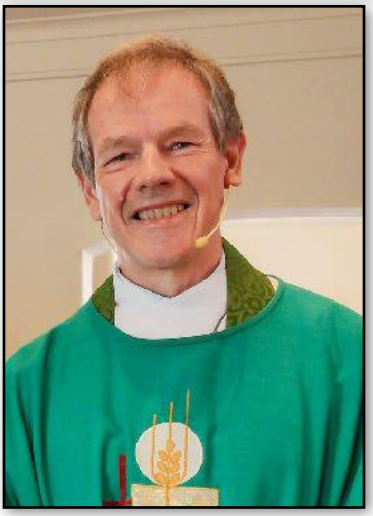
Anglican Church News
St Luke's Ekibin
December 2025



## *From the Rectory Desk…*

In the last two editions of *Church News* I wrote that we hoped that our redevelopment would all be signed off and would have a Certificate of Occupancy to start using the new spaces. This time, as I write this letter, I have just heard that the certifier has given his final approval and by the time you read this all will be sorted. As we then can move on to the next phase of our parish life in earnest, I want to reflect briefly on two themes that have struck me over the past couple of months.

The first is of how everyone has embraced wholeheartedly the fact that our campus is home to not just the parish, but to Little Angels and the St Luke's Theatre Society as well. And further that this has been expressed in tangible acts of collaboration. Because of the delay in obtaining the Certificate of Occupancy, the Theatre Society has been able to rehearse and to perform in the church building. Technically adept members of the Theatre Society have helped with some of the tasks involved in setting up our new spaces. Little Angels joined with the parish in holding a community stall at the Annerley Junction Fest. Parishioners provided a sausage sizzle at the recent Little Angels open morning. These are important links as we seek to grow our ministry with the wider community, and we pray that they will prosper.

Then our recent *Growing our church* Mission week brought to mind that a holistic approach to being church is necessary. We are enjoined in scripture to grow in faith, via regular prayer, study and fellowship.

Continued Page 4

# PARISH DIRECTORY – DECEMBER 2025

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Alistair Crawford

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Helen Hutchings

Susan Johnson

Judy Jones

Elizabeth Lamb

Alison Lampe

Honor Lawler

Trevor Lunn

Lynn Mitchell

Jenny Newsome

Jenny O'Sullivan

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**SECRETARY OF PARISH COUNCIL**

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**HELPING HANDS ORGANISER**

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David & Jenny Newsome

3892 2876

**CHURCH NEWS EDITOR**

**Honor Lawler 0410 423 446**

E-mail: phlawler@optusnet.com.au

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

Join us to **worship at St Luke's at 7am and 9am each Sunday**.

You can also link to the 9am service by Zoom.

**Midweek Communion**

9.30am last Wednesday of the month and during Lent.

**Evening Prayer by Zoom**

6 pm Tuesday to Friday

**Zoom Details:**

(**https://zoom.us/j/7210725462**)

or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).

Contact the Parish Office for the password.

**HALL BOOKINGS FOR ST LUKE'S PARISH HALL AND CENTRE**

St Luke's Parish Office

3848 2133

admin@stlukesekibin.org.au

**LITTLE ANGELS TARRAGINDI**

Director: Mel Ware

www.littleangels.qld.edu/tarragindi

tarragindi@littleangels.qld.edu.au

07 3778 5200

**ST LUKE'S THEATRE SOCIETY**

President: Narelle Bick

Parish Liaison: Barry Kratzke

www.stlukestheatre.asn.au

stlukestheatrecompany@gmail.com

0493 778 379

**Our Mission Statement:**

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to be a faithful, worshipping, caring community, committed to serving God by sharing His love and peace with others, in the name of His Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

# CHRISTMAS AT ST LUKE'S EKIBIN

## Sunday 14th December

6pm Carol Service
preceded by a community sausage sizzle at 5pm.
There will be a collection supporting the community outreach work of the 96.5 family radio station

## Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December

5pm Family service with nativity story and communion

11pm Holy Communion by candlelight

## Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December

9am Family Service with communion
also streamed on Zoom,
contact the office for details

193 Ekibin Road East, Tarragindi

3848 2123

www.stlukesekibin.org.au

## *Sacraments and Rights of Passage*

September 2025 – November 2025

### *Baptisms*

### *Admissions to Communion*

| | |
|---|---|
| Jazmine Wogale | 2 November 2025 |
| Robert Hedley Clayton | 2 November 2025 |

### *Funerals*

| | |
|---|---|
| June Audrey McNicol | 30 October 2025 |



### *Deaths*

| | |
|---|---|
| June Audrey McNicol | 19 October 2025 |

### *Memorial Services*

### *Interment of Ashes*

| | |
|---|---|
| Beryl May Collingwood | 13 September 2025 |
| Marc Steven Bannon | 18 October 2025 |
| Margaret Wood | 9 November 2025 |

Continued from Page 1

We are called to be parts of the body of Christ, not just to observe them, hence an invitation for more to be involved in volunteering with the parish. And yes, financial resources are also necessary; the delay in being able to use our new spaces has severely depleted our reserves. St Peter writes, “each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10). We should be encouraged to consider how we can best use our gifts in the service of God here in Ekibin.

In all of this, our collaboration, our plans to grow in our ministry, we remember that we do this because of the message of the Christmas angels: “I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

**Rev’d Dr Timothy Nicholson**

## *Children's Ministry at St Luke's*

### *Family Services on 5th Sundays*

On 31st August, at the Family Service, the children participated in the service by preparing and singing a hymn, making "people" to be welcomed at the communion table, making a welcome white board, assisting taking up the collection and assisting Rev'd Timothy prepare for consecrating and serving the bread and the wine.



Children enjoyed singing for the Family Service




All are welcome in St Luke's: children and congregation made "people" to be welcomed to the Lord's table at the Family Service

### *Children's Church*

Every Sunday during school terms, after Rev'd Timothy's Children's Message, the children join their teachers, to sing, pray and read a bible passage, and then prepare craft or draw in their books, while discussing the message in the Bible reading that day.

The pictures on these pages demonstrate some of the creative ways the children learn about Jesus and the stories of the bible.



Children concentrate on writing an invitation to attend St Luke's church



Magnets were made by the children to show the beauty of the flora and fauna in the Season of Creation




Gardens to share with the congregation



Children prepared puppets and told the story of Zachariah climbing the tree to see Jesus



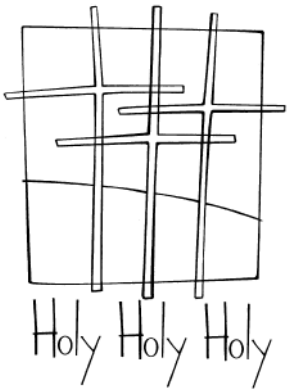
Children enjoyed building a house during the Children's Message

### *Admission to Communion*

One of our families brought Jazmine and Robert to be Admitted to Communion. What a joyous occasion in the life of our church to welcome Jazmine and Robert to the Lord's table, and after the service, the family brought a delicious cake to share with the congregation at morning tea!

Thank you to the families who make the effort to bring their children, to Rev'd Timothy for his enjoyable children's messages, and lastly to our brilliant teachers, Sharon, David, Pru and Honor who regularly and faithfully take up the challenge of sharing the gospel with our precious children!

**Honor Lawler**






Jazmine and Robert being admitted to Holy Communion



Celebration cake

## *Thank You Juliet*

Our St Luke's family was blessed to have Juliet Briner with us from February to September of this year as she completed a formation student placement with us. It was clear from the beginning that Juliet was able to form warm connections with people of all ages. She quickly became involved in both Sunday services, St Luke's Choir, Children's Church, St Luke's Connect, family services and the parish camp.



