

Higher

"as it is in heaven"

VOL 30 AUGUST 24, 2025

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Welcome stranger! If you are visiting St James in Kingscliff or St Marks in Pottsville, this page is especially for you. We are the two Anglican Churches in this part of the world and are delighted to welcome you to our growing Parish. You can learn more by leafing through this magazine, HIGHER, our weekly bulletin which keeps our Christian community informed and updated about all that is going on.

If you are curious to know more about our Christian faith please contact our Rector, Rev. Constantine Osuchukwu whose details can be found at the back of this bulletin. Give him a call and invite him for coffee - he's a trained barista and will be happy to make one to your taste in our on-site coffee cart. If the sun is shining you might like to enjoy it in the café garden courtyard adjacent. Long story short, we are all about hospitality and the love of God here, and would love you to join us. You can also get a better idea of who we are what we are about by attending worship on Sundays (8.30 - 9.30 am at St James, 10.30 - 11.30 am at St Marks) and staying on for morning tea afterwards.

God's Plan

Message from the Parish Priest

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

"Pray always and never lose heart" (Luke 18:1).

A Call to Prayer

Thank you most sincerely for your support of our shared ministry in our two church communities. I am deeply encouraged by the spiritual, numerical, and financial growth we are experiencing, and we give thanks to God for his blessings.

If you are able, I warmly invite you to join us for the regular prayer gatherings and Bible studies held each week at St James and St Mark's (details are on the back of this bulletin).

At the heart of the Christian life is intimacy with God—through Jesus Christ and in the Holy Spirit. This can only be nurtured through a dedicated and fervent life of prayer. History reminds us that every major renewal in the Church has begun with a renewal of prayer: from the Desert Fathers and Mothers of the 3rd and 4th centuries, to the monastic movements that shaped Western civilisation. In our own time, too, we need to renew our personal and collective prayer if we are to renew our communities and our world.

'APOK 2032' - Vision & Mission Planning

Tomorrow (23 August), members of Parish Council will begin preparing for our **Parish Discernment Day**. This will be a time to listen together for where God is already at work along the Tweed Coast, and to identify Spirit-led initiatives for spiritual and numerical growth. Please hold us in prayer as we begin this process. Further details, including the date of the Discernment Day, will be shared with you after our meeting.

Spring Spirituality Weekend (24–26 October 2025)

Nourishing Body and Soul

Please mark this weekend in your diaries. It will be a sacred pause—time set apart for silence, solitude, and prayer.

Guided by Carol O'Connor, Chris Parson, myself, and others, the weekend will draw on the wisdom of Christian spiritual guides, reminding us—as Etty Hillesum wrote—"The body and soul are one... the inner world is as real as the outer one, and both need care."

Through reflection, teaching, and gentle spiritual practices, participants will explore pathways to inner peace, resilience, and hope. Whether you are weary, seeking direction, or simply longing for rest, this weekend offers space to be nourished and restored.

Pastoral Care Team Meeting on 30 August

As mentioned last week, we are seeking volunteers to join our Parish Pastoral Care Team. Please add your name to the list in the foyer or email me at rector@apok.org.au.

We will gather on Saturday, 30 August at 11am in the Parish Hall, Kingscliff to discuss the proposal and formally launch this ministry. Thank you for your support as we seek to care for one another and those in need.

KICK - 31 August at 8.30am

Please bring your children and grandchildren to our KICK (Kids in Church Kingscliff) service at St James, Sunday 31 August at 8.30am.

I echo the words of St Paul: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy" (Philippians 1:3-4).

With gratitude and blessing,

Your brother in Christ, Constantine

A Blessing for Today:

May the light of your soul guide you by John O'Donohue

May the light of your soul guide you.

May the light of your soul bless the work you do with the secret love and warmth of your heart.

May you see in what you do the beauty of your own soul.

May the sacredness of your work bring healing, light and renewal to those who work with you and to those who see and receive your work.

May your work never weary you.

May it release within you wellsprings of refreshment, inspiration and excitement.

May you be present in what you do.

May you never become lost in the bland absences.

May the day never burden you.

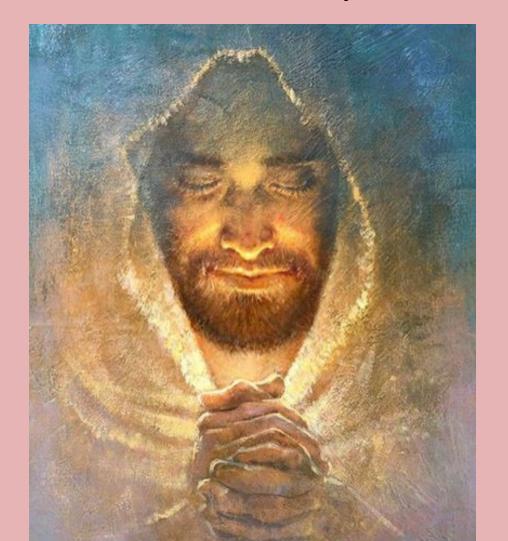
May dawn find you awake and alert, approaching your new day with dreams, possibilities and promises.

