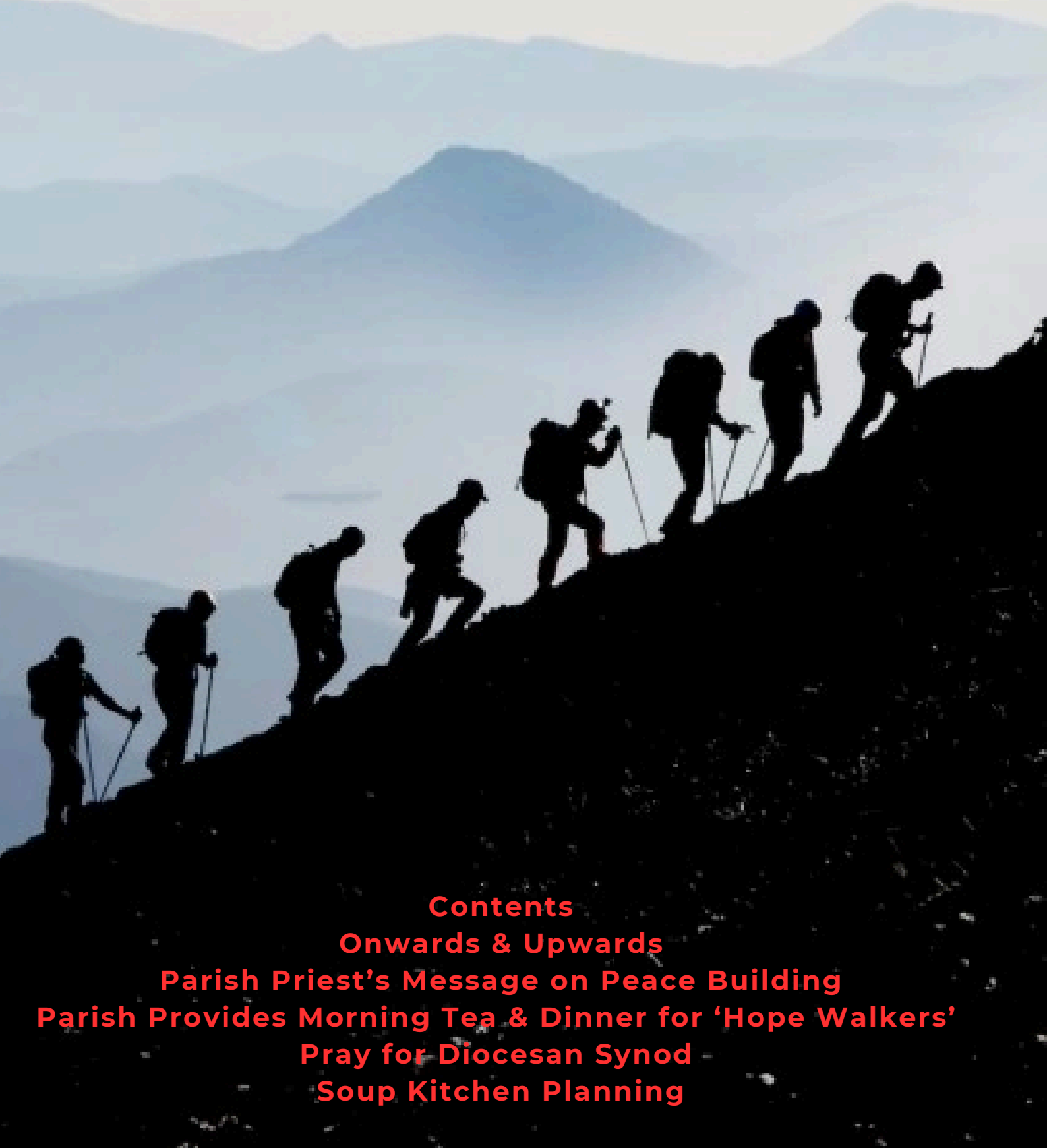


ANGLICAN PARISH OF KINGSCLIFF
BULLETIN

Higher

“as it is in heaven”

VOL 21 JUNE 29, 2025



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Higher

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.