Juliet Brinner and Alison Lampe enjoyed the Exhibition strawberry sundaes at St Luke's Connect meeting

Juliet's warmth and creativity meant she was able to bring God's message alive for children using engaging ideas and hands-on activities, deliver sermons that were thoughtful, practical and accessible and be a welcoming presence in whatever activity she was involved in. And she could sing too!!! Juliet's husband Naham was also very generous with his time and carpentry skills, assisting Trevor with some complicated alterations within the church.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank Juliet and Naham for sharing themselves with us, and wish them all the best as Juliet continues her studies and works as the interim Anglican Youth, Children and Families Officer at St Francis College.

**Judy Jones**

### *Junction Fest*

We held a stall as part of the Junction Fest at Annerley Junction on 11 October. Little Angels Tarragindi provided information about our new childcare facility, Pru kept children entertained while informing parents about our Children's Ministry program, and our generous parishioners provided lots of cakes and homemade goodies, as well as many beautiful items crafted by our talented sewers and knitters.



Community


Cakes


Craft

### *Small Group Study*

Spiritual growth, fellowship and study of the Bible are supported by our regular "Book Club" held usually on 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. We have finished reading and discussing "How to hear God" by Pete Greig this year, and plan to read "Not a Tame Lion", a study of the life, teachings and legacy of C.S. Lewis by Terry Glaspe next year.

We do have some tears and fun too, as we share our journeys in Christ. If you are interested in joining a small group, please speak to Elizabeth Lamb, Sue Vassella or Honor Lawler.



When our Book Club meets at the Vassella's home, the Vassella's dog likes to join in sometimes! Sukina and Judy were happy to have her join them.

### *Open Day at Little Angels, Tarragindi*

On Saturday morning, 15th November, Little Angels Tarragindi held an open day for prospective parents and children to tour the brand new facilities and talk to the teachers. The parish supported the day by providing a free sausage sizzle and a cake stall. Rev'd Timothy and other parishioners were able to speak to some of these families about our parish.

**Honor Lawler**

## *Vale June McNicol*

***21st June 1926 - 19th October 2025***



June received an OAM in 2009

June Audrey McNicol, a long-standing and treasured member of St Luke's Parish, Ekibin, passed away on 19th October 2025, aged 99 years. June led a remarkable life, as you will see from her own reflections, which she shared with Alison Lampe in July this year.

As a scientist, June broke new ground for women in her field of study, both in England and Australia. She became involved in her community wherever she was, volunteering at her children's schools, driving for Meals on Wheels for 40 years and setting up the Queensland Bookbinders Guild in 1977, to name a few.

At June's funeral on 30th October 2025, David Bedford, June's son-in-law, presented the eulogy. David mentioned that "in 2009, June was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours for 'Service to Bookbinding and Yeronga Meals on Wheels'. Whilst she truly treasured this honour, and was proud of her achievements, she always found the pleasure and enjoyment of bookbinding reward in itself".

In St Luke's Parish, June was responsible for instituting in St Luke's church the Memorial Book, the St Luke's Choir, the Church News, and in recent years she presented regularly at St Luke's Connect on many interesting topics. June also enthusiastically joined in the parish bible studies and parish walks over many, many years.

As David said at June's funeral, June "lived a full and wondrous life".

On the next page are June's personal reflections of her life, particularly as a member of St Luke's Anglican Parish, Ekibin:

June was 99 when she shared these reflections with Alison Lampe on 8 July 2025

June was born in Yorkshire, England in 1926. She had one younger brother. She attended Leeds High School for girls, then read science at Cambridge university for 4 years. During that time, she lived in Newnham College for 3 years, then shared digs with a female friend for her last year. Following her studies June worked for the British Non-Ferrous Metals company in London. June met her husband Bob when she was at Cambridge. Bob was a Senior lecturer at UQ and had won a scholarship to study for a PhD at Cambridge University. They married in England, then moved to Brisbane. June lectured at UQ in metallurgy.