May evening find you gracious and fulfilled.

May you go into the night blessed, sheltered and protected.

May your soul calm, console and renew you.

Amen.



The Best Laid Plans



It was the poet Robert Burns who wrote the line "The best laid plans of mice and men often go astray". Being Scottish, few English speakers understood a word Burns said, and it wasn't until John Steinbeck wrote his famous novella "Of Mice and Men" that the phrase became more widely-known. Plans going awry is a notion we Christians readily recognise, since one of the great themes of the Bible is the fragility of human plans and ambitions for the future (think of Moses determination to reach the Promised Land; Herod's evil plan to eradicate a rival King) and the ultimate control God has over our destiny. Let us be glad that it is His purpose that continues to be at work in our world, not the naked triumph of human folly or the vain ambitions of flawed men (although there's a bit of that around too).

KICK Returns Sunday Aug 31

St James' Children's Service is back next week with the return of KICK (Kids in Church, Kingscliff). Don't forget to bring your children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren, as the case may be. Children of friends, neighbours, colleagues and/or anybody else who needs to meet Jesus are also welcome. Lots of singing and clapping and a joyful atmosphere guaranteed!



Christmas Market Meeting This Sunday

All those wanting to contribute to the success of the Christmas Market – now scheduled for Sat Nov 22 are asked to attend a meeting at St James Parish Hall at 9.35 am on the morning of Sunday 24th (i.e. immediately after the service). Raewyn has an agenda of tasks and challenges to be worked through and as they say, "many hands make light work".

Soup Kitchen Planning Meeting

All those who've put their hand up to contribute to the Soup Kitchen ministry (whether as a chef or chief bottle-washer) will receive an e-mail next week ahead of a meeting at St James after Church next Sunday 31st August. If you were part of the launch event back in June, or have signed up since, keep an eye on your inbox. And its not too late to be part of this exciting new initiative as we extend our pastoral outreach efforts to people in need in the community. Please let Ximena, Constantine or Jason know if you'd like to be part of the fun.



Pottsville Community Needs Your Help

Anglicare Disaster Recovery Volunteer Program

Anglicare's Disaster Recovery Volunteer Program trains and accredits local volunteers to assist in their local evacuation centres. Anglicare recognises the importance of having familiar faces within evacuation centres and is one of just a few organisations authorised to have volunteers in these spaces.

When disasters strike, our community can become isolated and formal supports struggle to reach us. Uki and Murwillumbah have already formed Anglicare Teams, building critical local capacity. Pottsville has the opportunity to establish its own 'Anglicare Team' to provide compassionate, practical care when disaster strikes. Pottsville residents can train to assist in the Pottsville Evacuation Centre when it is operational

Why become an Anglicare Disaster Recovery Volunteer?

Fill a Critical Gap: Pottsville is desperately short of trained volunteers to provide support in our local evacuation centre. From flood to fire, our village has seen activation of evacuation and recovery centres with increasing frequency. When disasters strike, our community can become isolated and formal supports struggle to reach us. Uki and Murwillumbah have already formed Anglicare Teams, building critical local capacity. Pottsville has the opportunity to establish its own 'Anglicare Team' to provide compassionate, practical care when disaster strikes.

Your help ensures vulnerable evacuees are not left unsupported.

Program Structure and Requirements

- 1. Face to Face Workshop (2.5 hrs) introduction to the program and the roles and responsibilities of Anglicare volunteers in relation to other agencies. (There is an online option for people who can't attend face-to-face.)
- 2. Online Module (1 hr) Reinforces key concepts and covers psychological first aid and trauma-informed care.
- 3.Accreditation Checks
- o Working With Children Check (WWCC) through Service NSW
- o Police Check (free, via Anglicare portal)

Next Steps; How to Enrol

- ·Contact Pottsville Team Leader Elizabeth Gwynne 0411 046 019 or Judy Mann 0492 854 782 for further information
- ·OR go online: https://www.anglicare.org.au/DR/
- ·Register and complete the online Disaster Recovery Training
- ·Obtain your WWCC (free for volunteers) and Police Check



Ecumenical Men's Breakfast



- You're Invited!
- 📗 Ecumenical Men's Breakfast Morning
- 3 Saturday, 6th September 2025
- **Ø** 8:00 AM
- 📍 St James Parish Hall, Kingscliff

Gentlemen, join Constantine and fellow parishioners for a hearty and relaxed Men's Breakfast! **

Enjoy a delicious spread of food and freshly brewed coffee — all generously provided by the church.

