

ST TOM'S AND ST ED'S

SEPTEMBER NEWS

Let's finish well



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SEPTEMBER SERMON SERIES

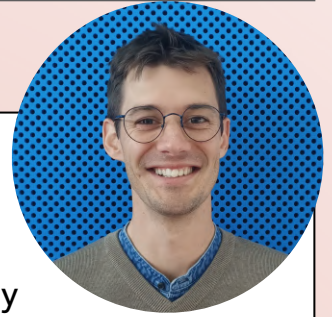
The highlight in September will be our St Tom's Church Retreat! On Friday 8th - Sunday 10th, around 120 St Tom's members are heading down to CYC Phillip Island Adventure Resort to spend time together, read God's word together, and explore the topic 'Blessed to be a Blessing'. This topic is part of our 2 Corinthians Sermon Series which we began in August.

Watch Joshua's Introduction to 2 Corinthians video on our [Youtube Page](#).

SERIES	DATE	TITLE / INFO	SCRIPTURE	PREACHER ST TOM'S	PREACHER ST ED'S
2 Corinthians	3 Sep	To Spare You	2 Corinthians 1:15-2:4	8.15: Rod 10.30: Joshua	Rod
St Tom's Retreat 8-10 Sep		Blessed to be a Blessing 2 Corinthians		Karen Winsemius	
2 Corinthians	10 Sep	How should we use our money?		8.15: Ros Retreat: John	Ros
Loving and Giving	17 Sep	Being Transformed	2 Corinthians 2:14-3:18	8.15: Ros 10.30: Joshua	Ros
2 Corinthians	24 Sep	Jars of Clay	2 Corinthians 4:1-5:10	8.15: Denise 10.30: John	Denise

For additional readings see [2023 Planner & Sermon Series](#) on Elvanto or request a copy by emailing admin@sttoms.org

REFLECTION - JOSHUA MILLARD



In January 2023 St Tom's commenced a project of building university ministry. This is not the first endeavour our church has made to serve students. What makes this attempt unique is having a full-time commitment to establishing university ministry, instead of a continuing side-project. We are externally funded (60%) for this year, and we're given certain goals to meet. We aimed to have an evening congregation beginning this year, but this ambitious goal will not be reached. Our funding is periodically reviewed, and in August the funding body decided to continue the funding, despite not having reached where we would like to be in this time. We are now funded into next year, and are so grateful to God for the provision of this money. Our funding does reduce to 40% next year, so it is not without cost to continue.

One encouraging sign from the work this year has been a very happy relationship with the Christian Union (CU) group on campus at Deakin. I attend the Tuesday night main meeting, and contribute to CU where I can. They have also asked me to join in their public events.



As chaplain, I have tried to be as active as possible in meeting students. On my campus days I set up a spot with my wood carving, and a whiteboard with an invitational question: How do you know it's true love? Who's your hero? Etc. I have met local and international students in this time, and answered many questions from, 'Do you know where the LE building is?' to 'What is the message of Jesus?'

This is hard work. Not because I am working late hours or juggling pieces, but because so many things have to come together at once for this to succeed. I have to meet students, meet them in contexts where we can have an honest conversation, meet students who might come to an event, CU, or church, and be able to follow them up appropriately. There are thousands of Deakin students, but finding those who we can serve at the right moment, is hard work. Often it feels like I'm sitting around doing very little.

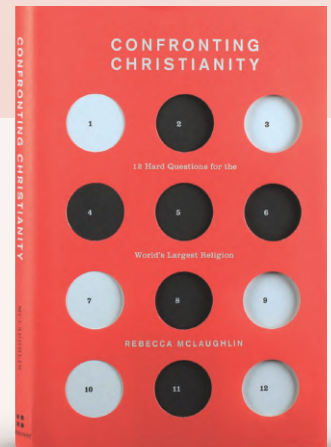
Please pray that our church can meet, serve, and invite students into sharing Jesus' life with us. Please pray for CU and for Power to Change (another student-based Christian group), that their mission would continue to succeed wonderfully,

Joshua

BOOK & PODCAST RECOMMENDATIONS

Confronting Christianity (Book & Podcast)

Rebecca McLaughlin



Religion's decline in the modern world turns out to be a myth.

Christianity is the most widespread global belief system, and promises to remain so well into the future. But for many educated westerners, biblical Christianity is a dangerous idea—challenging some of their deepest beliefs.

Channeling state-of-the-art research, personal stories, and careful biblical study, *Confronting Christianity* explores 12 questions that keep many of us from considering faith in Christ. Look more

closely, McLaughlin argues, and the reality of suffering, the complexity of sexuality, the desire for diversity, the success of science, and other seeming roadblocks to faith become signposts. Jesus becomes not a relic from the ancient world, but our modern world's best hope.

You can also access the *Confronting Christianity* Podcast. Hard questions, faithfully explored. Hosted by Rebecca McLaughlin and Kyle Worley.