**Onwards
&
Upwards**

Message from the Parish Priest

Finding the Wellspring: Cultivating Inner Peace in a Troubled World

Dear Sisters and brothers in Christ

In a world rife with conflict, anxiety, violence, and rumours of a 'Third World War', the search for peace can feel overwhelming. As we navigate daily challenges and witness global turmoil, our parish community is called not just to pray for peace, but to actively cultivate its source within ourselves. Two profound witnesses from the 20th century, Etty Hillesum and Thomas Merton, offer strikingly similar and deeply Christian insights into this inner journey.

Etty Hillesum, a young Dutch Jewish woman writing from the terrifying shadow of the Nazi occupation in Amsterdam, discovered an unshakeable sanctuary within. Amidst unimaginable external horror, she realized: *"Ultimately, we have just one moral duty: to reclaim large areas of peace in ourselves, more and more peace, and to reflect it towards others. And the more peace there is in us, the more peace there will be in our troubled world."* For Hillesum, peace wasn't the absence of conflict, but an active, internal "citadel" built through conscious attention, prayer, and radical acceptance of reality – even the most painful. She understood that true peace begins by tending to our own inner landscape.

Similarly, the Trappist monk and spiritual writer Thomas Merton, living through the anxieties of the Cold War and societal upheaval, pointed directly to the heart of inner peace. He taught that it arises from connecting with our deepest core, beyond ego and fear: *"Peace demands the most heroic labour and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience."* For Merton, this "labour" wasn't about passivity, but the active, often difficult, work of centering ourselves in God. He spoke of finding an *"inner point of nothingness"* which is simultaneously *"a point of pure truth... the living heart of all reality... the pure glory of God in us."* This inner stillness, grounded in God, becomes the wellspring of authentic peace.

What do these voices tell us, here and now?

1. Peace Starts Within: We cannot control the storms of the world, but we can cultivate an inner sanctuary. This isn't escapism; it's the foundation for effective action and authentic witness.

2. It Requires Conscious Effort: As Merton said, it's "heroic labour." It demands daily practice: prayer, meditation, examining our thoughts and reactions, consciously choosing love over fear, forgiveness over resentment. It means turning off the noise to listen for God's 'sound of sheer silence' (see *1 Kings 19:12*).

3. It Flows Outward: Hillesum reminds us that the peace we nurture must radiate outwards. An inner citadel of peace makes us channels of God's calm, compassion, and reconciliation in our families, workplaces, parish, and community. Our transformed presence is our contribution to world peace.

4. It's Grounded in God: Both Hillesum and Merton found their centre not in themselves alone, but on God -the ground of our beseeching (Julian of Norwich). True, lasting peace is a gift received when we open ourselves to God's presence within – the Holy Spirit "*pure glory of God in us*" and Christ's first gift to us after His resurrection (see *John 20: 21*).

This week, let us embrace the "*heroic labour*" of peace. Let us carve out moments of quiet to reclaim that "*large area of peace*" within, seeking the "*inner point*" where God dwells. Through prayer, Eucharist, the Sacraments, speaking out in defence of peace and human dignity, as well as supporting one another in this parish family, we can draw from that deep wellspring. As we strengthen our inner citadel, we become beacons of Christ's peace, reflecting His light into our troubled world, one heart, one act of kindness, one moment of calm at a time.

As Etty Hillesum wisely said, "*When we come in contact with the other, we must do so with all the 'peace' we have collected in our solitude... We must be a balm for all wounds.*"

I wish you Christ's 'peace which passes all understanding', and I invite you to pray for, and to embody this peace both in words and actions.

In Christ
Constantine

Kingscliff Provides a Scrumptious Morning Tea for our Hope Walkers, and Pottsville BBQ Marks End of Hope Walk

Constantine and Dway lead a party of about 50 hardy souls on a walk from Tweed Heads through Kingscliff to Pottsville last Saturday, 21 June to raise funds to send a student from Hope Vale to a boarding school to obtain a secondary education. Education beyond Primary School is not available in Hope Vale, which is in far north Queensland just above Cooktown. Lindisfarne School visit to Hope Vale last Easter holiday raised a concern for the indigenous population and the lack of secondary education.

