

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



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

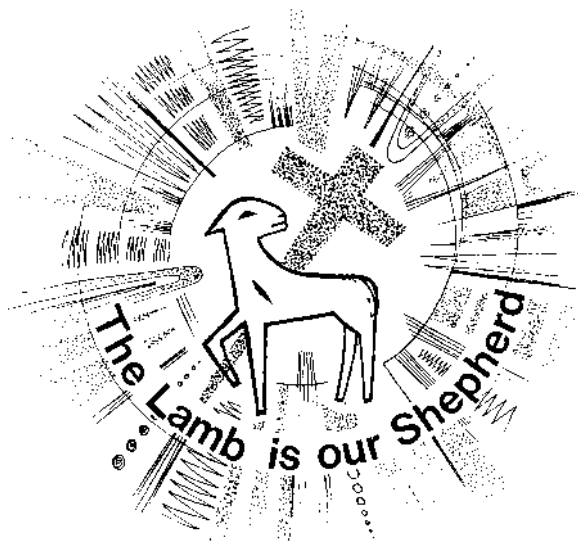


*To proclaim God's love and life in Christ:
growing in faith † serving others † nurturing a common life*

8th May 2022 FOURTH 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. Please do stay to share refreshments at the end of the service.

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

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.

[At 10:30am:]

HYMN 102 Praise to the living God
(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!

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.

The priest says

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 prayer.
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)

Gracious God,
you sent Jesus, the good shepherd,
to gather us together:
may we not wander from his flock,
but follow wherever he leads us,
listening for his voice and staying near him,
until we are safely in your fold,
to live with you for ever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
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.

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas). Her life overflowed with good works and compassionate acts on behalf of those in need. About that time, though, she became so ill that she died. After they washed her body, they laid her in an upstairs room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two people to Peter. They urged, "Please come right away!" Peter went with them. Upon his arrival, he was taken to the upstairs room. All the widows stood beside him, crying as they showed the tunics and other clothing Dorcas made when she was alive.

Peter sent everyone out of the room, then knelt and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. He gave her his hand and raised her up. Then he called God's holy people, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. The news spread throughout Joppa, and many put their faith in the Lord. Peter stayed for some time in Joppa with a certain tanner named Simon.

(9.36-43; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

He will make me lie down in green pastures: and lead me beside still waters.

He will refresh my soul: and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the face of those who trouble me: you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

(23)

SECOND READING

A reading from the Revelation to John of Patmos.

After this I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands. They cried out with a loud voice:

“Victory belongs to our God
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

All the angels stood in a circle around the throne, and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell facedown before the throne and worshipped God, saying,

“Amen! Blessing and glory
and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honour and power and might
be to our God forever and always. Amen.”

Then one of the elders said to me, “Who are these people wearing white robes, and where did they come from?”

I said to him, “Sir, you know.”

Then he said to me, “These people have come out of great hardship. They have washed their robes and made them white in the Lamb’s blood. This is the reason they are before God’s throne. They worship him day and night in his temple, and the one seated on the throne will shelter them. They won’t hunger or thirst anymore. No sun or scorching heat will beat down on them, because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

(7.9-17; CEB)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 145 The king of love my shepherd is
(found in the red hymn book Together in Song)

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

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.

The time came for the Festival of Dedication in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple, walking in the covered porch named for Solomon. The Jewish opposition circled around him and asked, “How long will you test our patience? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

Jesus answered, “I have told you, but you don’t believe. The works I do in my Father’s name testify about me, but you don’t believe because you don’t belong to my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life. They will never die, and no one will snatch them from my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them from my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

(10.22-30; CEB)

For the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES’ CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of our baptism:

**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 420 Holy Spirit, go before us
(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, 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. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. All the communion bread will have wine added to it, but if you also wish to drink from the cup then please remain and it will be brought to you. If you would prefer not to share communion, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

**God is forgiveness.
Dare to forgive and God will be with you.
God is forgiveness.
Trust and do not fear.**

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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 590 What a friend we have in Jesus
(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: 11th & 12th April

Acts 3.11-26; Psalm 8; Luke 24.35-48

Readings for next Sunday: 15th May (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

Acts 11.1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21.1-6; John 13.31-35

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 a just path to peace in Ukraine, and for peacekeepers and peacemakers throughout the world.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: For the Church in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. For Christians who are facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: The Diocese of Tasmania (Bp Richard Condie, Missioner Bp Chris Jones, clergy & people); for General Synod meeting this week.

Diocese of Melbourne: Archbishop Philip and Bishop Kate; St Augustine's Mentone (Ben Soderlund, Jonathan Chaintrier).

