

UlladullaAnglican

St Martin's: Cnr Princes Hwy & Green St, Ulladulla

St Peter & St Paul: Cnr Princes Hwy & Church St, Milton

Service times: 8.30am Ulladulla | 10.30am Ulladulla | 11am Milton | 5.30pm Ulladulla*

Office hours: (most) Tuesdays 9am-12n; and Fridays 9am-12n

Office address: Cnr Princes Hwy and Green St Ulladulla

Mail: PO Box 475 Ulladulla NSW 2539

Tel: 4454 2030

Email: office@ulladulla.anglican.asn.au

website: www.ulladulla-anglican.org

Wavelength: wavelength@ulladulla.anglican.asn.au (*deadline 3pm Wednesdays*)

Senior Minister:

Acting Senior Minister: Trevor Edwards, 0438 243 653 trevor.edwards@internode.on.net

Assistant Minister: Dave Saunders: 0425 351 906 dave@ulladulla.anglican.asn.au

Safe Ministry Representative: Ross Wade, 4455 4185

Church Wardens, Ulladulla: Rod Foord, Rod Hoyer & Rowena Barton

Church Wardens, Milton: Lea Kendall, Kerrie Gray, Judy Armit

Parish Council: Two Milton Wardens, + Rod Foord, Rod Hoyer & Rowena Barton
(*St Martin's wardens*), + Helen McFarland, Grant Emans,
Janette Dengate, Beryl Wade, Peter Kerma.

Church Offertory:

Electronic transfers may be made (*on-line or at your bank*) to:

St Peter & St Paul's. BSB 633-108 Account 157807868.
(*Bendigo 'Church Account 2'*)

St Martin's BSB 032 701 Account 245648.
(*Westpac 'Ulladulla Anglican'*)w



ourWavelength

St Peter & St Paul's Milton
St Martin's Ulladulla

15th May 2022

Welcome

8.30am

Holy Communion (p114)

"Truth"

Bart Vanden Hengel

Acts 14:21b-27;

Rev 2:12-17

Parish Council Duty: Beryl Wade

11am

Morning Prayer (p18)

"Truth"

Bart Vanden Hengel

Acts 14:21b-27;

Rev 2:12-17

10.30am Church

"Holiness or?"

Frank Gee

Acts 14:21b-27; **Rev 2:18-29**

Parish Council Duty: Peter Kerma

5.30pm Church

"Holiness.....?"

Frank Gee

Acts 14:21b-27; **Rev 2:18-29**

Parish Council Duty: Helen McFarland

Visit our **web page:** ulladulla-anglican.org

Catch up on **Facebook:** ulladulla anglican

~~Trevor's~~ Frank's Column'

Dear sisters and brothers,

Though the structure of the book of Revelation is quite complex, it is clear that John groups his visions in a sequence of "sevens". There are basically six such series in the book, followed by an uncompleted final series:

- The (letters to the) seven churches, 2:1—3:22
- The seven seals, 4:1—8:1
- The seven trumpets, 8:2—11:19
- The seven signs in heaven, 12:1—15:8
- The seven bowls of wrath, 16:1—21
- The seven final visions, 17:1-22:21

Each series springs out of the preceding series, so that they all form a connected whole. For instance, the seventh "seal" is the following series of seven trumpets (8:1—2), and the seventh "sign in heaven" is the following series of seven "bowls" (15:1).

The series of seven "signs in heaven" is the centerpiece of the book. Each "sign" is introduced by the phrase, "Then I saw," or something similar.

This section presents us with the reality of evil in all its naked horror, and with the reality of the victory won by Christ and shared with his people.

The last section is not so clearly arranged, but it is possible to analyze chapters 17—22 as a great series of *six* visions, each marked by the appearance of a mighty heavenly figure:

- An angel reveals the woman on the beast, 17:1-18.
- Another angel announces the fall of Babylon, 18:1-19:10.
- The rider on the white horse appears, to overthrow the beast, 19:11—21.
- The angel with the key appears, to lock up the dragon, 20:1—10.
- God himself appears, seated on the throne of final judgment, 20:11—15.
- Another angel appears (21:9), to reveal a very different woman, the bride of the Lamb, the heavenly Jerusalem, 21:1—22:17.

If we ask why there is no seventh vision in this final section, possibly the answer is that there *is*, but it has not yet taken place. The book ends with the promise, "He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon'."

This structuring of the book may help us in our decision about how to choose among and utilize the four interpretive approaches I mentioned last week.

My own take on it all is to see the seven Letters (chapters 2 and 3) as "Preterist": addressed to the Church of John's own time – but with lessons also for the church throughout time (as per our present sermon series).

[continued next page]

In our Prayers this week:

Please give thanks:

- * For the enduring Word of God with its sure promises and timeless message;
- * For Trevor and Dave as they faithfully teach and lead us;
- * That we live in a country where we can democratically elect those who govern us.

