessed: now we take that blessing to share with others, in our words and actions, our hearts and lives.

'The Eucharist never ends – it must be lived.'

Notices

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Most glorious Lord of life, we thank you that you nourish us in these Easter mysteries. Fill us with the Spirit of love and unite us in faith, that we may witness to the resurrection and show your glory to all the world.

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

HYMN 390 Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks to the Risen Lord (at 10:30, found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WEEK

Praying together and at home

READINGS

Take some time to prepare for worship together by exploring the readings beforehand. Some things to notice might be:

Is anything here particularly relevant to my situation at this time? Is there anything here that doesn't immediately make sense to me? What comes just before and just after this section of the Bible? Does this remind me of something elsewhere in the Bible?

Readings for Wednesday & Thursday Eucharist: 27th & 28th April

Acts 2.36-41; Psalm 33.4-9; John 20.11-18

Readings for next Sunday: 1st May (Third Sunday of Easter)

Acts 9.1-6; Psalm 30; Revelation 5.6-14 John 21.1-19

DAILY PRAYER

Morning and Evening Prayer is shared at St Eanswythe's during the week: see the back page for times this week. Anyone is welcome to these short services.

For our prayers:

The world and nation: For the people of Myanmar striving for freedom.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn (Bp Mark Short, clergy & people).

Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; All Saints' Kooyong (Kuncoro Rusman, Lachlan Thompson).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Anglican Board of Mission – supporting ministry among Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Our parish & community: For those returning to work or school this week. Those with particular needs at this time: Vivienne, Susie, Dulcie, Terence, Stuart, Anthony, Margaret.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Wilma Beales (25), Mary Catherine Doloughan (27), Harry Pugsley (29), Clifford Little (29).

To add a name to the public pew sheet prayer list, for those needing prayers now or to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please contact one of the clergy.

If you have a prayer request to be included as we gather for prayer throughout the week, please find the prayer box near the church entrance and fill out a card, or contact one of the clergy.

SHARING THE PATH OF FAITH

reflections from the clergy and our parish community

Dear fellow pilgrims,

If you have made it to church today you will have found yourself exclaiming 'He lives', 'He lives' about sixteen times in our opening hymn.

The hymn is known by its first line, 'I know that my Redeemer lives'.

It was written by one Samuel Medley in 1775. When he was younger Samuel was a sailor in the British navy, who had to leave the service after his leg was so badly wounded it almost needed to be amputated. While staying with his grandfather for his recovery, his grandfather read him a sermon by Isaac Watts that changed his life. Samuel found himself finally really hearing the Christian Gospel. It brought him "face to face", as it were, with the crucified and risen Lord:

I Know That My Redeemer Lives; What Comfort This Sweet Sentence Gives! He Lives, He Lives, Who Once Was Dead; He Lives, My Ever Living Head.

The first line is taken from the book of Job, when in agony, Job breaks off from an outcry of pain to exclaim, 'I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another' (19.25-27). Samuel saw himself in Job, saw Easter joy dawn on him in the most difficult time of his life.

"My redeemer", Samuel calls him. It is not a possessive "my", but it is a personal one. The same Lord whose wounds St Thomas demanded to see, that Lord lived to heal Samuel's wounds. Not just in his leg, but those in his heart, and mind, and soul.

He Lives To Silence All My Fears, He Lives To Wipe Away My Tears He Lives To Calm My Troubled Heart, He Lives All Blessings To Impart.

The Lord is not just 'there for others', he is 'here for me'. That is the joyful mystery that we embrace as we sing this Easter hymn...

He Lives And Grants Me Daily Breath; He Lives, And I Shall Conquer Death: He Lives My Mansion To Prepare; He Lives To Bring Me Safely There.

Yours in Jesus, Kathryn

NOTES AND NEWS

for your information and prayers, from around and beyond the parish

Bless you!

To everyone who committed your time, heart and gifts to our worship over Holy Week and Easter, God bless you. Whether you were there contemplating a foot bath on Maundy Thursday (the water turned out to be quite, quite warm!), holding the cross on Good Friday, or gathering around the new fire of Easter Eve, *this* is the stuff that sustains the church's life, drawing us into the mystery at the heart of our faith: the death and resurrection of our Lord, by which he has redeemed the world! May the peace of Christ be yours this season.