Apple Podcasts

Spotify

CHILD SAFE



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DIOCESE OF
MELBOURNE

St Tom's works hard at making St Tom's safe for all our children and members. We work in accordance with the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne Child Safe Standards. This term, St Tom's staff team are working through the ADOM Action Plan for Meeting the New Victorian Child Safe Standards, and discussing how St Tom's can best

meet these Standards. If you have any questions or concerns relating to Child Safe, you can contact our Child Safe Officers Ming or Catherine (details on the last page), fill out our feedback form, or get in touch directly with Kooyoora. You can find more information on the Diocesan Safe Ministry Toolbox.

MISSION NEWS: MUSTARD



It was both a delight and blessing to gather with around 140 like-minded friends of Mustard earlier this month, to celebrate, pray and thank God for all He has done to grow and sustain this ministry over the past 20 years!



There were plenty of laughs as we witnessed the changes in graphic design, technology and fashion from those early days. We heard from a diverse group of people who shared fond memories and prayed for Mustard:

- Past CEOs - Peter Carolane, Tim Clare and Brenton Killeen
- Past and present Board members - Doug Crocket, Joy Linton, Elida Brereton and Neale Meredith
- Former students and student leaders - including Will, Andrew, Michael and Claire
- Current students - including Doris, Emma, Joe and Carissa



Guests overwhelmingly agreed they found our state school students, Talei and Chelsea, the most inspiring of our speakers. Our mission of 'students leading students to Jesus' was highlighted when Chelsea shared she recently became a Christian after hearing the gospel through her friendship with Talei and her involvement in the Mustard Lunchtime Group at their high school! Praise God!



This gospel work can only continue with the ongoing support of people like you. To keep Mustard's ministry to students in schools sustainable, we need to raise up more supporters to stand with us in this increasingly difficult environment. How will you help us plant more gospel seeds to see more lives transformed through Jesus in schools?

[Support Mustard](#)

WHAT'S ON AT ST EDWARD'S



LOVE IN A CUP CAFE

Thursday 28th September 1pm - 2.30pm at St Ed's

Join us for great food, good conversation and the monthly quiz. Cost is a gold coin donation. All welcome. Thursday before Grand Final so wear your footy gear!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday, 1pm - 2.30 pm in the foyer at St Ed's. We're currently studying the book of Acts. All welcome to join.

MONDAY EXERCISE CLASS

Exercise group in the hall for mature people. Includes balance, muscle strengthening and stretching exercises. Cost \$10 per session.



CRAFT GROUP

Wednesdays 10.30am - 12 noon

St Edward's Craft group in the foyer. Bring your own projects or join in making fabric Christmas stars for a charity fundraiser. All welcome.

CONTACT DETAILS

Minister	Ros Armstrong	rarmstrong@melbourneanglican.org.au	0438 706 815
Church Wardens	Jenny Lynch	jenny.r.lynch@gmail.com	0490 951 459
	Stephen Smith	marilynms129@yahoo.com	0419 888 579
	Ray Walker	raybulldogs26@gmail.com	0438 011 8812
Church Office		office@stedwards.org.au	

COMMUNITY NEWS

VOICE TO PARLIAMENT RESOURCES

Recommended reading and watching - Aboriginal, Colonisation and Church History in Australia


[Go to Resources](#)

PRAYER MEETINGS AT ST TOM'S

Next Prayer Meeting:
7 September 2023, 7.30pm at St Tom's

Eucalypts will be meeting on **Thursday 14th of September at 1pm at St Tom's**. A light lunch will be provided.

Shanta Parker, executive director of Medical Mission Aid (MMA) will be sharing on recent trip to Africa with Amanda and Melinda



FINISH WELL APPEAL

St Tom's has implemented the Finish Well Appeal so as not to finish in deficit this church financial year which ends 30 September. So far we've raised 40% of our goal! Thanks to everyone who has given generously. Details for donations:

Direct Deposit Ref: Finish Well	Online with Credit/ Debit Card	Cash or Cheque	Tithely
St Thomas Burwood BSB: 063-112 ACC: 1039 7091	Lets Finish Well	Use an envelope & drop into the Offertory Box or Bag	Use Tithely & select Finish Well

TERM 4 PROGRAMS AT ST TOM'S

Many of our programs take a break during school holidays. We'll be back in Term 4 on the following dates:

- **Tuesday Playgroup:** 3 October - 12 December
- **Thursday Playgroup:** 5 October - 14 December
- **Clay Youth:** 6 October - 8 December
- **Tom's Crew:** 12 October - 16 November

INTRODUCING GOD ROCKS!

The first series of Introducing God at St Tom's has finished, and it was great fun! A mixed group of people: women, men, young, old, Anglo and ESL all joined together. We shared meals, watched the videos, talked, laughed, and worked through a thousand questions!

- Is the Bible God-inspired and how do we know this?
- How do science and creation fit together?
- How do you surrender to Christ if you want to?
- If you have a relationship with God does that change all your other relationships?
- Why are Christians like they are?
- If evil comes through people, then are all wars and suffering on us? And if that's the case, what do I do with the guilt?
- Is there some (I don't want to use the word) 'magic' that means you can live for God?

