

OUR NEWS

25th June 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

Weekly Meditations
Pentecost 4A 2023,
Mt10: 24-39



Do not be afraid
Suzanne Guthrie

Jesus is about to send the disciples out on a mission. He has many things to say. As he tells his friends what they need to know, he grounds each group of thoughts with the admonition: “do not be afraid.”

When I hear “do not be afraid” I morph into an irrational, reactive, quivering glob of boneless flesh with oversized eyeballs. I have two kinds of fear: fear arising out of experience, and fear of those things I can't yet imagine. In both instances it's useless to say to me “don't fear.” In the first case I'm rational enough to jolly well know enough to fear. In the other, I may not even know I am afraid because of all the chaos of projection and confusion as I dodge shards of panic bursting all around me.

Pema Chodron is my go-to gal on fear. *When Things Fall Apart* has helped me through many a pulling-myself-back-together. She says: recognize fear. Lean into fear. Work with fear. Appreciating fear is the foundation of sanity. Fear itself is the vanguard of wisdom, the vanguard of courage. She says, don't go into life just for good feelings, but acknowledge and touch what is uncomfortable and unpleasant. (Good advice for the departing disciple, since the mission itself implies hardship.) Place your fear in the cradle of loving-kindness, she says. And be kind to yourself first of all because without kindness toward your own self you're not going to be able to summon up mercy for other people. (What does bearing the Good News mean but to offer mercy and loving-kindness?)

But all this takes practice. So as the old Benedictine monks say, “lento, lento, lento,” slowly, slowly, slowly practice day by day. If I practice leaning into my fear, I can actually transform my fear toward loving-kindness. Sounds efficient. So, do not fear, says Jesus.

Okay, say I. Just give me a little more time to practice befriending my fear.

No! No... my dear. No. The time is now.

Suzanne

Perhaps I am stronger than I think. Perhaps I am even afraid of my strength, and turn it against myself, thus making myself weak. Making myself secure. Making myself guilty. Perhaps I am most afraid of the strength of God in me. Perhaps I would rather be guilty and weak in myself than strong in God whom I cannot know.

Thomas Merton 1915-1968

Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander

O Jesus Christ, Thou didst not come to the world to be served, but also surely not to be admired or in that sense to be worshipped. Thou wast the way and the truth – and it was followers only Thou didst demand. Arouse us therefore if we have dozed away into this delusion, save us from the error of wishing to admire Thee instead of being willing to follow Thee and to resemble Thee.

Soren Kierkegaard 1813-1855

If it should please you to guide us... leave us with... the Holy Spirit of fidelity, steadfastness, and perseverance, so we can in sure trust continue our path, maintain its direction, remain true to the principles chosen back then when your light shone upon us and your joy made our heart glad. At those times when we feel deserted like that, grant us then especially your spirit of courageous attack, of firm prayer of defiance, of self-discipline, of penance. Grant us then the unshakable confidence that even during times of feeling deserted we are not deserted by your grace, that you are with us even more so when we cannot see you as the strength that wants to be victorious in our weakness.

Karl Rahner 1904-1984

Prayer for Pentecost

They Will Lose Their Lives

Those who, in the biblical phrase, would save their lives—that is, those who want to get along, who don't want commitments, who don't want to get into problems, who want to stay outside of a situation that demands the involvement of all of us—they will lose their lives. What a terrible thing to have lived quite comfortably, with no suffering, not getting involved in problems, quite tranquil, quite settled, with good connections politically, economically, socially—lacking nothing, having everything. To what good? They will lose their lives.

Oscar Romero 1917-1980

Meditations sourced from Suzanne Guthrie,

At the Edge of the Enclosure

**SAT.
12 AUG
2023**

**NEWTOWN
MISSION
9.30 AM -
12.30PM**



WALKING TOGETHER 2023 *A VOICE TO PARLIAMENT*



THOMAS MAYO
National Indigenous Officer
of the Maritime Union of
Australia



REV. BILL CREWS
Radio Broadcaster and
Founder The Rev. Bill Crews
Foundation



NATHAN TYSON
Director, First Peoples
Strategy and Engagement,
Synod of NSW & ACT

The Synod of NSW and the ACT, in collaboration with Newtown Mission, is hosting a Forum about the proposed Voice to Parliament, the Synod's second annual Walking Together conference.

