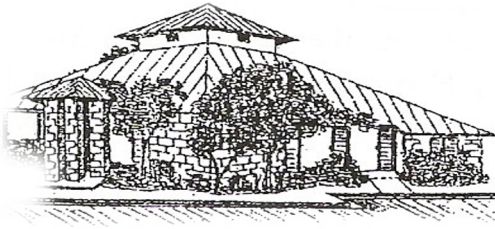


Kirwan Uniting Church

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KEEPING IN TOUCH

WELCOME! We welcome all visitors with us today, and pray your time with us will be a blessed one. Stay for morning tea after the service!

**We aspire to be a people of God led by the Holy Spirit
to practise and spread the love of Jesus Christ in the world**

21st March, 2021 Lent 5B

09:00

**Preacher: Pastor Richard
Reader: Robin Warren**

Deut 33:27a
Isaiah 46:3,4
Mark 10:13-16

We're welcoming Archer Jeremy Wright
into God's family this morning! Here he is:



RICHARD'S RAMBLE

I'm settling some old business with Her Britannic Majesty's government across the seas (ie I'm trying to get some of my own money out of them). Incredibly, well into the 21st Century, the correspondence has to take place by snail mail. They needed a signature. I signed. Some weeks later, one has to allow for unfavourable winds along the mailboat's passage, one of Sir Humphrey's minions advised that the signature didn't match that in their records. I pointed out that the recorded signature was signed more than 50 years ago, and that everyone's signature, certainly mine, changes over time. Further, nobody requires an analogue signature from me nowadays, they want a PIN or a digital signature. I'll keep you posted on this engrossing matter. It isn't only an analogue signature that I don't scribble any longer, I rarely write anything with a pen or pencil, everything is typed on some i-device or other. But when I did write "the old-fashioned way", my preferred tool was a fountain pen. Even though my fingers, my briefcase, my shirt pocket, were regularly stained by a leaking pen or ink cartridge.

At school, when I had to write an essay on, for example, William Blake, the finished article would be more blot than Blake. Percy Blackmore MA (Cantab) would scrawl in the margin, "This is illegible, Lance, re-submit it with fewer blots and more clarity."

Unlike Mr Blackmore, the psalmist (Ps 51) welcomes blots. "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin."

We may have remorse for actions in our past. That's healthy, it's a discipline to help us not repeat foolish and unkind behaviour. But we don't need to retain crippling guilt. You might expect me to sign off with an old hymn, and I wouldn't want to disappoint you 😊

I'm happy, glad and free
 since the Lord has pardoned me,
 and by his blood has washed my sins away.
 I now can sing and shout,
 my sins are blotted out
 O happy day that fixed my choice in Jesus!

Craft and cards at 10:00 Tuesday.

Bible Study Social Night on Wednesday
 24th 6:30pm. 26 Tertius St, Mundingburra

Thankyou from Richard to the Congregation for asking Presbytery to extend my Placement to end 2022. But apparently it already runs to 1 Sep 2023! Which might be a bit much for both of us. I'm enquiring about Zimmer Frames in liturgical colours 😊

PALM SUNDAY 28 MARCH

It would be lovely if the church could be decorated with Palms next Sunday. Frond-friendly folk, please speak with Richard 🌴🌴

From this Sunday, we are privileged to have the Cook Islands Christian Church, led by Rev Sorimata Riu and Rev Pa Taime, worshipping at Kirwan Uniting Church. They will meet at 1pm each Sunday. If you see their members at our morning service, greet them in Christ's name!

28 March 09:00 Palm/Passion Sunday

Preacher Pastor Richard
 Reader Kathy Reid

Psalm 118:1,2 19-29
 Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Mark 11:1-11

Greeter/Door Steward: Anne B-T
 Offering: Robin Warren & Andrew Reid
 Announcements: Kathy Reid
 Morning Tea: Merril Green & Kathy Reid
 Flowers: Merril Green

