

OUR NEWS

26th February 2023

Our Vision

A Community Transforming Lives



Our Values

Grace,
Inclusion,
Dignity,
Faith and
Hope

Congregational life at Westmead & Parramatta,
Hospitality Services at 175 Hotel and Wesley Apartments
Meals Plus Services providing for those in need across the
Parramatta LGA

Parramatta Mission acknowledges that all of our work takes
place on the land of traditional owners.

We pay respect to the original custodians of the land on
which we gather, and acknowledge their elders past and
present, and their emerging leaders.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Lent 1A, 2023

Matthew 4:1-11

Tempted

Debie Thomas

On this first Sunday in Lent, we follow Jesus into the wilderness, and watch as the Son of God confronts the fullness of his humanity. As Matthew's Gospel describes him, Jesus is

"famished" after forty days of fasting. Physically, he's at the end of his strength. Socially, he's alone and friendless. Spiritually, he is struggling to hang onto his identity as the glow of his baptism recedes into a hazy, pre-wilderness past. And it's in this state of vulnerability that the tempter comes, ready to pull Jesus away from his belovedness, and his vocation.

In the Christian tradition that raised me, Jesus's human-ness was something we skirted around. We affirmed it in our creeds, to be sure, but avoided examining it too closely. We professed that the Incarnation was real. We preached that Jesus was tempted in every possible way, just as we are. But we never lingered over what his enfleshed life might have looked, smelled, tasted, and felt like. To consider the possibility that Jesus wrestled with who he was and what his mission entailed? That was a line we didn't cross. We wanted our Jesus human, but not too human.

Yet it is precisely the appalling messiness of humanity — both Jesus' and our own — that we grapple with during Lent. We begin on Ash Wednesday, acknowledging via the imposition of ashes that we will surely die, that our bodies will fail us no matter how cleverly we attempt to preserve them with medicine, exercise, cosmetics, or mindfulness.

From that austere beginning, we venture into the wilderness like Elijah, like Moses, like the Israelites after their exodus from Egypt. With ashes on our foreheads and mortality on our minds, we begin a precarious journey inward, a journey to explore who Jesus is, who we are, and what our shared humanity requires of us here and now.

As Matthew tells the story, the devil comes to Jesus in the guise of a brilliant interrogator. "Can you be like God?" is the savvy question he posed to Adam and Eve in the lushness of the first garden. "Can you take hold of a higher wisdom, a keener knowledge, a more divine humanity?"

Now he comes to the exhausted Jesus with a shrewd inversion of those primordial questions: "Can you be fully human? Can you abdicate power? Exercise restraint? Work in obscurity? Can you bear the vulnerability of what it means to be weak and mortal and human?"

I have to confess that until fairly recently, I didn't see what the big deal is with the devil's taunts. Jesus is starving, after all. Who cares if he zaps a rock or two into bread? God is supposed to be Jesus' protector after all, an omnipotent commander of legions of angels. Why is it sinful for a son to call on the protection of his parent? Jesus



is the rightful ruler of all the earth's kingdoms, after all. What's wrong with him receiving the worship that's his due?

These days, I read the story differently. The devil doesn't come to make Jesus do something "bad." He comes to make Jesus do what seems entirely reasonable and good — but for all the wrong reasons. The test is a test of Jesus's motivations. A test of his willingness to identify as fully human, even as he is fully God.

The first temptation targets Jesus's hunger. "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." The temptation implies that God's beloved should not hunger. In the devil's economy, unmet desire is an aberration, not an integral part of what it means to be human. In inviting Jesus to magically sate his hunger, the devil invites Jesus to deny the reality of the incarnation. To "cheat" his way to satisfaction, instead of waiting, paying attention to his hunger, and leaning into God for lasting fulfillment.

Along the way, the devil encourages Jesus to disrespect and manipulate creation for his own satisfaction. To turn what is not meant to be eaten — a stone — into an object he can exploit. As if the stone has no intrinsic value, beauty, or goodness, apart from Jesus's ability to possess and consume it.

