



THE ADVOCATE

Our Diocesan Vision is to walk in the way of Christ.

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AUTUMN 2022

The GRASS WITHERS &
the FLOWER FADES,
but the WORD *of our* God
will STAND FOREVER.

Isaiah 40:8

Canon Lyall Turley Memorial Lecture & Ministry Conference

BY DR JANE FREEMANTLE

Mrs Joy Freier.

On Saturday 19th February, 80 people from around the Province of Victoria gathered at Cathedral College to attend the inaugural Canon Lyall Turley Memorial Lecture and Diocesan Conference.

We were welcomed by Canon Scott Jessup and prayers were offered. Canon Lyall's family, Mrs Lauris Turley and Ben Turley were acknowledged and warmly welcomed as were the Archbishop the Most Reverend Philip Freier and

The program for the day included the inaugural Canon Lyall Turley Memorial Lecture presented by Most Reverend Philip Freier, an update on the Ministry Action Plans by Dr. Jane Freemantle, the Conference Plenary Session by the Reverend Dr. Ed Byford and four parallel sessions: Re-kindling the Kindling (Church re-potting) by the Right Reverend Lindsay Urwin OGS; Re-developing Ministry by the Right Reverend Clarence Bester; Sharing St Matthew's

Pastoral Care – Caring in Action by Ms Annette Gorham, and Small Church Development and St Columbs Hall by the Venerable (EM) Catie Inches-Ogden CSC and the Reverend John Hebblewhite.

The Canon Lyall Turley Memorial Lecture

Canon Lyall Turley's ministry began at a young age and he served in ordained ministry for 51 years. He served the Lord as a missionary in Papua New Guinea before returning to Australia where he served in various ministry

capacities in the Dioceses of Melbourne, Canberra, Goulburn, Brisbane and Wangaratta. Canon Lyall established a discernment and formation program in the diocese of Wangaratta an initiative which has continued to grow and flourish since its inception.

The Archbishop described Canon Turley as 'a patient listener, a discerning spirit in matters of ministry and vocation and an encourager of those who entered his circle of relationship'. His Grace expressed gratitude

for his long friendship with Canon Lyall and for Canon Lyall's continued support and encouragement. The Archbishop noted that Canon Lyall's ministry exemplified two key themes which he believed have been and continue to remain as key responsibilities of the church: 'the need to transmit the gospel to a new generation of believers and to communicate the gospel across the boundaries of culture'.

Archbishop Phillip acknowledged the major influence that Papua New

Guinea had on Canon Lyall's ministry, his love for the Papua New Guineans and his commitment to the two-way character of cross-cultural ministry which defined his ministry throughout his life. The Archbishop challenged his audience to consider: 'Where is the next generation of people to share the faith with; and who are the people living across cultural boundaries that need to be traversed for evangelism and sharing the faith to happen?'

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Recycle for Georgia

Georgia grew up in the Cathedral parish in Wangaratta where she spent many years as an altar server and enjoying youth group activities, bell ringing, the girls' choir and serving on the Diocesan social justice committee.

Through her parish participation as well as the Girl Guides and local service clubs Georgia demonstrated an ongoing service ethic which has been recognised by receiving the Girl Guides highest commendation, the Queens Guide Award, and the Diocese of Wangaratta's Mathew McInnes award.

Volunteering at Camp Licola is close to her heart. This annual camp is facilitated by Lions clubs to provide a safe and encouraging place

for disadvantaged children to challenge themselves and grow in confidence through adventure activities. Since 2018 Georgia has volunteered 4 times and plans to continue going as long as she can.

Georgia is currently studying a Bachelor of Early Childhood and Primary Education at Charles Sturt University in Albury and working at Albury hospital to support her study as an independent self-funded student. She is a member of the Student Representative Committee, as is past treasurer, and currently serving as president.

Charles Sturt University prides itself on being an environmentally conscious university, to the point where it is certified as Australia's

first carbon neutral university. While living on campus Georgia has become more environmentally conscious, particularly about what can and cannot be recycled. For example, Subway wrapping paper has too much plastic content to be recycled, and pizza boxes cannot be recycled if there is too much oil on them. She can recycle her hearing aid batteries, compost food scraps, and she takes biodegradable cutlery and metal straws to university for lunch, to reduce plastic waste.

Georgia believes in the importance of caring for creation by "playing my part where I can and recycling appropriately so that my children and grandchildren will be able to grow up in a world worth living in."

In recent years Georgia has been recycling drink containers through the return and earn

system (10 cents per item) available in New South Wales, recruiting family and friends into collecting their drink containers for her to recycle. Along the way, she inspired the active support of Bishop Clarence for her recycling efforts. The bishop first began this through his call last year when we celebrated the Season of Creation when he was encouraged to only drink water from a tap. The bishop is a lover of different water types and continuing his good habits, now recycles regularly with Georgia as recipient of whatever is used at Bishop's Lodge. The bishop is calling on all parishioners to 'Recycle for Georgia' and will receive any bottles and small cartons (that will earn a 10c per item) at Bishop's Lodge where there will be a container bin for this purpose. This will start on 13 March and is set as a special Lent Challenge for those who would like to participate.



Diocese of Wangaratta Remembers & Honours Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu

The sad news of the passing of South African Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu on 26 December 2021 brought together 50 of our parishioners and clergy who joined in a Memorial Service of Thanksgiving for his life, mission, ministry and legacy. Many also joined the service via live-stream from various parts of the country and South Africa.

Though a rather awkward time of the year with many being on leave, the celebration of the Eucharist, the two reflections by The Rev'd Andre Du Plooy and The Rev'd

Jacques Jefferies with a homily preached by Bishop Clarence clearly outlined the beautiful characteristics of an outstanding human being who lived his life in the service of others.

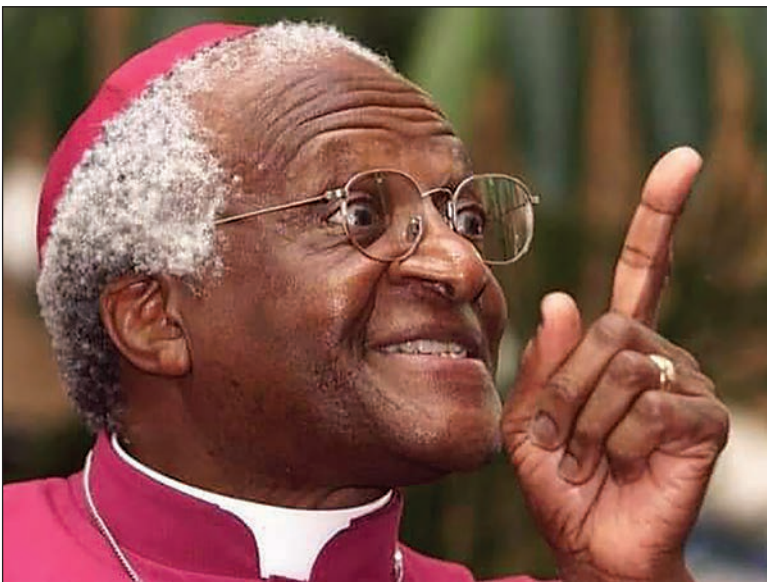
Rev'd Du Plooy reflected on the Arch's care for families and his deep interest in people. The Du Plooy family had a specific connection with Archbishop Tutu through the University of Cape Town and catered for the wedding of the Archbishop's daughter a few years ago. Rev'd Andre also made a booklet on Tutu's theology

available to all those who attended the service.

Rev'd Jacques Jefferies is one of the clerics of Southern Africa who was ordained as Priest by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and outlined the wonderful care the Archbishop had towards clergy and their family and the special interest he took in acknowledging clergy and their families on their special days.

Bishop Clarence shared an interesting story about how the Archbishop influenced his life at the tender age of sixteen when he was privileged to be at the rehearsal and service or the Enthronement of Archbishop Tutu in 1986. The Bishop had this wonderful experience of Archbishop Tutu acknowledging and greeting him and his friend at this auspicious occasion, taking a moment to have a chat with them with many television cameras on them.

During the homily, the Bishop acknowledged the special relationship that The Revd Jerome Francis had with Archbishop Desmond Tutu since 1993 and how as rector of the Parish where Archbishop Tutu was a parishioner, The Rev'd Jerome and his family had a special connection with



the Arch and Mama Leah (his wife) and the Tutu family (picture attached) where the Arch jokingly told him that he will pray that the Springboks will beat the wallabies at Rugby so that Jerome could long for home in South Africa.

There is no doubt that the clergy from South Africa, including The Rev'd Victor Adams and Bishop Dino had this special privilege personally knowing such an amazing person who even on the world stage would still recognize and acknowledge others being able to truly live the concept of Ubuntu that reminds all of us

that we are human through the humanity of others.

A Desmond Tutu Peace and Reconciliation Garden will be constructed at Bishop's Lodge Past the lead up to the Chapel to remind ourselves of one of Tutu's sayings that - 'there is no reconciliation without forgiveness'.