June and Bob had 4 children, and they all attended Sunday school at St. Barnabas church. When St. Barnabas closed, June attended services at St. Luke's.

June and her husband bought a house in Andrew Avenue which had been designed by a German architect who had moved to Australia to escape Nazi Germany. The architect designed houses unlike the usual style on stilts and orientated the houses to better suit the climate. They later extended the house to accommodate their growing family.

June's eldest child attended Brisbane Girls' Grammar School and June helped in the school library as a volunteer. She helped to repair damaged books, and it was there that her interest in bookbinding was kindled. June went on to found the Queensland branch of the Bookbinders' Guild. This was one of the achievements for which June was awarded an OAM.

In 1963 Bob took a year's study leave and the family lived in Seattle. June has vivid memories of the day President J.F. Kennedy was assassinated. The children were sent home from school, and everyone was glued to their television sets watching events unfold.

June has been an active member of St. Luke's Parish for many years, serving in various roles. She has been a church warden, a regular reader of lessons, a member of the Ladies Fellowship,




This was June's usual seat for 7 am Sunday services: Alison set up June's empty chair for All Souls' Day on 2nd November 2025 in memory of June!

book club, tennis club and Caring and Sharing groups. More recently June has attended the St. Luke's Connect services and fellowship. She has generously presented several talks to this group, sharing her extensive general knowledge.

One of June's proudest legacies is the creation of the St. Luke's Memorial Book in 1994. This records the dates of death, and thus anniversaries, of St. Luke's parishioners. June bound the book in goatskin leather with gold trimming. The book is contained in its display cabinet at the rear of the church.

From 1995 June was the editor of the Church News, a dedicated and time-consuming role. Published quarterly, June continued as editor until 2020.

June also formed the choir as it is today. She had been a chorister in the Queensland University Music Society and agreed to conduct a new St. Luke's choir. The choir initially practised in the old rectory, later moving to practise in the church every Saturday afternoon.

June has been a regular Sunday '7 o'clocker' and in her 100th year likely holds the parish record as the most senior parishioner on the lesson reading roster!

Thank you, Alison Lampe, for sharing June's own reflections.

As the picture of June's empty place in St Luke's shows, June is much missed and remembered with love and gratitude.

**Honor Lawler**



## *Please Pray…*

Please pray for our parish, our campus, our city and the wider ministry of the church. St Paul writes, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18), and St James writes, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective" (James 5:16b).

We have much to give thanks for, and also much still to do as we are invited to share God's mission. You may find the attached parish prayer calendar, which was recently updated for our Mission Week, a helpful guide.

**Rev'd Timothy**

| | | Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sunday** | **Sunday service team** | Liturgical Assistants Servers, readers and intercessors | Children's Church | Musicians and choir | PowerPoint and Zoom operators, morning tea and welcomers |
| **Monday** | **Parish leadership** | Rev'd Timothy and June | Wardens Brian, Alison and Lynn | Parish Council | Children's Church leaders |
| **Tuesday** | **Parish admin** | Parish office volunteers | Garden and property maintenance | Hospitality and catering | Safety officer, treasurer and accountant |
| **Wednesday** | **Our wider campus** | The ongoing work of the diocesan property team to support our campus | Little Angels Tarragindi: Mel Ware (director) | St Luke's Theatre Society | Interaction with the wider community, especially hall renters |
| **Thursday** | **Diocese, deanery and ecumenical relations** | Parishes in the deanery of Brisbane South West | Bishop John and Archdeacon Bronwyn | Archbishop Jeremy and the staff of the Bishops' offices | Members of the Tarragindi / Annerley ministers' fraternal |
| **Friday** | **Missionaries we support** | Danie Middeldorp, chaplain at Wellers Hill State School | The Bush Ministry Fund and Hospital Chaplaincy | The Church Missionary Society and the Anglican Board of Mission | David and Zöe Browne and family, serving with Bush Church Aid in Gladstone |



## *St Luke's Day 2025*

To mark St Luke's Day this year, a single combined service was held at 9 am so our two congregations could celebrate together.

