

Anglican Parish of St Agnes', Black Rock



Papers and Reports for the Statutory Annual Meeting
Nov 22nd, 2020

Agenda

1. Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Prayer
2. Attendance:
3. Apologies: Alan Smyth
4. Adoption of electoral roll (circulated on Nov 11).
5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the SAM held on Nov 24, 2019.
6. Matters Arising from the Minutes.
7. Child Safety, OH & S, Professional Standards (Sharon)
8. Written Reports:
 - a) Finance (Colin)
 - b) Churchwardens (Christine and Bruce)
 - c) Music. Drama. Saturday Recycle (Jacquie)
 - d) Pastoral Care (Di)
 - e) Floral Arranging and Cleaning (Helen)
 - f) Craft and Coffee Group (Valerie)
 - g) Gardens (Diane)
 - h) Vicar (Garry)
9. Verbal Reports?
 - a) Book Group (Patsy)
 - b) Merry Melodies (Joan)
10. Elections
 - a) Churchwardens (2 elected, one appointed by vicar).
Nominees are: Kenneth Greig, Sharon Edmunds & Helen Wilson.
 - b) Parish Council (up to 6 elected, up to 3 appointed by vicar).
Nominees are: Suzanne Cochran-Blanchard, Jean Oliver, Di Matthews, Jenny Haworth,
Jacquie Bennett, Valerie
 - c) Incumbency Committee (2 elected, one warden appointed by wardens)
Nominees are: Suzanne Cochran-Blanchard, Christine Foxwell
11. New business (for which prior notice is required) – None
12. Minutes of appreciation
13. Notices

Electoral Roll for Statutory Annual Meeting – Nov 22, 2020

Bennett George

Bennett Jacquie

Bull Maggie

Burt Diana

Cochran-Blanchard Suzanne

Deverell Lil

Edmunds Sharon

Edwards Joan

Everett Bruce

Foxwell Christine

Foxwell Colin

Goninan Liz

Greig Kenneth

Hart Devon

Haworth Jenny

Haydock Barbara

Holmes Christine

Horvath Leonie

Jones Nancy

Le Nepveu Marjorie

McArdle Jan

McDonald Valerie

Matthews Di

Moorcroft Shirley

Morris Ron

Oliver Jean

Oliver John

Osborne Ivy

Rankin Liz

Smyth Alan

Tapp Elizabeth

Turner Patricia

Visick Jerry

Whitehead Diane

Wilson Helen

Wilson John

Wragg Pam

Minutes of the Statutory Annual Meeting
24 November 2019

The Reverend Dr Garry Deverell welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a Prayer at 11.45am

Present: Valerie Archer, Diana Burt, Suzanne Cochran Blanchard, Lil Deverell, Sharon Edmunds, Joan Edwards, Bruce Everett, Christine Foxwell, Colin Foxwell, Jenny Haworth, Valerie McDonald, Diane Matthews, Jean Oliver, John Oliver, Liz Rankin, Patsy Turner, Diane Whitehead, Helen Wilson, John Wilson.

Apologies: Jacquie Bennett, George Bennett, Maggie Bull, Margaret Hamann, Leonie Horvath.

Minutes of the previous Statutory Annual Meeting. It was noted that under Election of Church Warden/s on page 3, it should read "Colin Foxwell and Devon Hart resigned as Wardens". And, under Synod on page 4, it should read "for the period 2019 to 2022". Christine Foxwell moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be taken as read, seconded by Diana Burt and agreed by all.

Adoption of Electoral Roll. An up-to-date list of the electors of the Parish was available at the meeting. A motion to accept the Electoral Roll was moved by Garry and agreed by all.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Nil.

