

Prayer of the week:

Almighty God, whose sovereign purpose none can make void: give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, knowing that your kingdom shall come and your will be done, to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

MARMINGATHA

Stories to Inspire

WEEK ENDING 22 NOVEMBER 2020



AN ENCOURAGING STORY FROM OUR FAMILIES MINISTRY

St Paul's Caulfield North

During lockdown two families met by coincidence in a local park. The families were very happy to see each other and the young children quickly connected and ran off to play. As they returned to their parents a few minutes later the children showed what they had made together... two sticks tied together in the shape of a cross...so symbolic of their connection at church and their shared faith around Jesus.

- Sue Conti, Children & Families Minister



RESOURCEFULNESS IN THESE TIMES

St John's Toorak

Like so many churches, at the beginning of lockdown St. John's Toorak moved to recording services of worship and posting them to YouTube. This happened quickly, so quickly in fact that we were unable to procure professional tripods etc. for the laptops and phones needed to film with. Necessity being the mother of invention, we used flower stands with hymnals and Bibles stacked on top of them to get the phones and laptops to the right height for filming. They work extremely well! And, we thought, no one will ever see them. Until our Vicar Peter French was filmed by Channel Nine News on Good Friday and they filmed the whole set-up as an example of the effect the restrictions were having upon the church. There they were on national television. And then they appeared on national TV again when Channel Nine did another section on churches and the lockdown back in October. One thing is sure: at least people know our services are based on the Bible - literally!"

- The Reverend Peter French



AN ENCOURAGING STORY FROM OUR FAMILIES MINISTRY

St Philip's Collingwood

We ran the Seasons of Creations services in September entirely by Zoom. We used the Anglican liturgy with some ecumenical aspects from the World Council of Churches website. The best part was that we were able to tap into speakers to provide reflections from all over Victoria and interstate via Zoom, which in previous years we wouldn't have even considered. The topics covered were, The greatest commandment, love your neighbour (Elaine Furniss, Parishioner), Protecting the commons (Linda Walter from Philip Island), There is enough for all our needs (Sister Elizabeth Young from Forbes NSW) and The gift of water (Fr David Moore). Necessity is the mother of invention, but we feel we went beyond that to provide great speakers on the spirituality behind these important environmental topics.

- The Reverend John Raike

LIMINALITY & HOPE

St Peter's

Advent Webinar

As we commence Advent, at the end of an extraordinary year in the collective liminal space of the global pandemic, Bishop Kate Prowd and Rev'd Dr Wendy Crouch will be reflecting with us on our journey through the 'betwixt and between' of liminal spaces with their gifts as well as challenges.

[Click here to register](#)

[Click here for this weeks' video message from the Archbishop](#)

Please keep sending your stories to inspire...
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