This is a great opportunity for fellowship, conversation, and connection with others in our church community. Whether you're a regular or it's your first time — you're most welcome! — Start your Saturday off right — with good food, good mates, and good spirit.

Output

Description:

We look forward to seeing you there!

POSITION VACANT: OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

The Anglican Parish of Murwillumbah invites written applications, for the position of Office Manager on a part time basis (12 hours per week, spread over 3 days) from 9am - 1pm.

(We are still looking for someone to fill this position)

The role provides administrative support to the Rector and Parish Council, receptionist duties, preparation of Parish Newsletter and Sunday Services (training will be provided), as well as general administrative duties to support the smooth running of the parish.

Applicants must have experience in office administration and be familiar with Microsoft Office suite (Word, Power Point, Publisher & Outlook).

For further information phone 02 6672 6070 and to apply please email office@allsaintsanglican.org.au

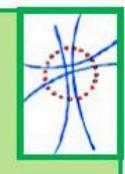




+Murray

CURSILLO COURIER

Grafton Diocese Cursillo Movement Spring Edition 2025



FROM THE BISHOP

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

A colleague of mine once mentioned in the staff room that she had a decluttering consultant visiting her home the following day. She was going to pay the consultant quite a lot of money to advise her on the decluttering process. Quite a few of us immediately volunteered to advise about this for free! But our offerings were declined - apparently an expert was required. Perhaps my colleague knew that in the decluttering stakes my motto is, "if in doubt, throw it out". As a parish priest, one of my first actions on arriving in a new parish was to schedule a working bee for a big clear-out in the vestry. In my experience, vestries are repositories for decades (and even centuries) of accumulated clutter.

There's another saying too: "clutter smothers, simplicity breathes". This implies that clutter doesn't just come in material form. I was pleased to learn about the Cursillo theme of "Keep It Simple Servant". Matt Aroney, Rector of South Head in Sydney, says that God is at work in every part of our lives. In his book *Renovate*, he writes that we are each like a house. Amongst the complexities, complications and busy-ness of our lives, God has a renovation plan for us. God is at work in every room of our lives, but do we make room for God there? When we de-clutter, renovate or just simplify our lives, both physically and spiritually, we can create more time and space to spend in prayer and contemplation (Matthew 6:25-33), allowing God to show us more of Jesus and transform us.



Group Photo — Regener8 July 2025



All donations of craft items are gratefully accepted and are offered for sale at our Cursillo events.

Scarves and beanies are popular and warm for winter.

To make a Contribution to Cursillo by Direct Deposit:

Cursillo is only successful because of your contributions.

Thank you everyone who has given so generously!

ACCOUNT NAME: Anglican Cursillo Secretariat

BSB: 705077 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 30042

REFERENCE: Your Surname + gift

Thank you, Ross Lehman, Treasurer

3 Homestead Ave, GOONELLABAH, NSW, 2480

M: 0407 272 414 E: rilehman@bigpond.net.au

What is your favourite part of God's creation? Are you in awe of the ocean, or at home in the mountains? Perhaps you're a bird watcher, a storm chaser, or a star gazer. Is it the sound of the wind, the sight of a sunset or the smell of lilac that makes you catch your breath? Maybe you've been mesmerised by a spider's web or enjoyed the shade of an old oak tree.

100 Favourite Hymns (Thomas Nelson 2020).



The 1st Saturday in Every Month 5pm

St James Anglican Church, 122 Marine Pde, Kingscliff

Do you carry worry, pain, or grief?

On Saturday nights, our church gathers in stillness and beauty to break bread and pray for healing. This is a time to pause - to place both wounds and hopes before the God who heals.

Shaped by the timeless words of the Book of Common Prayer, with space for silence, and anointing for healing, this is not a service of noise or performance. It is a quiet offering – for all who carry pain in body, mind, or spirit.

Questions? Want to talk to someone first?

Contact us: 0435 750 155 || office@apok.org.au Find us online: apok.org.au || FB Kingscliff Anglican Church

SPIRITUAL GYM



Sunday, 7 September 2025
4.30pm Refreshments | 5.00pm Service
Mahers Lane Chapel | All Welcome



Prayer of the Week

Creator God,

you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you: teach us to offer ourselves to your service,

that here we may have your peace, and in the world to come may see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





Bank Account Details

If you would like to contribute financially to the life and mission of both churches in the Parish of Kingscliff by electronic means, our bank account details are:

BSB: 062-673

Account: 1001 5155

Account Name: Anglican Parish of

Kingscliff

Thank you for your support, we appreciate your generosity.