The 'Hope Walkers' included students from Lindisfarne, parents and parishioners. They braved the showery conditions and kept soldiering on to manage the walk in just over 6 hours, 40, 000 steps, and 38 kms (with a couple of stops).

Dway led the group of 33 'Hope Walkers' from St Cuthbert's to St James where he passed the baton to Constantine who led 21 people from Kingscliff to Pottsville. The 'Hope Walkers' were welcomed to St James for a break with a scrumptious morning tea provided by Marg Dephoff, Chris Parson, and Terry & Jenny McNellee. After a much needed break, the group set off from Kingscliff to the Pottsville community Garden and were welcomed by a very well set up BBQ organized by Brian and Jennie Wyver - thank you Brian and Jennie! The greaseless sausages and rissoles (supplied by our friendly local Pottsville butcher) on a piece of bread with lashings of tomato sauce were greatly appreciated. They warmed the damp souls even though they had sore soles! The bottled water assuaged thirst and were also greatly appreciated.

At last count today, \$11,220 has been raised for this project and the total will keep rising towards the target. Congratulations Constantine on beginning a very successful fundraiser. If you would like to contribute, use this link:

<https://gofund.me/acbe1b37>





Pray for the Diocesan Synod

The annual Synod will be held in Coffs Harbour this weekend - a chance for representatives of the Diocese to come together in discussion, worship and prayer. Lets pray that the gathering is a fruitful one, guided by the light of Christ and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit so that sound decisions and resolutions are made by those assembled.

Soup Kitchen Planning

The launch of the Soup Kitchen at Pentecost was an exciting development in the pastoral life of the Parish. As well as enabling St James to serve free hot meals for the first time in a while, it also made clear that we have many talented cooks amongst us. As the Parishes new Pastoral Care Ministry Team takes shape, hosting the Soup Kitchen as a regular event will be a high priority. It will need a team of volunteers to cook, help set up, serve meals and wash up afterwards. If you have one or more of these skills (or are willing to try) we'd love to hear from you, either by an email to Ximena in the office or mentioning it to Rev. Constantine or Jason.



Prayer of the Week

O God,
who for our redemption gave
your only-begotten Son to
suffer death upon a cross, and
by his glorious resurrection
delivered us from the power of
the enemy; grant us so to die
daily to sin that we may
evermore live with him in the
joy of his resurrection; through
the same 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

Thank you for your support!

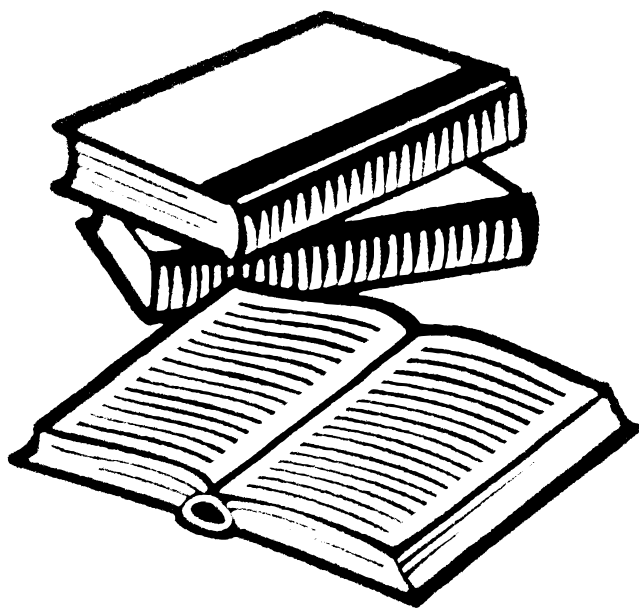
Parish Food Ministry

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 - 56 meals

St Marks - 58 meals

Praise be to God!



