

Wednesday 28th April 2020

Dear South Wagga Anglican Family,

I was interviewed on ABC Riverina radio this week about our church's response to the pandemic and the host asked me how I think we will emerge from all this. My hope is that our city would emerge with a sense of humility, thanksgiving and a greater sense of community. Ultimately, my prayer is, that we will be more aware of our vulnerability and therefore we will call upon Jesus Christ who is Lord and Saviour of the world. I imagine restrictions will be eased slowly and public gatherings in churches are a long way off, so we continue to plan and resource ourselves for the medium term.

No doubt you have heard about various government stimulus packages which have been introduced over previous weeks. I am pleased to say that the Diocese and Parish has been working together to secure *JobKeeper* arrangements for all our staff. These arrangements have now begun, and staff will return to their pre-COVID19 hours of work. We are ensuring flexible work arrangements, re-negotiation of responsibilities and professional development opportunities. With the government intervention on behalf of the childcare industry we believe that the St Alban's Childcare lease arrangement is now more secure. Once the April financial reports are accessible, our treasurer will write to outline our financial position. In the meantime, we appreciate your generosity either online, or by cheque through mail.

This Sunday we are commencing our series on Mark's gospel. Focusing on chapters 1-8, I will be asking the question: *who is this man?* Mark's gospel is structured around this idea and culminates in the revelation, spoken by Peter in chapter 8, that Jesus is *the Christ, the Son of God*. You might like to read through Mark's gospel over this coming term and come on this journey with me – look out in the weekly newsletter for a reading guide.

I, along with the Parish Council, and many others (including our SWAC-care Pastoral Team) are praying for you all and are only pleased to hear from you if you have any need.

Your Rector,



Scott Goode

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