

Cranbourne Uniting Church

"We are a multicultural church, called to provide Christ's living bread in physical and spiritual ways to the Cranbourne Region."

Matthew 25: 35 - 40

THE GOOD NEWS

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Colour *White*

Sunday 3rd May 9.30am

Presider Rev Charles Sundaresan (retired minister)



Martyrdom, then and now

Our reading from the book of Acts this week deals with the martyrdom of Steven. Stoned to death because religious zealots objected to his proclamation of the gospel Blasphemy, they cried, and Leviticus 24, among too many other texts, describes stoning as the only appropriate punishment for such a crime. The fact that in our twenty-first century world execution by stoning is still practiced is a living reminder of the monstrous cruelty that such an act represents—surely no person with any shred of humanity could participate in such a ritual murder.

Sadly, in a growing number of societies today, the killings continue. Jesus' gospel of peace, justice and compassion is ignored as people seek to have their own way and use violence to resolve conflict. We may not throw stones literally but of our stones are written on social media platform and sometimes cause death. As humans we need to learn how to disagree without resorting to violence. This is the case in families, in religion, and between countries. So next time that anger rises in us, remind ourself of the gospel of Jesus, seeking the strength to turn the other cheek.



Sunday's Readings

Acts 7: 55 - 60

Psalm 31: 1 – 5, 15 - 16

1 Peter 2: 2 - 10

John 14: 1 - 14 *Focus Text*



A Prayer for this week

God of peace and patience, help me in this moment of anger to slow down and invite you to guide both my character and conduct. Father, who isn't surprised by the things that make me angry, grant me a grace-filled perspective towards the people and circumstances that have set me off. And Lord, show me the right way to walk through this situation, letting go of the quick anger that tempts me, and speaking up with gentleness. Help me to accept that ultimately, the resolution is yours to unfold, not mine to force. **AMEN**

Paul Wolsky – Prayer Chain

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Giving We appreciate your support and dedication to Cranbourne Uniting Church.

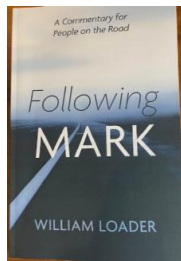
In April 2026 our giving was \$3,800.00
 and our expenses were \$6,073.82
 Balance **-\$2,273.82**



May F.U.N.
 Saturday 16th May, Cost \$7,
 doors open at 7pm

Biggest Morning Tea

When – Wednesday 20th May 11.am – 2pm
Where – St Andrew’s UCA Berwick
Cost - \$20 payable on the day
RSVP – Glenys 0416 672 485



Study Group
 Thursday 14th May 7.30pm at the church.
 Theme – Following Mark
 Led by Tony Duncam

Volunteers Needed

To pack up table and chairs at 7.00pm on Saturday nights

MAY Food Truck Wish List

We are collecting cereal, noodles and 600ml bottled water

Due to limited storage space the Food Truck can only take donations of Food. Can all other donations be given to Narre Warren Nth Op Shop. Open Wed, Thurs and Fri 9am – 3pm



Roster

DUTY ROSTER	Sunday 3 rd May	Sunday 10 th May Mother’s Day
Liturgist	Robyn Tomkins	Jenny Duncan
Music	Elizabeth Hunt	Elizabeth Hunt
Readers	Julie Streckfuss Paul Martin	TBA
Sunday School	Phill Start	Paul Martin
Door	Robyn Tomkins	Peter Pryn
Steward	Tony Duncan	Julie Strckfuss
Cleaners	Neil Walsh	Streckfuss Family