Many of us have "given up" something for Lent this year. Chocolate, wine, TV, Facebook. The goal is to sit with our hungers, our wants, our desires — and learn what they have to teach us. What is the hunger beneath the hunger? Can we hunger and still live? Desire and still flourish? Lack and still live generously, without exploiting the beauty and abundance all around us? Who and where is God when we are famished for whatever it is we long for? Friendship, meaning, intimacy, purpose? A home, a savings account, a child, a family?

I write these words with trepidation, because I know what it is to let hunger gnarl and embitter me. Hunger in and of itself is not a virtue, it's a classroom. To sit patiently with desire — to become its student — and still embrace my identity as God's beloved, is hard. It's very, very hard. But this is the invitation. We can be loved and hungry at the same time. We can hope and hurt at the same time. Most of all, we can trust that when God nourishes us, it won't be by magic. It won't be manipulative and disrespectful. It won't necessarily be the food we'd choose for ourselves, but it will feed us, nevertheless. And through us — if we will learn to share — it will feed the world.



The second temptation targets Jesus's vulnerability. "[God] will command his angels concerning you," the devil promises Jesus. "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." The implication is that if we are beloved of God, then God will keep us safe. Safe from

physical and emotional harm, safe from frailty and disease, safe from accidents, safe from death.

It's such an enticing lie, because it targets our deepest fears about what it means to be human in a broken, dangerous world. We want so much — so much — to believe that we can leverage our belovedness into an impenetrable shield. That we can get God to guarantee us swift and perfect rescues if we just believe hard enough. But no. If the cross teaches us anything, it teaches us that God's precious children still bleed, still ache, still die. We are loved in our vulnerability. Not out of it.

The third temptation targets Jesus's ego. After showing Jesus "all the kingdoms of the world," the devil promises him glory and authority. "It will all be yours," the devil says. Fame. Visibility. Recognition. Clout. A kingdom to end all kingdoms, here and now. The implication is that God's beloved need not labor in obscurity. To be God's child is to be center stage: visible, applauded, admired, and envied. A God who really loves us will never "abandon" us to a modest life, lived in what the world considers insignificance.

That Christians tend to have an uneasy relationship with power is an understatement. Church history is littered with the ugly fallout of "Christian" ambition, power, fame, and authority gone awry. So the question for us is whether we can embrace Jesus's version of significance, a significance borne of humility and surrender. How important is it to us that we're noticed? Praised? Liked? Is our belief in God's love contingent on a definition of success that doesn't come from God at all? Can we trust that God sees us even when the powers-that-be do not? Can our lives as God's beloved ones thrive in quiet places? Secret places? Humble places? The uncomfortable truth about authentic Christian power is that it resides in weakness. Jesus is lifted up — but he's lifted up on a cross.

Three temptations. Three invitations. What will we do with them?

If Jesus's forty days in the wilderness is a time of self-creation, a time for Jesus to decide who he is and how he will live out his calling, then consider carefully what the Son of God chooses: deprivation over ease. Vulnerability over rescue. Obscurity over honor. At every instance in which he can reach for the certain, the extraordinary, and the miraculous, he reaches instead for the precarious, the quiet, and the mundane. Needless to say, there's nothing easy about affirming Jesus' choices. Sometimes I find them appalling. I much prefer the miraculous intervention, the dramatic rescue, the long-awaited vindication. I understand too well the demands of the tempter: Feed me! Deliver me! Prove yourself to me! I know what it's like to find the restraint of God offensive.

The other aspect of the temptation story we might consider offensive is this: God's Spirit orchestrates it. Jesus doesn't meander into the wilderness on his own. He doesn't schedule a National Geographic expedition, or a marathon in the desert to rack up Fitbit steps. According to Matthew's Gospel, the Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness, specifically "to be tempted by the devil."

