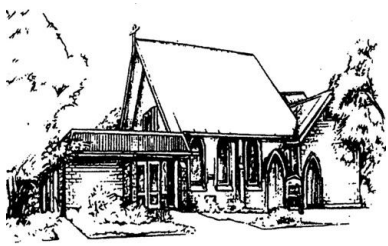
St Agnes Anglican Church,
35 Arkaringa Crescent
Black Rock 3193



Vicar: The Rev'd Dr David Powys (half-time - Thurs, Fri, Sun)
Mobile: 0411 688 234, Email: dpowys@live.com

St Agnes Black Rock reaching out to God and our community!

We acknowledge that the parish of St Agnes Anglican Church Black Rock resides on the land of the Bunurong people of the Kulin nation, traditional custodians of this land. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

15th November 2026,
25th Sunday after Pentecost
10am, Holy Communion

Hymns & Songs

442 All praise to our redeeming Lord
246 Christ is the world's light
143 Immortal, invisible
531 Sent forth by God's blessing

Sentence of the Day:

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other. 1 Thessalonians 5: 9&11

Prayer of the Day:

Everliving God, before the earth was formed, and even after it shall cease to be, you are God. Break into our short span of life and show us those things that are eternal, that we may serve your purpose in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who

lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Today's Bible Readings

First Reading: Judges 4:1-10

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord,
after Ehud died. 2 So the Lord sold them into the hand of King
Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his
army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. 3 Then the
Israelites cried out to the Lord for help, for he had nine
hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites
cruelly twenty years.

4 At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was
judging Israel. 5 She used to sit under the palm of Deborah
between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and
the Israelites came up to her for judgment. 6 She sent and
summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali
and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you,
'Position yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from
the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. 7 I will draw out
Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi
Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into
your hand.' " 8 Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will
go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go." 9 And she
said, "I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on
which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord
will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Then Deborah got
up and went with Barak to Kedesh. 10 Barak summoned

Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand warriors went up behind him, and Deborah went up with him.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 123 *(see screen or Prayer Book)*

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had

received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30

As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Thanksgiving and Intercessions: The World: Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia; **The Anglican Communion:** Iglesia Anglicana de Chile; **Australia:** Diocese of Newcastle: Bishop Peter Stuart; Assistant Bishops Charlie Murray, Sonia Roulston;; clergy, lay ministers and people; **The Diocese of Melbourne:** St Mark's Camberwell, Christ Church Hawthorn, St Columb's Hawthorn, St Mary's South Camberwell, St Dunstan's Camberwell, St John's Camberwell, St Paul's East Kew, St Hilary's Kew/Nth Balwyn/Mt Albert Nth, Holy Trinity Kew, All Saints Kooyong, The Field Camberwell MP; **Anglican Schools and Agencies:** Melbourne Grammar School.

Next Sunday's Readings (26th after Pentecost, Christ the King): Ezekiel 34:11-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46.

Next Sunday's Hymns and Songs: 89 O Lord, you are my God and King; 10 The Lord's my shepherd; 228 Crown him with many crowns; 225 My heart and voice I raise

Message from Vicar:

Dear friends,

Penny did not have knee surgery last Wednesday, after all. Her surgeon was reluctant to proceed after she developed a cold. Her surgery now needs to be delayed until March, or later, due to plans we have for holidays in February. This makes her available to play piano for us this morning in Jacquie's absence.

The current Parish Council has just one more meeting until the end of its term. Nominations for Parish Council (and for parish nominators) are now open, with a deadline for submission this Thursday.

As you are aware, this Parish Council has worked very hard, not least to address the threat we face due to land tax liabilities. You and the local community enabled us to pay the liabilities for this year. The CEO of the Diocese has recently stated that the Diocese will pay our liabilities for the coming year, in view of the failure to win diocesan approval to dispose of the vicarage. He met with Parish Council two weeks ago, and put forward two other solutions. The first involved an anglican agency possibly leasing the vicarage from the end of the current tenancy. The second involved St Agnes' retaining the vicarage and taking an ADF loan to undertake improvement works on the Narthex area to better enable our ministry and mission in the Black Rock area.