Sunday Worship Readings

Sunday 29 June 2025

Acts 12.1-11

Psalm 87

2 Timothy 4.6-8(9-16)17-18

JOHN 21.15-22

Sunday 6 July 2025

2 Kings 5.1-14

Psalm 30

Galatians 6.(1-6) 17-24

Luke 10.1-12(13-16)17-24

Service Schedule

St James

Sunday 29 June 2025

8.30am

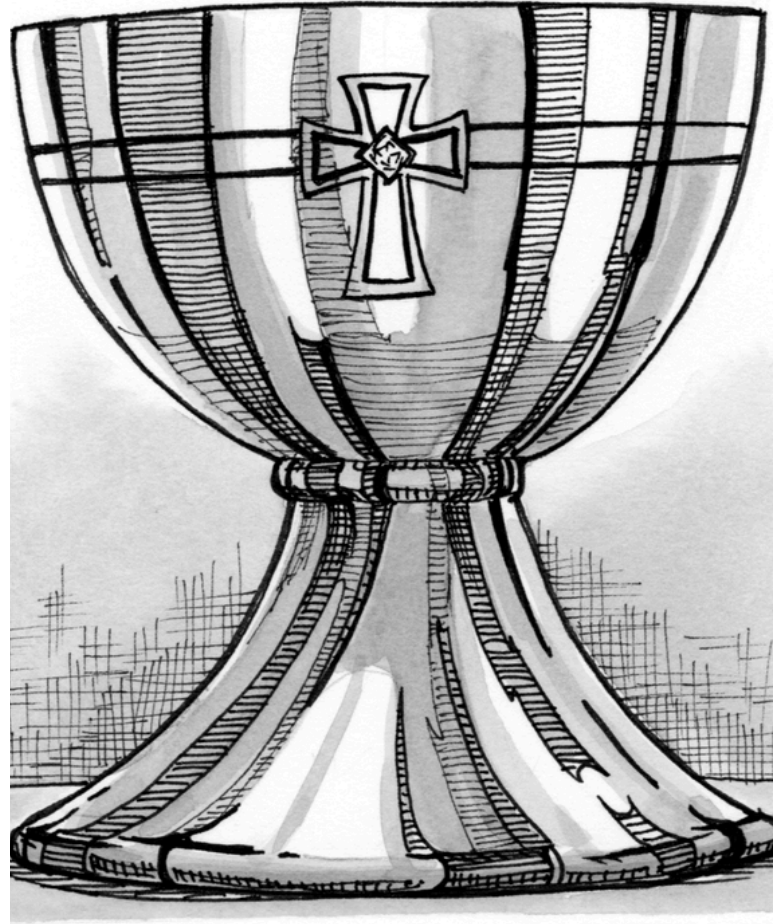
Rev. Graeme Hodgkinson

St Marks

Sunday 29 June 2025

10.30am

Rev. Graeme Hodgkinson



Contacts

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Jason Saltearn

0406 450 056

jsaltearn@gmail.com

Peter Pine

0407 732 440

Parish Calendar for June/July 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 – Cudgen, 10 Guilfoyle Place, 2:00pm–4:00pm

Contact: Adrienne 0409 741 590

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

● Tuesdays

- Morning Prayer – St James, 9:00am–9:15am
- Justice of the Peace – St Marks, 9:00am–12:00pm
- Meal Handout – St Marks, 11:00am–1:00pm
- Holy Communion/Eucharist – St Marks, 12:30pm–1:00pm
- 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 – 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 July 5, followed by Men's Breakfast at 8:00am at St James' Hall
- Community Garden Club – St Marks, 9:00am–11:00am
- Sister Suzie's Sewing Circle – Cudgen, 10 Guilfoyle Place, 1:00pm–3:00pm
- BCP Eucharist & Healing Service at 5pm (5 July) at St James

● Sundays

- Holy Communion/Eucharist
– St James, 8:30am
– St Marks, 10:30am
- Contemporary Service – St James, Sunday 13 July, 5:00pm
- Spiritual Gym -Lindisfarne Mahers Lane Chapel, 3 August at 4.30pm.

📌 Upcoming Events

Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday, 9 July 2025 at St Marks, Pottsville

Combined Parish Social Gathering: 'Christmas in July' on Saturday 26 July at 12.30pm
at Marta and Phil's home, 281 Terranora Rd, Banora Point.