On the final night someone (H) gave his life to Christ!!! It was amazing and very funny! To begin the session, I said: 'John was away last week - can you all tell him something he missed?' H. started with: 'YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT! WE LEARNT THAT JESUS DIED TO BRING US THE FREE GIFT OF SALVATION!' (yes, it was loud). This was immediately followed by 'Do I have to change my whole life straight away if I became a Christian?'. After the video H. said 'I prayed the prayer! I'm on board with Jesus'.

The next Introducing God series starts on Monday October 9, and we're really looking forward to it! Invite your friends and come with them to this 6 week series. If you want to check out the videos start with this '[God, Us and the Meaning of Life](#)'.

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

A service of Holy Communion occurs monthly at several Aged Care Centres around St Tom's and St Ed's. All residents are welcome to join.



Fountain Court. 4th Thursday of the month at 11 am.

Next service: 11 am Thursday 28 September

John Flynn. 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11 am.

Next service: 11 am Tuesday 19 September

Blackburn Lake Regis. 1st Wednesday of the month at 11:15 am.

Next service: 11:15 am Wednesday 6 September

Inala Regis. 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30 am.

Next service: 10.30 am Tuesday 20 September

FINANCES



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV

If you consider St Tom's your church then please prayerfully consider giving financially to its ministry. The running of St Tom's relies upon the generosity of its members. Below you can see the amounts which are required on a monthly basis for running our church. Most people find giving either by Direct Debit, or online, the most convenient way and setting their giving to reoccur monthly or weekly.

There are many ways to give financially, such as:



Direct Debit
(see account details below)



Online with a Credit / Debit Card - go to sttoms.org/give or via tithe scan



Cash or Cheque, into the offering taken up during our services

St Tom's encourage giving electronically:

	Account Name	BSB	Account No.	Monthly Required
General Account	St Thomas Burwood	063-112	1039 7091	\$ 38,200
Building Fund	St Thomas ADF Building Fund	703-122	0500 5091	\$ 3,800
Necessitous Circumstances (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)	St Thomas Burwood	063-112	1054 9390	
St Tom's Hope (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)	St Toms Hope LTD	633-000	159591023	\$ 1,000

CONTACT DETAILS

	Coordinator	Email	Mobile
Small Groups	Denise Clarke	denisec@sttoms.org	0438 595 527
Meals	Lyndie Gebert	meals@sttoms.org	0417 304 894
Handy Help	Peter Crandle	handyhelp@sttoms.org	
Pastoral Care	Annette Ward	pastoralcare@sttoms.org	0411 624 573
Prayer Circle (prayer requests)	Yvonne Edwards	prayer@sttoms.org	0432 477 766
Women's Mentoring	Position vacant		

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Catherine Hallyburton and Ming Lau are our Child Safety Officers. Contact details back page.

FAMILY SAFETY CHAMPION

Lyndie Gebert	gebertll@gmail.com	0417 304 894
Ida Mak 麥趙淑貞	idascmak@gmail.com	0488 332 438

WARDENS

Ida Mak 麥趙淑貞	idascmak@gmail.com	0488 332 438
Ruth Kernebone	ruthk@ozemail.com.au	0408 345 136
Steve Tong	tongsyc@gmail.com	0459 453 847

ST TOM'S HOPE

Josephine Armstrong	English Class Coordinator	josephinea@sttomshope.org	0488 022 103
Melinda van der Westhuizen	Kids Hope Coordinator	mva66253@gmail.com	0403 182 654
Paula Adams- Grant	Coach Coordinator Hope Filled Bags	paulaa@sttomshope.org	0438 899 630



STAFF & MINISTRY TEAM

John Carrick	Lead Minister	johnc@sttoms.org	0412 438 021
WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN			
Ros Armstrong	Congregations Minister (8:15 10:15 St Edward's)	rosa@sttoms.org	0438 706 815
WORK DAYS: MON (ST), WED (SE), THU (SE), SUN			
Joshua Millard	Assistant Minister	joshuam@sttoms.org	0450 638 890
WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN			
Rachel Gijbers Hayman	Children & Families Coordinator	rachelgh@sttoms.org	0413 158 010
WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, SUN			
Joey Chan	Chinese Congregations Minister	joeyc@sttoms.org	0481 238 631
WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN			
Karen Morris	Evangelistic Ministries Coordinator	karenm@sttoms.org	0417 765 210
WORK DAYS: MON, TUE			
Tracy Chen	Pastoral Care Intern	tracyc@sttoms.org	0430 656 456
WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, SUN			
Denise Clarke	Small Groups Ministry	denisec@sttoms.org	0438 595 527
WORK DAYS: NO PARTICULAR DAY			
Catherine Hallyburton	Admin Assistant / Child Safe Officer	admin@sttoms.org	9808 3250 0481 830 261 SMS
MON, TUE, WED, THU			
Ming Lau	Chinese Admin / Child Safe Officer	ch.admin@sttoms.org	0402 581 838
MON, THU (THU - IN THE OFFICE 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM)			