KEYNOTE: Thomas Mayo **Q&A PANEILLISTS:** Rev. Bill Crews, Nathan Tyson and Thomas Mayo

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! GO TO:
tinyurl.com/RegisterWalkingTogether2023

\$25 In Person | \$10 Online Acces



Foster your faith this week

Gn 21:8-21 or Ps 86: 1-10,16-17

Rom 6:1b -11 Mt 10:24-39

Leigh Memorial

WELCOME TO WINTER WORSHIP

We look forward to seeing you at Leigh Memorial this Sunday @ 9.30am for worship time with **Rev Vladimir Korotkov**, followed by morning tea.

PARRAMATTA MISSION WINTER APPEAL

Sunday 25th June will be the final morning for Leigh Memorial's specific collection of **“ring-pull” canned items and winter woollies, inc. blankets, beanies & scarves** for the 2023 PM Winter Appeal – however, donations are of course welcome at any time! *Thanks to everyone who has supported this year's effort* within our worship community and please continue to pray for all the ways in which Meals Plus interacts with and assists the community, including via its most recent initiative called 'SHINE' (an enrichment program for women attached to Meals Plus, including regular attendees, staff and volunteers). Many thanks to all the staff & volunteers at the Mission, who work with devotion and care around the clock to keep the services going – even when frosty early mornings are involved! For further information about how best to support PM, go to:

<https://www.parramattamission.org.au/>

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Our prayers remain with those in our worship communities who are unwell, grieving or facing other challenges at the present time – and with everyone accessing Meals Plus, Bula Feeding and other community services this winter. Everyone is also reminded to be flu & covid aware this winter and to stay at home if unwell. Sanitiser and masks are permanently available in the vestibule at Leigh Memorial for those who need them. Contact details for the ministry team are in the newsletter.

FINAL WEEK: “UNITING IN PRAYER”, 2023

Over the past month, our two 'Prayer Chain' churches have been **Leichhardt Uniting Church (NSW) and Leighmoor Uniting Church (VIC)**. This week marks the conclusion of this initiative, with our final focus being *Ministry and leadership teams attached to these two churches, including all those working within the sphere of pastoral, hospital, palliative and aged care*. Many thanks to all who have prayed for Leichhardt & Leighmoor in recent weeks.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

A PCUC course in Christian Meditation has commenced, with other interested participants welcome to join in at any time. Details: Centenary Uniting Church, 46 Sorrell Street, Nth Parramatta; Tuesday evenings, 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Enquiries: Jon O'Brien: phone 0411 332 825 – or email,

jonmarkobrien@gmail.com

SUNDAY MORNING ROSTER

We have a very special team of people sharing the responsibility each week for planning, facilitating, leading and participating in our worship time on Sundays, plus setting up and serving morning tea. A big thanks to all involved and if anyone else would like to help, please see Liz.

LEIGH MEMORIAL LOST PROPERTY UPDATE

All the unclaimed lost property items have now been donated to Meals Plus. The large, almost new Bible that many people noticed has joined the catalogue of the Leigh Memorial library. Future lost property enquiries should be directed to the Leigh Memorial or Leigh Fijian stewards.

“SAVE THE DATE”: July, August, September...

HIGH TEA @ HISTORIC CASTLEREAGH

On **Sunday 9 July, 12.00 – 3.00pm**, Castlereagh will be hosting a special fundraising High Tea for \$60.00pp at the Castlereagh Church site on Old Castlereagh Road. Enquiries: 0247 290 012 – or contact: <https://book.venue.life/cccl/register/high-tea-with-mulgoa-valley-receptions>

NEXT PCUC COMBINED SERVICE

The next combined PCUC service, inc. Communion, will take place at 9.30am on **Sunday 29 July @ Northmead Uniting Church**, followed by morning tea. All welcome!

‘WINTER CLASSICS’ FUNDRAISING CONCERT @ LEIGH

On **Sunday 20th August at 2.30pm**, a concert of classical and sacred music including strings and organ (organised by the Sydney Organs Group) will be taking place at Leigh Memorial. The concert will include talented child violinists with some special guest organists and a soprano. Leigh Memorial’s wonderful heritage organ (1879) will be featured. Tickets will go on sale next month (\$20.00pp or \$50 per family – 2 adults + 2 children). **All proceeds will go to Parramatta Mission’s 2023 Winter Appeal.**

Enquiries: LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com

SYNOD: TRANSFORMING SPIRIT

Please continue to pray for the preparatory phase of NSW/ACT Synod 2023, which will be held in Katoomba (**15 – 17 September, 2023**).

