

## In His Steps

Following Jesus in  
Strathalbyn, Langhorne  
Creek, Meadows and Milang

March 2021



*Fr Thomas's Report to the Annual Vestry Meeting.*

We started the year 2020 supporting people who were badly affected by the Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island bush fires. We witnessed the generosity of so many people reaching out to those people in need.

Then from March onwards we experienced the shutdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. There was absolute uncertainty about how we could meet people, gather, travel... and the list goes on.

For almost three months we live streamed our church services through the Mount Barker parish Facebook page. Our sincere gratitude goes to Fr Daniel for all he has done to equip us for this new way of life.

We also reached out to more than 200 international students and others with food, white goods and furniture. My sincere thanks to all those who visited and helped the students.

We received amazing support from the Strathalbyn parish and from the wider community. My sincere thanks to each and everyone for all you have done in such a difficult year. →

# The Quickest Warmth Project

The Mothers Union members in the parish are supporters of "The Quickest Warmth Project" which began with a donation of seven quilts to the Department of Child Protection for children going into foster care.

Five years later, the project has more than two hundred contributors who make, access or purchase items needed by individuals and families experiencing difficult times.

Started by AnglicareSA Employee Support Chaplain Prue O'Donovan and volunteer Gail Hardy, the Quickest Warmth supplies requested items to AnglicareSA programs, as well as to the Department for Child Protection, Aboriginal support programs, schools and hospitals.

Requested items are listed in a monthly newsletter, with requests filled by a network of more than 200 South Australians.

These clever and generous people, who are vital to the project, are of all ages and come from all walks of life including aged care residents, church groups and a private men's shed.

*continued:*

On behalf of the parish I would like to sincerely thank all the church wardens, parish council members, treasurer and parish secretary for your commitment and dedication to the parish life.

Special thanks to Deacon Margo, Fr David and Fr Alex for your ministry among us. We are so blessed to have Fr Daniel with us for the last three years. Personally I would like to thank Fr Daniel for your unconditional support to me and to church members during these difficult times.

The last six months have been a very difficult time for me and for the church members. We lost many of our friends. This is a time we need to support and pray for each other and walk the extra mile with our brothers and sisters. May God bless us all.

*Fr Thomas Karamakuzhiyil*



The project provides handmade and purchased bedding, clothing, toys, toiletry packs, school supplies, cleaning supplies—anything people may need as they are supported through difficult times.

Volunteers collect, sort, bundle and deliver the goods.

More than thirty AnglicareSA programs and services regularly receive items from the Quickest Warmth, including humanitarian settlement, homelessness, Aboriginal services, foster care and disability support.

The project has recently commenced a monthly pop-up shop in the café at Elizabeth Mission.



## MOTHERS UNION NEWS

At last month's meeting Fr. Daniel the MU Diocesan Chaplain celebrated the Eucharist and four new members were admitted: Raelee Clonan, Jenny Fox, Diane Lunt and Jan Pfeiffer.

Badges were also presented to Joan Lines for sixty years membership, to Eileen Smith for fifty years and Brian Eves for twenty-five years.

Long Service Certificates were also presented to six members who had been members for 20 to 56 years.

The **Lady Day Service** will be held on the 25th March at Christ the King Church, Mount Barker at 11am. Tea and coffee will be available from 10.30am. BYO lunch.

## Our Lenten Study

The Rev. Richard Schmidt, former rector of St. Paul's Episcopal (=Anglican) Church in Daphne, Alabama, USA is the author of our Lenten Study book, "Glorious Companions: Five Centuries of Anglican Spirituality" which introduces the reader to church figures from Thomas Cranmer, 16th century father of the first Book of Common Prayer, to 20th century author C.S. Lewis.

He likens knowing God to the experience of strolling by the sea.

"I can walk along the seashore, telling others what the ocean is like," he says, "but there is so much more. What about the sailors, the cartographers, the fishermen? Could I learn something from each of them?"

For Richard Schmidt, the answer is yes. We can learn more about God from those who have walked with Him before us.

## Keeping Focussed

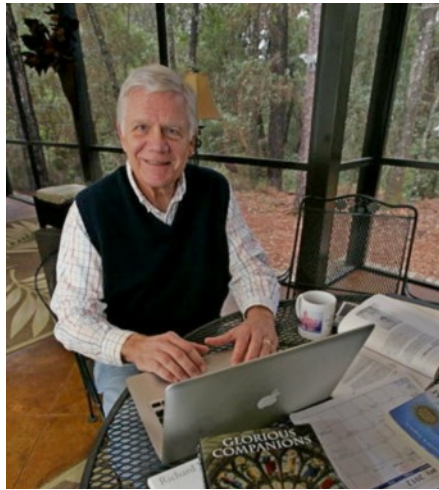


You may be surprised to know that this is a picture of Fr Daniel which appeared in a recent issue of the *Southern Argus* and it is a reminder of the importance of being focussed on what we are doing.

This is not only important in shooting but in many other aspects of life, including our response to God.

Jesus said, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62) and the writer of Hebrews exhorts us to "run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." (Heb 12:1f)

Let us keep this in mind this Easter as we follow Jesus to Calvary and the empty tomb.



We have looked at just a few of the twenty-nine people included in his book, described by him as "men and women, black and white, doers and thinkers, searchers and finders, happy and brooding" who had become "glorious companions" as he researched each one.

As we have been introduced to each new person we have learned something new to add to our own knowledge of God.

## He is Risen

**He is risen, he is risen!  
He has opened heaven's gate:  
We are free from sin's dark prison,  
Risen to a holier state;  
Soon a brighter Easter beam  
On our longing eyes shall stream.**

*Cecil Frances Alexander*



## Holy Week & Easter

### **PALM SUNDAY**

Sunday 28 March  
10.00 am

Procession & Eucharist  
Christ Church, Strathalbyn

### **WEDNESDAY**

Wednesday 31 March  
9.30 am

Eucharist  
Christ Church, Strathalbyn

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

Thursday 1 April  
7.00 pm

Eucharist  
Christ Church, Strathalbyn

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

Friday 2 April  
9.00 am

Liturgy  
Christ Church, Strathalbyn

9.00 am

Liturgy

St Mary's, Milang

### **EASTER EVE**

Saturday 3 April  
7.30 pm

The Service of Light  
St Mary's, Milang

### **EASTER DAY**

Sunday 4 April  
8.15 am

Eucharist  
St George's, Meadows

10.00 am

Eucharist

Christ Church, Strathalbyn

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