Rev'd Timothy introduced the children and the rest of the congregation to "Dr Luke" a giant teddy bear, who joined us in the church, and over time, has already provided an opportunity for some much-needed cuddles.



Rev'd Timothy introduced Dr Luke in his Children's Message




The service was filled with prayer and readings, singing beautiful old and newer hymns, the choir sang, and we considered again how much St Luke had contributed to the Christian church with his life, gospel and letters.




During Children's Church, the children decorated bags to welcome new children when they come to St Luke's, with some of the children's suggestions being snacks, a fidget toy, and a welcome note together with other items.




Our musicians ready for the St Luke's Day service, Helen on the flute, Trevor on guitar, Brian on piano and Duncan on bass guitar.

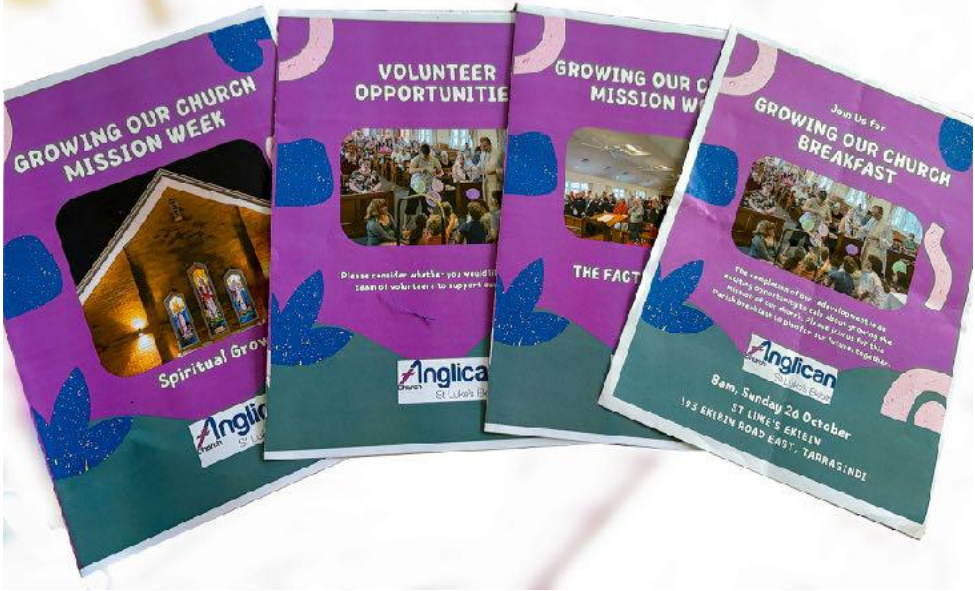
Afterwards, of course, delicious cake was shared at morning tea, amidst the joy of sharing fellowship and friendship, with both congregations enjoying the opportunity to be together.

Thanks to all who contributed to this year's joyous celebration of St Luke's Day.

**Honor Lawler**

## *Mission Week*

Mission week kicked off on 26th October with a Mission Breakfast after the 7.00am service. If you were there you would have tasted Brian Wood's very excellent breakfast pizza (made with fried eggs, and very delicious). A big thank you to Brian and to Helen Hutchings who prepared all the brochures and acted as convener of the panel discussion and Elizabeth Lamb who helped with the background work and participated as a panellist.




