

It is a tough world. Humanity's fallen nature, a self-centred and materialistic culture not to mention COVID-19 are all having a powerful effect on a vast segment of the population, and nowhere is this more evident than among young people.

Even with the best intentions in sharing the gospel to others, it is not enough. Ultimately, the battle for the hearts, minds and souls of (young) people is spiritual. One thing I've learned in children/youth ministry is that I just don't have the means to win that battle. There is nothing I can do to ensure a young person will turn from the lures of this world and toward Jesus. But God can!

Programs, plans, mission statements and activities on a human level have little effect. But when we humbly bow and ask for God's intervention, awesome things begin to happen.

Regardless of whether we are working with children/youth or if we are raising them, prayer for should be central to all of our lives.

Here are just three simple actions to prayer to help you along:

- 1. **Pray for the children/youth in our church.** Whether they be regular church attendees, part of Kids'/Andy's Club, Refuge or through Scripture at Oak Flats, Balarang and Oak Flats High.
- Pray for parents and guardians of children and youth. Pray parents would grow in their relationship with Christ. For parents who have yet to accept Christ, pray they would understand their need for a Saviour and become a Christian.
- Pray for the Children's and Youth ministry leaders. Pray they would hear God's voice as they read His Word and prepare the lessons. Pray for their spiritual growth and relationship with Christ.

Remember that there is power and peace to be found in calling on his name through prayer!

- VALERIE O'REGAN

WELCOME TO CHURCH • SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST 2020

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

Church people who are unwell

Bob Bob Abrahams, John Angus, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Bronwyn Clark, Jan Crook, Ruth Eton, Raija Hannam, Robert Hannam, Erin Hick, Pauline Kirby, Yvonne Matthiassen, Joy Meyer, James Mills, Noel Monk, Charlie October, Valerie O'Regan, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Eileen Stokes, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Sue Vickery, Chris Wilson.

Expectant Parents

Pray for Ashleigh and Jake Browne as they prepare for the arrival of their baby.

Children and Youth

Pray for all the children and youth connected to our church, but also on our own personal lives. Pray that many will turn towards Jesus.

Recent illnesses

Pray for all those who have recently been hospitalised or unwell. Pray for healing and comfort for them and their families.

Church family

Pray that our church family to constantly turn to God in prayer, not just in times of need but in thankfulness and gratitude.

Parish vacancies

Pray for the many parishes in our region seeking new senior ministers: Albion Park, Bomaderry, Bulli, Cronulla, Campbelltown, Figtree, Huskisson, Menai, Menangle, Mittagong.

COVID-19

Pray that God would grant not just Australian, but all Governments and others in authority wisdom in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 1 0F 4)

Government:

Our Queen, The United Nations, other major governments.

World Focus:

The continent of Africa. The persecuted church.

Mission Partners:

Adrian and Anita Lovell, training Christian leaders in Bolivia.

Grahame and Patty Scarratt, providing distance training for Word ministers in Latin America.

Organisations We Support:

Church Missionary Society (CMS).

Word Ministry Training:

Moore Theological College.

Staff and Senior Leadership:

Our Minister Sam Pursell, his wife Susan and their kids Ed, Mary and Angela.

Children's and Youth Ministry:

TOTS, our playgroup for toddlers.

Adult Ministries:

Our Prime Time ministry to seniors, and the ministry at Warrigal.

Local Evangelism:

Our schools ministry - scripture (SRE).

Special Needs:

Those who are poor and needy. The growth of the gospel among our Indigenous communities.

Other Regular Matters:

For more Word ministers, here at Oak Flats and in all the world.

GROWING IN PRAYER

Prayer: Why?

Psalm 119:137-152

Sam Pursell • 23rd August 2020

- To speak back to God
- 2. To change things
- 3. To change us

Next Sunday...

Growing in Prayer - 'Prayer: How?' • Matthew 6:5-8, Luke 18:2-8 • Sam Pursell

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERVING US

9.30am Service 23rd August Welcomer: D Crook D Young Bible Reader:

D & J Orange Kids' Program: Morning Tea: R Hannam

Clean Up: B Hadley

3.30pm Service Welcomer: Bible Reader: Afternoon Tea: Clean Up:

23rd August P Taylor J Orange

G Taylor J Wilson 30th August

J Mills V O'Regan

B Firley/R Hannam

A Hadley D Crook

30th August M Peters D Rainey J Orange

D Orange

Cleaning Saturday: D & J Orange/J Evans

Mowing Saturday:

N/A

Church News

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

If you would be interested in joining a team who contact those who cannot make services or Bible study groups via phone or in person, could you please speak to Sam.

FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

The Pantry team have requested that the following items are needed to create hampers: pasta sauce, chunky soup, tinned meats, tuna, salmon, tinned vegetables and fruit.

Thank you to all who have previously donated.

BCA BOXES DUE

If you've been collecting coins for Bush Church Aid (BCA) please return them for counting as September is the collection month.

SOUTHERN CROSS

You can download a copy of the Southern Cross magazine by heading to this page: http://bit.ly/downloadSC.

SUNDAY SERVICES

A reminder that:

- Numbers are limited to 60 people in the whole church building premises, but only 45 adults in main hall.
- Children and youth under 18 do not need to physically distance.
- · Hand sanitiser must be used.
- Your name and number will be recorded as per Health NSW regulations.
- Wearing a face mask is recommended.
- Stay home if you have any signs of being unwell. We will sadly need to turn you away at the door if you come to church sick.
- Maintain a distance of 1.5m from other people.
- There will be no congregation singing. However you can hum along to the music.
- BYO Bible as church bibles are not available.
- No news sheet or handouts will be

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Minister: Rev Sam Pursell

M: 0417 711 314 E: sam.pursell@oakflatsanglican.com

Parish Administrator: Miss Valerie O'Regan M: 0408 271 189 E: val.oregan@oakflatsanglican.com

Wardens:

Dave Crook M: 0404 337 502 Geoff Kyngdon M: 0417 044 565 Phil Pratt M: 0411 328 731

Safe Ministry Representative: Harley Mills
M: 0409 562 932 E: harley.mills@oakflatsanglican.com

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

Name: Oak Flats Anglican BSB: 633 000 Account: 164 385 841