I'll admit it: I don't know what to do with the Spirit's role in this story. But might it be possible to draw some comfort from it? Simply because it rings true — that even the wilderness can't separate us from God's purpose and care? After all, we don't choose to enter the wilderness, either. We don't (for the most part) volunteer for pain, loss, danger, or terror. But the wilderness still happens. Whether it comes to us in the guise of a hospital waiting room, a toxic relationship, a troubled child, a sudden death, or an unshakable depression, the wilderness appears, unbidden and unwelcome, and sometimes we have no choice but to trek into its barrenness. Sometimes — can we bear to ponder this? — it is God's own Spirit who drives us into the parched landscape amidst the wild beasts.

Does this mean that God wills bad things to happen to us? That he wants us to suffer? I don't think so. Does it mean that God can redeem even the most desolate periods of our lives? That our deserts can become holy even as they remain dangerous? Yes. I believe so.

I write these lines hesitantly, too aware of how Christians have suffered under the false teaching that God authors human pain and suffering for some greater good of his own devising. God does not. But we walk a fine line, nevertheless. Sometimes our journeys with God include dark places. Not because God takes pleasure in our pain, but because we live in a fragile, broken world that includes deserts, and because God's *modus operandi* is to take the things of death, and wring from them resurrection.

At his baptism, Jesus hears the absolute truth about who he is. The Beloved. That's the easy part. The much harder part comes in the wilderness, when he has to face down every vicious assault on that truth. When the memory of his Parent's voice from heaven fades, and he has to learn how to be God's beloved in a lonely wasteland.

Maybe we, like Jesus, need long stints in the wilderness to learn what it means to be God's precious children. Because the unnerving fact is this: we can be beloved and uncomfortable at the same time. We can be beloved and unsafe at the same time. In the wilderness, the love that survives is flinty, not soft. Salvific, not sentimental. Learning to trust it takes time.

So. What does Jesus's temptation story mean for us as we begin our Lenten journeys this year? Maybe it means we need to follow Jesus into the desert. Maybe it means we should hunker down and look evil in the face. Maybe it's time to hear evil's voice, recognize its allure, and confess its appeal. Maybe it's time to decide who we are and whose we are.

Remember, Lent is not a time to do penance for being human. It's a time to embrace all that it means to be human. Human and hungry. Human and vulnerable. Human and beloved.

May the God who loves us even in the wilderness, grant us a holy Lent.

Foster your faith this week

Gn 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Ps 32

Rom 5:12-19

Mt 4:1-11

Leigh Memorial Congregation

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY – FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

This **Sunday, 26 February**, we'll be gathering for worship Onsite + Zoom at Leigh Memorial at 9.30am with Pastor Fil Kamotu. *All Welcome*. NB: A PCUC service marking **Ash Wednesday** – and the commencement of the season of Lent for 2023 – took place at Leigh Memorial on 22 February. Thank you to Pastor Fil, our PCUC participants and the wonderful Leigh Memorial worship team.

FEBRUARY – MARCH @ LEIGH MEMORIAL

NB: *Members and visitors are warmly invited to join us for morning tea after worship each Sunday.*

Sunday 26 February – 9.30am with Pastor Fil

Sunday 5 March – 9.30am with Pastor Sarah, inc. Communion

Sunday 12 March – 9.30am with Rev Vladimir

FUNDRAISER UPDATE – MANY THANKS

Our 'Lent Event' + Turkiye-Syria Earthquake Appeal pancakes fundraiser last Sunday raised \$250.00! Thanks to everyone who contributed – and continued prayers for all those impacted by the earthquake and its aftermath. Further information regarding donations to Lent Event 2023 can be found on the UnitingWorld website: <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/event/lent-event/home>

PASTORAL MESSAGE

It was great to see Mae & Steve back at church last Sunday and enjoying plenty of face-to-face time after a long period on Zoom due to Mae's medical journey. Our prayers, love & support remain with Mae, Jolame, Rev John's wife Laurel and all those in need of additional help at this time, including members who are unwell, undergoing tests, grieving or requiring special care. We also continue to prayerfully support Paul & the Meals Plus team in all their daily challenges. NB: Contact details for the pastoral team (Revs Vladimir & John and Pastors Fil & Sarah) are in the newsletter.