Child Safety, Professional Standards Compliance and OH&S

- Sharon Edmunds reported that there were no major issues.
- Christine commented that the LED light globes that had recently been installed were fine during daylight hours but of an evening, they were unsatisfactory. Garry said this matter could be raised at the next Parish Council meeting.
- Nancy Jones reported a safety issue at the entrance to the large hall which should be addressed.
- Bruce Everett reminded members of the Church who are in contact with children that they are required to have Working with Children and Police Checks. The compliance lasts for three years, after which time it must be updated. If anyone has a complaint, Sharon should be contacted immediately and she, in turn, will pass on any complaint to Kooyoora.

Reports

- Church Wardens: Christine said it should be noted that Bruce had done a great deal of maintenance work around the Church during the past year including significant security

upgrades. It was also noted that the Church was open during Seniors Week when a lecture on the history of St Agnes was presented by Jean Oliver.

- Floral Group: Helen Wilson sought the assistance of anyone who would like to join the group.
- Craft & Coffee: Valerie said between 4-8 participants attended the gatherings, not all of whom are parishioners. It was noted that this a good outreach activity.
- Music & Drama: As reported by Chris Rowe.
- Book Club: Patsy said new members are always welcome.
- Garden: Diane Whitehead advised that there were two amendments to her report. Namely, that in the Church garden "Two new trees, a Red Bottlebrush (Callistemon) and a Silver Princess (E.caesia) are settling in well". And, in the Garden of Memory, "French Lavenders will be planted as replacements".
- Saturday Recycle: Bruce noted that the Saturday Recycle is not just about the fundraising, it is also another successful outreach activity.
- Pastoral Care: Diana Burt apologised for omitting the death of Margaret Hirsch in her report. It was also noted that the correct spelling of Judy's surname should be Haworth.
- Merry Melodies: Joan Edwards encouraged St Agnes parishioners to attend the monthly concerts.
- Vicar's Report: Garry thanked the congregation for all their hard work during the year, particularly the Wardens and Parish Council members.
- Treasurer's Report: Colin presented the report for the period 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019. He thanked Alan Smyth for auditing the report. Valerie suggested parishioners who give by direct debit could place a slip in the plate. This would indicate to casual attendees that it was customary to contribute. This suggestion which, has been raised previously, was debated and could be considered further at a Parish Council meeting.

Garry moved that all reports be accepted, seconded by Liz Rankin and Patsy Turner and agreed by all.

Elections

Garry advised that Sharon Edmunds had resigned as a warden. And, as there were only two nominations for new churchwardens for the new year, Bruce Everett and Christine Foxwell were declared elected.

For Parish Council, nominations had been received from Suzanne Cochrane Blanchard, Jenny Haworth, Di Matthews and Jean Oliver. There being no further nominations they were declared elected.

General Business

- Christine moved a motion of appreciation to Helen Wilson for all her work on behalf

- of St Agnes, together with John and Chris Wilson.
- Christine also moved a motion of appreciation to Jacquie Bennett for her musical direction.
 - Di Matthews moved a motion of appreciation to Bruce Everett for his work on Church maintenance.
 - Diane Whitehead moved a motion of appreciation to David Matthews for his efforts in the Church garden.
 - John Oliver moved a motion of appreciation to Colin for his work as Treasurer.
 - And, Garry moved a motion of special appreciation to Sharon Edmunds for all her work on behalf of St Agnes.
 - All motions of appreciation were accepted and acclaimed by all.
 - John Oliver raised the issue of advertising for the Church fairs and suggested the cost involved was unwarranted. John moved that such expense be ceased, seconded Suzanne Cochrane Blanchard and agreed by all.

The meeting closed at 12.40 pm with a prayer

Reports 2020

Wardens Report

The 2019 Statutory Annual Meeting elected Bruce Everett and Christine Foxwell as wardens. A “thank you” was extended to Sharon Edmunds as an outgoing warden from 2019.

During this financial year ended September 2020 the Parish Council was comprised of Rev Garry Deverell, Hon Treasurer Colin Foxwell, Jenny Haworth, Di Matthews, Jean Oliver, Suzanne Cochrane-Blanchard, Jacquie Bennett and Helen Wilson. The wardens and the parish council met on a monthly basis to consider the church administration and governance in accordance with the Parish Governance Act.