PHOTO LEFT: Reverend Jerome Francis and family with Archbishop Tutu and Mama Leah **ABOVE:** Archbishop Tutu



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Contributions and photos are welcome (please limit to approximately 300 words) for consideration for publication dependent on space and content with the understanding that they may be edited. Pictures should be provided as a high resolution JPEG (200dpi) or Tiff if possible

SAFE CHURCH

The Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta has zero tolerance for abuse. We are committed to providing a safe, respectful, welcoming and positive environment for children and adults from all backgrounds.

If you have experienced abuse or suspect abuse may be occurring in a church setting or by a member of the church you should report this as soon as possible to the Director of Professional Standards on 1800 377 842 (1800 DPSVIC) or email professionalstandards@wangeratta-anglican.org.au.

For more information on our Safe Church policies and procedures contact the Safe Church and Systems Officer on 03 5721 3484.

Welcome Reverend Mario

BY REV'D CAROL HOGG

On 17th February 2022, a lovely balmy evening, a service was held to celebrate the Induction and Licensing by Bishop Clarence Bester of The Reverend Mario David Philip Hendricks as Priest-In-Charge for the Cooperative Ministry between the Anglican Parishes of Alexandra and Yea. St Luke's church in Yea was the venue for the combined service with Wardens and parishioners of St John's Alexandra joining with members of St Luke's and clergy from around the Diocese, including the Dean, the Diocesan Archdeacon and the Area Dean together with representatives from other Christian traditions. It was a truly warm and ecumenical welcome for Reverend Mario.

The well-planned formalities of the service ensured a successful induction of our new priest by Bp Clarence, in front of about 100 people. During the service, Reverend Mario was presented with the symbols of ministry and also a welcome hamper of local produce from the community. The Mayor of the Shire of Murrindindi and a Warden of St Luke's, Sue Carpenter gave the Welcome to Country on behalf of Auntie Angela of the Taungurung people and Words of Welcome were given by Parish Secretary and Warden, Linda Davis of St John's, Alexandra. At the conclusion of the service short speeches of welcome were offered by various dignitaries present and Reverend Mario was invited to

respond. Following the service, about 70 people remained and gathered for supper in the Parish Hall.

We are blessed to have Reverend Mario, together with his wife Hester and two sons, Mark-John (18 years) and Nathan (15 years) join us here 'at our end' of the Diocese of Wangaratta after making the journey from South Africa. Mario has a special interest in ecclesiology, missiology and enjoys nurturing and teaching the faithful. In January 2022 when Bp Clarence announced that he had been successful in appointing a priest, we were delighted. Having now had the

opportunity to spend a little time with Mario, it is obvious that Bp Clarence's choice was inspired. In Reverend Mario's own words, he sees his mission as 'bringing the love of Jesus to a broken world' and as part of the body of Christ we could ask for no more.

We look forward to Mario's future service, to assisting him wherever possible as he undertakes his work of bringing love, acceptance and healing to the wider community and celebrating the Eucharist with the members of both congregations in his shared ministry of the Parishes of Yea and Alexandra.



Diocesan Quiet Days 2022

Saturday 7th May

10:00am –2:00pm
St Paul's Anglican Church, Euroa
Theme: Taizé

'Move prayer from the head to the heart'

The day will incorporate periods of silence & stillness before God with meditative readings from scripture, prayers of praise and intercession and the singing of Taizé chants.

Leader: The Rev'd Canon Scott Jessup
No charge. BYO lunch. Tea/coffee provided.
Bookings (by 4th of May): Scott 0418254158; email: chaplain@wangeratta-anglican.org.au



Saturday 10th September

10:00am –2:00pm
Bishop's Lodge, Wangaratta
Theme: Prayer
An exploration of prayer – enrich your prayer life & explore new ways of praying
Leader: The Rev'd Canon Scott Jessup
No charge. Lunch & tea/coffee provided.
Bookings (by 8th September): Scott 0418254158; email: chaplain@wangeratta-anglican.org.au



Saturday 19th November

10:00am –2:00pm
Theme: Advent Quiet Day
Two Locations:
Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Yackandandah
Leader: The Rev'd Canon Scott Jessup
Bookings (by16thNovember): Scott 0418254158;email: chaplain@wangeratta-anglican.org.au



Christ Church, Kilmore
Leader: The Rev'd Andre Du Plooy
Bookings (by 16thNovember): Andre 0458155930; email: rector@anglicankilmore.org.au



from the Bishop

Dear Clergy, People and Friends of the Diocese

Falling Leaves

In preparing for hibernation, the shade provided by the leaves on trees will now slowly change colour and fall to the ground. Over the next few months, we will witness this happening all around us but also a change in temperature that will hopefully provide cooler weather and as just as amazingly beautiful time of the year. For many of us who live in places where there are a lot of trees, there will be lots of work with raking, gathering and hopefully composting. I hope that this cooler season will create space for our lives to become a bit easier and more relaxed within the perplexities of what we often experience in our daily living.

Celebrating together

I marvel at opportunities for celebrations and the gathering of people, especially as we have not been able to do much over the past two years. I am calling on all our Clergy and Parishioners to come join us on Sunday, 13 March for a Picnic Lunch that will be provided at Bishop's Lodge from midday, our Thanksgiving Service at 2:30pm where the ninth Bishop of Wangaratta, Bishop David Farrer will be our Preacher and then afternoon tea generously provided by the Cathedral Parish. I especially encourage the people of the Southern part of the Diocese to join the rest of the Diocese as people from Corryong also travel 2 hours to Wangaratta.

Discovering together

On Saturday, 9 April the Clergy and Synod Representatives will meet in the four Deaneries to further develop the Parish Ministry Action Plans to be presented at Diocesan Synod meeting from 3-4 June. Information about Synod legislation will also be discussed so that we can ensure maximum participation, discover and learn from each other and become more excited about the wonderful possibilities presented to us every day.

Worshipping together

On Tuesday, 12 April at 11am, the Clergy of the Diocese will gather for the Chrism Eucharist and the re-affirmation of their Ordination Vows at Holy Trinity Cathedral. Last year I encouraged our laity to come and support our Clergy and I hope that we can count on you supporting your local cleric by attending with them. All are invited for a light luncheon after the service at Bishop's Lodge.

Walking together

Our Lenten journey started on Ash Wednesday and parishes will use various resources to continue this journey of walking, talking, learning and discovering together through bible study, prayer and faithful attendance during this time. Prayer Focus resources have been emailed to all Parishioners as we explore the different concepts of GRACE which will be the five themes I will develop as we "Walk with Christ" and 'Walk together' when gathering at some of our smaller Churches. ON Sunday, 3 April, I invite you to join me at St Paul's Wakati Creek in the Parochial District of Numurkah and Nathalia for our first out of five visits to smaller Churches, strengthening them within their ministry and sharing in fellowship with these congregations.

Learning together

Our Ministry Action Planning (MAP) Team are working hard getting various initiatives activated to support our Vision and Mission Statement. To this end, we have set up a Training opportunity for all Lay Ministers, Lay Readers, Pastoral Care Workers and any other interested person to be part of this Diocesan Certificate for Ministry. We have already secured the expertise from some of the lecturers from Trinity Theological College in Melbourne combined with some of our local resources. This will take place over ten sessions, and we need between 20-25 people to register.

Discerning together

As we are slowly emerging from the covid pandemic with the easing of restrictions which brings about a new normal, I do want to encourage all our clergy and people to be as vigilant as ever and to do all that is necessary for the safety of all those who cross the threshold of our places of worship. Other than the gracious hospitality that we know that we offer to all who enter our places of worship, I pray that we will always portray and act on an image of all are welcome and all invited. Various development stages and restrictions during the height of covid times, which were necessary, have made some of our number feel 'un-welcome', some who will probably never return to places of worship. I ask especially that our people will remain calm and patient as we continue to discern the best way forward in relation to Holy Communion and ask that as information becomes available and more restrictions are eased, that there will be an opportunity for us to do the things that we love doing.

A Holy and Blessed Lent.

+ Clarence

+ Clarence



Anglicare
Victoria

Parish Partnership Update

BY DR JANE FREEMANTLE, CHAIR

The Anglicare Victoria Parish Partnerships (AVPP) Steering Committee met in January to continue our outreach and shared commitment to partner in working for care and justice in the community of the Diocese of Wangaratta.

The members of the Steering Committee paid tribute to Reverend David Jones who retired from his role as Senior Chaplain of Cathedral College at the end of 2021. The Bishop spoke with gratitude of Reverend David's lengthy involvement specifically with AVPP and of the most valued contribution he had made over these years. He noted the constancy of Reverend David's attendance at these meetings and his leadership through his chaplaincy role at the school in introducing and supporting many student initiatives and increased involvement on their contributions to the work of AVPP. Members unanimously supported the Bishop's sincere vote of thanks and all extended warm best wishes for Reverend David and his family in his retirement. We were delighted to welcome Reverend Dr Mark Mickelborough to the Steering Committee as representative of Cathedral College in the stead of Reverend David. Reverend Mark has joined the Chaplaincy team this year at Cathedral College as Senior Chaplain and members welcomed him most warmly to the Steering Committee.

I would like to highlight a couple of activities of AVPP over the past months.

