

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

Pentecost 12

Colour GREEN

Sunday 16th August 9.30am

Presider Rev Tony Duncan (Retired Minister)



Othering

A new word that has come to mean a lot for me in recent years is “othering”. It is a word that points to the tendency of human beings to be suspicious of the other, the one who does not belong to our tribe, the one who in our opinion does not fit in. In the international world it is what nations do. It’s a process of dehumanization that allows us to torture and kill the other. I hear language like cockroach and animal, that allows seemingly rational and normal people to bomb others into oblivion. Closer to home, othering is used by some politicians who want everyone to be like us. Othering does not tolerate difference. And of course social media platforms stoke othering with their lies and exaggerations.

But this is not Jesus’ way. Jesus came to offer ways of being that are for all peoples. He railed against the othering that was around in his own time - whether it be the treatment of the Romans of his own people or the othering that occurs between Samaritan and Jew. It’s the othering that we encounter in this week’s gospel with a Canaanite woman, where Jesus has to come to terms within his own life. It’s the othering that eventually led to his death on a cross. It is the othering that we need to look at in our lives, for it is insidious and can creep up on us. We are all children of God!

So this week let us look to our commonality rather than our differences.



Sunday’s Readings

Genesis 45: 1 - 15

Psalms 133

Romans 11: 1 - 2a, 29 - 32

Matthew 15: (10 -20), 21 - 28 *Focus Text*



A Pastoral Prayer: Crying Out for Mercy

Lord, we come as the woman came — uninvited, insistent, unwilling to be silenced. Forgive us the ways we have said “no” too quickly, deciding whose voice belongs and whose does not.

Thank you that you did not stay fixed in that refusal — that an outsider’s persistence reshaped even your sense of mission.

Have mercy on us, Lord. Not the mercy that keeps us comfortable, but the mercy that changes us.

Teach us through voices we have overlooked — First Peoples, strangers, the unheard among us.

Make us willing, this week, to be found wanting, and willing to be changed. **AMEN**



Giving We appreciate your support and dedication to Cranbourne
UCA
In **July 2026** our giving was \$4,254.35
and our expenses were \$6,310.46
Balance **-\$2,056.11**

MULTICULTURAL MORNING TEA

After church on Sunday 30th August
Celebrating our cultural diversity

Bring a plate of food to share from your home culture.



Lions Recycle for Sight
Cranbourne Lions Club recycles used spectacles. Drop off your unwanted spectacles in the boxes located in the church foyer.

Jumble Sale

Thursday 27th Aug 10am – 12pm, Friday 28th Aug 12noon – 3pm
Saturday 29th Aug 10am – 2pm

Book a Table on Saturday for \$10
Bring your good quality goods to sell

Contact 9799 7994



AUGUST Food Truck Wish List

We are collecting **Jam, Cup-A-Soup and Tinned Vegetables**

JUMBLE SALE
Thursday 27th August 2026
10am-12pm
Friday 28th 12-3 pm
& Saturday 29th 10 am-2 pm



Kids Clothes, Ladies Clothes, Mens Clothes,
Towels, Sheets, Kids toys, Jewellery, Shoes, Books, Kitchen Items, Baby
Items (a gram, a cot), DVDs and LOTS MORE!

Saturday Hire a Table for \$10.
Bring your good quality goods to sell. No electrical items
To book a table contact: office@unitingplace.org

Phone: 9799 7994
HAMPTON PARK UNITING PLACE
1 Coral Drive, Hampton Park, 3976

Roster

DUTY ROSTER	Sunday 16 th August Communion	Sunday 23 rd August Robyn Tomkins
Liturgist	Marg Williams	Paul Martin
Music	Elizabeth Hunt	Sharon Start Trevor Anderson
Readers	Chris Compaan Sonja Giessmann	Veronica Dharmaraj Brigette Mace
Sunday School	Paul Martin	Phill Start
Door	Chris Compaan	Chris Compaan
Steward	Chris Marsh	Phill Start
Cleaners	Duncan Family	TBA