INVITATION: 'INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY' HIGH TEA

PM's Community Meals Coordinator, Sue Rogoimuri, is organising a Women's High Tea at **2.00pm – 4.00pm on Saturday 4 March** at Parramatta Mission – in recognition of International Women's Day. Theme: Purple (the colour of the International Women's Movement). All welcome! For catering purposes,

RSVPs are requested ASAP to Sue's mobile: 0411 382 281

PRAYERS FOR AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Our thoughts remain with the people of Aotearoa following the devastation of Cyclone Gabrielle. Family members of Ruth, Mike, Lars and Silas are isolated in the coastal zone that has been severely impacted. Please hold them, the Mawson family and others in the region in prayer.

LENT & EASTER DIARY DATES

Saturday 4 March – Women's High Tea @ Parramatta Mission, 2.00 – 4.00pm.

Saturday 18 March – PCUC 'Vision & Values' Morning + Lunch at Centenary from 9.00am.

Thursday 6 April – Tenebrae (Maundy Thursday) (arrangements to be confirmed).

Friday 7 April – Good Friday: PCUC service @ Westmead, 9.00am

Sunday 9 April – Easter Sunday: Services at Parramatta, Westmead & Northmead. There will be a Combined Leigh Memorial & Leigh Fijian service @ Leigh.

UCA SAFE CHURCH TRAINING – REGISTER ASAP!

For those in need of Safe Church training or a refresher, please note that a full day UCA Safe Church training workshop will be held at Penrith Uniting Church this **Saturday 25 February**. The cost is \$25 and participants need to wear a mask & BYO lunch. Registrations are being capped at 50 attendees:

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/safe-church-unit/safe-church-training/> For those who are interested in the training but can't make it to the Penrith workshop, Pittwater UC will be hosting a course in May and additional courses are available in regional areas. Please check the website for details.

SCHOOL TOURS

Parramatta Mission's program of school visits is continuing in 2023, with a first tour taking place on Wednesday 22 February involving a group from Pennant Hills High School. The students commenced with a talk from Liz and a look around the church, and then moved into Meals Plus to hear from Paul and assist the Meals Plus volunteers with lunch prep and packing hampers. The students enjoyed the visit and the opportunity to learn about the daily workings of a vital Christian community meals and support operation in the heart of the Parramatta CBD. As part of the program, schools also gather and donate non-perishable foods to Meals Plus. Further tours are in the planning.

SYDNEY ORGANS FACEBOOK GROUP

Please note the following correction to a previous notice that appeared in the newsletter: Members of the Sydney Organs Facebook group, with the support of Dr Kelvin Hastie OAM and Pastor de Lasala OAM (both of whom are directors of the Organ Historical Trust of Australia) are currently conducting a project to record, celebrate, archive, preserve and share the music of several historic church organs in the Sydney region (inc. Leigh Memorial). Enquiries: PCUC/ PM Heritage Committee.

Westmead Congregation



Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Sunday 26th February 2023, 9.30am

Worship today will be led by Reverend Vladimir. Once again, a warm welcome, Vladimir - Westmead looks forward to your second session with us.

Last week's Reflection from Vladimir was on loving not just your neighbour, but your enemies. It is a challenge to love our enemies, but we are reminded that if we resist the Oppressor, we are to find "a non-violent way" of doing it. "Love, received and held in our hearts and minds, is the fuel that drives our facing the differences and conflicts, as we face them in all aspects of our lives".

Thank you, Vladimir, for your insightful Reflection.

WESTMEAD WORSHIP - FEBRUARY 2023

All services begin on site at 9.30am

26 February: Rev. Vladimir

It is lovely to see the Johnson Street group from Guildford joining in Worship with us – we look forward to your company.

