



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
Parish of Formosa

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Diocese of George

19th January 2023

Good morning to all our Parishioners, your families and loved one's at

St. Peter' the Confessor, Plettenberg Bay, whose Feast of Title we celebrated yesterday 18 January 2023.

My prayers and best wishes to you all accompanies this message.

We congratulate and thank all the members, supporters, benefactors, and friends of St. Peter's as we look forward to a fuller celebration of our Patronal Feast on Sunday 22 January, followed by a breakfast and fellowship to be enjoyed by all.

As your Rector and friend, I offer you my paternal congratulations on your Patronal Feast Day as we reflect on an extract from "Saints and Seasons." St. Peter's confession is of faith, not of sin, and the Gospel writers clearly regard this incident as marking a crucial stage in our Lord's ministry. Jesus had asked his disciples what others thought of him: and their answers showed that he was regarded as but one more in the long line of Jewish prophets. St. Peter's reply alone revealed that he had glimpsed the truth: "Thou art the Christ." For the first time the uniqueness of Jesus was acknowledged.

There was still much that St. Peter and the others failed to



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But when Jesus went on to warn them of his coming death, St. Peter objected and was in turn rebuked. Christ cannot be separated from the cross any more than the Christian Gospel can be separated from the hard facts and consequences of human sin. The Christian disciple must confess both Christ as Saviour and him/herself as sinner.

I want specially to assure you of my prayers for the community of St. Peter, and to express my gratitude to each of you for your perseverance in your calling amid the many trials you faced over the years. Each of us has our own challenges, and our own vocation, but we rely on the Lord, and on each other, for the strength to endure and to triumph in our ministry, the ministry of all believers as ministers in the order of Melchizedek.

So, we look not to do great things, but to contribute some small part and may we all persevere in our humble calling and take our place in service to God and people. Once more, I extend my paternal congratulations on your altar feast, and I wish you a joyous celebration in the Lord. Finally, we give thanks and glory to Almighty God for all things!

Pax Vobiscum
Edwin