

WE
Believe
IN PRAYER
PRAISE
NEWS AND
THE BIBLE

WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ROSEVILLE
7TH FEBRUARY 2016

ST
ANDREW'S
Believes
IN NEWS

*All that's going on
around St Andrew's*

FROM THE THE ACTING RECTOR

BISHOP PETER WATSON

🕒 Acting Rector

This Sunday we begin a series of five sermons on the Prophet Hosea.

There are 15 prophetic books in the Old Testament; 3 major and 12 minor prophets. The distinction as much as anything is based on their relative lengths. Hosea is one of the more substantial of the minor prophets. His preaching, from 760 BC to 722 BC, is mostly directed to the northern kingdom, called Israel. However, frequently Hosea also mentions the southern kingdom; Judah, and its capital, Jerusalem.

Following the death of Solomon, the 12 tribes of Israel split into two kingdoms. Two tribes remained centred around Jerusalem. It was known as Judah. Arguably, it was the main tribe as it fathered the House of David and from its name we derive the names 'Jude' and 'Jew'.

The ten remaining tribes became the northern kingdom, known as Israel, centred around the city of Samaria. Hosea's preaching ceased when the northern kingdom fell to the Assyrians in 722 BC.

Like the other prophets of the Old Testament, Hosea understood himself to be preaching on

behalf of God. The phrase used in older versions of the Bible, 'thus saith the Lord', frequently on the lips of the prophets, means just that! This is what God says. Indeed prophetic speech indicates God's Word to a particular situation, much more than it is a prediction of the future.

The message that straddles the Book of Hosea is to remind God's people of the covenant between God and them and that no matter what happens, God will be faithful to it. In large measure, Hosea's message is that nothing can prevent God fulfilling his Promise to Israel; even their unfaithfulness and judgement will be overcome, and ultimately they will belong to him. There is a covenant slogan, that says; 'I will be your God and you will be my people'. Those words and their implication will emerge time and again throughout Hosea's 14 chapters.

The covenant between God and Israel emerged at the very beginning when God first called Abraham from the land of Mesopotamia (Iran) to travel to the land we today call Palestine or Israel (Genesis 12). But the Covenant was especially associated with Moses and Israel's deliverance from their slavery in Egypt (Exodus 3). The covenant with Moses was the same as that with

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Abraham, except that with Moses it was expanded by the Laws given at Sinai.

In some ways the prophecy of Hosea is problematic, or at the very least it can seem strange to us moderns. Let me try to explain. The analogy and reality of the marriage covenant between man and woman takes centre stage in the earliest chapters of Hosea. We are soon introduced to Hosea and his wife Gomer who is unfaithful to him. But it's not always clear whether we are reading about the prophet and his wife or Israel and God. The lines are often not clear.

However, the reader can hardly miss the overall meaning that Israel has turned its back on its 'marriage' to God. Israel has become like Hosea's unfaithful wife. And yet it's more than that. Hosea is told to take Gomer back, not to cohabit but to reconcile, nonetheless. Hosea's marriage issues are to be seen as a real-life parable to Israel. Despite the unfaithfulness, God will overcome; God will save. There are some exquisite passages conveying this message. As also there are fearful passages describing God's Judgement.

To assist us all, from Wednesday February 10 (Ash Wednesday) we begin our Lenten daily Bible reading plan. By following this programme we will be in a good place to

appreciate and enjoy the sermon series on Hosea. That's where the readings start.

Last week, someone asked me what I planned to give up for Lent. My reply was that I don't plan to 'give up' so much as to add a bit more to personal prayer and Bible reading; to better prepare to accompany Jesus into Jerusalem, into his rejection, suffering and death. And then to rejoice in the message of Easter: 'He is Risen'.

Your brother in Christ,
PRW

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COMMUNITY WATCH

COMING UP

➤ **Roseville-Lindfield-Killara Inter-church Lenten Service Series**

Tue 16th Feb 7:45pm
Holy Family Catholic Church, Lindfield
Preacher: Rev. Mary Pearson (from Lindfield
Uniting)

Tues 1st Mar 7:45pm
at Lindfield Uniting Church
Preacher: Alison Whalley (from St Andrew's)

Tues 15th Mar 7:45pm
St Andrew's Anglican Church
Preacher: Rev. Colin Blayney (from Holy
Family)

See flyer on display cupboard for more details.

➤ **Women's Dinner - Save the Date!**

Mon 14th Mar 7pm
Roseville Golf Club

FOR THE DIARY

Dates for your diary - more details to come

➤ Mon 21 Mar 7pm | Parish AGM

OTHER

➤ **Small Groups**

If you are interested in joining a small group in 2016, please send an email to one of these contacts:

- 8:30am: peter.watson@standrews.net.au
- 10am: james.smith@standrews.net.au
- 5pm: santino.dimarco@standrews.net.au
- 7pm: mike.hastie@standrews.net.au

PLEASE PRAY

➤ **Churchwide**

Please pray for Rachael Perry as she begins her new Ministry Training Strategy (MTS) role here at St Andrew's. Pray for her focus on Youth; that it will be a rich experience for her and for those she ministers to.

➤ **10am**

Please continue to pray for Kate Day in these days of waiting for the birth of her third child; that she will know God's peace giving presence and that all will be straightforward for delivery of a strong healthy baby.

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COMMUNITY WATCH

🕒 5pm

Pray for treatment options and good medical care for Arti Naidoo's father visiting from Fiji for cardiology appointments and management of his heart problems. Pray for the family as they support him and that God would grant peace and deep trust in his love and sovereign care.

