



eNews – April 2021

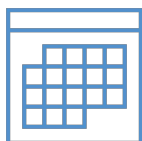
What's the link between Easter and ANZAC Day? In this new format for our MCF news, hear from our Vice Chair, CHAP Steve Neuhaus, on the theme of **sacrifice**, our **Patron's Easter message**, and be challenged to tell the Gospel through hot cross buns and Easter eggs,

SACRIFICE



From Vice Chair, CHAP Steve Neuhaus

Upcoming events



International Day of Prayer for Police and Military
24 Jun

Online Prayer
4 Aug
10 Nov

Defence Christians' Dinner
Canberra
Sep/Oct

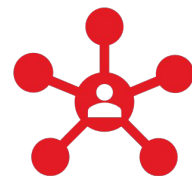
April this year brings together two events that are greatly significant - Easter and ANZAC Day. On ANZAC Day, Australia as a nation pauses to remember the sacrifices made by many since the birth of this Nation through many wars up to and including today for our current prosperous peaceful lifestyle. It is interesting that we struggle with the concept of God sacrificing much to enable us to enter into a free relationship with Him.

So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom (redemption) with the blood of His Son and forgave our sins. Ephesians 1:6-7

In Paul's time slaves were freed by the payment of a ransom this was a common Greco-Roman practice called 'redemption'. Paul says that we are freed from our bondage as slaves to sin by Christ paying the price - the price was the shedding of His blood. If you ever happen to read *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*, C.S. Lewis has captured this very well with his depiction of Aslan being sacrificed to redeem Edmund - someone who did not in human terms deserve this level of sacrifice. *Continued next page*



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(Continued from page 1) Christ did not pay the ransom for us to continue to be slaves to sin, but to be free men and women able to serve Him. This April we are reminded of this blood sacrifice of Jesus the Christ for our spiritual freedom (Easter) and then the blood sacrifice of many for our physical freedom (ANZAC).

In the rush to celebrate Easter and commemorate ANZAC Day, let us not lose sight of God's Grace, Kindness and Love in redeeming us from the slavery of sin to be free to dwell with Him in glory for Eternity.



Chair's Easter Message

Easter is a time for us to reflect on the difference Jesus makes everyday. Whilst Christmas is exciting, a time for family and summer in Australia, the combination of Easter and ANZAC Day in April give us an opportunity to reflect on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and challenge others to do so as well.



You might be interested in...

Helping Russell Bielenberg write the history of MCF-A.

He is looking for any newsletters or council minutes etc, specifically between 1996 to 2003. Contact the MCF office for more details.

Army Christian Services resources online, packed with wisdom for life in Defence. Find out more armychristianservices.com



Changes to National Day of Prayer for Defence. The annual day of prayer for Defence, as MCF's primary corporate prayer event, has reorganised as quarterly **Online Prayer** events, with a first successful run on 31 March 2021. Thank you Darren Thomas for pulling this together!

Assisting Everyman's who are seeking assistance from supporters who have been involved with Everyman's and who may like to share their story. Stories will be documented and treasured for future generations, For more info please contact jeffgreene@everymans.org.au or phone Jeff on 0421 013 924.



The **International Christian Police Fellowship** invites MCF members based in Perth to contact Detective Senior Constable Nicholas Filter at pd12432@police.wa.gov.au leading up to the International Day of Prayer for Police and Military. There will be more groups meeting across Australia. Find out more at internationalcpf.org or contact DSC Filter.

Find an MCF group near you, support MCF work or link in with our Staff Worker, Julie at:



mcf-a.org.au



mcf.office@defence.gov.au



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