Over a continental breakfast organized by Brian everyone participated in a panel discussion about the St Luke's community: why we exist as a church, what our purpose should be and how do we ensure its continued viability. We acknowledged the need to talk about the facts and figures, volunteer opportunities and spiritual growth. The outcome can be summarized in these key points:

1. With the new Little Angels ELC and St Luke's Theatre Society in the new campus there are greater opportunities to reach out to the wider world to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

2. We need to tell the world about the Kingdom of God, and we need to help the needy and disenfranchised. We need to welcome newcomers and be a safe space for all.
3. In addition to St Luke's being a place of worship, there is a need to focus on spiritual growth. Both on and off-campus small groups might be a platform to encourage this.
4. So far, we allocate about $16,000 per annum or 10% of our total income to mission activities, so pretty good! But we need to do more to raise public awareness in the community.
5. To keep the church running we need more volunteers and an increase in regular giving.
6. St Luke's is entirely self-funded. Currently we are running a monthly deficit of $3,000 to $4,000. More details on the finances can be found in the "facts and figures" brochure. To keep the church running we need an increase of $15 per week per household.
7. The future of St Luke's is not assured, but we remain committed to being a viable Anglican parish in the Tarragindi community. Working alongside the Little Angels Early Learning Centre and with the support of the St Luke's Theatre Society we aim to be relevant and worthy so that more people will make St Luke's part of their lives. This is our fervent prayer.

Thank you to everyone who has responded by offering to volunteer or by taking home a commitment card and increasing their giving.

**Trevor Lunn**



## *St. Luke's Connect*

Our Connect mornings have continued to be held on the last Wednesday of the month and all are welcome. Following a service at 9.30 am we gather for brunch, chatting, music (courtesy of Trevor and his guitar) and a theme for the morning.

August was our 'Ekka' memories month, with trivia questions courtesy of Janette, show bags by Jenny and Janette and Fruits of the Spirit show bags made by Desley. Strawberry sundaes were enjoyed by all!



St Luke's Connect meetings - our new deck is a delightful setting for brunch

September was 'Spring" with chatting and morning brunch enjoyed on our beautiful deck with a warm breeze.

For our October meeting we had the theme 'Show and Tell'. We had some wonderful personal contributions and beautiful memories shared. An antique doll, a well-travelled teddy bear, an antique book and June's uniquely redesigned cross were some of the items featured and enthusiastically discussed. David N concluded our anecdotes with the truly remarkable tale of his missing 'dog tag' (See Desley Soden's article on the next page!).

Vale June McNicol. Most would be aware that we recently lost our treasured parishioner June McN. June regularly attended our Connect gatherings, from their inception, and was extremely generous in sharing her extensive knowledge with us. She gave presentations on a range of subjects including book binding, women's education and the furniture designer Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson. Her friendship and wisdom will be sorely missed.

**Alison Lampe**

## *Stories of the Lost and Found*

Jesus told stories of the lost and found e.g. the prodigal son, the widow's coin, the lost sheep. At the communion service, before St Luke's Connect in October, the Rev'd Timothy spoke about two lesser known saints - Simon and Jude. Jude was known as the saint for impossible or hopeless causes.

This seemed a good introduction to `Show and Tell' after a pleasant morning tea at St Luke's Connect in October 29th. Thanks to the kitchen ladies. Many of the stories had these elements.

There was a hundred-year-old doll which had been passed down through the generations. A small bear, a cheerful souvenir of Berlin, had raised the spirits of a traveller whose companion was sick. A special necklace, whose individual stones reminded the owner of family and friends who had died.

Family history played a part in one person's being there, through the lone survivor of a shipwreck. The plate of an afternoon tea service portraying Lord Nelson, Lady Hamilton and a ship, was shown. Unfortunately, the delicate teacups had not survived.

A medical bear, "Dr Luke" had been rescued from an uncertain fate in North Queensland, to find a permanent home at our church. A story was told of the loss of a simple silver cross and the fruitless search to flnd it. It turned up several months later in the driveway where it had been run over. The damage added to the significance, which now represented Christ's suffering on the Cross. Also, a gifted family ring, which had lost its stone was unable to be restored due to the expense. However, the exact amount required was found in an unused purse.

