

# CONNECTIONS

Stories of the SWAC-scattered community



## Out of Isolation - A Poem

ADRIAN HALLAM

A sickness has spread across the earth,  
Infectious to all.  
It has forced me into isolation.  
Now I can't have a personal relationship with all my children.  
I can't enjoy time in the garden with them any more.  
How do I love from a distance?  
How do I show I care from a distance?  
How do I become a part of their life again?  
I have one Son who is still with me in isolation.  
He shares my immunity to this virus that plagues my other children.  
Is he the answer?  
Can he spread the immunity?  
Can he beat the death of this infection?  
Can I bear to be apart from my last child for all the others?  
Yes, they are worth it!  
He will bring them out of spiritual isolation.  
He will guide them to restoration.  
He will teach them we can deal with anything together.  
He will bring us together.  
Through him they will be healed  
And we can all be one again.



## OFFICE HOURS:

Our office is  
now open:  
10am - 2:00pm  
Tue to Fri

Food donations and  
pastoral care by  
appointment

scottg@swac.church  
office@swac.church  
kyliep@swac.church  
mattb@swac.church  
amandab@swac.church  
craigr@swac.church  
nataliem@swac.church

Warden Contact

St Paul's: Peter Hilton  
St Alban's: Robyn Clarke

[www.swac.church](http://www.swac.church)



## God's Word is a Banquet

NARELLE COSIER

I have led an afternoon Bible study at St Paul's church since 2012. Before then, I had only helped people who didn't have English as their first language to understand the Bible. But I already knew it was something I was passionate about. It doesn't matter how little or how much you know about the Bible, there is always more to learn. As we all start resuming our life after lockdown, why not join a Bible study, have great fellowship and learn more in God's Word?

I recently read an article about how we can survive the dark days that we find ourselves in. I agree totally with the following ideas:

Do NOT 'read' God's Word! People read newspapers, novels and webpages, but the Bible instructs us not to merely "read" the Word but to "*Study to show yourself approved by God, a workman who needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" (2 Timothy 2:15).

It's not enough just to have a few favourite Bible verses, or to pick and choose bits of Scripture that make us feel good. To be healthy, a person needs to enjoy the full banquet of God's Word, and not just grab a few snacks here and there. Throughout the Scriptures, we find the people God used greatly were those who diligently studied His Word, for example: "*Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord ...*" (Ezra 7:10).

... we must study whole books of the Bible, and invest time each day in getting to know the Lord through His Word and in prayer. It's time to get serious, or our faith will not survive the storms ahead. God's Word will give us discernment and wisdom, enabling us to navigate through this life.

Adapted from [www.asiaharvest.org](http://www.asiaharvest.org)

**“Let us seek friends that will stir up our prayers, our Bible reading, our use of time, and our salvation.”**

J.C RYLE





## Chaplaincy During COVID19

JEREMY POLKINGHORNE

Schooling has looked very different over the past few months, with students mostly learning from home. My role as chaplain / wellbeing officer has been a vital support to not only students, but to their families and the staff as well. One of my roles has been to support families with getting online and navigating Zoom meetings and online learning platforms. I have also been a listening ear for any worries or concerns. I continued to support staff as well with hands on tasks such as preparing physical learning packs for junior students. It has been good to be able to receive food hampers from SWAC Care as well, and I've delivered a few of those out to Ladysmith families as needed. Now we have returned to face-to-face learning and I have supported students and staff through that transition, but everyone seems to be pretty happy to be back at school as normal!

To support Jeremy financially please visit the Generate website: <https://mychaplain.org.au/mychaplain/jeremy-polkinghorne/fundraising-2>



A Chaplain or Wellbeing Officer is an additional support for school communities to assist with the social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of students.

## Urgent Request from CMS

PETER KEITH

SWAC is a strong CMS-supporting link church. CMS advises that their **Lasting Hope Appeal 2020** ending 30th June still has a shortfall of \$444,000 from their \$1.6 million Appeal. Please kindly consider an extra gift to help. The easiest way is to go to the CMS Lasting Hope 2020 website online, and contribute in that way. Or you can phone and make a donation by credit card. Thank you.