This church year has been unlike any other in our living memory as we dealt with the Covid-19 pandemic. It was agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 16 March 2020 to cease holding services in the church forthwith. This decision was made with regard to Department of Health and Diocese guidelines, as well as to protect the vulnerable members of the St Agnes congregation. At that stage not one of us imagined that we would not be able to meet normally on a regular basis again for the remainder of the year. Limited service numbers, open backdoor for prayers, virtual services via Zoom have all played a part to keep parishioners engaged. We also acknowledge the good work of Garry and the Pastoral Care team in keeping in touch with parishioners.

Our thanks go to all parishioners who continued to give so generously to St Agnes throughout the lockdown period. Our thanks also go to our Hon. Treasurer Colin Foxwell for the many hours of extra work who worked with the Melbourne Diocese to apply for St Agnes to receive

the Federal Government Jobkeeper payment and also a one off Small Business payment of \$10,000 from the Victorian State Government. This ensured the ongoing financial stability for our church despite a fall in usual income.

Our thanks go to the many parishioners who contributed so generously to the St Agnes Building Fund which was conducted during November and December 2019. This fund raising was necessary because our church finances had been depleted from the previous year's maintenance work which had been carried out on the church building plus the requirement for further work due to be undertaken during our current year.

Items addressed in 2019-2020:

- Church Mission Action Plan (MAP) reviewed in February and to be reviewed again in early 2021
- Maintenance – Bruce Everett organised for the downpipes and drains to be cleared from blockages, as well painting the rear wall of the side chapel which was showing some effects of rising damp. It is not clear if the maintenance of the drainage had solved this raising damp problem so further investigation is required.
- Christine Foxwell organised the replacement of the leaking tap in the disabled toilet and for the Bell Tower to be repaired and painted during July. The builder also erected the Honour Board on to the side wall of the church and performed other minor repairs around the church. Mr Chris Wilson repainted the rear wall of the storage room at the back of the stage in the large hall as required by the 2019 Diocese Risk Assessment.
- During the lockdown in May and June two TV screens and a laptop computer were purchased by Bruce Everett and installed into the church by Bruce and Colin Foxwell. This was necessary to ensure that St Agnes met the Covid-19 safe operating rules as set down by the regulatory authorities. This ensures that parishioners have the Order of Service during worship services without handling Prayer or Hymn Books.
- All maintenance costs and Television purchases were paid out of the St Agnes Building Fund.
- Rental of Church facilities – The small hall was rented to an artist in February for use as an Art Studio. This rental is ongoing. Other regular rentals i.e. Cadence Choir, Openground Mindfulness Group and U3A ceased their rentals in March once the lockdown in Melbourne was introduced. These will not recommence for 2020 but we hope to reactivate these rentals and outreach opportunities in 2021.
- Policies and compliance – Thank you to Sharon Edmunds who continues to be responsible for the compliance for Child Safe Standards for St Agnes. The necessary Fire protection compliance was undertaken during the year in accordance with the state regulations. A COVID-19 Safety Plan was also prepared, with Garry Deverell nominated as the safety officer.
- Our thanks goes to David Matthews and Diane Whitehead for their ongoing maintenance of our church grounds and gardens. Our gardens are beautiful and we are very grateful.

Bruce Everett and Christine Foxwell

Music, Drama and Saturday Recycle Reports

Digging into my Archival collection of Christmas Productions, I noted that the 'Lord of the Dance' in 2009 began a long series of Christmas productions that started with 'The Shepherds' Tale' in 2010 and concluded with 'The Magic of Christmas' in 2019. The majority of these were under the Drama Direction of Chris Rowe and the Music Direction of myself. For a small suburban church we achieved great things, thanks to the extensive annual search for performance material by Chris as well as for the marvellous group of parishioners who were willing to throw their best efforts into whatever readings and music were thrown at them.