Please read an important update below from Jan regarding changes to the weekly Tai Chi classes gathering at Uniting – there is a change of venue. This week however, Tai Chi will still be held at Uniting on Friday at 10am.

There are a lot of "Diary Dates" upcoming in the Church – a big Thank You to Lorna for furnishing a thorough list of all the dates on her computer! If you haven't received a copy, please ask Lorna and she will send one out.



Tues 28th Feb – Sydney Alliance Election Meeting
6.15pm @ The Morley Centre, Catherine McAuley
School, Westmead.

Sat 4th March – CCLM meeting for nominated members @Centenary Church
(TBA).

Sat 4th March- International Women's Day High Tea 2-4pm @ Parramatta Mis-
sion.

Sat 18th March – 9am- 1pm PCUC 'Vision and Values' Morning @Centenary
Church including lunch.

Sat 19th March – Jazz on Hammers @Northmead Church including dinner.

BIBLE STUDY: Each Mondays, 2.00pm

Zoom Link: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512>

FAREWELL TAI CHI AT WESTMEAD

Westmead congregation has had a Tai Chi class running over the last 16 plus years. This has been a most successful group, and many of the congregation have been part of it in years gone by, and many people from the community have made this a very important group with many friendships formed, and support for one another when changes have happened in the progress of life.

Virginia Akrap is the leader, and a most capable, patient, caring and professional person who has become a friend of all. Virginia is an instructor from the Academy of Tai Chi & Qigong. We wish to pay our respects to Virginia, for the many years of patient teaching, and through difficult times with Covid and as our numbers have declined because of ill health and moving on, Virginia was always there.

In the last two years our classes have been held at Uniting Westmead owing to some difficulties in accessing our Westmead Chapel, and this has been a very positive move, and of course, the coffee shop became an important part of our day too. We have always met on a Friday, and Virginia was able to fit this class in around other classes held at Wentworthville Leagues Club. This year the club days have changed and Virginia will not be able to continue classes at Westmead on a Friday. This being said, the numbers in our group have declined. It was hoped that we could encourage residents in self-care at Westmead to join us, but this has not happened, and so the group has decided to join Virginia at the Leagues Club for classes on a Friday.

While this leaves us all feeling sad our Westmead congregation group will no longer exist, and we won't have the contact and camaraderie with the coffee shop area (residents and staff), we will look forward to continuing our class and our connection with one another.

Thank you to Westmead congregation, 175 and Uniting Westmead for your support.

ENQUIRIES:

Chairperson:	Jan Robson:	0418 438 901
Administration &		
Liturgy Co-ordinator:	Lorna Porter:	0408 365 478
Prayer Chain Requests:	Ruth Geggie:	0430 271 205
Newsletter &		
Technology:	Cheryl Shyam:	0432 436 999
Technology:	Alysa Biju:	E-mail: westmead.uca@gmail.com

