

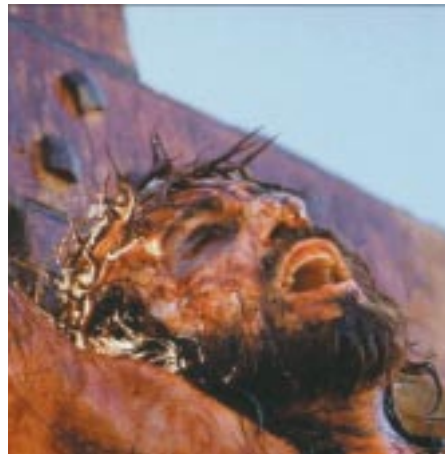
NIKĒ : AN UNLIKELY VICTORY

At Easter, we celebrate a most unlikely victory. 1 Cor 15 declares *Death has been swallowed up in victory... Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

The victory that Christ won is a bit like the unlikely victory that the soldiers of Athens won against the mighty Persian army. By 490 BC, Persia had conquered much of the known world, and they turned their attention to Greece, and in particular to the little nation state of Athens.

The Persians arrived by ship on the east coast of Greece, and set camp on the plain of Marathon. The Athenian army marched out to meet them, although they were hopelessly outnumbered. There were three Persians for every soldier from Athens. Nevertheless, because of some very clever battle tactics, the men of Athens won the day. That day, 6,400 Persians died at Marathon, and only 192 Athenians.

The Athenian general sent his fastest runner—Pheidippides—to take the good news back to the city of Athens. Pheidippides ran the entire distance from Marathon to Athens,



a distance of 26.2 miles or 42.2 kilometres. And, yes, that is how the modern marathon got its name and its distance.

Pheidippides reached the steps to the city of Athens, but couldn't run any further. He collapsed to the ground, and was able to gasp out just one word before he died. The word was the Greek word for victory, the very same word used in 1 Cor 15. An ancient Greek would have pronounced the word "neekair", but it has now come to be pronounced "Nike" – and yes, the shoe company has taken its name from this episode.

That image – of Pheidippides gasping out the one word "victory" and

then dying – is like the victory cry of Jesus. You may not have recognised it as a victory cry, though, because to outward appearances it looks like anything but a victory. I refer to the final words Jesus speaks from the cross, when he cried out "It is finished". That is three words in English, but only one word in Greek. The word doesn't mean finished in the sense of "used up", nor "over", but the sense of "completed". Jesus' final words are the declaration "Done! – Mission accomplished".

The cross is the focal point of Christ's victory, because it is in his death that he wins the victory for us over sin and death. By dying in our place, he took the death penalty for our sins, so that we need no longer stand under that sentence of death. His cry "It is finished" is a bold declaration that his work as our Saviour is "Done". The reality of this defeat of sin and death is revealed for all to see on Easter Day.

This Easter, you are invited to come to St James Turramurra to discover what Christ's victory means for you personally.

Michael Stead, Rector

WAY OF THE CROSS

On Good Friday, the church complex at St James will be transformed into a series of scenes depicting the last hours of Jesus' life. As participants move from room to room, they will follow Jesus on his way to the cross, providing an opportunity for private reflection on Jesus' journey from the Last Supper to his death.

Each scene tells a part of the story of Jesus' passion as recorded in the Gospels: Jesus' last supper with his disciples, Jesus' anguish in the garden of Gethsemane, Judas' betrayal of Jesus, Jesus' trial before Pilate and Pilate's hand-washing, Jesus' flogging and crucifixion, the tearing of the temple curtain and Jesus' burial.

We invite all our local residents to join with us from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. to pause, reflect and pray during this Easter season. As in previous years, participants may also take part in a number of the scenes including eating bread at the Last Supper, holding the coins of Judas or feeling the weight of the nails at the cross. In previous years, this has proved to be a very meaningful and powerful experience for those who have taken part.

At exactly 3 p.m. - the hour of Jesus' death - a short Communion service will be held in the main Church area, enabling people to join together to remember what Jesus has done for us.



CONFIRMATION CLASSES - TERM 2

Confirmation provides an opportunity for a person to make a public declaration of their faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. For those baptised as children, it is an opportunity to confirm the promises made on their behalf in baptism.

Candidates are prepared for Confirmation by learning what it means to be a Christian, how to live as a follower of Jesus, and by being equipped to take responsibility for their own adult Christian lives. In Confirmation, Bishop Glenn Davies will pray for the candidates and place his hands on their heads as a sign of God's blessing on them.

Confirmation classes will be held from 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on Sunday evenings, commencing 2nd May and running for ten weeks. The Confirmation service will be held at 7pm on Sunday 25 July and is a wonderful opportunity for family members to support their confirmees. The minimum age for confirmees is 16 years or Year 10 in High School.

If you are interested in finding out more about Confirmation classes, please contact the church office or see the application form on our website for more information.