Christmas Hampers

Tanya Grant, Community Development Worker / North Central Region reported that over the Christmas Period the Wangaratta Emergency Relief Program through the initiative Loaves & Fishes Christians

Caring prepared and gave out 165 Christmas hampers to members of the community and organisations who support families. The program also partnered with The Salvation Army in supplying Christmas presents.

Tanya also highlighted how AVPP partnered with other community organisations to work together to ensure that food was available to members of the community needing support during our Christmas Closure period. It was a very successful process with bags being not only delivered to churches as we have in previous years, but also to Salvation Army Stores and Gateway Health. We did see a noticeable increase in the number distributed. The organisations have since met and will continue to work with each other in the future which has been a wonderful outcome. There were 45 bags delivered to families and individuals through this initiative.

These activities were supported by our wonderful volunteers who reflected the true spirit of Christmas, working with our partners to care for those in our community in need of support and care.

Chris de Paiva, Program Manager Diocesan and Parish Partnerships Anglicare Victoria described Emergency Relief & Financial Counselling – North Metro Trial. This trial has been initiated with the overall vision of exploring the need and enabling a trial of greater integration of Emergency Relief and Financial Counselling. The project is building on the learnings from Mission House and there is the potential to tailor this initiative within the Diocese of Wangaratta. The project works with trained Emergency Relief volunteers

to provide financial counselling to members of the community who would benefit and work with clients to raise awareness about availability and potential helpfulness of financial counselling.

This is an exciting initiative, and we look forward to following the activities and outcomes of this trial in the coming months and continuing our discussions about its potential for adaption to our Diocese.

The annual Anglicare Winter Appeal will be renamed the Diocesan Anglicare Victoria Parish Partnerships Winter Appeal. Discussions continue as to the 2022 shape and focus of this important initiative. It is proposed that an editable template advertising this initiative will be developed and circulated. This would enable each parish to identify the local needs for their fundraising efforts. Further information will be provided in the coming weeks.

The work of the AVPP continues as we explore ways to build on existing programs within our Parishes. We are working with the Bishop to establish funding application templates that can be used by Parishes to access specific funds for relief and support programs. Believing that 'imitation is the sincerest form of flattery', the Steering Committee is considering how we might facilitate the collection of information relating to the various Parish/School programs and initiatives into a central database to enable sharing of initiatives within the Diocese. The database would be maintained by Anglicare Victoria and the information would be provided on request to the Parishes or circulated through publications to assist with initiating of new projects.

Rev'd Richard Induction at Central Goulburn

BY DIANE GRANT

For over two years the Anglican Parish of Central Goulburn consisting of St Paul's Avenel, St John's Nagambie and Christ Church Seymour, has had Rev'd Richard Pennington as their licensed priest assisting in their parish part time.

His role changed on Friday, 28 January when he was officially licensed to be the parish's Priest in Charge at a service of Induction and Licensing presided over by the Anglican Bishop of Wangaratta, the Right Reverend Clarence Edgar Bester who led the service in front of fellow clergy, parishioners from the three centres, Rev'd Richard's family and parish friends from his past parishes. Many visitors travelled in fierce thunder storms from across the Diocese to support the new priest in his new role.

The Area Dean Reverend Andre Du Plooy assisted the Bishop in the ceremony and the Dean of Wangaratta's Holy Trinity Cathedral, the Very Reverend Ken Goodger preached the sermon based on the day's Bible readings and also assisted the Bishop in his duties.

During the Eucharist service hymns of praise, prayers of significance, blessings and the Renewal of Baptismal vows were shared by the congregation to show support for their new Priest and Holy Communion was distributed after the symbols of ministry were bestowed on Reverend Richard Pennington by the Bishop.

Reverend Richard responded with his usual aplomb and thanked everyone for their ongoing support over the past two years and expressed his eagerness to embrace his new role as their Priest in Charge.

A fellowship dinner was held in Christ Church hall after the Induction ceremony and guests were able to congratulate the newest Anglican Priest in Charge in the Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta and Reverend Richard was able to meet and greet his guests on this special occasion.

Reverend Pennington can be contacted for church or parish matters on his mobile 0477 921 111.



PHOTO ABOVE: Standing in front of the Symbols of Ministry table at the Induction service are: Jen and Reverend Richard Pennington, Bishop Clarence Bester, Church warden Ernie Lewin.

The Wonder & Beauty of Creation

BY REV'D JOHN JESSOP

If I look out from where I am writing this, I would see Orange, Lime, Silver Birch, Aleppo Pine, Cedar, Gingko, Ash, Oak, Cypress, Horse Chestnut, Iron-bark, and mighty River Red-gum trees. If I look a little further, I would see cattle grazing well into the distance. How is it that such abundant growth is so close to where I am sitting? The answer is, of course, thanks to the nutrients of the soil, rain, sunlight and carbon dioxide. All life on earth, including human life, is built on carbon and without carbon dioxide there would be no life on earth. This summary of an article on joannenova.com.

au by Dr David Wojick gives a good explanation of the 'Carbon Cycle'.

'Farming the air By David Wojick - The beginning: "You are built almost entirely out of carbon dioxide and water. So is all the food you eat. Likewise for all the energy you use moving about and staying alive. Carbon dioxide and water! In short, the carbon dioxide in the air is the global food supply. This is why all life on Earth is said to be "carbon based".

The climate alarmists play a tricky word game here. They call carbon dioxide "pollution" and wind and solar power "clean." Our food supply is

not pollution. Nor is emitting carbon dioxide (which we all do when we exhale) unclean. This is just false advertising. Watching a child grow is watching processed carbon dioxide be reprocessed.

Here is how it works. Plants collect carbon dioxide from the air then use sunlight and water to create the stuff they consume to build their bodies and to live on. They also use tiny amounts of vitamins and minerals, just as we do. Fertilizer is like vitamins, not like food. So almost all of what they use is carbon dioxide and water. Animals eat the plants for food, basically reprocessing the carbon dioxide and water.

Then we eat both plants and animals.

There is a saying that you cannot live on air but in fact that is just what we do. All of our food begins as airborne (or waterborne) carbon dioxide. Our farmers are literally farming the air!

Go into a grocery store and look around. All the food you see — vegetables, fruit and meat — fresh, frozen or canned — is processed carbon dioxide. So are the people shopping there. So are you."

It is well worth reading and sharing the full article at: <https://www.cfact.org/2022/02/12/farming-the-air/>— children need to see this too.

I mentioned the cattle I could see from my study. Here is how the carbon cycle works from a farmer's perspective: "Equally as being the building blocks of life, carbon dioxide is a little like the water cycle in so much as it's always there and just going round and round. The call to ban livestock farming does nothing to decrease carbon dioxide. If there is no livestock farming the same amount of CO2 still exists, just in a different format.

Grass grows, is not consumed, dies and releases

CO2 as decay process. Cattle graze on grass, lock carbon up in various forms until they die/are consumed then release the stored carbon back into the cycle. No more no less than was available for life or death of anything.

It's a little like the argument that it takes 600 litres of water to produce 1 kilogram of beef yet a kilo of beef still only weighs 1 kilo. where has all that water gone? Why just round and round and when the beef is consumed its entire water content is dumped back into the water cycle. no more, no less."

H/T 'Sambar' on joannenove.com.au



Celebrating 120 years as the Diocese of Wangaratta

Bishop Thomas Armstrong

BY JANE FRASER

The installation of Bishop Armstrong on Thursday the 13th March 1902 was cited as “an epoch-marking day in the history of the Anglican Church in the North-Eastern District”. The day started with the service at 11.30am. Clergy and choir assembled in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church and sang the hymn, Blessed City, Heavenly Salem and entered through the east door, where an impressive ceremony followed. After the service, there was a luncheon at the Commercial Hotel. Later in the afternoon a garden party was held in the church grounds. In the evening there was a public reception held in Her Majesty’s Theatre presided over by the Mayor of Wangaratta.

Thomas Armstrong was unanimously elected by the committees for the two new dioceses – Gippsland and Wangaratta and he chose Wangaratta. His personality was probably the pivotal reason for his decision; his stature and background laying the foundation for his remarkable term as Bishop of Wangaratta. He was

described as “energetic, cheerful and sympathetic”. Tall in stature - 6’3” in socks - handsome with red hair and bearded. He used a walking stick apparently decorated with the skin of a tiger snake and he notched it each time he killed a snake. He liked his gun and fishing rod and gardening, creating a garden and orchard at Bishop’s lodge. His qualities and alliances endeared him to a rural community.

In the beginning he had 25 clergy and 77 churches, the total number of communicants was 2,949 who raised £10,633 for the church. When he retired 25 years later, the clergy had increased to 35, the number of churches to 97 and communicants increased to 3,817 and they raised £20,201. Bishop’s Lodge, St Columb’s Hall and a partially built Cathedral were built during his term.

Thomas Henry Armstrong was born 2 April 1857 in Dublin and died 23 March 1930. He married Marion Ruth Henty on 19 May 1892 and they had three children - John Henry Brian Armstrong; Muriel May Dingwall Armstrong and Marion

Dorothea Armstrong.