Leigh Fijian Congregation

- 1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 26/02:** Na lotu ena macawa oqo ena vunau tiko kina nai vakatawa Anare Vocea kei Isikeli Duwai. Tu vakarau ena vunau Viliame Kamotu kei Taito Dovibua. Tu vakarau ena veiliutaki matamasumasu naba 3.
- 2. Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 05/03:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na lotu vulavou ka na qaravi tiko kina na vakayakavi ni turaga. Ena veiqaravi tiko kina ko Pastor Filikesa Komotu kei Ofa Foiakau. Vunau vakarau Adi Akisi Allison kei Suguta Rogoimuri. Tu vakarau ena veiliutaki soqosoqo ni tabagone. Veiqaravi ena gunuwaini Adi Akisi Allison kei Suguta Rogoimuri.
- 3. Lesoni ni macawa oqo (Lent 1) 20/02-26/02:** Vakatekivu 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Same 32, Roma 5:12-19, Maciu 4:1-11
- 4. Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo (Lent 2) 27/02-05/03:** Vakatekivu 12:1-4, Same 121, Roma 4:1-5, 13-17, Joni 3:1-17 Maciu 17:1-9
5. Kids Camp out ena qaravi tiko ni oti na siga ni mate.
6. Vakaramumi mai e rua na lewe ni vavakoso ena bose ni vavakoso ena vakarauwai sa oti. Ko Isikeli Duwai turaga ni Kubulau Bua kei Merelita Terio marama ni Kadavu.
7. Na vulisere ni vavakoso ena qaravi tiko ena yakavi ni veisiga vakaraubuka ena 7:30pm.
8. Vakavinakinakataki na nodatou youth ena rally ena siga vakarauwai sa oti kei na kena matasere rogorogo vinaka. Vinaka vakalevu youth.
9. Na veidigidigi ni komiti era veiqaravi tiko vei na nodatou vavakoso vakaviti ena qaravi tiko ena I ka 12 ni vula Maji (12/03)

Lolo kei Na masumasu - Veinanumi ena lolo kei na masumasu ena vei matai ni Vukelulu ena vei vula mai na 6am – 12pm se 6am – 6pm. Soli tu na galala ke o rawa ni qarava.

Veinanumi ena Masu : Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase kei na vuvale ra sotava tiko na dredre ko Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, Akisi Dovibua Baranski, Dia Allison. Ko ratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Na nodratou veiqaravi na Bula Feeding.

Gadrevi na noda veinanumi ena masu vei ira na lewe ni vavakoso era mai sasaga kei na nanumi talega ni nodra vuvale mai Viti.

시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

23-09

사순절 제1주제 (1st Lent of Sunday) 2023년 02월 26일 오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) 새 1 장 통 1 장 만복의 근원 하나님——다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

새 8 장

통 8 장

거룩 거룩 거룩

기도 (Prayer) 주기도문송 새 635 장 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지 다함께

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) 누가복음 11: 33-36

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사
네 눈을 밝게 하라

봉헌 송 (Offertory Hymn)
새 96 장 통 94 장 예수님은 누구신가?

나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 전 세계가 전염병으로 힘들 때 주님과 동행하시는 성도가 됩시다.
2. *매일 성경 말씀으로 주님과 교제의 시간(QT)을 갖고 적용하는 훈련을 합니다.
3. 말씀, 기도, 전도 생활로 하나님이 기뻐하시는 삶을 사는 성도님들이 되시기 바랍니다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn)
새 502 장 통 259 장 너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
마태복음 15:1-20

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
마태복음 14:13-16:28



Castlereagh
CONFERENCE CENTRE

WE ARE HIRING

**GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE
OFFICER - CASUAL**

Tasks include:

- Mowing
- Creating & maintaining gardens
- Adhoc landscaping projects & handyman tasks as required
- Previous experience in outdoor gardening and/or handyman role highly desired

Benefits:

- Award wages
- Friendly team
- Staff uniform provided
- Peaceful work environment
- Close to Penrith

Requirements:

- Availability and willingness to work weekdays, weekends and public holidays
- A valid Working with Children Check
- Must have own transport
- Ability to work with minimal supervision

TO APPLY

Please email your CV & cover letter to:

bookings@castlereagh.org.au

*Only short listed candidates will be contacted



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia
United Methodist Church

International Women's Day High Tea

Dear Friend,

You are invited to a High Tea to celebrate International Women's Day, 2023.

The afternoon tea will take place on **Saturday, 4th March, 2.00 – 4.00pm** at the Parramatta Mission Hall,
119 Macquarie Street, Parramatta.

Come and share special moments with friends over a cup of tea or coffee and cakes – and listen to some inspirational stories.

Theme: Purple (the colour of the International Women's Movement).

RSVP: Sue Rogoimuti – 0411 382 281 - by Friday, 24 February.