The pall of the Covid19 pandemic has meant that 2020 Christmas at St. Agnes will not be as it has been in the past. Hopefully the choir will be able to regroup and we will recycle some Christmas and Advent songs from our past repertoire.

Mentioning recycling moves us on to the Saturday Recycling variety where we began the year with 3 really good openings that totalled \$1095.25. Our average to that point was \$365.08. At the beginning of each year, great effort goes into the preparation of the Hall so that we can present the sale items differently. It was such a disappointment for all of us that we could not continue. These last weeks have also been tinged with regret for the passing of Don Bamford who, after Roma died, continued to be a constant presence in the narthex each Saturday when we opened. He will be sadly missed. Most people in the congregation know that Don invented the garage roller door, but next time that you travel and collect your luggage, remember that the initial prototype for the luggage carousels was also invented by Don.

Our thanks to all of the people who have contributed and will continue to contribute to Music, Drama and Recycling. In conclusion here are 2 verses that Andrew Lloyd Webber never used to the melody of 'Memory' from 'Cats':

1. Memories- Not a sound from the floorboards
Has the Hall lost its memory? Once was lucrative here.
In the sunlight the dust and leaves collect more each week
No more openings till next year.
2. Memories- Counting profits at midday
Throwing coverings over, all the goods still left there.
We remember the times that we were run off our feet
Bring back good times, is our prayer.

Jacquie Bennett

Pastoral Care Report

This year has certainly been a challenging one for all and the Calendar for the Pastoral Care Program 2020 which we planned for did not happen. We look forward to planning a new program for 2021.

In December we held our Christmas Lunch and on February 25th, Shrove Tuesday, we enjoyed a pancake Lunch. Due to Covid Restrictions these were the only events held for the year.

Thank you to our helpers, Diana, Christine Suzanne, Jean, Devon, Di, Liz Goninan and Liz Rankin. The delicious fare and assistance that they gave added to the enjoyment of each occasion.

Early in the year Diana Burt retired as Pastoral Care Coordinator. We thank Diana for her wonderful contribution over the years ,carrying out her role with dedication and commitment. We appreciate all that Diana does for St Agnes – always in a cheerful way.

During Covid restrictions we were able to keep in touch with each other mostly by phone and sometimes by email. Parish Councilors and some parishioners regularly contacted their particular group of 3 or 4 St Agnes people to have a chat and check to see if they were OK or in need of any help. This regular contact with each other was very much appreciated by all.

During the year we were saddened by the passing of Mary Burch, Margaret Hamman, Joy Box, John Wragg (husband of Pam) and Don Bamford. These people had contributed to St Agnes in their own unique way over many years and are missed by the St Agnes parishioners.

Due to Covid restrictions it was difficult to have other than direct family attend funerals. Margaret Hamman's service was however live streamed so many of us were able to pay our respects and hear stories of Margarets life.

We are hoping to be able to hold an afternoon tea with a Christmas theme if covid restrictions allow it.

Diana Matthews
Coordinator

Floral Arranging and Cleaning Reports

Although this year has been disrupted by the Covid-19 virus, and suspension of services since mid July, floral arranging has been beautifully carried out by our dedicated team of ladies: Lil Deverell, Christine Foxwell, Liz Goninan, Devon Hart, and Helen Wilson during 2019\20.

Occasional donations have been very much appreciated as well as floral donations from various ladies gardens. This has been supplemented by a generous “float” from our treasurer. Offers of donations of flowers, especially at Christmas and Easter would be very much appreciated.

We have been very appreciative of Lisa De Fazio’s dedication to cleaning our church during 2019\20. Until the 2nd ‘lockdown’ in July, she would thoroughly clean our church every 3 weeks. No cleaning has taken place since mid July, except for the 1 or 2 funerals that have occurred where a thorough clean has been undertaken by various members of the parish.

Helen Wilson

Craft and Coffee Group

During 2020 sadly we only had one meeting together, on 1st February. Several members have said to me how much they’ve missed their Friday chats and exchange of ideas and patterns.