He was educated at Geelong Grammar school, Geelong College and Trinity College. At Melbourne University he attained a B.A. and a M.A. He was ordained a Deacon in 1880 and priested a year later. A Curate at Christ Church, St Kilda and Christ Church, Hawthorn, he was the first Vicar at St Columb’s in Hawthorn and then Archdeacon of Gippsland. During his time in Gippsland he was also rural dean of Sale, a canon of St Paul’s Cathedral and examining chaplain to the Bishop of Melbourne. In 1902 he was consecrated first Bishop of Wangaratta. In 1903 the University of Trinity College, Toronto, Canada awarded him an honorary D.D. He retired in 1927 but went on to be the acting incumbent of St John’s in Toorak and president of the Melbourne College of Divinity.

After 50 years of service, Thomas Henry Armstrong died on the 23rd March 1930 from heart disease. His service was at St Paul’s Cathedral and he was buried in the Boroondara cemetery with his wife who died in 1928.



The Diocese of Wangaratta

The Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta was founded in 1902, being created out of the Diocese of Melbourne. It is set in regional NE Victoria, plus the Albury border area in NSW. Of the total population, roughly one person in five would claim some kind of Anglican affiliation. There are now 24 parishes or districts incorporating some 75 places of worship. A few are large and complex, most are small. Most congregations are considerably older than the community around them and there are many parts of the region where the rural

population is in decline. On the other hand there is also major population growth both in the border area and potentially also where the southern parishes are becoming dormitory areas for Melbourne. The Diocese is divided into two territorial archdeaconries and three rural deaneries. These deaneries are the potential basis for both centrally supported care and response networks and a substantial program of education and formation.

DoW 120th Anniversary Hymn Competition

BY REV'D HELEN MALCOLM

The hymn competition received entries from people across the Diocese - some with original words to be sung to an existing tune; others where both words and music were original. Thank you to everyone for the time and effort they put into their entries. Entries were sent anonymously to the two judges for consideration.

The judges, The Rev'd Dr. Elizabeth Smith AM, Mission Priest, Parish of the Goldfields and Dr. Kieran Crichton, Director of Music, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta, put in a lot of work to go through the entries and identify those that were of a standard suitable for singing by congregations, either for our 120th anniversary, or at other times. We are extremely grateful to them both for the time and effort they dedicated to the judging and the expertise they brought to the task. Detailed feedback will be provided to

all entrants to assist with future composing.

We congratulate the following **Highly Commended:** Matthew Schultz of Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish for his composition 'Creator God, whose love brought forth the universe' - original words to be sung to Londonderry Air. **Honourable Mentions:** Ven. John Davis of Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish for his celebratory hymn 'Full hundred and twenty years faithfully gathering' to be sung to the tune Kremser. Val Edwards of Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish for her hymn suitable for Evensong: 'To thee before the end of day' to be sung to Herongate and Tess Herbert for her hymn of Church renewal 'Like a candle in the shadow' to be sung to Laus Deo.

Plan to attend the anniversary celebrations on 13th March and be treated to a world première!



Come and celebrate with us

120th Anniversary

of the

Diocese of Wangaratta

13th March 2022

Picnic lunch
(lunch provided)

from 12pm, Bishop’s Lodge

Thanksgiving Service

2.30pm, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta followed by afternoon tea.

For picnic lunch please RSVP along with any dietary requirements by 8th March to Fiona at registry@wangeratta-anglican.org.au or (03) 5721 3484





News from the Cathedral

BY KIERAN CRICHTON

Stairway to Heaven

Scaffolding remains in the north aisle. This was put in place as a safety measure following the earthquake in September. More news will be available once the engineer’s report is received.

Have you seen?

Regular services at Holy Trinity Cathedral are now being live-streamed on Facebook. Can’t join us at service time? No worries! Once the livestream ends the video remains, so you can catch up on the Cathedral page, @wanganattacathedral.

Music news

Both ensembles of the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir offered stirring music at Christmas. Music for Midnight Mass was led by the Cathedral Singers, along with two trumpets. The Cathedral Choristers completed their singing for Term 4 by leading music on Christmas Day, with an expressive performance of Michael Bedford’s What Star is This?

Over the summer holidays the Cathedral Singers took up residence, singing each Sunday at 10.00am. This gave the congregation the opportunity to get to know a new mass setting, Colin Smith’s Mass Shalom.

Now a new school year is upon us, and the Cathedral Choristers are back! As this edition of the Advocate goes to press recruitment is under way to increase the number of singers. Our Cathedral Choristers will be singing at Cathedral College Wangaratta for the opening of

the new Chapel of the Good Shepherd, due to be opened and dedicated on 24 March.

Over the next couple of months the two ensembles will be singing together for major services in March and April. This will be a great opportunity for all our singers to be part of a bigger group and enjoy making music together.

Evensong

Sunday 20 February marked the first time Evensong has been offered at Holy Trinity Cathedral since before the Covid-19 pandemic began. The Cathedral Singers led worship with music by J.S. Bach and Sarah MacDougall.

The service brought together 30 people for an evening of music and fellowship, including a thought-provoking sermon from the Dean, Ken Goodger. The next Evensong will be held Sunday 15 May.

Keep the date!

Over the next couple of months there are a number of special events at Holy Trinity Cathedral.

On 13 March we are looking forward to welcoming the wider diocesan family as we celebrate the 120th anniversary of the enthronement of Bishop Armstrong in 1902.

An ordination service is to be held at Holy Trinity Cathedral on Saturday 26 March.

Clergy Professional Development Day

On 10 February, 25 Clergy met with the bishop at the RSL Mulwala to work through various aspects of their ministry, creating an opportunity for a deeper understanding of the Canons and Constitutions of the Anglican Church of Australia as well as the Professional Standards Act 2010. Archdeacon Emeritus John Davis led the session on the Canons and Constitutions focusing on elements of a book he wrote in 1993 called ‘Australian Anglicans and their Constitution’.

Bishop Clarence then worked through various aspects of the changes in the Registry Office

and operational structures that should lead to a smooth transitioning providing clergy are able to follow the suggested pathways. The Bishop pointed out that with a smaller staff at the Registry Office, it was of paramount importance that the right person be contacted with the relevant query.

Even though the Acts of the Diocese are on the Diocesan Website, many clergy seemed surprised at the requirements, procedures and protocols regarding Professional Standards and the link to the Safe Church Network. A next session will be planned in due course

with the help of our Diocesan Legal Team to deeper further understanding regarding the legal operational structure of the Diocese. The Bishop’s session was complimented by The Rev’d David Still who gave an update regarding the new online Safe Church training.

The Venerable Catie Inches-Ogden concluded the afternoon with a session on clergy developing a professional etiquette through small group discussions. Much debate also focused around the establishment of a Diocesan Social Media Policy so as to avoid the official stance of the Diocese being confused with individual sentiments. More work will be done in this area and the plenary session information used in the process development



Reflections from the Diocesan Quiet day

Reflections from the Diocesan Quiet Day held at St Stephen’s, Rutherglen on the 12th of February:

‘The Quiet day was a wonderful opportunity before Lent starts, to reflect on the sacrifice Christ has made for us all. The various times of reflection were just enough to marvel over each address which was thought provoking and spiritually refreshing. The silence throughout was well kept by each one present and Handel’s music kept us all attuned to the living memory of our Lord’s Crucifixion. Thanks to Canon Scott who so ably led us in this Quiet day’.
The Rev’d Victor Adams

“Having endured multiple quiet days during the pandemic, I was not sure that I needed another! However, I am pleased that I attended another of Canon Scott’s creative Quiet Days last week, basking in Handel’s superb music and grateful for Scott’s thoughtful addresses delivered in his usual gentle manner. It made me realise that Lent is upon us, yet again: a time to re-focus. St Stephen’s was a perfect quiet environment and the Rectory gardens a welcoming space in which to utilize the excellent prayer-starter handouts in private solitude.

How fortunate we are in this Diocese to have Canon Scott’s creative artistic skills providing us with these opportunities to stop for a short while, be quiet and avail ourselves of that ‘still, small voice of calm’. Consider participating in the next Quiet Day”.
A Grateful Participant

‘A day so worth putting aside from daily life to be nourished and refreshed by God with the help and guidance of the Reverend Canon Scott Jessup. The theme was Lent and Easter. I was moved by the words and music of the Messiah that Canon Scott had chosen and his reflections as we sat in silence in the church looking at the huge crucifix in the sanctuary. We were there with him, Jesus, our saviour. I appreciated the silence, coupled with printed prayers and thoughts given to help our time of silence and reflection. Midday Eucharist tied it all together. I came away feeling so thankful for such a special day - to have the uninterrupted time to spend sitting quietly and prayerfully with God is a real blessing. Thank you Canon Scott for enabling this.’

