

DUC Grapevine

APR 2019

40 DAYS OF PRAYER AND MEDITATION: ARE WE AWAKE TO OUR TRUE REALITY ?

If we examine our lives, we observe that much of our time is spent asleep or only half aware. Our sleep state dominates a third of our daily activity. Even during our waking hours we have periods of half-sleep, daydreaming, dullness and distraction.

Our lives are shadowed in a spiritual ignorance, not knowing why we were born or what our true Self is, but caught in a dream of the physical body and mind.



Our behaviour is repetitive and rarely self-aware. Our consciousness is enmeshed with subconscious energies and motivations that we do not comprehend. Our minds are conditioned reaction mechanisms not instruments of clear perception. We may strive to gather more information about our world, but we may only be expanding the boundaries of illusion.

We are now entering the sacred 40 days of the year when we are meant to wake up to our inner reality and whole of life.

True awareness is not merely keeping up with current affairs or the latest developments in science. It is Self-awareness beyond waking, dream and deep sleep, birth and death. But to reach that state of enduring insight, we must cultivate it continually through regular introspection, prayer and meditation.

During our 40 days of fast and prayer you have the choice to make the effort to remain awake, searching for the ever discerning light of immortal consciousness within you. You will be astonished how much of the inner universe is waiting inside you for your personal discovery.

You can meditate on Christ in your heart or you can simply be aware of Him as the presence of Being that pervades all. Yet you need not restrict these practices to these 40 days alone. You can follow them whenever you aspire to awaken to earth less Eternity and boundless Light!

The bliss of Christ is there for all to experience and to remove all darkness!

Have a blessed 40 days prayer and fast period!

By Inez Vermeulen, DSJ Belgium. Taken from the Order of St John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller, International newsletter 1/2019



This month's services

- 31 Mar— 10.15 am Combined Linked Congregations service at Drysdale & Shared Lunch
- 7 Apr— 9.00 am Graeme's Team
10.45 am Graeme's Team
- 14 Apr—9.00 am Rev Temukisa HC
(Jenni's Team assisting)
10.45 am Rev Temukisa HC
5.00 pm Messy Church
- 18 Apr—6.00 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner & service at Portarlinton
- 19 Apr—10.00 am Good Friday service Rev Temukisa
- 21 Apr— 9.00 am Denise's Team
10.45 Rev Temukisa
- 28 Apr —9.00 am Rev Temukisa
(Graeme's Team assisting)
Including baptism
10.45 am Rev Temukisa



MESSY CHURCH

Next Messy Church is on 14 April at 5.00 pm with the theme of "Recycle your junk". We look forward to how these activities are related to scripture.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

Place allocations are now being distributed. Thank you to all our special hosts and for everyone taking part. This is part of the Pastoral Team's work to make sure that we "reach out with God's love and care".



Happy birthday!

APRIL

Ian Cook
John Rule
Pat Handley
Graeme Dryden
Piper Colley
Mervyn Jacobs
Win Baker
Belinda McLaverty
Ken Stanley
Sophie Morrish

Happy birthday!

UPCOMING EVENTS

3 Apr — 1.00 pm Communal Prayer Time
7 Apr — Guess who's Coming to High Tea
17 Apr — 1.00 pm Communal Prayer Time
19 Apr — 10.30 am Walk of Witness
27 Apr — 8.00 am Prayer Breakfast
1 May — 1.00 pm Communal Prayer Time

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

Thank you to all who came to enjoy the wonderful pancakes provided by Jenni Nickelson and her team. As reported in the news sheet there was \$630 raised, which goes to Uniting Geelong. How many people tried all three savoury pancakes and three sweet pancakes? It was fantastic to have the young waitresses looking after us.



I will still take your photo if you won't look at me!



10.45	KITCHEN	WELCOME	READING	ELDER/PRAYERS
MAR 31	W@9		TBA	TBA
APR 7	Audrey	Brenda	Graeme's	John / Graeme's
14	Alma	Wilma	Pat	Ken
21	Irene & Bob	Wilma	Kelvin	Bob / Carol
28	Glenice & Kelvin	Ken	Harvey	Pat / John

W@9	KITCHEN	COUNTING	FLOWERS
MAR 31	W@9	Colleen	Val
APR 7	Denise's Team	Lynda	Denise
14	Graeme's Team	Val	Audrey
21	Wayne's Team	Margo	Andrea
28	Jenni's Team	Glenda	Brenda

Web site: <http://drysedale.unitingchurch.org.au>

Our Vision—Reaching out with God's love and care