Late in 2019 we were asked to take on a project, with wools supplied, to knit 3-piece layettes for babies in two Fijian hospitals. The request came from Diana Burt’s daughter-in-law Annette, on behalf of Aspen Medical management. This saw the completion of 6 layettes, with more still to come from our group. Also a number of very small beanies. We have enjoyed the challenge and I’m looking forward to collecting the remaining garments to pass on to Annette.

A variety of handcrafts have been brought along to our Fridays, winning admiration and advice, and stimulating ideas for other projects.

We have a very keen group of 6-8 regulars, and look forward to welcoming more crafters in 2021.

Valerie McDonald

Garden Report

This year there has been some significant rainfall, already nearly double that of last year. This has meant good growth in most of the plants. Once again, we must give very special thanks to David Matthews for undertaking most of the maintenance duties. Work in the grounds has been restricted this year whilst Covid-19 regulations have been in place, and it has not been possible to hold ‘Working Bees’ as in previous years.

Church Garden

There has been some disruption in the front garden as David has undertaken further work on the installation of the new watering system. This work is now nearing completion, and new plantings are underway to restore this area. At the side entrance the Agapanthus plants have been removed as their strong root systems were impinging on other plants. A new border has been planted, continuing the succulents from along the edge of the pathway beside the church.

Some further plantings are required and will be undertaken this year and new layer of chipped wood mulch will be added to retain moisture and suppress weed growth.

Garden of Memory

As mentioned in last year's Report, the repairs to down-pipe drainage and the installation of 'gutter – guard' mesh on the garden side of the vestry wall, has made quite a difference as there has been no flooding or wash-a-ways in that corner of the garden. This is with considerably more rainfall this year. [Last year's total 482mm compared with 780mm so far this year.] The lawn is still looking a bit 'patchy' and some new seeding & fertilizing will be undertaken to improve the appearance. Recently we have had three interments of ashes, but these areas should blend in over the next few weeks. It is our aim to have the Garden of Memory always clean and presentable.

We look forward to a more active 'Non-Covid' future as there is still pruning and new plantings to be done to make the gardens a place of peace and enjoyment.

Diane Whitehead

Vicar's Report

Well. If last year was challenging, this year was more so! Two enforced lock-downs related to the Covid-19 States of Disaster and Emergency seriously curtailed our parish activity between March 22 and June 28, and then again between July 12 and today. These two lockdowns, amounting to roughly seven months between them, affected almost everything we would normally do together as a parish on this site. We could not longer worship in our church building; the craft and book groups could not meet; Saturday Recycle and two Fairs were cancelled; Pastoral care lunches and morning teas had to be put aside; the educational programmes I had planned were abandoned; even the garden had to be left alone for many, many weeks. But I don't really want to focus, in this report, on what we couldn't do. I want to focus on what we could do.

For whilst all these activities are very important parts of our community life, and we miss them like crazy when we cannot attend to them, the life of any church is not entirely confined to such activities. The life of the church cannot be finally contained within what we do in buildings, in gardens, and in kitchens. For the life of the church is the Spirit of Christ, and the Spirit goes where she will, filling women and men with the mind and love of Jesus whether they are meeting in a building or not.

So I want to pay tribute, today, to everyone in our parish who followed the Spirit of Christ into new and unfamiliar places this year. I want to thank the 18 people who learned how to use Zoom so that we could continue to worship together and do Bible study. I want to thank the churchwardens and parish councillors, who also continued to meet via Zoom and make sure that the business of the parish continued, that maintenance was attended to, and that everyone was included in a pastoral care matrix so that no parishioner would be left to fend for

themselves. I want to thank everyone in the parish who picked up their phone and rang another parishioner to see how they were going, or sat down each day to read Scripture, to listen for God's voice of correction and encouragement, and to offer prayers of thanksgiving and intercession for friend and neighbour alike.