The Rev’d Sue Hal



Canon Lyall Turley Memorial Lecture & Ministry Conference - Continued from page 1

Archbishop Philip pointed to the unintended consequences of the many and varied disruptions the world has experienced over generations, most recently the significant changes to our lives through the massive advances in the digital technology perhaps enabled by the COVID pandemic. Our personal worlds and indeed the worlds of near and far communities have all been 'disrupted' in so many ways. We have had to adapt and to change our usual practices both lifestyle and indeed in our ministry practices. These disruptions have offered greater opportunities for connectedness in our local Parishes and wider national and indeed international church communities. The Archbishop pointed to his own experiences through the long period of the Melbourne 'lockdown' when he took to the streets using the permitted exercise time to re-discover his local environment. He found walking his streets most enlightening particularly noting the diminishing numbers and 're-purposing' of the church buildings along his walking route.

These disruptions and changes in our lives have had a particularly significant impact in the rural and regional areas with the demise of parishes, and essential services. The disruption in enjoyment of a local church community with all that it offers in compassion and a local identity, the provision of ministry, access to the sacraments and opportunities for regular and 'convenient' worship should cause us to reflect on His Grace's challenge to rethink the practices of the past, to think creatively about and to re-imagine, the future for our ministry and our worship.

The Archbishop encouraged us to seriously consider the changing trends in our planning, to be enthusiastic about the benefits that creative partnerships in ministry can enable, to understand the importance of expanding our traditional 'narrow' circles and gatherings, to 'carry the gospel into a new generation and to move beyond the barriers of cultural and identity differences'.

Throughout his presentation, the Archbishop provided us with examples of his and Joy's own experiences to support his challenge to redefine and redesign the context and environment that would find the next generation of people to share the faith. One example was his and Joy's initiative in leading a Catechumenal Process or a 'Journey' involving a series of phases that involved many different avenues and opportunities to bring people together in faith 'enquiry'. Through providing an 'outward' focus, a small team of committed people, training and essentially meeting the people 'where they were' in their faith, a new generation or the re-generation of existing believers was successfully achieved.

With an environment that has been irrevocably changed because of the COVID pandemic and the imperative to discern the future of our parish communities we must embrace opportunities for sharing resources and creating partnerships where we adapt other's initiatives to our own environment. One example is the Diocese of Melbourne's adaption of the work of Rev'd. Adam Lowe in the Diocese of Bunbury the document is called 'Re-imagining the Future'. This document outlines four scenarios for the future,

Recover, Reinvention, Reframe and Release and essentially 'encourages parishioners to examine what they think and on what basis they reach that conclusion'. It outlines innovative, creative and bold ways to 're-imagine' the future for our parishes and Diocese, and was commended to us by the Archbishop and is available through the Diocese of Melbourne.

The Archbishop concluded by once again acknowledging the ministry of Canon Lyall Turley and commending his deep faith and 'confidence in the purpose of God at work in the Church'. While oftentimes we feel inadequate in meeting the challenges we face, if together we carry 'our responsibilities of compassion and service forward in our place and the Gospel to the people around us' we will indeed honour the work of Canon Turley and indeed all those who have gone before him.

I was greatly encouraged by the Archbishop's words and sentiments as he challenged us to now be bold in our ministry and our mission, to think outside the conventional and reframe the past within this new environment, and to recognise that life has changed, perhaps irrevocably. His words, too, brought hope and indeed excitement as we work together to 're-invent' our communities, encouraging our people to try something new accepting that while some things might stay the same, many things will and must change in line with our changing world and its challenges. We must heed the call to 'transmit the gospel to a new generation of believers and to communicate the gospel across the boundaries of culture' so clearly articulated

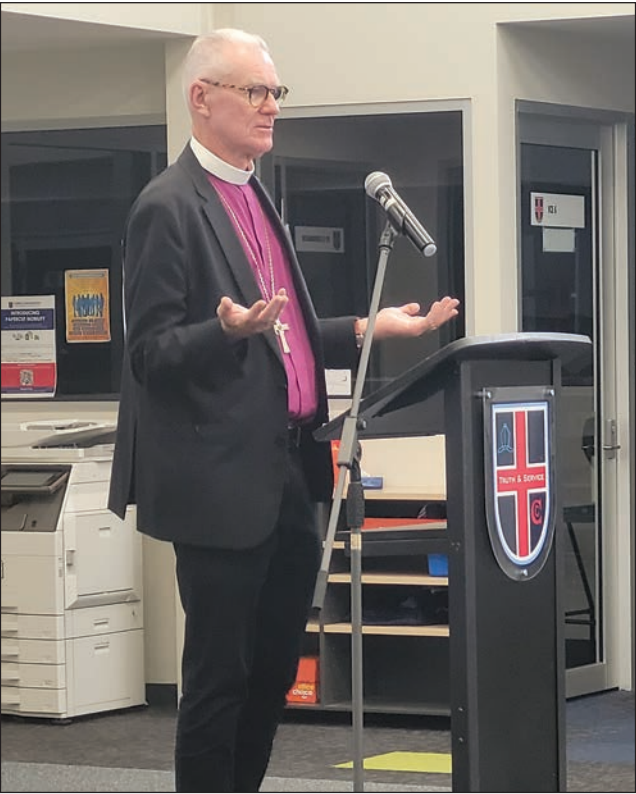
by the Archbishop in the inaugural Canon Lyall Turley Oration.

Parallel Sessions

The Memorial Lecture was followed by an outline of the MAPS process presented by Dr. Jane Freemantle and then a keynote address 'Being confident in the Confidence of Christ' was delivered by the Reverend Dr. Ed Byford.

The Conference program then opened into four parallel sessions that included a presentation by Bishop Lindsay Urwin from the Parish of Brunswick that focused on ways and means of encouraging Church growth. The Bishop providing examples of innovative ministry actions to encourage the regeneration of our Churches.

This was complemented by a session presented by Bishop Clarence in which he shared statistics about Diocesan and Parish operations as well as a model of how we need to redefine, redesign, redevelop, restructure and reshape our ministry patterns through congregational life cycles.



Annie Gorham presented two sessions on the Pastoral Ministry Model at St Matthew's Albury, describing their faithful work in reaching people in the Albury area and beyond as they continue to make a difference in the lives of many people.

We were also blessed to have The Rev'd John Hebblewhite with us who was a student at St Columbs Hall in the early 1960's. His presentation was complemented by a presentation by Archdeacon

Emeritus Catie Inches-Ogden who further developed the theme around Small Church Development, encouraging much discussion around a topic which is so relevant within our current Diocesan context.

Resource material of all presentations will be made available to those who attended the Conference in due course. Presentations will also be widely available through contacting the Diocesan Registry Office.



'Having confidence in our confidence in Christ' - Rev'd. Dr. Edwin Byford

BY DR JANE FREEMANTLE

The impetus for Rev'd. Dr. Edwin Byford's presentation at the Diocesan Conference was from a discussion with our Bishop during the first major lockdown about the challenges in re-invigorating our congregations once lockdowns ceased. How would we re-grow our congregations in the face of the increasingly contested space between 'religious faith and conviction and, in particular, Christian faith and conviction'?

Rev'd. Dr. Ed introduced his paper referring to the perennial and continuing discussion of 'Mission' in the Church. He acknowledged

the ongoing demise of large congregations and attendance for 'rights of passage and major festivals and the impact on the financial and worshipping community viability and the challenges to maintain an active Christian community.

Our mission is to be part of the process of spreading the good news 'out there'. Using the calling of Simon and Andrew and James and John in St Mark's Gospel, Rev'd. Dr. Ed charged us to answer Jesus' challenge to follow him and so become 'fishers of men'. Despite the enormity of this calling, to take up the challenge is to take up the tedious, frustrating, backbreaking and

sometimes exhilarating task of 'going fishing'. Rev'd. Dr. Ed noted that he could have equally used the image of the sower from the Parable of the Sower in the Gospels: we need to begin to 'sow the seed' as we need to become 'fishers of men'.

We need to begin, to find the necessary tools to 'evangelise the word of God', to ask more people to share our faith and invite others to join us. Sounds simple, but as Rev'd. Dr. Ed noted, it is anything but! We need to grow in our confidence, to find the tools to share our faith with those we meet, perhaps determine why it is that we are Christians and why we want to remain so. We need

to be clear about what we believe in, in conjunction with who we are. We need to start with ourselves, by doing something about 'me', I can build not only my own confidence, but the confidence of others. For as Christian history has demonstrated, we need company to build each other's confidence. The challenge is there for all of us. While using examples from Christian communities overseas, Rev'd. Dr. Ed suggested that it was the laity who brought people into the church, while the clergy 'kept' people there (or not!).

Rev'd. Dr. Ed noted that there were 'no magic bullets or smooth roads to

evangelistic success'. He cited a story about the power of evangelism in creating a 'spark' that ignited change, using an analogy about the need to build a fireplace and to gather the wood so to build the fire. He described the persistence in faith of the people in the Philippines and the leadership of a catholic priest Edicio de la Torre, in growing and evangelising the word of God amongst his people at a time of martial law, religious intolerance and hardship. The people continued to 'build a fireplace and to gather the wood' until the terrible 'spark' eventually came that lit the fire that resulted in the overthrow of the despotic and intolerant regime. The road to change was indeed rough, but with persistence and faith and the growth in belief, the mission for change was ultimately rewarded.

Using the prayer used to

send us out at the conclusion of our worship, Rev'd. Dr. Ed charged us to do likewise: to go into our communities beyond the walls of the church with courage and in the power of the Spirit.