<https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/events/synod-meeting-2023>

REMEMBERING SHIRLEY (1931 – 2023)



Our warmest prayers are with all Shirley Gray's loved ones, following her passing earlier this week. Shirley was Liz and Ian's Aunty (the wife of Col's brother, Roy) – and was for many years associated with Leigh Memorial, along with the wider Gray family. As a participant in women's groups and various fundraising efforts at the church and Mission over the years, Shirley's support and kindness were always greatly valued. A dearly loved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt and much more – her contributions and heartfelt generosity touched the lives of multiple others and brought them happiness. Special thoughts for Shirley's family at this time, including her children: Stephen, David, Susan and Jane.

Service & Zoom Information

Leigh Memorial

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site & Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

PCUC online service

<https://northmead.uca.org.au/>

Westmead

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site

Leigh Fijian

Time: Sundays 11.15am on site

Westmead

Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Sunday 25th June 2023, 9.30am



Today's Worship will be led by Reverend John Barr – a very warm welcome to you Rev. John and we look forward to hearing from you.

Last Sunday Pastor Fil reflected on embracing God's grace and sharing God's love. "Grace is not to be hoarded and kept but given out". Christ's transforming encounters with people reconciled broken relationships and offered paths of redemption. We can "offer words of encouragement. Words have the power to uplift and encourage – they bring hope and healing to weary hearts and souls". Thank you, Fil.

The Westmead Prayer Chain continues to uphold those who need special prayers at this time. We also pray for everyone in the congregation who are silently in need of support, care, and healing. We pray for God to heal you and protect you.

NATIONAL UNITING IN PRAYER - 28 May – 22 June, 2023

The Uniting in Prayer Chain 2023 has come to an end and has been a wonderful sharing experience. Let us continue to keep all Uniting Churches in our prayers as we go through a time of many changes.



WINTER APPEAL

Meals Plus and the Bula Feeding Ministry gratefully accepts new/ second hand clothes in good condition and non-perishable food items.

BUS TRIP – MYSTERY TOUR 28 JUNE 2023 (WEDNESDAY)

Time: 9.00am for a 9.30am start
Meet at: Westmead Church
Charge: \$10 – bus donation
Lunch: Club – each person to cover their own cost



There are 13 seats available in the church bus, so if you would like to be included in an enjoyable day together please contact Jan – 0418 438 901 or Lorna - 0408 365 478.

BIBLE STUDY: Meets each Monday, 2.00pm
Zoom Link: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512>

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION - May 30th – July 4th

All are still welcome to join,

Where: Centenary Uniting Church, 46 Sorrell Street, North Parramatta

When: Tuesday evenings

Time: 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Enquiries: Jon O'Brien: 0411 332 825 or jonmarkobrien@gmail.com

MORNING MEDITATION: Pastor Sarah Bishop.

Contact 0412 606 049

sarah@bluetardis.com.au

.....Reports from both Meditation groups is that it is a very relaxing and healing practice, as is the Bible Study.

Leigh Fijian

Lotu ena macawa oqo 25/06: Na lotu ena macawa oqo na veisau vunau kei Fiji Parish. Vunau lesi tuirara Emosi Rogoimuri kei Siaki Foiakau Vunau vakarau Viliame Kamotu kei Taito Dovibua. Tu vakarau ena veiliutaki kei na tali matasiga naba 1.

Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 02/07: Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na vunau tiko kina ko Inise Foiakau. Vunau vakarau tabagone kei Pastor Filikesa Kamotu. Tu vakarau veiliutaki na tabagone.

Lesoni ni macawa oqo 19/06 – 25/06: Vakatekivu 21:8 - 21 Same 86:1 – 10, 16-17 Roma 6:1 - 11 Maciu 10:24 – 39

Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo 26/05 – 02/07: Vakatekivu 22:1-14 Same 13 Roma 6:12-23 Maciu 10:40-42

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. Me nanumi na FNC ni tou na veiwaseitaka na veiqaravi kei na tolu na valelotu Cambelltown, St Mary kei Berala. Ena qaravi tiko na FNC ena vula ko Jiulai ni yabaki mai oqo 2024 e Stanwell Tops.

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



Parramatta Leigh Fijian women's group attending the Sydney Fijian women's Uniting Church rally at Berala Uniting Church last Saturday the 17th of June.