The Confirmees of 2009 with Bishop Glenn Davies, Youth Minister Ed Hungerford, Assistant Minister Sturt Young and Rector Rev. Dr Michael Stead

EASTER SERVICES AT ST JAMES

MAUNDY THURSDAY (1 APRIL)

7:30 p.m. The Lord's Supper

Preacher: Rev. Robert Jones

GOOD FRIDAY (2 APRIL)

7:45 a.m. Holy Communion (Traditional Service)

Preacher: Rev. Dr Michael Stead

9:00 a.m. Family Communion Service (in Memorial Hall)

Led by Rev. Dr Michael Stead, Preacher: Mr Bruce Tasker

10:15 a.m. Holy Communion (led by St James Choir)

Preacher: Rev. Dr Michael Stead

3:00 p.m. The Way of the Cross

See article on page 2 for more details

EASTER SUNDAY (4 APRIL)

7:45 a.m. Holy Communion (Traditional Service)

Preacher: Rev. Dr Michael Stead

9:00 a.m. Family Easter Celebration (not Communion)

Preacher: Rev. Dr Michael Stead

10:15 a.m. Holy Communion (led by St James Choir)

Preacher: Rev. Dr Michael Stead

7:00 p.m. Easter Night Celebration

Preacher: Rev. Sturt Young

EASTER SERVICES AT CHURCH IN THE CHAPEL

GOOD FRIDAY (2 APRIL)

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Traditional Service)

Preacher: Rev. Robert Jones

EASTER SUNDAY (4 APRIL)

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Traditional Service)

Preacher: Rev. Robert Jones

4:30 p.m. Evensong and Communion

Preacher: Rev. Robert Jones

AROUND THE PARISH

MT DRUITT PARTNERSHIP

In 2009, St James Turramurra worked in partnership with St James Mt Druitt, sending a weekly team of SRE (scripture) teachers to two Primary Schools in the Mt Druitt area. A team from St James went as helpers for a week-long Kids Club in the October school holidays. Our donations to the St James Op Shop have enabled them to raise significant funds towards employing a part time Children's Worker. Twenty people from our congregation paired up with twenty people from the Mt Druitt congregation to visit local households. We have also been able to help with technical assistance, graphic design skills and a new website.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLAINED

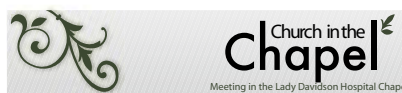
Christianity Explained is an introductory course designed for those who are curious about the Christian faith, not quite sure what to believe, or who have been 'believers' for some time but would like a refresher in the basics. You can ask all the questions you like, but you won't be asked to answer any questions or read the Bible or pray aloud. The course involves a guided tour of Mark's Gospel.

Rev. Michael Stead, will lead the course at St James over four Monday nights commencing 19 April. Time: 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Phone the Church office on 9144 4090 for further information

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

What do people like most about Lunch With Friends? Is it the great food? The low cost? The warm and friendly atmosphere, where old friends meet and new friends are made? Or is it the diverse and interesting presentations of speakers like Roger Climpson, sharing humorous and dramatic moments of his long career in radio and television; or local historian and author, Stuart Braga illuminating the early days of Turramurra? Most guests will tell you it is all of the above. Lunches are held on the second Thursday each month from 12noon to 2.00pm at St James. Bookings are required.



Church in the Chapel (CITC) recently celebrated its second birthday. CITC provides two traditional services on Sundays at 8am and 4:30pm, meeting in the chapel in the grounds of the Lady Davidson Hospital.

REGISTER

WEDDINGS

- 6 Feb Luke HILL & Lauren SLOGGETT
19 Feb Jonathan SHAW & Louise Nock
27 Feb Andrew SELL & Cassandra CAMPTON

BAPTISMS

- 6 Dec Calvin MCCREDIE
10 Jan Samuel BARDEN
31 Jan Malachi COWDERY
28 Feb Bethany KING
7 Mar Rebecca STRAWBRIDGE
21 Mar Michelle PETTY

FUNERALS

- 17 Nov Robin HORSFALL
2 Dec David PATRICK
13 Dec Catherine MISKOVICH
31 Dec Norma HILLS
2 Jan John CAMERON
19 Jan Janet SOUTHALL
15 Feb Ailsa MARTIN
12 Mar Margaret VERNON

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH TURRAMURRA

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RECTOR :	REV. DR MICHAEL STEAD	9488 7327 (H)	ASSISTANT MINISTER :	REV. JOHN BUTLER	4578 6393 (H)
SENIOR ASSISTANT MINISTER :	REV. ROBERT JONES	9144 1021 (H)	HONORARY DEACON :	REV. DR PETER HARNWELL	9989 8327 (H)
SENIOR ASSISTANT MINISTER :	REV. STEPHEN CALDER	9440 2928 (H)	PASTORAL ASSISTANT :	MS MARG HUTCHISON	9144 4090 (W)
ASSISTANT MINISTER :	REV. STURT YOUNG	0410 449 171	PASTORAL ASSISTANT :	MRS ANNE LEASK	9449 8122 (H)
YOUTH MINISTER :	MR ED HUNGERFORD	0401 747 677	PARISH ADMINISTRATOR :	MRS JENNY COOK	9144 4090

STAFF CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH THE CHURCH OFFICE: (02) 9144 4090