

Next Week, Sunday 16th April

<u>9.00 am & 10.30 am</u>	A. Tonkin
Worship Leader	
Communion Leader	To Be Advised
Singers	
Band	
Projector/Sound	
Officer on Duty	A. Munro
<u>9.00 am only</u>	
Welcome / Reception	M. King / K. Sinclair
Helpers	C. Meade, I. Cross
Morning Tea	M. Qualischefski, M. Hughes, L. Potter
Communion Prep	A. & B. Munro
<u>10.30 am only</u>	
Children's Church	No Adventure Sunday
Welcome / Reception	V. Kinleyside / J. Renfree
Helpers	H. Atkins, M. Straub, R. Poole, M. Hull, U. Willsmore
Crèche	M. Cox
Morning Tea	J. & R. Barthelson, F. Castle
Library	Closed
<u>Saturday</u>	
Cleaning	R. Jackson, C. Armstrong
Grounds	?
<u>6.00 pm</u>	No Evening Service

The Americans and the Japanese decided to engage in a competitive boat race. Both teams practised hard and long to reach their peak performance. On the big day they felt ready.

The Japanese won by a mile. Afterwards, the American team was discouraged by the loss. Morale lagged. Corporate management decided that the reason for the crushing defeat had to be found, so a consulting firm was hired to investigate the problem and recommended corrective action. The consultants finding: the Japanese team had eight people rowing and one person steering; the American team had one person rowing and eight people steering.

After a year of study and millions spent analysing the problem, the consultant firm concluded that too many people were steering and not enough were rowing on the American team.

So as race day neared again the following year, the American team's management structure was completely re-organised. The new structure: four steering managers, three area steering managers and a new performance review system for the person rowing the boat to provide work incentive.

That year, the Japanese won by two miles. Humiliated, the American corporation laid off the rower for poor performance and gave the managers a bonus for discovering the problem...

The Bible is the only book where the author is always present whenever it is read.



Mainstream

MILDURA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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9th April, 2017

Today is Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter that marks the week of events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday. Palm Sunday commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. The Gospels record the arrival of Jesus riding into the city on a donkey, while the crowds spread their cloaks and palm branches on the street and shouted "Hosanna to the Son of David" and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" to honour him as their long-awaited Messiah and King.

The significance of Jesus riding a donkey and having his way paved with palm branches is a fulfilment of the prophecy spoken by the prophet Zechariah (Zechariah 9:9). In biblical times, the regional custom called for kings and nobles arriving in procession to ride on the back of a donkey. The donkey was a symbol of peace; those who rode upon them proclaimed peaceful intentions. The laying of palm branches indicated that the king or dignitary was arriving in victory or triumph.

Orthodox Christian traditions place a lot of importance on Palm Sunday. Celebrations of Palm Sunday began early in the 4th Century. These celebrations usually consisted of Christians gathering at various places of significance around Jerusalem where they sang hymns and the Clergy read from the Scriptures. By the mid 5th Century Palm Sunday celebrations had spread across the evangelised world.

The modern evangelical Church doesn't have such a strong observance of Palm Sunday, but it is still a day that we should mark as significant in our worship. Palm Sunday can be an occasion for reflecting on the final week of Jesus' life. It is a time for Christians to prepare their hearts for the agony of Christ's sacrificial death on the cross and the joy of His Resurrection.

ANDREW TONKIN



Welcome to church today. If you are a visitor we offer you a special welcome. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee in the hall following the morning service.

Today, Sunday, 9th April

JOHN—I Believe

9.00 am & 10.30 am Joshua Cole
Worship Leader Michael Waters
Communion Leader Diane Morrall

6.00 pm Joshua Cole

SUPER SUNDAY—ADVENTURE CLUB PROGRAM

Worship Leader Joshua Cole

Next Week, Friday, 14th April

9 am **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

Next Week, Sunday, 16th April

EASTER SUNDAY

9.00 am & 10.30 am Andrew Tonkin



John 4: 28-30, 39-42

Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers.

They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world".

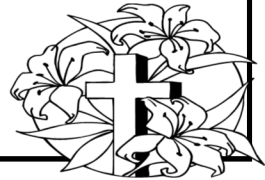
Loving God - Loving People

GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL

This Week

Sunday	9th	7.00 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7 FM
Friday	14th	9.00 am	GOOD FRIDAY Service
Sunday	16th	9.00 am 10.30 am	EASTER SUNDAY Services

APRIL



PRAYER TIMES

Prayer times are 15 minutes before each service in the Cameron Room.
8.45 am, 10.15 am & 5.45 pm.

Dates for Your Diary:

April 30	Hymn Singing
May 4	Upper Room Prayer Service
May 19, 20	Ladies' Lavished Conference
June 10, 11	State Youth Games

Our sermons are now available on the Internet. Find them at:
www.milduracofc.podomatic.com or join our Facebook page.

Or you can order them on a CD.
Fill out an order form and leave it with the Officer on Duty. \$3 each

PIGEON HOLES

Please remember to check the pigeon holes before you go home from church each Sunday, especially around your birthday, for cards and letters addressed to you.

ROSTERS

You can collect your new rosters from the foyer table this morning. If you are unable to make your rostered duty, will you please swap with someone and then let the church office know. Thank you.

Absences please:

There is a sheet on the foyer door where you can list your absences for the next roster—July, August, September. By listing your absences here we can ensure that you are not rostered on for those weeks.



Family News & Prayer



- * Happy Birthday to Robyn Stewart who celebrates her 40th Birthday on Wednesday, 12th April
- * Congratulations to Frank Nevill who is 99 on Friday, 14th April.

LIBRARY

We have some beautiful Easter cards for sale today.
Buy some for all your family and friends.



HALL & LANE SALE

Last Saturday's Hall and Lane Sale raised over \$1,300 thanks to everyone's great support.

Thank you for the enormous amount of donations; thanks to the workers who set up tables and goods on Thursdays; thanks to the small number who priced goods on Friday; thanks to the cashiers and salespeople on Saturday; thanks to those who packed up, cleaned up and delivered left-over goods to Round Again and Op Shops; and of course all who came and purchased some bargains.

It was also a fun time of fellowship for everyone as they worked and talked together.

HYMN SINGING AFTERNOON



Sunday, April 30th
From 2 pm

Come along and enjoy an afternoon singing some of the old hymns and listening to some special guest artists.

The afternoon will conclude around 4 pm with afternoon tea and fellowship.

Easter SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY 9 am

EASTER SUNDAY 9 am & 10.30



Mission Update

CHINA: Massive Crackdown in Xinjiang

Authorities in China's volatile north-western Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region have banned all Christian activities not linked to state-approved churches and launched a region-wide crackdown under the guise of 'anti-terrorism'. Churches have been targeted in the capital Urumqi and across Xinjiang. China Aid reports that at least 80 believers have been arrested and interrogated; some have even been sentenced to 15-day administrative detention and fined. Most of those arrested belong to the Fangcheng Fellowship, one of China's largest house church networks. A resident of Shayar county in Aksu prefecture told Radio Free Asia that churches in the cities of Aksu and Korla have stopped meeting altogether and that local believers have been warned not to meet privately for worship. 'We don't dare gather for worship now,' the church member said. 'The police are saying it's part of terrorism prevention in Xinjiang, and that they won't allow gatherings of even a few people... The police want our church to join the Three-Self Patriotic Association.' (Churches in the Communist Party controlled TSPA are subject to unreasonable restrictions.)