



**The Uniting Church in Australia**

**KOGARAH UNITING CHURCH**

*We welcome people of all cultures and lifestyles,  
We create a safe place for the community  
We share the journey of life and faith.*

**February 25th 2024, @ 10am**

**Lent 2**

**Leader: Deok Hee**

**Preacher Deok Hee**

**Holy Communion Deok Hee**

**Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16; Psalm 22:23–31; Romans 4:13–25;**

**Mark 8:31–38**

Losing your life  
for the Gospel.

Peter did this quite  
literally, after Rome had  
burned, and the  
Christians were  
blamed.



**For details and information about our church activities and The Kogarah Storehouse, check out the websites: [kogarah.uca.org.au](http://kogarah.uca.org.au) and <https://www.kogarahstorehouse.org.au/>**

**For pastoral concerns,  
please contact Rev Deok Hee Cho on 0401 975 745**

**Face to face Services  
Kogarah Uniting Church  
At 10:00am**

**Some COVID Conditions have changed**

**There is an increasing number of cases at the moment, so there is still a need to be careful. New strains have been detected recently.**

**Planning Ahead**

**6<sup>th</sup> March Worship Task Group 7pm via Zoom**

**7<sup>th</sup> March Kogarah Church Council @ 7pm via Zoom**

Please pray for ...

*The mission and ministry of our congregation and for our Minister, Deok Hee.*

*Worship leaders; helpers, leaders, followers The Kogarah Storehouse and its many clients; Lala and staff of the Storehouse.*

*Dorothy and Godfrey and the work of LACLA.*

*Nick Hedges and the scripture teaching at JCBTHS and MGHS*

*The team, parents and children in the Early Learning Centre.*

*Those who are sick, sad or lonely:*

*We pray especially today for, Brian and Rhonda , Prema and Priya, Jim and Bobbie, Denis and Dolly, Jim Bird, Naghuia, John and Sue and especially John's mother and father; Peter and Sue; health care workers at this time, including Richard, Millin and Roseline Goodman and Dorothy Makasa and Elin.*

*Especially today continue to keep Craig and his family in your prayers.*

*Joy, Craig's wife died recently in St George Hospital.*

*For others whom we name in our hearts.*

*Pray for the people of Türkiye, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine, especially the people of Gaza, Yemen.*

*Word for the Day*

*The horrific reality of the cross is sometimes forgotten by those among us who live in relative comfort and prosperity. While many symbols seek to represent the meaning of God's action in Christ Jesus, the symbol of the cross is most prominent. The gospel writer suggests that Jesus of Nazareth proclaimed God's reign, taught about loving God and neighbour, and healed, always knowing that this agenda would bring him into conflict with powerful people who would prefer things to remain the same (that is, for them to remain powerful). This conflict would lead to his death.*

Being a disciple of Jesus is not something that can take place in observation or from the outside. The way of Jesus is participatory. He calls those who would be his followers, his disciples, to live as he lives, to join him on the road. The words given to Jesus in this passage suggest that those who follow in his way, by loving God and neighbour, will also come into conflict with powerful people who would prefer the status quo to a world where all creation can flourish. How will Jesus' hearers respond? How will the hearers measure loss and gain, life and death? Furthermore, how do we?

**Ideas for Reflection**

- Do you find the cross a helpful symbol for life as a follower of Jesus? Why/why not? Are there other symbols you find meaningful as you follow Jesus?
- Imagine you are Peter in this story. How might Peter be experiencing this? (It might help to recall that Peter named Jesus as the Christ immediately before the passage we read here.)
- What examples come to mind of others who have lived seeking justice and enacting love in ways that mirror the life of Jesus? These examples might include the well-known but also the thoroughly unknown and ordinary.

### **Theme Focus**

Then Jesus began to teach his disciples: 'The Human One must suffer many things...' ~ Mark 8:31a.

This week, we acknowledge that following the Way of Christ can be difficult. Jesus was under no illusion of the suffering and rejection he would experience as he called for God's reign of justice to be present on earth.

## Church Lunch after Church on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024

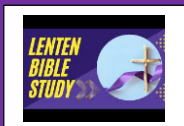
We are planning to meet over lunch at the Railway Pde Restaurant in Kogarah RSL. This restaurant offers a range of food at reasonable prices, depending on what you order. Transport will be arranged for those who do not come to church by car.

