

# Higher

"as it is in heaven""

**VOL 35 SEPTEMBER 28, 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.

# Difficult Lessons

# Letter from Constantine

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

"Put our into the deep, and lay down your nets for a catch" (Words of Jesus in Luke 5:4)

## Parish Planning and Discernment Day

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all who attended last Saturday's Parish Discernment and Planning Day, and to those who took the time to complete the survey. Your generosity of time, spirit, and gifts is deeply appreciated.

I am truly grateful to God—and to each of you—that we were able to listen together for the voice of the Holy Spirit and discern the future of our parish in a spirit of unity, love, mutual respect, and fraternity.

A special word of thanks to our wonderful facilitators, Anneliese Reinhold and Phil George—your guidance was invaluable!

We will share a full summary of the day soon, including the key strategic themes and project ideas that emerged. In the meantime, I'm pleased to share the new **Vision**, **Mission**, and **Values Statements that we embraced together:** 

#### Vision:

By 2032, we will be a Christ-centred, thriving community—welcoming to all.

### Mission:

Enabled by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to sharing Christ's message to positively impact our community.

#### **Our Core Values:**

- Prayerful
- Vibrant
- Caring
- Compassionate
- Giving Hope
- Safe

Please continue to pray that the Lord will bless us with spiritual, numerical, and financial growth, and that our Parish Council will be guided by wisdom and grace in the next phase of our discernment and planning.

# KICK Service - Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, 5 October at St James at 8:30 AM

Our next Kids in Church at Kingscliff (KICK) service will be a special one! You're warmly invited to bring your pets and animal companions for a joyful service in honour of St Francis of Assisi. All creatures—great and small—are welcome.

After the service, we'll celebrate with a sausage sizzle and enhanced morning tea—we look forward to seeing you and your furry (or feathered!) friends there.

# Celebrating 60 Years of the Anglican Parish of Kingscliff (1965–2025)

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of our parish! To celebrate this milestone, the Parish Council has resolved to host a combined parish celebration on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2025. If you would like to be part of the planning task group for this event, please contact me or the Wardens as soon as possible. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

My prayer is that God will bless you and your loved ones this week, and that God may grant the good desires of your heart.

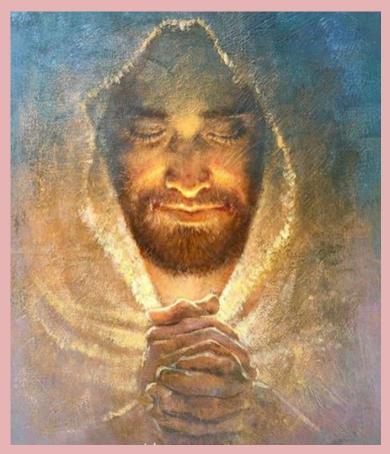
God loves you all and so do I.

With every blessing and prayer, Constantine

### Prayer: 'Patient Trust' by Fr. Teilhard de Chardin

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.
We should like to skip the intermediate stages.
We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.
And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability—and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you; your ideas mature gradually—let them grow, let them shape themselves, without undue haste. Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time (that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make of you tomorrow. Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be. Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete. Amen.



# The Strange Lesson of "The Dishonest Servant"



Jason reports: Last Sunday, the rostered Gospel reader didn't show up at St James so I had to read the passage myself, at very short notice, and sight unseen. The rather bewildering scene which unfolded before me as I read from Luke 16 was the one in which Jesus praises a dishonest servant, fired for cheating his boss, now deviously working to secure his own position as his employment came to an end. As I read, I had the troubling sense of being somehow complicit in encouraging the congregation to admire the dishonesty of the protagonist of the story. Not what one expects to find oneself doing in Church on Sunday!

As with other passages of Scripture, the spiritual lesson being imparted lies deeper than the worldly situation described. Although he is swindling his boss, Jesus asks us to recognise that the dishonest servant is prudently securing his place in the "afterlife" of his term of employment. Whilst the servant's dishonesty is far from admirable, Jesus nonetheless recognises something praiseworthy in his sinful conduct: he is shrewd in preparing for his future, and the point is that so we should be.

Its one of the more difficult teachings that requires some thought before it makes sense. Happily, we don't have the problem of dishonest managers in the Parish, but as we seek to discern how to use our resources wisely for the future's sake, let's keep Jesus' strange teaching about prudence, cleverness and foresight in mind.

# Discernment Day Report

Some 30 parishioners gathered in the plewasant watewrside venue of the Lindisfarne Boat House in Salt last Sunday, for the Parish Discernment Day. Under the capable guidance of parishioner Anneliese Reinhold, a healthy smattering of familiar and new faces talked through the challenges and opportunities the Parish has before it, pooling their suggestions as to the way forward. It was a day to which many contributed and about which all felt pleased to have taken part.