Sadly, we lost some dear friends over the past twelve months: Judy Haworth, Margaret Hamaan, Mary Burch, Don Bamford, John Wragg and Joy Box. May light perpetual shine upon them as we await, together with them and all the saints, the day of our Lord Jesus.

On the other side of the ledger, it was a great joy this year to see Bruce Everett move through the various stages of candidacy for ministry in the Diocese of Melbourne, and finally obtain the Archbishop's seal of approval for ordination as a distinctive deacon (a distinctive deacon is someone who has no plans to also become a priest). The way to ordination is never easy or straight-forward, so Bruce is to be congratulated for his perseverance, especially as the pandemic interrupted much that we had planned by way of training. Along the way, Bruce has enjoyed the support of the parish council, of Christian friends, and of a local field committee consisting of Maeve, Lil and Pasty. All being well, Bruce will be ordained on the morning of Saturday, February the 6th (note the date for your calendar) in the Cathedral and go on to serve at the Brotherhood of St Laurence and here at St Agnes', both. Bruce, I wish you every blessing for all that is ahead of you and pray that you may have a sense of Christ's companionship and love as you step out in obedience to his call.

I praise God, for everyone who contributes to the life of our parish - faithfully, continually, day in and day out - whether others notice what they are doing or not. I'm thinking of Valerie, who convenes her craft group, and looks after the memorial book, and makes sure that our food donations find their way to St Mark's in Fitzroy. I'm thinking of Suzanne, who ensures that the sacristy supplies are kept up and that we have what we need for worship. I'm thinking of Patsy, who convenes her book group and contributes her great wisdom and humour to many conversations. I'm thinking of Diane who, with David, ensures that our gardens are beautiful and also attends to the good order of our memorial garden. Diane also shares in the leadership of our Taize services with all the poise of one who truly knows the Lord. I'm thinking of Helen and Liz, who ensure that the flowers for the church are always beautiful and that the cleaning gets done in a timely and efficient manner. I'm thinking of Joan and Bill, who pulls together Merry Melodies between them. I'm thinking of Bruce who, when our windows were smashed during a break-in earlier in the year, just got on with making inexpensive wire screens to protect the windows, saving us thousands of dollars. I'm thinking of Christine F, who looks after our church bookings, and keeps an eye out for anything that needs to be done around the place and just, well, deals with stuff. I'm thinking of Jacquie, who continues to lead our music ministry, as well as the Saturday Recycle project, and offers wise counsel to whomever has the ears to hear. I'm thinking of Sharon, who as Church Safe Officer, has stayed on top of diocesan requirements and guided our members as they did their police and working with children checks. I'm thinking of Di and her team on the pastoral care group, who organise lunches for those who of our community who can't get out much anymore. I'm thinking of Nancy, who

keeps an eye on what we need for morning tea after worship. I'm thinking of the anonymous donors who gave substantial amounts to our building fund earlier in the year.

Bruce and Christine are stepping down as churchwardens this year, but I want to personally pay tribute for all they have done in service to our community, together with Colin our honorary treasurer. Together, these three have overseen the urgent maintenance works that are detailed in their report. Colin has put in an incredible number of hours ensuring our financial viability during the pandemic, especially through the process of applying for small business grants from the State Government. Not a straight-forward task, I assure you! Because of their diligence, Bruce, Christine and Colin have ensured that our building is in good order and that we have the money in the bank to support ministry in this place for some years yet.

I also want to thank everyone who has served this year by supporting me in the offering of worship to God: Suzanne our sacristan; our chalice assistants Jean, Christine F, Diana, Diane, Helen, Christine H and Bruce; our servers Sharon, Valerie, Helen and Bruce; our intercessors Bruce, Diane, Sharon, Christine F and Helen; our readers Di, Liz R, Christine F, Christine H, Lil, Jean, Jenny, John, Valerie, Maeve, Diana, Diane, Marjorie, Jerry and Sharon. Anglican worship is most itself when there is plenty of lay participation and leadership, so I thank you all for your both your skill and diligence.