Agencies supported by our parish:

Anglicare Victoria – for prison chaplaincy ministry across the state.

Our parish & community: For people living with addiction, and those who support them.

Those with particular needs at this time:

Dulcie, Terence, Stuart, Anthony, Margaret, Sharilyn, Eva.

The communion of saints:

Year's mind: Alec Bayley (13).

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 friends,

Last week, Parish Council decided that in view of the removal of other COVID restrictions for church gatherings, it was now appropriate for us to resume offering the common cup at the Eucharist. It's been a long time—over two years—since this practice was suspended at the beginning of the pandemic, and I know that many of you have felt deeply the loss of that part of our worship.

At the same time, we know that the pandemic is far from over, and winter is also approaching with a greater prevalence of seasonal illness. So it is entirely reasonable that some, perhaps many, will not feel ready to share the cup.

Therefore, for the time being all the eucharistic bread will continue to have a drop of wine added, so that everyone is receiving both bread and wine. If you wish also to drink from the cup, then please remain where you are after receiving the bread, and the cup will be brought to you. (There is no option to intinct your own bread in the cup.)

As we make this change, it is all the more important that hand sanitiser is used before sharing communion, as we continue to be conscious of looking after each other as well as ourselves.

Beyond our parish, please do pray this week for all those who are gathering for the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia. General Synod involves about 250 people: all the diocesan bishops plus elected representatives from every diocese.

General Synod normally meets every three years, but due to COVID restrictions has not met since 2017. A lot has happened in that time, and there are significant, contentious and potentially divisive matters which will be debated during the coming days, in particular around the subject of human sexuality.

The bishops of the Diocese of Newcastle have recently written:

One of the central elements in the debates on moral issues is whether the resulting action will impact a person's relationship with God now and in eternity. That is the lens of salvation. From the beginning, Christians have sought to understand what might impede our relationship with God and impoverish our witness to God's love. Christians seek to live their lives in ways in which the saving story of Christ's love becomes more and more real in and through us. Our vocation is to promote human flourishing inspired by the way of God amongst us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

As we pray for General Synod, let us pray that our church, both nationally and locally, may be faithful to that calling!

Grace and peace, Chris

NOTES AND NEWS

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

COVID restrictions

There are no longer any government COVID restrictions for church services and activities. (This includes an end to QR code check-in.)

As we know, COVID is still very much present in our community, and the diocese continues to support current health advice: to maintain good hygiene and care, use sanitiser, and not to attend if you have any symptoms.

Mission Planning Conversation

Parish Council invites you to join in a conversation towards renewing our parish Mission Action Plan, on Saturday 28 May, from 10am to 1pm at St Clement's. This is an important chance for you to be involved in shaping the direction of the parish in the coming years: to bring both your passion and your willingness to share responsibility for the way forward.

Op Shop

If you have clothes to donate to the op shop, please could you hold on to them for the time being—there is a surplus of stock at present, so do come in and buy some things instead!

Annual leave

Rev'd Kathryn is currently on annual leave, returning to the parish on Monday 16 May.

Planned Giving Program 2022-23

Your invitation to Planned Giving Sunday on 22nd May is available today, together with information about the parish finances and a message from the Wardens.

Please take yours and any other invitation letters that you can guarantee to deliver within the next few days. There should be letters for all parishioners, and spares are available for any others who would like a copy.

Planned Giving Sunday is an important event in the parish and all parishioners are invited to play their part in the program. When we plan our giving, those to whom we have given the responsibility of managing our finances are in a much better position to make wise decisions.

If you have any queries or are unable to be at church on the 22nd, please contact Pat Baines (9315 7838 or 0400 051 121) to make alternative arrangements.



My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

- JOHN 10:27 NIV

Looking ahead: dates for the diary

22 May	Planned Giving Sunday
26 May	Ascension Day
28 May	Mission Planning conversation, 10am-1pm at St Clement's
5 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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St Clement's telephone [when church is attended] - 7012 6800

Vicar:

The Rev'd Chris Lancaster (Wed-Mon)
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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 8th May

Fourth 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

Monday 9th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Tuesday-Friday

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

Tuesday 10th

NB No Morning Prayer today

10am Tiddlers Playgroup, St Eanswythe's
7pm Small Group, via Zoom
7pm Caritas, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 11th

9:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's
11am Nursing home service, St George's
5pm Evening Prayer, St Eanswythe's

Thursday 12th

9am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's
10am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's
11am Mothers' Union, St Eanswythe's

Friday 13th

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

Sunday 15th May

Fifth 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)