"Railway Parade Kogarah is the new Kogarah Clubhouse restaurant, cafe, casual dining and coffee outlet. Breakfast, lunch and dinner we offer an Australian Seafood dining with daily specials and nightly specials."

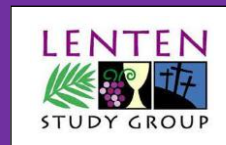
You can check out their menu at the following site:

<https://rpkogarah.com.au/>

Let Sue B, John B, Sue de B, Robert or Robyn know of your interest.



Lent Bible Studies  
Going Deeper



On 1st March we will go deeper into God's presence with the Transforming Worship Circle

On 8th March we will go deeper into God's forgiveness with the Growing in Faith Circle

On 15th March we go deeper into Generosity with the Working for Justice Circle

On 22nd March we go deeper into New Humanity with the Being a Multicultural Church Circle

7th Study: We go deeper into New Hope with the New Generations Circle (This is Good Friday)

Jan Richardson reminds us that before Jesus entered into the wilderness for 40 days, he was baptised by John in the Jordan and as he arose from the waters, he heard his name called from the heavens - "Beloved".

As we follow Jesus into the wilderness of our own journeys this Lent , may we too know our names as beloved and blessed.. (Submitted by Jamberoo Abbey)

### **Beloved Is Where We Begin**

If you would enter  
into the wilderness,  
do not begin  
without a blessing.  
Do not leave  
without hearing  
who you are:  
Beloved,  
named by the One  
who has travelled this path  
before you.  
Do not go  
without letting it echo  
in your ears,  
and if you find  
it is hard  
to let it into your heart,  
do not despair.  
That is what  
this journey is for.

I cannot promise  
this blessing will free  
you  
from danger,  
from fear,  
from hunger  
or thirst,  
from the scorching  
of sun  
or the fall  
of the night.  
But I can tell you  
that on this path  
there will be help.  
I can tell you  
that on this way  
there will be rest.  
I can tell you  
that you will know  
the strange graces  
that come to our aid  
only on a road  
such as this,

that fly to meet us  
bearing comfort  
and strength,  
that come  
alongside us  
for no other cause  
than to lean  
themselves  
toward our ear  
and with their  
curious insistence  
whisper our name:  
Beloved.  
Beloved.  
Beloved.  
~Jan Richardson

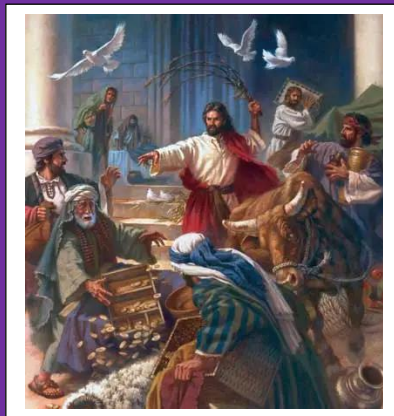
# Next Sunday

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**March 3 2024, @ 10am**  
**Lent 3**

**Leader: Richard**  
**Preacher Deok Hee**

Exodus 20:1–17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18–25; John 2:13–22



## Church Council

Chair

Richard Goodman

Secretary

Sue Baglin

Treasurer

John Baglin

Councillors

Robert McAlpine (2024)

Sue Baglin (2025)

John Baglin (2025) Richard

Elders

Goodman (2024)

Dinah Roepers (2024)

Safe Church Contact Person

Richard Goodman

*Miranda Community Gathering – All are Welcome*

# -Concert for Refugees-

**Sunday 17 March 2024**

**3.00pm – 4.30pm**

Lent Bible Studies  
Going Deeper

Come and join us for an afternoon's entertainment  
on the theme of "Welcome".

Afternoon tea is available in the hall from 2.00pm.



Where?

Gymea-Miranda  
Uniting Church

15-17 Central Road  
MIRANDA

There is no charge to attend this event but any donations received will be given to

**Sutherland Shire Refugee Connection**

ssrc.org.au



Further info from Gillian: Ph 0490 797 517. E: [mintos4@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mintos4@optusnet.com.au)