<https://lastinghope.cms.org.au/>





**SWAC Kids  
zoom meet on  
Sundays at 11am  
with Matt &  
Amanda.  
Email Matt  
for more info  
or to sign your  
kids up!**

## Kids ACTION News

MATT BAILEY

Have you seen the news?  
SWAC online presents **Kids Action News** where we want to bring you the most important news that you are ever going to hear! Over the next 5 weeks we'll be bringing some good news stories, in fact, the best news stories! We are going to have special guests to tell you about the weather, tell you about the sport and also to tell you all about the greatest news you'll ever hear! I'm Matt Bailey, see you next week!



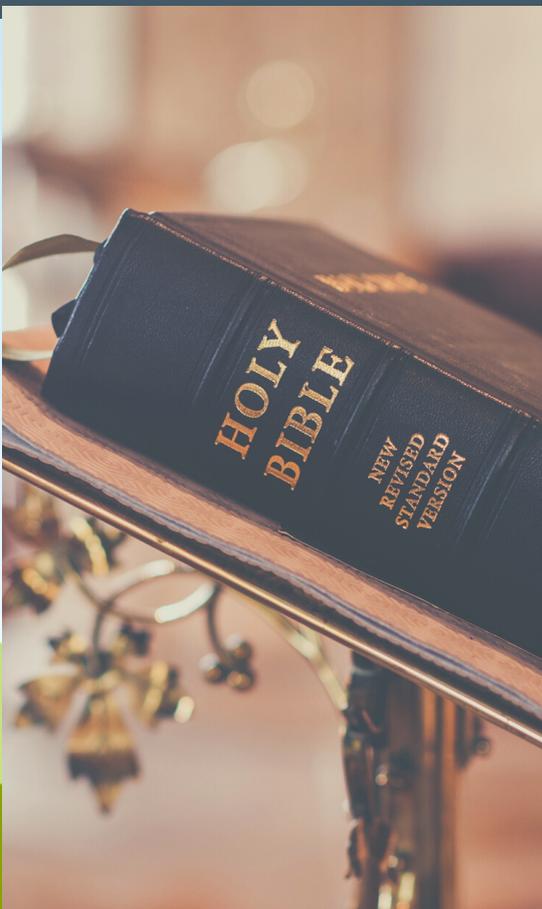
## Journey through Mark's Gospel

BIBLE READING GUIDE

SATURDAY	Mark 11:1-11	Psalm 74:1-11
MONDAY	Mark 11:12-26	Psalm 87
TUESDAY	Mark 11:27-33	Psalm 5:1-7
WEDNESDAY	Mark 12:1-12	Psalm 50:7-11
THURSDAY	Mark 12:13-17	Psalm 19:7-14
FRIDAY	Mark 12:18-27	Psalm 119:33-40

Daily devotion from J.C. Ryle's devotional commentary on Mark please go to:

<https://sites.google.com/view/swacresources/resources-home>





Send your pics and messages via email, text (or snail-mail) to

[kyliep@swac.church](mailto:kyliep@swac.church)

and be a blessing to our scattered church community.

## For Your Prayers

Dear Lord,

We pray that you might sustain us in all that you have given us to do in this moment. Especially we pray for those involved in education and training. As our schools seek to continue their important work in stressful and difficult circumstances, would you please keep teachers and students safe, and help them to care for each other. We pray for those who are facing critical points in their education, particularly those preparing for their final exams and assessments towards the HSC, and ask for a diligence in study that is surrounded at every point by a calm confidence in you and your provision.

We pray for those training for Christian ministry in this time. Please enable them to grow in faith & love and in the knowledge of your word. May they be shaped by you in ways which will prepare them well for what lies ahead on the other side of this pandemic. Would you pour out your Spirit and enable a new season of evangelism, christian growth and healthy church life to emerge in the months ahead.

Father, all our hope is in you. We trust your promises and look forward to the day when the Lord Jesus will return to bring all your purposes to their fulfilment.

It is in his name that we pray. Amen



## SWAC Online Giving

[HTTPS://SWAC.CHURCH/GIVING/](https://swac.church/giving/)

Jesus is the most generous person who ever lived: He gave His life so that we might live! As his followers, we give our time, talents, and money joyfully in response to God's generosity and so that others might know Him too. Our vision is to be a growing church that connects meaningfully with the community that God has placed us in. We invite you to partner with us in reaching Wagga for Christ. You can donate online at our website at anytime.