Another story related to a person. This person had faced many difficulties throughout her life. She had struggled through and was still living a grateful life. A lost wedding ring was the basis of the next story. It was lost while doing some gardening. Again, an extensive search found nothing. On the green bin day there was nothing for it, but to take everything out of the bins for a thorough search. The ring was found in the last handful of leaves to go back into the bin.




The most amazing story was left till last. A veteran of the Vietnam War had lost his identity dog tags while on active service. He had them replaced, not thinking much about it. Several years later, he was on a group tour of the area with his army mates. At Nui Dat he was approached by a young lad who had a dog tag on a string about his neck. On closer inspection the veteran recognised his own lost dog tag! He bought it back from the boy. The tag had been found by the boy's father when digging a garden.

St Jude had had a busy time with all this lot!

Desley Soden

## *Christmas Recipe*

To make us happy and agreeable to other people, take:



1lb of good temper
2lb of forbearance
1lb of patience
1½ lb of contentment
3lb of unselfishness
1lb of fun
2lb of cheerfulness

Mix well with 2 quarts of human kindness.

Dose: 1 glass first thing in the morning to be repeated as soon as effect wears off!

**Contributed by Maxine McElnea**

## *Choir Report*

September 2025 to November 2025

In September our church decided to celebrate the ecumenical Season of Creation. Brian introduced a new song to the choir – 'Canticle of the Sun'. (Canticle – a psalm-like song with biblical lyrics). The original lyric is credited to Saint Francis of Assisi, to praise God through all creation. The song presented by the choir was to an arrangement of the lyrics and music by Marty Haugen, an American composer of liturgical music. It has 6 verses and a chorus. The choir contributed this song as a reflection after the sermon at the 9am and 7am services on the 14th and 28th respectively. It was mainly sung in unison, with some variation of voices in the verses and 3-part harmony in the chorus. Two verses were omitted for brevity in the context of our eucharist service.

For October, the choir decided to focus its contribution on our St Luke's Day service, held on 19th October. It had been practising a few new songs which were proving challenging for several singers. Trevor had introduced us to a new song – 'Is He Worthy' – by modern American Christian song writers Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive. The lyrics lead to the justification of Christians' faith in Jesus. It was selected for St Luke's Day and the choir contributed it as a reflection after the sermon in the 9am service. It was sung mainly in unison with some variation of voices.



Brian Wood played three solos at the St Cecilia's Concert

In the meantime, Brian had identified an arrangement of 'Is He Worthy' prepared more specifically for choral presentation. The choir continued to practise the song with that version in 3-part harmony.

Brian had also put forward an arrangement of the song 'May It Be' from the movie 'Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring' for consideration. While not a Christian song, it has kind, 'blessing-style' lyrics which are not out of place in the Christian context. It was written by Eithne Bhraonain, Nicky Ryan and

Roma Ryan. The arrangement selected for the choir is by Mark Brymer. It challenged the choir with a 3-part chorus, partly in Gaelic language.

In November, the second Sunday – the 9th – was designated 'Defence Services Sunday' by the Anglican Church of Australia. The choir has regularly presented a commemorative song for reflection during one of our services on that day. This year the choir reprised the traditional musical arrangement 'Dona Nobis Pacem'. The text means 'grant us peace' and comes from the Latin mass. It was sung as a 'round of 3' at the 7am service, with the three singing groups located around the perimeter of the Nave. Some feedback was received that the presentation was effective.



The choir performed at the St Cecilia's Concert

As in past years, the choir participated in the annual music concert held in our district in honour of St Cecilia - the patron saint of church music and musicians. Her day is 22nd November and the concert was held at (our) St Luke's Church in the afternoon on Sunday the 23rd. The choir contributed 3 items from its recent repertoire – the '3-part-harmony' version of 'Is He Worthy', the Lord of the Rings song "May It Be' and 'Dona Nobis Pacem'. The concert was again very successful and the choir was pleased with its contributions.

Now we approach the season of Advent. The choir has already started to practise some Christmas songs and looks forward to some good singing over this period.

**Greg Rodger**