Rev'd. Dr. Ed Byford's address was as uplifting as it was challenging. Throughout his presentation, he exhorted us to find the courage to act and to act now both individually and collectively in order that we might restore our Christian faith and conviction; seek the opportunities for re-connection that the past years have offered; re-engage in our mission and restore our worshipping communities. He concluded with a call to action: 'We need the personal commitment and courage for the tasks of fishing, of sowing, of building fireplaces and gathering wood'.



News from Mothers' Union

BY MARY MUNTZ

The recent “Garden Tea Party” held in the grounds of Bishop’s Lodge is an indication of the changes that have happened in the last months permitting so many people to mingle together out of doors. We have been fortunate that Christmas celebrations and school holidays were more normal for families this year. Although we still have to be mindful of the advice of health professionals we should be able to conduct our regular parish activities.

Mothers’ Union branches are busy planning their activities for this year. Our prayer diary includes a prayer for each month. In February “Generous God we are so grateful for all you have given us in life.” For March “Thank God for making us in his image and equally loved by him” This year, the first day of March is Shrove Tuesday, historically the day we gather for pancakes. The second day of March is Ash Wednesday ,which marks the beginning of the solemn period of Lent. For many years the Mothers’ Union Prayer Diary has included prayers for” The World Day of Prayer.” which this year is on the 4th of March. “The History of the World Day of Prayer” was sent with this year’s service prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This is a day when women of all faiths around the world unite through prayer. “The World Day of Prayer” had its roots in the late 19th Century with a desire by Christian women in Canada and the USA to support women’s involvement in mission across the world. The distribution of a worship service to other countries in 1926 was met with an enthusiastic response and a call for a “World day of Prayer”to be initiated.” It is an Ecumenical service so there is some freedom in the presentation and topic for the guest speaker.

Lady Day is the fourth special day in March. In 1895 the suggestion that March 25th be observed by Mothers” Union as a day of prayer and praise was accepted. That was also the year there were increased MU activities in Australia. Our Lady Day Prayer this year - “On this Lady Day may our worship, prayers and other activities be to your praise and glory O Lord. May we reflect anew on the mystery of faith and the truth that nothing is impossible for you.”

Upgrade for Corryong Bookshop

BY FAY WHITEHEAD

The Anglican Corryong Browsers’ Bookshop is under going a major upgrade. We have ripped up the various pieces of old carpet covering the floor and laid floor planks, in the two rooms. The two rooms have been painted and look fresh and clean. Shelving has been rearranged and replaced so we hope that we have created an inviting open space look, where people can sit and chat as well as escape from the extremes of our Seasons.

In addition to this, a web page to sell our old and rare books, as well as many other types of books on line, has been built. I am slowly uploading books to the site. Please check us out regularly on corryongbrowsersbookshop.com to see how diligent I have been for the week. Especially while we are uploading books over the next few months don’t hesitate to enquire 0448826775 as to whether we have a book that you may be searching for, it could still be in a box at our place or on shelves currently in the shop.



MU Chaplain Celebrates 50 Years of Priesthood

BY DIANE GRANT

50 years service in many fields of life is a great milestone. Being an ordained minister in the Anglican Church is a special one. Recently Rev’d David Holloway of the Wodonga parish in the Diocese of Wangaratta celebrated his 50 years of dedication and service with a celebration in his parish.

Then on Monday, 7 February, at the MU Executive meeting held in Purbrick Hall Wangaratta, Rev’d David was congratulated in front of the executive branch members on 50 years of priesthood by the Right Reverend Clarence. E.Bester, Bishop of Wangaratta Diocese, and Mary Greenshields Vice President of the Diocesan MU.

Revd David conducted the morning Eucharist in Holy Trinity Cathedral during the MU meeting of the branch leaders then enjoyed some long awaited fellowship at the lunch with his fellow MU folk.

I asked Rev’d David to reflect upon his 50 years of ministry in the many and varied posts he has held.

This is what he sent me to share with you all. On your behalf I wished him congratulations as well as thanks for being a dedicated and diligent and loyal member to MU for many decades.

“After training for five years with the Society of the Sacred Mission

at St Michael’s House, Crafers, in Adelaide, I was accepted for ordination in the Diocese of Wangaratta by Bishop Keith Rayner in 1972

I was ordained Deacon and in the next year priest, with Rev’d David Nichols by Bishop Rayner.

My first parish was at Wodonga for three years with Rev’d Philip Burgess and then at Shepparton Parish for two and a half years under Rev’d Stan Goldsworthy.

I was appointed to my first parish at Moyhu in 1976 and it was while there I married Heather in 1979 at Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Our daughter Anne was born in 1981.After six years we moved south to Kilmore Parish where our son Michael was born in 1983.

We spent two and a half years there. During that time Broadford was integrated into the Parish.

In mid 1984 my ministry took a different turn when I joined the Inter-Church, Trade and Industry Mission [ITIM] as the Industrial Chaplain to industry and the public service in the North East. The area extended from Corryong to Echuca down to Woods Point.

We lived in Wodonga and I served in Albury BTR and Australian Newsprint Mills, Kraft and Bonlac in the Goulburn Valley and Police, the SEC, VLine, the RCA and the CFA in the region.

Having weekends off I visited many parishes as a relieving priest in that time.

I came back to parish ministry after five years in 1989 and took up the Parish of Corryong and spent seven happy years in the mountains.

In 1997 we moved out to the plains to take up the parishes of Numurkah and Nathalia. Both Parishes were moving towards amalgamation and in the next year became the parish of Numurkah-Nathalia.

In 2005 I retired and moved to Wodonga where Heather and I are enjoying living in our own home.

After a few locums I became Assistant Priest at Wodonga until 2019. I now am a PTO in the area.

During my ministry In Nathalia I joined MU I have been MU Chaplain for six years and have filled office as Treasurer and Secretary of the Diocesan MU. I have filled the same roles at Wodonga MU.

I taught Religious Education for thirty-three years, and have represented the Diocese on the Board of CCES.”

Well done Rev’d David. MU would welcome parish priests and retired ministers like you to their ranks, thus spreading the wonderful news and activities of the MU across our country.



PHOTO ABOVE: Mary Greenshields, Rev’d David Holloway and Bishop Clarence Bester.

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New Chaplain at Cathedral College Wangaratta



I lift up my eyes to the mountains – from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
Psalm 121: 1-2.

There's a new Chaplain at Cathedral College Wangaratta! Rev'd Dr Mark Mickelburgh commenced at The College at the beginning of the year.

Here is a brief introduction from Mark:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce myself as the new College Chaplain for Cathedral College Wangaratta, working alongside Mrs Cathy Carden and Bishop John Parkes. I have come to the school from a varied background – originally from Melbourne where I completed my theological and chaplaincy training and having worked as a park ranger in natural area and fire management, a year-round ski instructor, a primary and secondary school teacher and a chaplain. The unifying thread through all these roles has been the love of mountains and snow, the natural world and meeting with people in these places.

My family (wife Kim, and daughters Grace, age

five and Rose, age two) and I have moved from Dinner Plain to the Ovens Valley to be close to the college. My daughter Grace commenced Prep this year at CCW with much excitement – she had her uniform laid out at the foot of her bed for weeks beforehand in anticipation of 'finally' starting school.

It is with great joy and anticipation (though perhaps not quite matching that of my daughter Grace) that I join the college and Diocesan community. As College Chaplain, I

am here to support the entire Cathedral College Wangaratta community, and I look forward to getting to know people across the school and the Diocese over the coming weeks and years.

Rev'd Mark can be contacted at the school by email on mmickelburgh@cathedralcollege.vic.edu.au, and we wish him every blessing in his ministry.

PHOTO BELOW: Rev'd Dr Mark Mickelburgh



Cathedral College Wangaratta & the Chapel of the Good Shepherd

BY BISHOP JOHN PARKES

A landmark event will take place on 24th March. The first purpose-built school chapel in the Diocese of Wangaratta will be consecrated by Bishop Clarence. Planning for the chapel was commenced in 2018 with input and energy from 10th Bishop John, the CCW Principal Adrian Farrer and Revd Peter Laurence from the Anglican Schools Commission (ASC) With support from the School Council, the ASC and the Diocese, and with work overseen by present CCW Principal Nick Jones and business manager Ian Collins this great vision is now coming to fruition.

The chapel deliberately lies at the heart of the school. Its great cross proclaims that we are a Christian school in the Anglican tradition. Its beauty

and grace offer a broad vision of an Anglicanism that is prayerful, worshipful, reflective, intellectually rigorous, open and accepting. All are welcome at our school.

The chaplaincy team, The Revd. Dr. Mark Mickelburgh and Mrs Cathy Carden supported by Bishop John are a key component of the school leadership, and provide worship and prayer, teaching and pastoral care at a high level. Their ministry will be greatly enhanced by having a dedicated chapel space celebrating the beauty of holiness. Limited space means that the congregation for the service of consecration will be by invitation only. The service will, however, be live streamed and details will be provided both on the school

and the diocesan website.