So, what have I, personally been up to this year? Well. I have spent a great deal of time this year in prayer. Prayer for each of you. Prayer for those in our community who have lost jobs and livelihoods. Prayer for myself and my family, that I might continue to have both the faith and the energy I needed to lead and resource the St Agnes' community through the pandemic. I've also presided at 73 worship services (about a quarter of which were online via Zoom), four funerals and 3 interments, and been a visiting preacher or speaker at three other congregations. I've convened 10 parish council meetings, attended 3 meetings of the Bayside Council Reconciliation Advisory Group and 11 deanery meetings. I've had two audiences with the Archbishop on Aboriginal business and attended the annual conference of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council as the representative of this diocese. I've preached 74 sermons, led 48 bible studies, written and delivered 22 pastoral letters. I've done podcast and ABC radio interviews and fielded hundreds of enquiries from the general public. I've hosted several meals at the vicarage as part of the hospitality Lil and I offer to parishioners and the L'Arche Community. I've cleaned and prepared the church for funerals and one wedding, I've cleaned the church to make it Covid-safe immediately following many ordinary services. I've set up email and web services for the church free of charge. I've spent hours reading diocesan documents and interpreting them for our local congregation. I've also been in touch with every one of you on the phone, via video-streaming, or face-to-face as your pastor.

Many of you will be aware, now, that Lil and I will be moving on from St Agnes' at the end of the year. An opportunity presented itself which was impossible to refuse, as it brings together into one weave so many of the different strands I have followed in ministry over the years. From early next year I will become the inaugural director of a new Indigenous Studies Centre within the University of Divinity. For the first time in the history of any churchly academic

institution in this country, the experience and knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will be taken seriously as part of the process of doing theology, of imagining how God is calling us to live together in this part of the world. Along with my colleague, Naomi Wolfe, we shall lead the University and its constituent Colleges and ecclesial communities in this enterprise. The role will bring together the academic with the pastor, the writer with the builder of community, the administrator with the mentor, all for the sake of building bridges of understanding and justice across our broken churches and communities. Please pray for us, as the way ahead will no doubt be unclear and difficult at times.

We shall miss you all at St Agnes'. We are so grateful to you for welcoming us into your community and providing a safe and comfortable home for us. We are grateful for the opportunities for friendship and laughter, the meals in our home and garden or at the church, the wrestling together with Scripture and theology, the opportunities to gather as one around word and sacrament, the intimate conversations at times of crisis and distress. I ask your forgiveness for the times when I failed you, as we also forgive you for the times when you failed us. No one is perfect, this particular vicar most of all. So thank you for bearing with us as we sought to give imperfect shape and weight to the reconciliation that is ours in Christ Jesus.

Farewell, and may God bless your coming in and your going out, now and always.

Garry Deverell

NOTICE REGARDING OPENING THE CHURCH TO ON-SITE ACTIVITY

At its meeting on Monday night, the Parish Council passed the following motion: 'That (Govt restrictions permitting) St Agnes' resume public worship in the church building at 10am on Sunday, Nov 29. That all services (except 8am Sunday) resume during December with people being asked to nominate, beforehand, which weekly service they plan to attend.'

So, should you wish to attend any of the worship services being offered from next Sunday, Nov 29, you need to let the vicar know of your intention as soon as possible, so that a place can be arranged for you. Our maximum at all services, for the foreseeable future, is no more than 20 people. *We cannot guarantee a place for you if you do not let us know your intentions.*

Should you choose to attend worship in the church, you are required to wear a mask and remain 1.5 metres distant from anyone who does not live with you in your household. Please don't shake hands or hug other people. If you are taking part in the leadership of the service, you may remove your mask to speak or read. After worship is done, it is currently not possible to share morning tea. We must also confine our socialising to conversations in the back garden.

Communion will be given by the priest in the form of a single wafer that has been pre-prepared with a drop of wine. The priest will handle the wafers only after he has sanitised his hands. We shall have music at our services, but we cannot sing yet.