The discernment process will continue when Anneliese delivers her Report to Parish Council in October where the issues and ideas will continue to be weighed, prayed about and the guidance of the Holy Spirit sought.





# **Christmas Raffle**

As the big day (Sat Nov 22) draws ever-nearer, Raewyn wants to remind parishioners that all raffle donations are to be at the Church by October 3rd. This is so that prize hampers can be created, photos taken and a prize list compiled (part of the obligations for running a raffle). Festive and gourmet foods are still needed and will be most welcome, but please use your imaginations and resources to donate whatever you can.

We look forward to seeing a huge pile of donations filling the Church Hall by the end of next week!

# Wheelchairs Acquired and Delivered





DONATED IN MEMORY OF

# Late Mr Michael Egan & Dr Hazel Phillips

IN THANKSGIVING FOR THEIR SERVICE TO HUMANITY

**COURTESY OF:** 

The Anglican Parish of Kingscliff and Pottsville, NSW, Australia.



The man in the red tie in the pictures above is Dr Arua who has purchased 5 wheelchairs using the money raised by Rev. Constantine at the Men's Breakfast earlier this month. Two of the wheelchairs will go to St Catherine's clinic where Constantine spent time with his mother last month, and three will go to the National Hospital Abuja where she had radiotherapy treatment.

Patients of these facilities will benefit from these equipments for many years to come, so well done, Constantine, and all those who donated funds to make this happen, quickly and in response to need. Praise God for the care the children of God have for their brothers and sisters wherever they may be.

# Trivia Contest Answers



- 1.The Anglican Parish of Kingscliff was founded in 1965.
- 2.Previous Rectors of the Parish include Greg March, Eron Perry, Peter Read
- 3. False. The original colour of St James was white.
- 4.The body of St Mark is buried beneath St Marks in Venice, not Pottsville.
- 5.The Greek word ekklesia is usually translated into English as "church".
- 6.The Bible was compiled in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Catholic Bibles have 73 books (including the Apocrypha), Protestant Bibles (like our NIV), have 66.
- 7.Jacob wrestled with God

- 8.Ezra wrote the Books of Chronicles
- 9. The Passover required a spotless lamb
- 10. It is False that the fault for a faltering Christian faith lies with God.
- 11. Joseph was originally from Bethlehem
- 12. A naked man appears during the arrest of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
- 13. The story of Doubting Thomas appears in John's Gospel
- 14. Parables of Jesus which appear exclusively in the Gospel of Luke include: The Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, The Lost Coin.
- 15. If you open the Bible to its hallway point you find Psalm 117.
- 16. The minimum number of good works required for justification is none (d. "None of the above")
- 17. The NT also includes Apocalyptic (Revelation), Wisdom Literature (James)
- 18. AGAPE is not a) a Lebanese fruit, b) pasta dish or d) computer password, but c) a form of love
- 19. Paul says love is the greatest of the three virtues he names
- 20. The word "body" was out of place. Either "mind" or "strength" was correct.

Congratulations to Rev. Constantine's team, who won First Prize. After flirting with the prospect of enjoying a round of drinks at the Kingy Hotel, they kindly donated it as a gift to be included in the Christmas Hamper Raffle. Note: before you try to enrol Constantine in your team in the next Parish Trivia Contest, be aware that all clergy will heneforth carry a 3 point handicap!



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

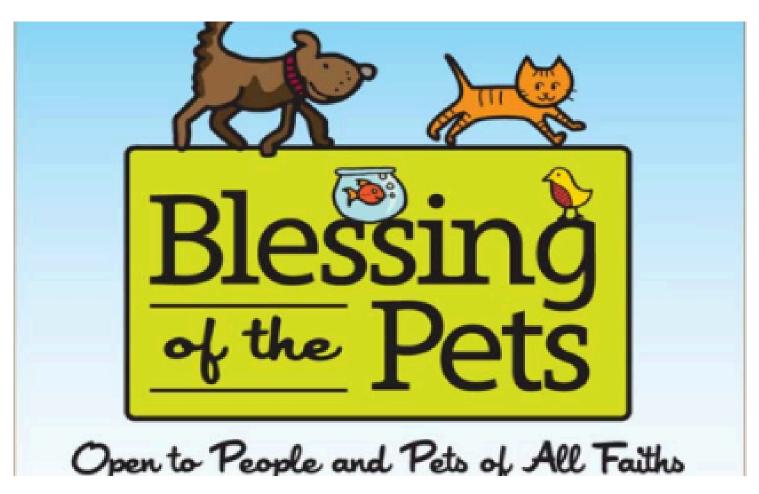
## Anglican Parish of Kingscliff and Pottsville INVITES YOU TO

## A KIDS IN CHURCH AT KINGSCLIFF

(KICK) SERVICE

Sunday 5 October 2025, 8.30am

IN HONOUR OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI AND ALL OF CREATION