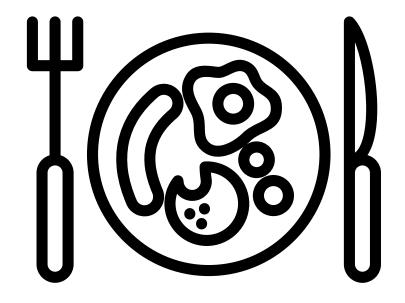
Parish Food Ministry

The Parish would like to thank all who helped distribute the meals through the Food Ministry this week, add both St Marks and St James. Well done all for keeping this vital long running ministry alive.

St James - 12 meals

St Marks - 65 meals

Praise be to God!





Sunday Worship Readings

Sunday 24 August 2025

Jeremiah 1.4-10 Psalm 71.1-6 Hebrews 12.18-29 Luke 13.10-17

Sunday 31 August 2025

Jeremiah 2.4-13 Psalm 81.1-10-16 Hebrews 13.1-8,5-16 Luke 14.1 (2-6) 7-14

Service Schedule

St James

Sunday 24 August 2025

8.30am

Rev. Constantine Osuchukwu

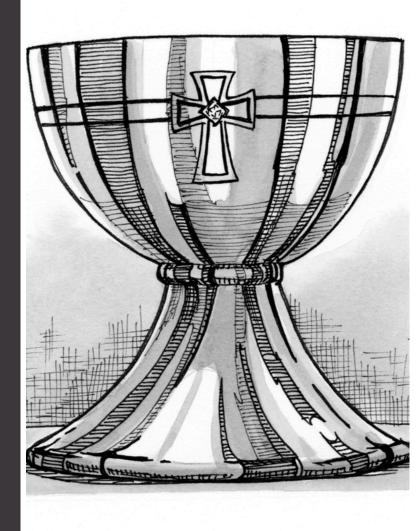
St Marks

Sunday 24 August 2025

10.30am

Rev. Constantine Osuchukwu





Contacts

Parish Office

02 6674 1513 www.apok.org.au office@apok.org.au

Rector

Reverend Constantine Osuchukwu 0435 750 155 rector@apok.org.au

Wardens

Stephen Elworthy 0408 757 876

Jason Saltearn 0406 450 056 jsaltearn@gmail.com

Peter Pine 0407 732 440

Parish Calendar for August/September 2025

Mondays

- U3A Art Group St Marks, 9:00am–12:00pm
- OCTEC Employment Services St Marks, Monday to Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm
- Bible Study St James Parish Hall, 2:00pm–4:00pm
- Evening Prayer St James, 5:15pm–5:30pm

Tuesdays

- Morning Prayer at St James (9am-9.15am)
- Justice of the Peace St Marks, 9:00am–12:00pm
- Meal Handout St Marks, 11:00am–1:00pm
- Holy Communion/Eucharist at St Mark's (12.30pm -1pm)
- Bible Study St Marks Pottsville Hall, 4:00pm
- AA Meeting St James, 7:30pm
- Pottsville Community Association Last Tuesday of the month, 6:00pm

Wednesdays

- Holy Communion/Eucharist St James, Kingscliff, 10:00am
- Lectio Divina St James, 11:30am (following Eucharist)
- Bible Study St Marks, Pottsville, 10:00am
- Meditation (in person) St James, 4:00pm & Via Zoom

Zoom link

Meeting ID: 891 8478 4092 | Passcode: 516345

• Evening Prayer - St James, 5:15pm-5:30pm

Thursdays

- Ladies Craft Group St Marks, 9:00am–12:00pm
- Meal Handout St James, 11:00am–1:00pm
- Evening Prayer at St James (5.15pm -5.30pm)
- AA Meeting St Marks, 6:00pm
- Men's Bible Study 6:30pm

Contact: Jason 0406 450 056

Fridays

Making Marks Art Group – St James, 1:00pm–4:00pm

Saturdays

- Contemplative Morning Walk 1st Saturday of the month, 7:00am–8:00am Meet at St James on September 6.
- Ecumenical Men's Breakfast, Saturday 6 September at 8 am at the Parish Hall
- BCP Healing Eucharist, Saturday 6 September at 5 pm at St James, Kingscliff
- Community Garden Club St Marks, 9:00am-11:00am

Sundays

- Holy Communion/Eucharist
- St James, 8:30am
- St Marks, 10:30am

Upcoming Events

Parish Vision & Mission Task Force Meeting—Saturday, 23 August Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday, 10 September 2025 at St James, Kingscliff Spring Spirituality Weekend – Friday to Sunday, 24 to 26 October at St James, Kingscliff, St Marks Pottsville.

Parish Christmas Market, Saturday 22 November 2025