

**Mission Focus for May**  
**Ministry to refugees**  
**Anglican Police Chaplaincy**  
**Courts and Judges**

Heavenly Father, we remember before you this month the many refugees throughout the world, without statehood, homes and hope. We bring before you especially those individuals and families who have found refuge in Sydney, and come under the pastoral care of the Blair family. Grant to Cameron and Lara and their family, the resources and opportunities they need to reach out especially to refugee youth and their families, and to care for them.

***Please remember to pray also for those in our church family who we know are ill, recovering from illness or in need of God's comfort at this time.***

**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, the Wangal people of the Eora nation, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and pray that God will unite us all in a knowledge of his Son, in whom all things were created.

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**Giving**

**Thank you** for giving towards the ministry of Abbotsford Anglican church in 2023. A helpful way to give regularly is by direct debit. Thank you.

**BSB :: 082-278**

**Account Number :: 509328287**

**Sunday 21 May 2023**  
Sunday after Ascension  
**Welcome**



**abbotsfordanglicanchurch**  
*A fresh start with God*

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**Welcome!**

Welcome to Church! A very special welcome to visitors and to those listening in online. Thank you for joining in to this week's service and Bible Teaching.

A sentence from the Bible to prepare us for hearing God's word...

***The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.***

Psalm 146:9

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**Today's Sermon**

**Mission Focus on Pioneers and ministry to refugees**

John 13:1-17

**YOU ARE WELCOME** to log in via the church's Wi-Fi address as follows:  
**Abbotsford Guest** - password **urwelcome20**

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## TODAY

Service of Word and Prayer 3  
Page 22 Common Prayer 2012  
RECORDED and available  
off the website after 12 noon

### Welcome

### Introduction

*Brief introduction to the Bible  
teaching*

### Song – We Declare

*Congregation greeting time*

### Drawing near to God

### Hearing God's Word

John 13:1-17 – page 1079

### Bible Teaching

Cameron Blair  
*Mission Focus on Pioneers and  
ministry to refugees*

### Song – Oh How Good It Is

### Affirming our faith

### Praying to God

### Announcements

### Song – Across The Lands

### Going out to serve

#### *Private prayer*

*If you would like prayer after  
the service, Fiona and Brian  
will be at the front of the  
church to pray with you.*

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## Prayers

### A prayer of confession

Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have often gone our own way and rejected your will for our lives. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us forgive us, cleanse us, and change us. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live for you and to please you in every way, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### A set prayer for the day

Gracious God, thank you for bringing to our country people from many races and cultures. Take away the mistrust and lack of understanding that so easily divides us. Increase in us true humility and love for strangers. Remove racism from our midst, that we may share this land and its bounty, and all may hear the gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ and know his love. **Amen.** *Page 78 Common Prayer*

### 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.**

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### May mission focus

- Ministry to refugees, in particular the Blair family in western Sydney
- Anglicare Police Chaplaincy
- Courts and judges

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## Notices & Diary Dates

### Welcome

Today we welcome Lara and Cameron Blair and family, to share with us about their ministry with refugees in western Sydney.

### Equip conference for women 'at home'

*Then Haggai, the Lord's messenger, gave this message of the Lord to the people: "I am with you," declares the Lord.*

Join us on Saturday, 17 June for this year's Equip conference 'at home', to hear God's Word to us in the book of Haggai. More information to come.

### Save the dates Men! Sign up!

**Saturday 3 June** – Breakfast, Bible Study and Prayer: 830am to 10am. Church foyer.

**Saturday 1 July** – Fun day Lawn Bowls Concord 10am to 12noon. Cost \$12.

### Join a Bible Study Group

Joining a Bible Study group might seem daunting to some. I certainly don't believe any of you would think it unnecessary or unhelpful. I want to help you to find the satisfaction and excitement of growing in your knowledge of the Bible and ultimately God with others. It comes with great personal value to you. If you're not already in a group and would like to meet with me or others at a time that's convenient for you come and see me. I'd be very happy to make it happen for you. Trevor.

**COVID 19 safety rules** - In line with NSW Govt advice, mask wearing is optional but recommended. *Please show respect and care for each other by using hand sanitiser and maintaining social distance, especially when choosing your seat in church and at morning tea, moving out to the playground, weather permitting.*

**Offertory** - A box for offertories is at the back of the church. Monthly mission focus donation envelopes are available at the end of each pew, for placing in the offertory box. Offertory also by direct debit – **see back page.**

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### Service next Sunday, May 28 – the Lord's Supper

**Jesus Cared – when caring doesn't seem worthwhile** – Matthew 35:31-46  
*Sermon Series – when caring seems wrong*