



## Wayne's Words

Rev. Wayne Walters

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2021



### God's Faithfulness and Love

Today we are celebrating God's faithfulness and love through the years to and through the people of St Michael and All Angels.

Historically the medieval church observed numerous feast days in honour of various saints. These were set apart as 'Holy Days' (from which comes our word 'holiday'). In the Reformation this practice was castigated by the reformers for the idleness, ribaldry and overindulgence they seemed to promote. The Anglican Lectionary has preserved the custom of recognising certain days for remembrance of the apostles and martyrs, and other persons and events worthy of special commemoration. Among these is a day to honour the archangel Michael and all angels, after which our parish is named. This year the day falls on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, so this Sunday we will celebrate what is called our 'Patronal Festival'. This is a chance for us to give thanks to God for the life and witness of this congregation from its inception in October 1952. We will also pray for God's grace, power and guidance into the future so that this light will continue to burn brightly in the community of Beaumaris and beyond.

In honour of this occasion, we will celebrate Holy Communion. The concept of online communion may at first strike some as strange. It is, however, no less meaningful as we prepare our hearts through the reading of God's word and prayer, through amending our lives in any area God brings to our attention, and through our gathering together as part of Christ's body in this place. This we do so that we might receive by faith the body and blood of our Lord Jesus through the elements of bread and fruit of the vine (wine or grape juice as you have at hand).

Those at home and not on Zoom may choose to participate near the time of 10.45/10.50am, as the prayer of consecration will incorporate them and the elements they have also prepared. Details for listening to the Zoom service by phone are above.

May we enter fully and wholeheartedly into this service of worship and holy communion with one another and our awesome God - Father Son and Holy Spirit - fully expectant that he will do more than we ask or imagine in answer to the prayers and praises of his redeemed people.

God bless,

*Wayne*