Refugee Week is Australia's peak annual activity to inform the public about refugees and celebrate positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society. The first Refugee Week events were organised in Sydney in 1986 by Austcare. In 1987, Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) became a co-organiser of the week, which became a national event from 1988.

Refugee Week provides a platform where positive images of refugees can be promoted in order to create a culture of welcome throughout the country. The ultimate aim of the celebration is to create better understanding between different communities and to encourage successful integration enabling refugees to live in safety and to continue making a valuable contribution to Australia. [#refugeeweek2023](https://twitter.com/refugeeweek2023)

시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church		23-24
4 성령강림 주일 (4th Pentecost of Sunday) 2023년 6월 25일 오후 1시30분		
개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn)	왕이신 나의 하나님	다함께
예배의 부름 (Calling)		인도자
송영 (Gloria) 새 1장 통 1장	탄복의 근원 하나님	다함께
사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께		
찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns)		다함께
새 23장 통 23장	만 입이 내게 있으면	
기도 (Prayer) 주기도문송 635	하늘에 계신 우리 아버지	다함께
성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading)	예레미야 15:15-18	
말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사	고난 속에서 주님을 믿는다는 것은?	
봉헌 송(Offertory Hymn) 새 340장 제 366장	어지러운 세상 중에	
<p>나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)</p> <p>1. 시드니 조은교회에 오신 여러분을 주님의 이름으로 환영합니다.</p> <p>3. '매일성경' 묵상과 '공동체성경읽기' 동독으로 말씀을 적용하며 매일 주님과 동행하는 삶 살아가시길 바랍니다</p> <p>4. 어려움을 겪는 이웃들을 위해 함께 중보기도 해주시기 바랍니다.</p> <p>5. 하나님의 기쁨인 전도사명에 동참하시길 부탁드립니다.</p>		
폐회찬송(Final Hymn) 새501장 통 255장	너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)	
축도	전 현구 목사	
QT나눔 & 성경공부 오후4:00	수요기도회: 오후 7시 로마서 15:22-33	새벽기도회 : 오전 6시 로마서 15:1-디1:9

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

- For those who are in need of healing, guidance, protection and especially for those battling cumbersome chronic health conditions – We hold these up to You in prayer.
- For war devastated countries, especially Ukraine – May peace arrive and may resources of food and other supplies from Ukraine to poorer nations still be able to pass through. We pray for the residents of war-torn regions as they live in harsh and uncertain times.
- For the homeless as they battle to survive in near freezing conditions, for those sleeping in their cars and for those who face the threat of becoming homeless – May the warmth of Your love enfold and protect these and may the passer-by stop and help.
- For those who are appointed to minister Your Word and for Your churches – May You bestow Your guidance and grace upon them.
- For those battling challenging conditions or situations at home, work or in personal relationships, the lonely, the misunderstood, the grieving and those with mental health challenges – We pray for Your Holy Spirit to fall on these and empower them for the better.
- For Climate change facing us – may You guide us and the governments of the world into solutions to alleviate catastrophe.

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.

Prayer Points

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).

PM Leigh Memorial

- We pray for members who are unwell, and those experiencing anxiety and grief.
- We prayerfully support those in our local communities who need additional care and support at this time, including people experiencing hunger, homelessness, addiction, family crisis and loneliness, in addition to those who assist them – such as devoted care-givers, nurses, doctors, community support teams and emergency workers;
- We pray for wisdom and inspiration to infuse all current and forthcoming decision-making processes and actions by our dedicated ministry team, leaders, managers and staff – and specifically pray for Paul and the team at Meals Plus, Cameron and the team at Westmead and for the life, witness and outreach work being conducted by our fellow Parramatta Mission & Parramatta City Uniting Church communities;
- We pray for greater mutual respect, compassion and peace throughout the world, and for the realisation of an international spirit of inclusion, acceptance 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 Geoff Smith, Rev. Vladimir, Rev. Hyun Goo, Chaplain Sarah, PMC Chairperson, David and Secretary Robert and all those who lead and serve.

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 Lead Minister Geoff Smith for any pastoral needs.

Rev Geoff Smith (Lead Minister)	0407 416 377
Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Supply Minister)	0431 759 573
Rev John Barr (Supply Minister)	0400 694 540
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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Visit our website and blog www.parramattamission.org.au