You can be a part of this project. We want to commission a set of vestments for the chapel from Country Vestments. The business operates in the Diocese of Bunbury within the ASC family with enthusiastic support from the Dean of St Boniface Cathedral This exciting project involves the use of First Nations authorised fabrics. The likely cost of this commission is around \$5000. We at Cathedral College would welcome support from the people of the Diocese to make this exciting project become a reality. If you are interested in being part of this exciting project, please contact Ian Collins on (03) 5722 2144 or Bishop John on 0422 606 206.



Bishop's Lodge – Gracious Hospitality

BY VEN CATIE INCHES-OGDEN

On 29 January, on a will it or won't it rain Saturday morning, about eighty parishioners from across the Diocese joined for a Garden Tea Party at Bishop's Lodge, Wangaratta. The Lodge Garden was a picture of jolly tables set under gazebos in the garden, and people sharing in gracious hospitality. Folk were enjoying the company of those whom they had not seen for a time and some new acquaintances. It was a special moment of gathering, sharing liberal hospitality, and delighting in the Lodge and its Gardens. The Bishop, Michelle and their boys generously shared their home with us all.

There have been significant improvements to the Lodge and gardens, and the recent refurbishments enable the 118-year-old dwelling to take its rightful place as an outstanding building in the life of the Wangaratta Community and in the Diocese. Michelle Bester calls it 'a home

for all' in the Diocese and the wider community. The Besters' open door and warmth enable many to feel welcome and at home. It is hoped that further Diocesan functions will also happen here and that it may become the heart of and a centre for both church and community.

It is envisaged that community groups will also be able to use the grounds for community events and that the many who once took wedding pictures in the Lodge and Gardens will be able to come back to take anniversary photos. There is also the excitement that with continuous work and the assistance of many within the Diocese, the grounds will reflect an even more beautiful space for people to have garden parties and have their wedding pictures taken here again. We thank Bishop Clarence, Michelle and their sons for sharing their home and generosity with us reflecting God's grace and beauty with all who walk through the gates of Bishop's Lodge, Wangaratta.





Looking Down the Valley

BY REV'D DR EDWIN BYFORD

Lent is a traditional time for reflecting on our spiritual lives. We have done this in a whole range of ways. In most places in Australia it is not yet cold enough to sit around a fire as we contemplate the mysteries of God's love and justice in and through the events of our Lord's passion and resurrection. It may be late summer instead of late winter as Lent begins but the call to prayer and reflection is the same all over the world.

This year, I think, we are approaching a Lenten season that will see a great deal of controversy about religious life and practice in Australia. We have to have a Federal election before the end of May, so the seasons of Lent and Easter are going to see election campaigns by those seeking our votes. Three years ago, when the election took place at a similar time, we had a great deal of controversy about whether or not there should be a break from active campaigning from Good Friday to Easter Day so that the religious devotions of the season could be observed in relative tranquillity. During this coming election matters of religious freedom and religious discrimination are going to be actively contested following the controversy surrounding religious and sexual discrimination legislation during the last sitting weeks of the present Parliament.

Political controversy produces political caricature. Opponents portray the position of the other side in the darkest possible colours. During the parliamentary debates of the religious discrimination bill the broad media coverage often portrayed a great ignorance of basic Christian doctrine and the breadth of theological thought on the matters being debated. Most front-line journalists, it would seem, do not have much in the way of knowledge of religion and theology. They operate with very simplistic understandings of theology and the practices of the various churches in our society. I know of only one federal parliamentarian, Senator Kristina Keneally, who has undertaken higher level studies in religion and theology.

When journalists (and politicians), skilled in economics, political science and law, venture onto the contested ground of religion and theology it is hardly surprising that they do not grasp the nuances and subtleties of what is at stake. It is likely that much is going to be said and reported about what Christians believe that takes no account of historic differences among (and within) the churches. It may just be that we are about to see a return of the social interaction that was considered normal before the onset of COVID. This will probably mean that we will be having conversations with others in our communities much like we did a couple of years ago. "The Pub Test" may once again become a real possibility when ordinary conversations in pubs resume. With an election in the air it is most likely that there will be political discussions. When one of the political hot potatoes is religious freedom and discrimination then it is highly likely that it is going to be raised. How legislation is structured is a political matter and our attitudes to any such legislation is a matter for our own political judgement. When the matter for judgement concerns our religious faith we need to have some understanding of the essentials of our faith and how they may or may not relate to the political matter at stake. We will not be able to rely on the mainstream secular media for the type of information that they usually supply on political and economic matters when it comes to matters of faith. We will be more and more thrown back onto our own personal resources.

So, it is Lent. It is a normal time for taking time out to consider the essentials of our faith and how they relate to our day to day lives. It may be that this year there is a little more urgency as the immediate need to be informed and confident about what we believe becomes a political necessity.

Anniversary of St Thomas' Anglican Church Buxton

BY SUE BOYLE

Travelling from Alexandra to Buxton you may notice the little white weatherboard church set back from the road on the right as you enter Buxton. People have gathered for worship here most Sunday mornings for the past 127 years.

Buxton was the spiritual centre of the Anglican Parish of Alexandra in the 1880's and regular fortnightly services were held in the Buxton Hall from December 1894.

In April 1895 a site for a church was gratefully accepted from James Batchelor, a local landowner, and Thomas Jackson was appointed to build it. The church of St Thomas was consecrated on 3rd May 1895 by the Bishop of Melbourne, the Right Reverend Field Flowers Goe —three months after the concept was first conceived!

On 7th May 1965 a new parish was formed. Centred in Marysville, the Parish of Marysville and Buxton covers the townships of Marysville, Buxton, Narbethong and Taggerty, with a church in Marysville as well as St Thomas' in Buxton.

On 7th February 2009 much of Buxton was

destroyed in the devastating bushfires that raged throughout Victoria on that day. However, fortunately, the Church of St Thomas was spared.

Immediately after the 2009 fires, the church provided a venue for prayer, reflection and comfort for many in the local community and currently services for the parish are conducted on alternate weeks between Buxton and Marysville.

St Thomas has been a constant in the spiritual life of this community for 127 years. It is a beautiful and well-maintained example of a historical country church utilised for regular Sunday services as well as occasional funerals, weddings and baptisms.

It has been the intention to celebrate St Thomas' 125th Anniversary for some time, but Covid restrictions have made this impossible. However, plans are well underway for a celebration on Sunday 27th March, with a morning service attended by the Bishop, the Right Reverend Clarence Bester, followed by a luncheon at Saladin Lodge in Narbethong. Details are available on our Facebook page (search Anglican Parish of Marysville & Buxton).



'Pop Up' organ recital lifted spirits

BY HEATHER BAMFORD

A recent free 'Pop Up' organ recital was just what was needed to lift the spirits of locals.

On Sunday, January 30, Ria Angelika Polo (Associate organist of Scots' Church, Melbourne) teacher of Yesie Lin Viota (Assistant organist at St Paul's Euroa) both played and accompanied each other on the church organ.

Yesie (son of local, Vivian and William Webber) has been learning the piano since he was 3 and he then transferred that talent to playing the organ at 13.

Both played two pieces - Ria featured Edward Elgar and Eugene Gigout and Yesie chose pieces by Georg Böhm and Gaston Bélier.

These talented organists completed the program with two duets – Prelude and Fugue in C Major and of course an encore.

Despite the late notice of this event, there was a very pleasing turn-out and all in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The Euroa community is extremely lucky to have an organ of such high quality.

In 1959, Mr Edward Stribling provided an endowment in memory of his late wife, Adelaide, in the form of a Stephen Laurie Pipe Organ.

This is a beautiful three-manual instrument based on English toned pipes which has been classified by the National Trust.

Over the years the church has been very lucky to have the expertise of many talented organists and this now continues with Yesie providing organ music for the church hymns on Sunday.

Organ recitals, visiting choirs and orchestras, concerts by prominent city musicians, baroque groups and harpsichordists have been appreciated at St Paul's, giving a range of memorable music to look back on over the years.

It is hoped that this tradition can continue and that further special events may be planned very soon.



PHOTO ABOVE: Enthralled Audience - Despite a late notice, a number of community members were thrilled to be a part of such a special occasion. Photo by Vivian Webber

Diocesan Ministry Action Plans

BY DR JANE FREEMANTLE

Engage in a mission strategy to redevelop, re-design, renew, refresh and refocus the ministry within our diocese so that we can re-birth our ministry. (+Clarence; Presidential address: God of Surprises, 2020.)

Dr. Jane Freemantle presented on behalf of the members of the Ministry Action Plans (MAPs) Steering Committee. The presentation summarised the journey to date, identified some of the challenges encountered and the current position of the MAP process, describing some of the achievements to date. Finally some of the plans were outlined for the next steps of the MAPs journey both within our Parishes/Parochial Districts and the Diocese.