The fundamental issue for the Diocese, the new Parish Council, and all of us, is whether we have the potential to do the things that are likely to bring us sufficient new life to look with confidence to the future – to a future where most of us will no longer belong to St Agnes', but will have been replaced by new members brought into the life of St Agnes' through our current efforts. This was the issue at our recent Saturday consultation regarding our Mission Action Plan for 2027.

What are some of the things we will need to do, and do well, if we are to unlock St Agnes' potential? Praying comes first, and we now have a group praying here each week for the further renewal of St Agnes'. Making the most of opportunities to draw others into the life of faith, such as *Made to Sing* and *Locally Live*, is also important. These initiatives will bear no fruit if we do not invite others to be part of them! Another possibility is to conduct an *Alpha* Course early in 2027, and to attract a goodly number of inquisitive participants into that course.

Please pray for the Parish Council, concluding and beginning, and pray for us all that we might do all we can, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to give St Agnes' a long-term future, to the glory of God and the benefit of our local community.

David, 0411 688234, dpowys@live.com

NOTICES

Events this Week:

Mon, 5-5.30pm: Prayer Gathering

Tues, 1.30pm: *Merry Melodies*

Thurs, 10am: Men's Coffee, Deniz Feneri's (5 Bluff Rd Black Rock)

Thurs: Deadline for office-bearer nominations, and for submission of material for the printed SAM reports

Thurs, 4.30pm: Christmas Choir rehearsal

St Agnes' Christmas Fete

Our popular annual Christmas Fete will be held on Saturday the 28th of November [Election Day] from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Stalls will include garden, craft, cakes, jams and relishes, 'Christmas', Devonshire teas, barbecue. Also available will be a range of quality used bikes, and access to the full range of our Saturday Recycle quality books, clothes, shoes, jewellery, glassware, China, ornaments etc. This year will also include a 'best dressed dog' competition, and an Advent Children's Lucky Dip.

Locally Live

Two new initiatives at St Agnes', both seeking to build connections with our wider community, are *Made to Sing* (held yesterday afternoon for the second time) and *Locally Live.* Our second *Locally Live* is scheduled for our fete day, Victorian Election Day, Sat 28th November, at 5.30pm. This is an opportunity for anyone who plays an instrument or sings, to do so in front of a supportive local community audience. Our aim is to foster talent and make community connections.

Please encourage anyone with something to offer to phone David (0411688234) to book a five-minute slot. Our first *Locally Live* featured four short performances, and demonstrated that the concept can work.

There a coloured flyers about the November Locally Live for you to take today and use to encourage participation.

Statutory Annual Meeting (SAM)

Our **SAM** is two weeks today, at 11.30am. Nomination forms are available today and should be retirned by this Thursday. Anyone needing to go on the electoral roll should make application today.

Reports for publication should be submitted by this Thursday (19 November).

St Agnes' Website

Thanks to the generosity and skill of Dan Edmunds we now have an operational website. It is hoped to add the option of watching our 10am service via the website quite soon. Our website is at stagnesblackrock.org.au To access the website either press ctrl+click on the underlined link, or type the letters stagnesblackrock.org.au into your internet browser. One feature of the website is that you can access this weekly Pewsheet there.

Christmas Choir

Our **choir for Christmas** will have five rehearsals on Thursdays from 4.30-5.30pm starting this week (ie on 19 & 26 Nov & 3, 10 and 17 Dec). It will participate in Carol Services at All Souls' Sandringham at 7pm on Sun 13 Dec, and at 5pm here at St Agnes, and hopefully also sing at the 9.30pm Christmas Eve service here. New members will be most welcome. We hope to sing in parts, but you don't need to be able to sing parts to join in!

Short Notices

Our ex-diocesan copier, 'bought' for a small donation, proved to be a 'lemon'. We now have a new, much smaller machine, also a **colour laser duplex machine**. If you need any help in operating it, please see David.

Our weekly **psalm** will no longer be printed in the Pewsheet, releasing space for other items. Hopefully the font on the screen has now been enlarged sufficiently to make is easier to read there.

On the noticeboard there is a general invitation to attend ***A Prowd Occasion***, to celebrate the appointment of Bishop Kate Prowd as the Inaugural Director of the *Holy Name Spirituality Centre* - 10:00am - 3:00pm **this** Tuesday (17th Nov), 40 Cavanagh St, Cheltenham. Bring a picnic, stay for 5 minutes or 5 hours, tour the Centre.