Please pray for Lowen and Cliff's son, who is spending some time at a Christian Rehab Centre on the North Coast of NSW. Pray that God's love would restore and change his life for good and help him persevere in the program at the centre.

Please pray for successful uncomplicated pituitary surgery for Lisa Polyblank this Wednesday. Pray for a complete and steady recovery and that Lisa, Greg and the family will know God's peace and comfort in their concerns and trust his daily care.

🕒 St Andrew's Ministries

Pray for our Small Groups in 2016. Pray that more will join these groups and find warmth and fellowship in meeting with others. Pray that the leaders will care for their group as they discuss the studies and share with one another.

Pray for the many ministries that have begun for the year including playgroup, ESL and our Children's and Youth ministries. Pray that God will strengthen all leaders in wisdom, love, godliness and maturity, and grow his people at St Andrew's.

🕒 Other

Pray for our Archbishop Glenn and our regional Bishop Chris in all the responsibilities of their office. Give them wisdom in decision making and guiding of those in their care.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord, you have taught us that whatever we do without love is worth nothing: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; grant this, for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

*All that our missionaries
do in and around their communities*

MISSION & AID

JENNY FALLON



☛ **SIM (Serving In Mission) Australia**

Jenny Fallon is the Pastoral Care and Development Coordinator for SIM in Australia.

Praise for another group of missionary candidates preparing to serve overseas with SIM. Pray for their preparation.

Pray for Jenny and her colleagues as they continue to review SIM's training, seeking to make it more helpful and personalised.

Pray for more people to hear God's call to the unreached peoples of the world.

Praise for Jenny and Dale's friend (an asylum seeker) Asad's release from detention and that

he was able to return to Sydney. Pray for provision for him and for his walk with God.

Pray for wise planning of Jenny and Dale's pastoral care trip to southern Africa in 2016.

Pray for the Watts family as they move to Sydney in January and as Mal Watt starts as Finance Director for SIM Australia.

Praise God for 100 years of Bible and ministry training at SMBC, as well as for all the graduates serving in Australia and overseas today.

Pray that SMBC would be able to maintain its distinctiveness of community life and the spiritual formation of students, while keeping up with the expectations and styles of learning today.

SMBC's Board (on which Jenny serves) is praying for the College debt to be eliminated in the centenary year. Please pray for God's provision in amazing ways.

*Words you'll need for
today's contemporary services*

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE PRAYERS

CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways
like lost sheep,
We have left undone
what we ought to have done,
and we have done
what we ought not to have done.
We have followed our own ways
and the desires of our own hearts.
We have broken your holy laws.
Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us;
restore those who turn to you,
according to your promises
declared to us in Jesus Christ
our Lord.
And grant, merciful Father,
for his sake,
that we may live a godly
and obedient life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

KEY CONTACTS

➤ Senior Leadership Team

Peter Watson – Acting Rector & Minister for Seniors
T. (02) 9412 2553
peter.watson@standrews.net.au

John Dickson – Senior Minister (*on Leave*)
T. (02) 9412 2553
john.dickson@standrews.net.au
(note: this email account is managed by the Office)

Santino Dimarco – Executive Pastor
T. (02) 9412 2553
santino.dimarco@standrews.net.au

Cath Ahern – Children's Minister (*Honorary*)
M. 0407 152 995
cath.ahern@standrew.net.au

➤ Ministry Contacts

Mike Hastie – Assist. Minister
M. 0421 014 977
mike.hastie@standrews.net.au

Meredith Hatcher – Assoc. Women's Minister
(*Part Time - Sun, Tue, Thu*)
M. 0403 154 160
meredith.hatcher@standrews.net.au

James Smith – Assist. Minister
M. 0438 669 530
james.smith@standrews.net.au

➤ Church Office

Bec Kimpton – Office Manager
T. (02) 9412 2553
office@standrews.net.au

➤ Group Contacts

Children's Ministry
kids@standrews.net.au

Community Project
communityproject@standrews.net.au

Environmental Action Group
eag@standrews.net.au

ESL
esl@standrews.net.au

Fit For Good
fitforgood@standrews.net.au

Playgroup
playgroup@standrews.net.au

Time Out
timeout@standrews.net.au

Youth
stayrevive@standrews.net.au

Xtreme
Fri after school for Years 5 and 6
kids@standrews.net.au

FINANCIAL SUPPORT DETAILS

➤ Supporting the General Ministry

Supporting the general work of St Andrew's:

Anglican Parish St Andrew's
BSB 704 998 | A/C 100 005 413 *

*This is our preferred method to receive
your regular support.*

Alternatively cash/cheque contributions can be made
via the offertory collection during each of the services.

➤ Supporting the Property Redevelopment

To support the St Andrew's Property Redevelopment,
tax-deductible contributions can be made via:

St Andrew's Anglican Church
Roseville Donation Fund
BSB 704 998 | A/C 100 010 195 *

Please include your surname and the initials "PV"
(for Property Vision) in the reference field.

Donations by cheque should be made to
St Andrew's Roseville Donation Fund.
Please mark the envelope with your surname and "PV".

If you would like to support the Property Redevelopment
but **do not** require a tax deduction, please contact
the Executive Pastor, Santino Dimarco.

(* this BSB may be displayed as Indue Limited which is
part of the Diocesan banking arrangements)

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