MAPs are a strategic exercise, and the success of our MAPs are based on the input of ALL members of our Parish and Diocesan communities, respectful conversations, and indeed innovative and courageous thinking

OUR JOURNEY: The concept of MAPS was introduced seven years ago by the Bishop when he was Archdeacon for Ministry Development. He encouraged all Parishes to develop their own MAPs based on four basic stages: 1. Review the situation; 2. Choose future priorities; 3. Make plans based on the four-square template (Teach, Grow, Give, Serve) and 4. Act on the plans

The development of MAPs is based on our Vision as a Diocese to Walk in the Way of Christ and our Mission that describes in simple terms how we propose to achieve that Vision. The acronym W.A.L.K. that included the aspirations for our Mission was widely publicised in the Aug/Sept 2021 Advocate.

OUR PROCESS: Since before Synod 2021, a team of clergy and laity has been meeting regularly to navigate the next steps in our Ministry Action Planning for the Diocese and Parishes.

To commence the process, the Bishop met with members of 22 of the Parishes/Parochial districts inviting them to identify five priorities specifically for their Parish/Parochial district and five priorities for the Diocese.

The feedback from these discussions will inform the development of individual Parish MAPs and the Wangaratta Diocese MAP. Templates have been circulated to provide a framework for a three-year ministry plan. The suggested

framework options are: Teach, Grow Give, Serve; Justice, Spirituality, Relationships, Beauty; The Five Marks of Mission and The Seven Marks of a Healthy Church

At the 2021 Synod, Ven. Catie Inches-Ogden facilitated an interactive workshop that enabled all Synod Representatives to submit their priorities. This information was collated and analysed. Responses were weighted to identify five priority initiatives. These priority initiatives were fed back to the Parishes via the Synod reps, Deaneries and through the Advocate

The process then began for individual Parishes to develop their MAPs, which are to be localised to their own communities, but will be consistent with the five Synod defined priority areas for the Diocese.

CHALLENGES: The MAPs concept was greeted with much enthusiasm at the 2021 Synod. However, the pace of the process has been significantly hampered by a number of challenges and disruptions over the past years. Despite this, we are continuing the process of the development of MAPs.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES: We have been edging along the process with little steps every day!

Considering the five priority areas agreed by the 2021 Synod, the following are just a few of the activities that have been instituted as we edge towards developing 1. Invigorating and initiating training for clergy and laity: Developing the curriculum for the Year of the Laity – Diocesan Ministry Certificate, April-July; increasing engagement with Trinity College Theological School; considering the concept of hyper-local delivery of lay training modules. 2. Prayer and spirituality, Liturgical resources: Monthly DoW prayer calendar; monthly DoW prayer focus (proposed: daily prayer focus for Lent); liturgies for the Seasons of Creation; developing a database for liturgical resources, four quiet days have been convened. 3. Communication: Diocese/Parish/other organisations: Greater use of the Advocate to share stories; sharing MAPs through engagement; developing collaborative ministry arrangements; engaging with VCC and Anglicare through active representation, and invigoration of Anglicare Victoria Parish Partnerships. 4. Engaging with people of all ages to encourage greater participation; Work in progress

5. Social justice/Environment: Participation on the National Anglican Family Violence Conference, and participation in the Seasons of Creation

NEXT STEPS in the MAPs process: Each Parish/Parochial district is tasked with developing their own MAPs specific to their community while in keeping with the Diocesan vision. The comments from the Synod workshop emphasised the importance of us all walking together, sharing resources together, praying together, listening to each other. There is also a plan to enable the sharing of the Parish/Parochial Districts individual MAPs. Other proposed initiatives include: Developing creative formats of service and developing activities to revitalise our congregations by bringing in and engaging with, younger people, and people from other cultures and backgrounds.

At a local parish level, plans include: developing initiatives and opportunities to enable a greater understanding of ‘Mission’ by broadening our thinking, and building an holistic, encapsulating, comprehensive vision of God’s mission in which we are all invited to participate that people can recognise and want join in. Initiatives will also include defining a greater role of the laity and community in the understanding, determining, and implementing the Mission of the Diocese.

This is an exciting time for our Diocese and your input into this important activity is strongly encouraged. Yes, we have had significant impediments along the way of our 2020/21 plans and our excitement has been dulled somewhat, but our enthusiasm remains. We HAVE made progress and will continue to Walk in the Way of Christ, to walk and pray together to achieve our plans for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timed (SMART) MAPs for our Diocese.

The MAPs process will be firmly based in prayer and consultation and will ensure that your voices and opinions form the way forward for your Parish and for our Diocese. All members of our community are encouraged to speak with their local minister or MAP Steering committee representative should you want further information. Members of the MAP Steering Group: +Clarence Bester; Rev’d. Victor Adams; Dr Jane Freemantle; Rev’d. Canon Scott Jessup; Rev’d. Canon Alan Kelb; Rev’d. Emily Payne; Rev’d. Richard Pennington; Mr Ross Smith.

Book Review

Reluctant Saint: The Life of Francis of Assisi – Donald Spoto

BY ANNE BAUMGARTEN

Any spiritually inclined reader is likely to find plenty of fuel for reflection in this fascinating book. Reluctant Saint resonates with our contemporary lives and relationships with God.

Francis (he did not want to be known as St Francis) was a frail man living an ascetic existence. He suffered from anorexia, a chronic gastric ulcer, and great pain due to his inadequate diet. Nearing death at 44, he confessed his dietary neglect was a sin against ‘Brother Body’.

However, Francis lived values that we can embrace as individuals: service, love, truth, humility, equality, integrity, respect, non-judgmentalism, and compassion. His outstanding dedication to serving those in need, living the Gospel, and walking in the way of Christ gives us guidance.

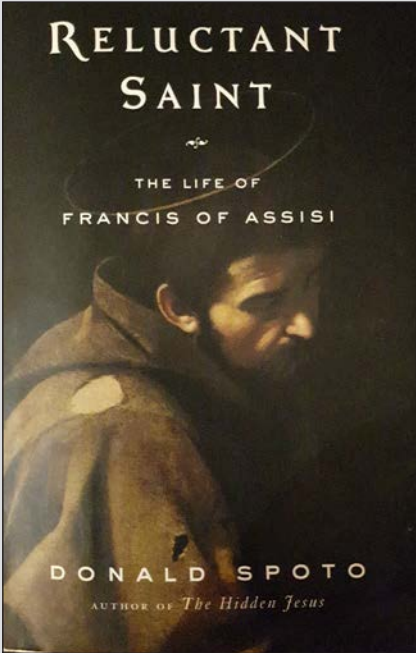
Reluctant Saint also explores universal themes such as connection with nature, social justice, abject poverty, mental illness, female-male equality, disability, community, human frailty, and leadership. Francis’ humility paradoxically allowed for great spiritual power. High-level churchmen and noblemen listened to him.

Counter-culturally, Francis regarded all as equals. He did not impose hierarchy, academic requirements, or a strict monastic rule on his brotherhood. He preferred spontaneity. In a world of misery and oppression, he preached love and joy, not eternal damnation. Francis was also a man of his time. He hoped (unsuccessfully) for martyrdom as a preacher to the Saracens. Notions of chivalry and the troubadour tradition appealed to him. His charisma, poetic, and musical gifts were a perfect means by which he could communicate with people

in any strata of society.

His good friend Clare encountered massive challenges in her efforts to follow Francis. Any social value women had was due to their unique ability to bear offspring. But she had great courage and determination. Francis was radical in accepting Clare, and they modeled how companionship between men and women can grow, apart from any possible sexual concerns.

Francis did not see conversion as a single event: it was an experience that continued and grew throughout one’s life. His close relationship with Christ has continued to inspire people searching for something far more enduring than the advantages of money and temporal power. He appeals to the mystic in all of us.



Altar on the Move

BY REV'D RICHARD PENNINGTON

The plaque on the bottom of the Altar reads “To the Glory of God and in the loving memory of James S. Hall died June 22nd 1892 and Nichola J. Hall died April 21st 1921.” It would be beyond the imagination of either James Hall or Nichola Hall, or indeed, whoever was instrumental in placing the Altar and plaque in memory of the Halls in the Anglican Church of St Paul’s Goorambat, that just over 100 years later, the Altar and memorial plaque would be moved to its new home at Christ Church Seymour. On the 8th of November 2021 after 123 years of service, St Paul’s Goorambat closed its doors for the last time, and sadly the church and the furniture was deconsecrated. The

Altar and the memories of James and Nichola Hall however, after all those years in the sanctuary of St Paul’s, has taken up residence in the Sanctuary of Christ Church Seymour, standing in front of the high altar, and in a much more “user friendly” position to prepare and serve the Eucharist. It is a wonderful and perfect addition to Christ Church and matches the décor beautifully. Whilst we grieve with the parishioners of Goorambat at the closure of their church we celebrate that a little piece of

St Paul’s Goorambat is now in active service at Christ Church Seymour. We extend a warm invitation to any of the Goorambat parishioners to come and celebrate at the Goorambat / Seymour Altar of the Lord.



People and Parishes



Canon Scott Jessup serving up punch at the garden tea party held at Bishop's lodge



Jane Jarrad with Margaret and Jim Brooks at the garden tea party held at Bishop's lodge



Ven John Davis completing his term as Diocesan Trustee



Bishop in Council continues to build on technology

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Clergy gathering at Benalla for the Memorial Service for Archbishop Desmond Tutu on the 31st December 2021 at midday