Prayer Points

The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for Our Community

- We give thanks that some small gatherings are starting to take place. We give thanks for welcoming cafes and the disciplines we have learnt to help keep us all safe.
- We give thanks for coffee, tea, muffins and spiritually encouraging conversations.

PM Westmead

- We hold up those who are unwell, into Your light and healing power – May You bring easing of discomfort of the mind, body and spirit with Your love and presence.
- For those who have lost loved ones in the Turkey/ Syria earthquake disaster and for the people undertaking the recovery mission – Lord we ask for Your strength to be with these.
- For the war in Ukraine as it continues – We pray for peace to arrive, for the killing and disregard for human life to stop. We pray for the effects of the war not to devastate the economy especially in those countries with the least ability to fund resources.
- For the increase in anxiety and depressive illnesses that are happening because of the state of the world we live in. We pray for peace and love of family and friends to surround those battling to cope. May they get divine guidance and strength to walk on.
- For those who are just getting by with food, clothing, shelter and finances and for those whose employment is hanging in the balance – we ask for a positive change in their circumstances through Your power and workings.
- For countries battling famine due to climate change extremes – we pray for humanitarian aid to arrive in abundance for them. Grant in us awareness of our climate, that we may consciously seek better options.

PM Fijian

- We pray for those who are going through transitions from school to beyond.
- We pray for the Synod Pulse Team and Ofa's role as a newly commissioned Pastor in the Team, resourcing youth ministry across NSW/ACT.
- We pray for the guests at the Bula Feeding Ministry and Meals Plus and our wonderful volunteers. We pray for those who are unable to meet because of rain or storms and for those who have been sleeping rough.

PM Korean Faith Community

- We pray for the Korean community in Western Sydney and for the revival of the church.
- We pray especially for Nak Su Baik, Kyeong Ok Hyeon (Those who are not in good health).

Prayer Points

PM Leigh Memorial

- We pray for congregation members, leaders and staff who are unwell, or having tests or procedures, and those experiencing anxiety surrounding work, study, family life or health. We particularly remember our members in need of additional support at this time, including those who are separated from their families or grieving. We also remember those within our congregations who are devoted carers to others in their family or within the community;
- We pray for wisdom and inspiration to infuse all current and forthcoming decision-making processes and actions by our dedicated ministers, leaders, managers and staff – and specifically pray for Paul and the team at Meals Plus, Cameron and his team at Westmead, the Bula Feeding ministry, and the life and witness of our fellow Parramatta Mission & Parramatta City Uniting Church congregations;
- We also pray for greater mutual respect, compassion and care within our local communities, and for the realisation of a community-wide spirit of inclusion and love for all people.

Wider Work

For our Combined Parramatta Mission Team

- May God guide all our staff and volunteers to live out our values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope;
- Rev. Vladimir, Rev. Hyun Goo, Chaplain Sarah, PMC Chairperson, David and Secretary Robert and all those who lead and serve.

Service & Zoom Information

Leigh Memorial Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site & Zoom

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5199089657>

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

Westmead Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site

Leigh Fijian Congregation

Time: Sundays 11.15am on site

Pastoral Contacts

Prayer Points may be sent to
wecare@parramattamission.org.au

For a conversation or to contact a Minister, please call
Parramatta Mission Reception (9am-3pm)
119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150
9891 2277

Leigh Memorial Church
119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150
9891 2277

Westmead Church
175 Hawkesbury Road Westmead NSW 2145
9891 2277

IN TIME OF PASTORAL NEED

Please contact our minister Vladimir Korotkov for any pastoral needs.

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Transition Minister)	0431 759 573
Rev John Barr	0457 879 099
Pastor Fil Kamotu	0404 552 915

YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT THESE PEOPLE FOR PASTORAL ISSUES

Rev Hyun Goo Jun (Korean Faith Community)	0433 320 588
Pr Sarah Bishop (Children's Hospital)	0429 912 943
Anare Vocea (Fijian Vakatawa)	0432 772 852



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