## People and Pets of all ages Welcome

(or photos of pets)

Individual blessings

### Donations for RSPCA welcomed

Pets must be friendly and either on a leash (dogs), in carriers (cats), or in cages, fish bowls or terrariums What: KICK Service (outdoors)

Followed by: Sausage Sizzle and Morning Tea (outdoors)

When: 5 October , 10am

Where: St. James Church,

122 Marine Parade, Kingscliff

apok.org.au

# Prayer of the Week

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant us such a measure of your grace that, running in the way of your commandments, we may obtain your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

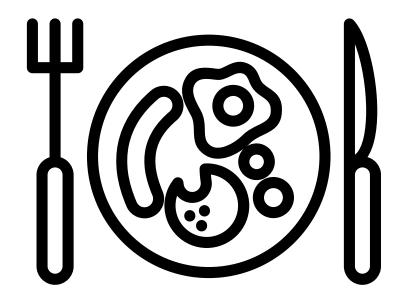
# Parish Food Ministry

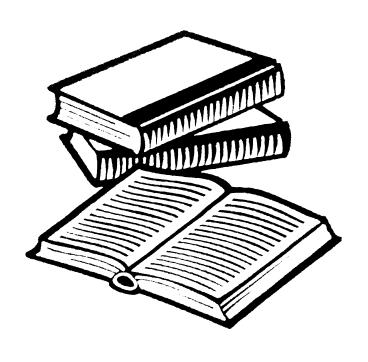
The Parish would like to thank all who helped distribute the meals through the Food Ministry this week, add both St Marks and St James. Well done all for keeping this vital long running ministry alive.

St James -80 meals

St Marks -39 meals

Praise be to God!





# Sunday Worship Readings

**Sunday 28 September 2025** 

Jeremiah 32.1-3a,6-15 Psalm 91.1-6,14-16 1 Timothy 6.6-19 Luke 16.19 -31

### **Sunday 5 October 2025**

Blessing of Animals Service at St James (Gen 1: 20-25; Psalm 148; Matt 11:25-30)

Lamentations 1.1-6 Psalm 137 2 Timothy 1.1-14 Luke 17. (1-4)5-10

# **Service Schedule**

St James

Sunday 28 September 2025

8.30am

Rev. Constantine Osuchukwu

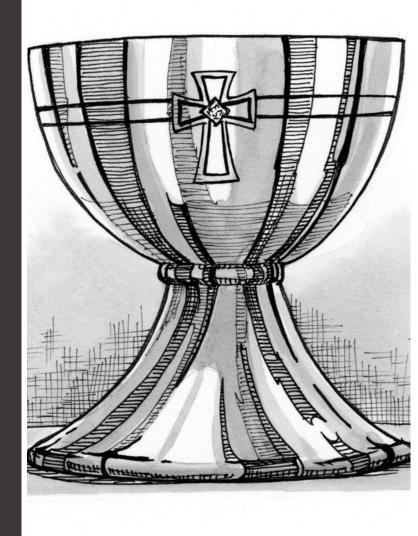
St Marks

Sunday 28 September 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 September/October 2025

### Mondays

- U3A Art Group St Mark's Pottsville, 9:00am-12:00pm
- Bible Study St James Parish Hall, 2:00pm-4:00pm
- Evening Prayer St James Kingscliff, 5:15pm–5:30pm

### Tuesdays

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

### Wednesdays

- Holy Communion/Eucharist St James Kingscliff, 10:00am
- 'Lectio Divina' (Holy Reading of the Bible) St James Kingscliff, 11:30am
- Meditation (in person) St James Kingscliff, 4:00pm & Via Zoom

### Zoom link

Meeting ID: 891 8478 4092 | Passcode: 516345

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

### Thursdays

- Ladies Craft Group St Mark's Pottsville, 9:00am–12:00pm
- Meal Handout St James Kingscliff, 11:00am–1:00pm
- AA Meeting St Mark's Pottsville, 6:00pm
- Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Contact: Jason 0406 450 056
- Evening Prayer St James Kingscliff, 5:15pm–5:30pm

### Fridays

• Making Marks Art Group - St James Kingscliff, 1:00pm-4:00pm

### Saturdays

- Community Garden Club St Mark's Pottsville, 9:00am-11:00am
  - BCP Healing Service at St James Kingscliff, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 5pm

### Sundays

- Holy Communion/Eucharist
- St James Kingscliff, 8:30am
- St Mark's Pottsville, 10:30am
- Contemporary Service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of the Month at St James at 5pm.

### Upcoming Events

Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday, 8 October at St James Parish Hall Healing Service (Book of Common Prayer) -Saturday, 4 October at St James at 5pm Kids in Church Kingscliff (KICK) -Pets Blessing Service, Sun 5 October at James at 8.30am

Contemporary Service - Sunday, 12 October at St James at 5pm Parish Market Day -22 November at St James Parish