

The Oyster

".....Divide and Multiply"



May 2015

Mothers and Mutton Fat

By David Trounce

There's my mum, standing at the sink washing up, wrists deep in grey water, mutton fat and soggy peas.

There's a boy wrapped around her ankles, refusing to let go. Three girls, sitting on a couch, sing made-up songs at the top of their voices.

The day began with a 2 year old climbing into a cupboard at 6am and eating mustard from a jar, while the three girls are also awake, smuggling anything they can reach from the pantry and covering it all with milk – none of it edible.

A crash! The boy and the mustard jar come tumbling out of the cupboard and land on the floor, boy intact, mustard jar shattered.

Once it's cleaned up real food soon appears and we are all at the table having breakfast.

The washing machine spins in the background to the tune of too many toys, rocks and beads left in pockets.

Breakfast is done. Once the mess is cleared away it is time for play.

The younger two, having already learned to walk and talk, are now learning colours, numbers and shapes. Who taught them these things? Mother.



The older two are at a table reading to mum.

A fight breaks out on the floor. It's a war of shapes and colours – colours originating from tubes of paint.

The kids are put in the bath, but the bath is soon re-branded a multi-coloured mud slide.

The water drips through the ceiling onto the carpet downstairs as the kids jump and slide their way through the many colours.

It's now 9am and Motherhood on days like this looks a lot like endless chaos, and one wonders why we do it, and even more, why we honour it.

Mums do do it, and we honour Motherhood because we know that the moment we stop, this world would come to an end – no mum, no future.

Each successive generation of humanity is the direct result of Motherhood. Each generation is a re-creation of the world patterned after its Creator – a Creator that has given Motherhood the glorious task of bringing forth new life. To truly honour her, therefore, we must start by thanking Him.

Honour to whom Honour is Due

They blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, Become thousands of ten thousands, And may your descendants possess the gate of those who hate them." (Genesis 24:60)

On November 3 last year, 34-year-old Karisa Bugal was going into labour when doctors discovered that she had a rare and unpreventable condition called amniotic fluid embolism.

The amniotic fluids surrounding the baby, or some of the baby's skin cells or hair, had entered the mother's bloodstream, causing a catastrophic shut down of all her organs.



Because of the condition, her unborn child's heart-rate began to dip, and the mother was faced with a horrible choice: Have a caesarean section and save his life but risk hers, or delay and save her own at the probable cost of her baby's life.

Her other option would have been to stay awake for her surgery, but by the time the doctors would have put in a spinal tap or something it's possible Declan would not have made it.

Karisa didn't hesitate to make the decision that would ensure her baby's safe delivery, and went under the knife knowing full well that the procedure would most likely be fatal for her.

At around 7:30 A.M. on November 4, Declan Jay Bugal, a healthy, 7lb 4oz baby boy was born. The staff told his mother that her baby had made it, then wheeled her to the ICU, where she passed away shortly after. Her last words were, "How big is he?"

We praise these stories. We consider them newsworthy. That someone would contemplate laying down their life for another, and then actually do it, is something we all consider tender, humane and the ultimate act of love.

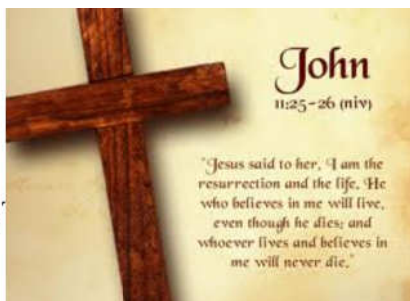
Strangely, this admiration exists in the midst of a culture that often sees children as an expensive inconvenience.

That is the paradox of humanity just now. We applaud sacrifice – both the horrific sacrifice offered in the name of our own comfort and the beautiful sacrifice of those who suffer for the sake of others. Either way, we cannot escape sacrifice. It is written in the story of this world because its Author was willing to offer Himself as a sacrifice for others.

News and Events

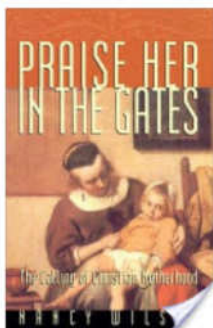
**Join us for Church on Sunday...
Go on!**

9am Corner of Tanilba Ave & Peace Parade,
WELCOME



Praise Her in the Gates — Nancy Wilson

The mother who fears God does not fear the future. That's the tone and message of this wonderful book on the loveliness of motherhood.



My mother was a wise woman, and a hard worker, as well.

But even she did not display Nancy Wilson's level-headed wisdom.

With a gentle spirit, but mincing no words, Nancy gives today's mothers an unambiguous challenge to live against the grain.

At the same time, everything about this book is practical wisdom for mothers, calling women to love marriage, love motherhood, and adorn their lives with its sacrifice, mess and joys.

While many today are writing on ways to 'divide and conquer', Nancy has written a book that reminds us of the joy that comes from 'divide and multiply'.

Motherhood, Nancy admits, is not all sunshine and lollipops, but it's all worth it.

If you love motherhood – or need to be reminded of why it's so lovely – then this is a book worth reading.

What's on This Month

Women's Get Together

The local get together of our women folk next meets on Friday June 5th, 7pm, at Tanilba CRC Church.
Call Gail on 4984 5442

Men's Breakfast

Meets on the first Saturday of the month at Henderson Park.
Saturday June 6th 7.30am
For more Information call David on 4984 5442

Pete's Kitchen

Pete's kitchen is on every Thursday during school term at 6pm at the Baptist Church, Beatty Bvde, Tanilba Bay. Come along and enjoy a meal among friends and neighbours.

About our Church Community...

Tanilba CRC is a Community Church that began on the Peninsula over 50 years ago. We believe in the Bible. We believe that Life is a Gift and we believe that God has created us to know Him and to live for Him in true family and community through His Son, Jesus.



If you would like to find out more about our Church's activities on the Tilligerry Peninsula, we invite you to contact us or attend one of our Regular Activities for more information.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

At the church, 7pm.
During school term time.
All Welcome.

Social Groups

Make New Friends.
Soup Nights, Kite Flying,
Cricket, BBQ'S, Day Trips,
Family Games and more.
Join one of our Social
Community Groups in Lemon
Tree Passage or Tanilba Bay.
These Groups are open to all and
meet in February, May, August
and November each year.

Weekly Bible Study Group

Our Ladies' Bible Study Group
meets at Mallabula on
Fridays at 10am in school term.

Women's Social Group

This group is open to all women
and meets on the
first Friday each month March to
December in the church hall,
Tanilba Bay.
Come share a meal and a
conversation on a Friday Night.

Men's Breakfast

Come join other local men in our
Community for a Hot Breakfast
on the 1st Saturday each month.
All are welcome and we meet
at 7.30am at Henderson Park,
Lemon Tree Passage.

Published By Tanilba CRC.

Christian Reformed Church
02 4984 5442
Corner of Tanilba Ave and Peace
Parade, Tanilba Bay. NSW.

Church Service: 9am Sunday

www.tanilbacrc.org.au