If you have been away over the past week, or keeping quiet vigil from home, the peace of the risen Lord be with you! May we share the joy of Easter together soon!

Jennifer & Jim's Blessing of Marriage

This Thursday evening we are holding a service for Jen and Jim, of our 10:30 congregation, to bring their vows before God and, as God's people, to celebrate and ask God's blessing on their union. Jennifer and Jim would like to invite you to share their celebrations:

Blessing of Marriage at 7pm, Thursday April 28th, at St Eanswythe's.

The service will be followed by dinner in the hall, to which you are also warmly welcome. If you'd like to stay for dinner, please RSVP to Jen for catering purposes: 0403 555 384 or jennifersherinm@gmail.com

Playgroups

After two weeks of "holy-days" over Easter, our playgroups resume this week, with Tiddlers meeting at St Eanswythe's on Tuesday, and Clementines at St Clement's on Friday.

Our playgroups, like others in the area, offer a gentle, vital source of friendship, belonging and growth for young families living in Altona and beyond.

Please pray for our Tiddlers, our Clementines and their families. Please also pray for our playgroup hosts, giving thanks for the small number of faithful people who dedicate their time—and thought!—and hands!—and heart!—to this ministry.

ABM Easter gift

This Easter, the Anglican Board of Mission contributions to help build up Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands ministries across Australia. You can give using the envelopes in the pews and putting your gift in the collection plate, or online at abmission.org.au/Easter2022

'The Incredulity of Thomas...'

Finally, for those of you with a heart for the apostle St Thomas, an astounding painting by Caravaggio (1601-2)...



Looking ahead: dates for the diary

22 May Planned Giving Sunday

26 May Ascension Day5 June Feast of Pentecost

Keeping in touch...

- ⇒ Please take this pew sheet with you, for your reference and prayers during the week.
- ⇒ If you are or have been away for a Sunday, you can see recent pew sheets on our website at **anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets**
- ⇒ Visit **www.facebook.com/anglicanaltlav** for photos, links, news and updates.
- ⇒ If you don't already receive our weekly email including news, changes of service times, and other updates, please send your email address to parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Giving...

⇒ Deposits can be made to the parish Bendigo Bank account at any time (BSB 633 000, account number 157 594 722, account name "St Eanswythe's Altona with St Clement's Laverton Anglican Churches"). For pledge giving please include your name or envelope/reference number. For further details see anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving

The Anglican Parish of Altona/Laverton

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Vicar:

The Rev'd Chris Lancaster (Wed-Mon) 0423 199 850 chris.lancaster@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Curate:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse (Sun-Fri) 0416 378 748 kathryn.bellhouse@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Priest & Maori Minister:

The Rev'd Danny McRoberts
0448 841 196 dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Lily Griffin Anita McAnda Scott Pitcher

Child Safe Officer:

The Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse

This week in our parish:

Sunday 24th April Second Sunday of Easter

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's 5pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

NB No Morning Prayer on Monday this week

Tuesday-Friday

10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open

Tuesday 26th April

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10am Tiddler's Playgroup, St Eanswythe's 7pm Small Group, via Zoom

Wednesday 27th

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's

5pm Evening Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Thursday 28st

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Friday 29th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 9:30am Clementines Playgroup, St Clement's

Sunday 1st May Third Sunday of Easter

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 1pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's 5pm Evening Worship, St Clement's

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30am St Eanswythe's

Groups meeting regularly in the parish:

Youth Group: Fridays fortnightly in term time, at St Clement's or online. Contact Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse. Altona Tiddlers Playgroup: Tuesdays in term time, 10am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993) Clementines Playgroup: Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's. Contact Louise (9395 5472)

Small group: Tuesday evenings, online or in person. Contact Rev'd Kathryn Bellhouse. Reflective Bible Study: monthly at the Vicarage, first Wednesday evening at 7:30pm.

Mothers' Union: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661)
Caritas: monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday evening at 7pm. Contact Joan Meiers (9398 1906)