Please pray for:

- * Grace and strength for Peter Snape (hospitalized) and all those in our Church Family who are grieving, dealing with health issues or caring for a loved-one;
- * An end to the brutal conflict in Ukraine, comfort and strength for those facing the devastating loss of family, homes, livelihoods and infrastructure, and swift and generous responses from other nations who are able to assist;
- * Wisdom as we prepare to vote in the Federal Election, and grace and peace as we embrace the outcome;
- * Wisdom for the UCEF Board as it meets on 16 May and seeks ways to address timetabling and other issues affecting SRE at Ulladulla High School;
- * "ears to hear what the Spirit says to the churches" during our present sermon series;
- * Rest and refreshment for Dave and Jane as they take a break from parish duties;
- * Wisdom for Trevor as he resumes ministry among us;
- * Opportunities this week to share the good news about Jesus to people on our 'front line';
- * Miriam Bradshaw (CMS Link Missionary in Spain), and Yosef & Danica, (serving with YWAM in Mexico) - for safety, good health and opportunities to share the true message of Jesus in their communities;

Daily Bible Readings

Monday	Psalm 146:1-10	Friday	Heb 3:7-19
Tuesday	Dan 1:1-21	Saturday	Heb 4:1-13
Wednesday	Luke 18:1-8	Sunday	Rev 2:8-11
Thursday	Heb 3:1-6		

Thought for the week

"Be faithful..."

Rev 2:10

My notes

Current sermon series

Today we continue our study of the message given by the risen Christ (through his exiled servant John) to seven churches in Asia Minor who were beginning to feel the heat of a religiously antagonistic Roman state. He is aware of specific issues in each church, with some commended but others condemned. But since seven is a number of wholeness, perfection or completeness, it is a message for **all churches wherever** they might be and **whenever** they exist in history.

Please pray for wisdom as we seek to discover what it meant for the original hearers or readers, and seek to make a relevant application for our church in Ulladulla and Milton.

[continued from previous page]

The series of 'sevens' in the major section from chapters 4 to 21 can be seen as a repeating sequence, symbolically portraying the struggle of the church against imperial persecution, and the coming triumph of Christ and his church over the seduction and power of "Babylon" (code for Rome) – or any other totalitarian regime which might emerge from time to time. That leaves just chapters 21 and 22 as fully "Futurist", giving a vision of the re-uniting of Heaven and earth in the coming New Creation.

I hope this simplified approach may encourage us all to engage with this book with less hesitation, and find new inspiration and courage for our discipleship and our witness.

Yours in Jesus,

Frank Gee

Welcome

*Thank you for joining us today
and a special welcome if you are visiting.*

Trevor & Ruth Edwards

Trevor & Ruth Edwards conclude their leave today and Trevor resumes work with us during the coming week.

We are very thankful for all those who led services, presided at Holy Communion and preached during Trevor's absence.

Dave & Jane Saunders

As Trevor resumes his work among us Dave and Jane Saunders are taking a long-awaited three-week break. Please pray for their safety and refreshment during this period of leave, and for those who will step-up at 10.30am Church to help with music, leading and preaching

Rectory update

There is still much work to be done, but renovations to the Rectory are making good progress under the skilful hand of Luke Stewart. The new kitchen has been installed, the new metal roof is almost completed, new windows have been fitted and painting is underway.

Rev 2:12-17

(Text for 8.30am & 11am)

¹² "To the angel of the church in **Pergamum** write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. ¹³ I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

¹⁴ Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. ¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

¹⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

Rev 2:18-29

(Text for 10.30am & 5.30pm)

¹⁸ "To the angel of the church in **Thyatira** write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. ¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

²⁰ Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. ²² So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. ²³ I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

²⁴ Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets, 'I will not impose any other burden on you, ²⁵ except to hold on to what you have until I come.'

²⁶ To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations— ²⁷ that one 'will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery'^[b]—just as I have received authority from my Father. ²⁸ I will also give that one the morning star. ²⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Thank you to Communion helpers

With the rearrangement of the schedule for Communion services at St Martin's it is timely to thank the small team of helpers who have faithfully undertaken the preparation for all these services for several years (*Judy Hoyer, Helen McFarland, Janet Johnson and Bev Stewart*) and to welcome with appreciation *Diane Emans* and *Margie Bayliss* who will now join them and take over Communion preparation for 10.30am Church.

General Synod discussion on marriage

At a meeting of the Anglican General (National) Synod this past week the subject of marriage was discussed. Three votes in the House of Bishops prevented General Synod from passing a motion expressing support for marriage according to Scripture. The statement was blocked despite indications it had strong backing in Synod generally.

In response, the Archbishop of Sydney, Kanishka Raffel, issued the following public statement:

"I thank God that the Synod discussion of this sensitive personal matter was conducted with deep mutual respect and care. We are conscious that the discussion takes place in some sense 'in public', and that there is a risk of some feeling hurt or left out. We rely on, and rest in the sustaining love and grace of Jesus for all.

The doctrine of our church has not changed. The previous Synod carried two separate motions affirming the teaching of Jesus on marriage. Today, the majority of the House affirmed the teaching of Jesus on the subject of marriage and its expression in historic Anglican rites. That is why I am deeply disappointed that a majority of Bishops voted against making a clear statement. A valuable moment for clarity has been lost."

A prayer for a new Senior Minister

*Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor
who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments;
an encourager who will equip your people for ministry
and enable us to fulfil our calling.
Give to those who will choose, wisdom, discernment and patience,
and to us give warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen***