



THE ADVOCATE

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

The Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta | www.wangaratta-anglican.org.au



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

A New Chapter for Canterbury: The Installation of Archbishop Sarah Mullally

By Editorial Team

On March 25, 2026—the Feast of the Annunciation—the doors of Canterbury Cathedral echoed with three historic knocks. With those strikes of her pastoral staff, the Most Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally requested entry to Christ Church Cathedral, Canterbury, marking her formal installation as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. The liturgy was more than a traditional enthronement; it was a watershed moment for the

Church of England. Following the resignation of Justin Welby in late 2024, Mullally's ascent represents the first time in the 1,400-year history of the See that a woman has held the office of Primate of All England.

A Pilgrims Path

In the week leading up to the service, Archbishop Sarah undertook a spiritual preparation that mirrored the ancient traditions of the faith. Along with her husband, Eamonn, she embarked on a 140km walking

pilgrimage from St Paul's Cathedral in London to Canterbury. Tracing the "Becket Camino," she followed the footsteps of centuries of pilgrims, stopping to pray at many locations including Rochester Cathedral and Aylesford Priory. This 87-mile journey was a physical manifestation of her transition from the Diocese of London to the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion. Upon her arrival, she remarked that the walk was a reminder that "every Christian life is a pilgrimage—a journey with God."

From the Ward to the Cathedral

Archbishop Sarah's path to the "Chair of St Augustine" was unconventional. Before her ordination, she had a distinguished career in the National Health Service. A former nurse and midwife, she rose to become the Chief Nursing Officer for England at just 37—the youngest person to ever hold the post. In 2005, she was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for her services to nursing.

Continued on page 11

Bishop Clarence writes...

Dear Clergy, People and Friends of the Diocese

Having just returned from part of my annual and long service leave stretching over a period of 10 weeks, I thank God for the opportunity for rest, reflection and rejuvenation. This was followed by the National Bishop's meeting in Brisbane which, on the last day for us, was met with the news of the untimely death of my younger brother, Brandon.

Returning to work with mixed emotions and sadness and trying to be an encouragement to a grieving widow with her children and our wider family from my dad's side was a real struggle, considering the complexities of starting work with so many planned activities and appointments and meaning that we could not be afforded the opportunity of being with our family physically.

Of course we joined the 'online platform' but, in a sense, could not really come to terms with the many emotions that an in-person contact would have made us feel and experience. The biblical ministry of Jesus was often one of presence and, through this ministry, a great sense of compassion and appreciation was felt that led to acceptance, change and healing.

We are however aware that this ministry was not limited to a time and a place only, but would be extended through those whom Jesus called to be part of the gospel enterprise of making known God's love, care and compassion for the whole world.

Six weeks ago, the 30th anniversary of my ordination as a Deacon was marked in a very quiet and simple activity as I was on long service leave. This reminded me once again of our call to serve and be of service to offer wholeness and empowered service to all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The ministry of visibility, availability and presence is the bedrock of my own ministry over 30 years and will continue to be the basis of whatever I attempt to do during the remainder

thereof. What I desired most during this time of personal bereavement was this sense of feeling God's presence through the presence and loving embrace of others. When there are interactions and pastoral care like this, we begin to have the experience described in the prayer attributed to St Francis of Assisi of us as instruments of God's peace, or one of our well known and often sung hymns..."beauty from brokenness, hope from despair."

This is the ministry that Jesus offers and a ministry in which we are called to share. This is hopefully what we have experienced during Lent as we entered the wilderness of everyday life to be encouraged and strengthened by the Holy Spirit as we often wandered in loneliness, but with the knowledge that we are not all alone - that God is with us through all the changing circumstances in life.

The Anglican Church of Australia for the year 2026 has embarked on the theme of JOY, commonly called 'JOY 26'. This is a follow-up of HOPE 25 which we explored last year and I hope that the 'Pillars' of JOY that each Parish was asked to explore during Lent over 5 Sundays, brought about spiritual enrichment and a directed focus as we now move from 'purple to white' (our liturgical colours), from 'introspection to satisfaction' from 'darkness to light' and from 'sadness to joy'.

As we enter this most holy of weeks within the Christian Calendar, as we enter Jerusalem with Christ on Palm Sunday, as we consider the work and ministry of the suffering servant and as we stand at the foot of the cross on Good Friday, may we always be reminded that, in as much as we are a Good Friday people, we are also an EASTER people, people of the resurrection, people of JOY.

Amidst all the complexities of everyday life, war, famine, disaster and bereavement, may the light of Christ illumine the darkness, and may the



EASTER JOY be a source of strength and hope as we enter the fifty days of Easter.

I would like to express my thanks to the Vicar General and my Leadership Team together with the Registrar for taking care of Diocesan Affairs during my absence. Neil and Sue will be off on Long Service Leave towards the end of April and Neil will complete his ministry as Dean of Holy Trinity Wangaratta and Priest in Charge of Wangaratta West and the Warbys on 31 August. We will officially farewell them as a Diocese at our Chrism Eucharist on Tuesday, 31 March at 11am at Holy Trinity cathedral to which you are all invited.

With prayers, blessings and every good wish.

+Clarence

PLEASE REPORT CONCERNS
CALL 1800 135 246

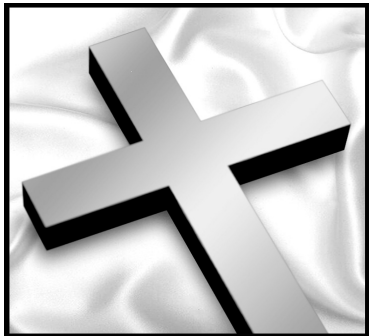
The Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta does not tolerate abuse, harassment, racism or other misconduct. If any person has concerns about the behaviour of a church worker, past or present, they can contact Kooyoora Ltd.

We are deeply distressed that there have been occasions when abuse and misconduct have occurred in our community. Kooyoora Ltd is independent of the diocese and receives and manages complaints about abuse and misconduct by church workers.

KOYOORA | OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
For further information: www.kooyoora.org.au

The Diocese is committed to doing all that is possible to ensure that abuse does not occur. All complaints of abuse are taken very seriously and we do all we can to lessen harm. We offer respect, pastoral care and ongoing long-term support to anyone who makes a complaint.

You can contact Kooyoora Ltd by calling 1800 135 246 or emailing: professionalstandards@wangaratta-anglican.org.au



CONTACT US

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING CONTRIBUTIONS

Diocese of Wangaratta
PO Box 457, Wangaratta VIC 3677
registry@wangaratta-anglican.org.au
Tel: (03) 5721 3484

The Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyrighted, 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and are used by permission. All rights reserved

DETAILS

The Advocate Newsletter is published by the Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta and is distributed across the Diocese seasonally.

EDITORIAL TEAM

The Reverend Helen Malcolm - Proof reader, Ms Fiona van Bree - Design and Production

The Diocese is not responsible for the opinions expressed by its contributors. Their views do not necessarily reflect the policy of the paper or the Diocese. Acceptance of advertisements does not necessarily mean endorsement of the product or service.

Contributions and photos are welcome (please limit to approximately 200 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
Front page attribution - iStock - reiravisaal, Stock illustration ID:2182883530

Lady Day Celebration

Members of the Mothers' Union of the Dioceses of Riverina and Wangaratta had a combined Lay Day Celebration at St Matthew's Albury on Saturday, 21 March 2026. Thirty-one members attended, including the Bishop of Riverina, The Rt Rev'd Donald Kirk as Preacher and Bishop Clarence as Presider.

Sadly, the low numbers reflect the reality of a ministry that needs re-evaluation, re-definition and new direction. A ministry which once was the 'high point' of Diocesan activity has seen the closing of a few branches, an increase in what is called 'lone' members and with only Thurgoona Anglican Church joining the ministry of Mothers' Union with The Rev'd Canon Maryann Leonard as President.

In August last year, a Women's Ministry Conference was organised to encourage the work and ministry of Women throughout our Diocese, with the National President of Mothers Union, Dr Robin Ray, speaking about ways and means of exploring how to be members of the Mothers' Union in a new day, age and context. Preceding this event, Bp. Clarence appointed The Rev'd Lesley Lewis to preach at some Parishes to encourage the unfolding of this ministry and as an encouragement to attend the Conference and look at fresh expressions of what this ministry could look like in the future.

The question is: Are we seeing the writing on the wall - and how do we respond accordingly? Are we willing to transform the structures and establish a ministry which will encourage, enable and empower women in ministry within our Church, knowing and understanding that women make up the vast majority of the parishioners who attend our Churches in the Diocese of Wangaratta?



Is God Calling?

B Ven Canon Mel Clark

Could God be calling you to ordained ministry?

Our Diocese seeks to honour the ministry of all people, and encourages learning and exploration of what it means to be the Body of Christ in this part of the world.

All of God's people are called to live out a baptismal ministry to love God, love God's people, and care for God's creation.

For some people living out a calling means taking their place as ordained ministers.

Deacons, Priests, and Bishops all have unique stories to tell when it comes to their own calling. Just as God has made us unique, so too God calls us in unique ways. For some people it begins as mere curiosity about scripture, church history, or various aspects of worship, for others it is a distinct understanding that ordained ministry is your purpose...in nearly all cases the exciting realisation sits alongside feelings of dread, unworthiness and even a sense of being overwhelmed.

If you feel a sense of call to be ordained, your first step is to speak with your parish priest who will help to guide your prayers and thoughts on this matter. Meeting regularly with the Bishop to consider any study or practical requirements will also be necessary, should you continue to feel a vocation.

After a period of reflection and discernment, the church then examines your sense of calling in the selection process.

Ordained ministry takes many different forms and together, you and the church, can discern where your heart and calling sits.

Environment & Sustainability Award 2026

Parishes across the Diocese of Wangaratta are invited to apply for the 2026 Gillian Baker and David Mitchell Environment and Sustainability Memorial Award, with applications closing on 30 June 2026.

Established in November 2024, the award honours the legacy of Gillian Baker and David Mitchell, who were long-standing advocates for environmental stewardship and sustainability within the Diocese. Created by their families, Bishop Clarence, and Trust Administrator Suzie Don Leonard, the award encourages parishes to undertake practical projects that promote care for creation and environmental responsibility within their communities.

The inaugural \$2,000 award in 2025 was presented to the Alpine Parish for a proposal to develop a Native/Bush Tucker Community Garden in front of St Paul's Anglican Church,

Myrtleford. Acknowledgement awards were also given to Thurgoona District (Opportunity Shop) and Central Goulburn Parish (Rectory Garden) for their participation in the inaugural year of the award. The 2026 award will again provide \$2,000 to a parish that demonstrates significant planned or actual contribution to the environment and sustainability. Projects may be planned, newly commenced or already in progress, provided they meet the selection criteria.

Application details, including guidelines and

suggested project ideas, are available from the Award Trust Administrator Suzie Don Leonard via either email suziedl@westnet.com.au or phone 0428575971. Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of Trustees, including family representatives and diocesan representative. The successful parish will be announced at the annual Season of Creation event in 2026.

All parishes are encouraged to consider applying and continuing the legacy of faithful environmental stewardship.

 **Apply Now – 2026 Sustainability Award - \$2,000** 

Parishes in the Diocese of Wangaratta are invited to apply for the:
Gillian Baker and David Mitchell Environment and Sustainability Memorial Award.

 **Applications close 30 June 2026 (end of Financial Year)**

 **Winner Announced at the *Season of Creation* event**

Showcase your planned or in-progress sustainability project and help care for God's creation.

Contact Suzie Don Leonard for selection criteria and application details

Email: suziedl@westnet.com.au

Phone: 0428575971

Diocesan Workshop

On St Valentine's Day, Saturday, 14 February 2026, love was in the air... the love of diocesan administration and governance!!! Many people from across the Diocese gathered at the VCE Centre of Cathedral College, Wangaratta, for the Triennial Diocesan Workshop for Churchwardens, Parish Councillors, Synod Representatives, and Parish Safe Church Officers. With over 100 people in attendance from all corners of our vast diocese (from Corryong to Marysville, from Bright to Rushworth) the day of information and discussion was well received. There were several plenary sessions in conjunction with

a two-stream series of workshops tailored to various lay roles. Presenters included the Chancellor and Advocate, Rachel Ellyard; The Registrar, Julie Torpey; Mark Carden, the Archdeacons, and the Area Deans.



Diocesan Book Club

By Ven Canon Mel Clark

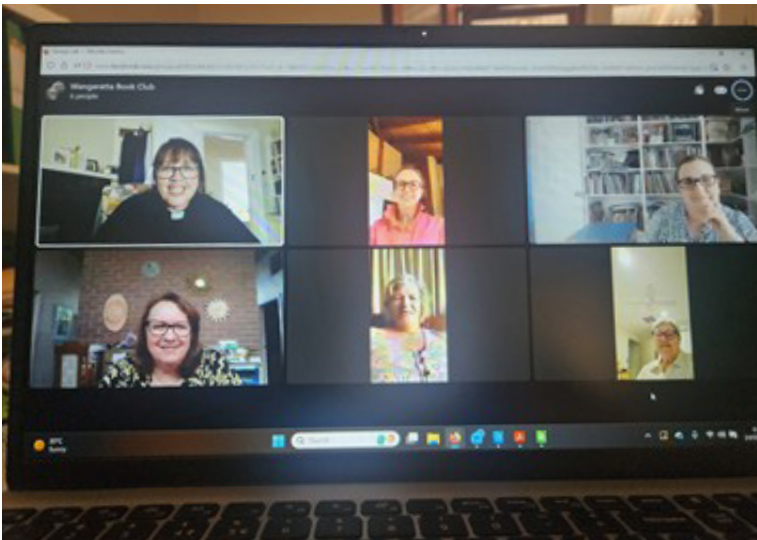
Our recently formed bookclub meets once a month online.

We began meeting at the end of last year and so far have read 'Phoebe' by Paula Gooder, 'I, Julian' by Claire Gilbert and 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' by CS Lewis. We are enjoying the discussions and reflections that each person

brings to the group, as well as the follow up information that we are able to share in the online chat forum between meet ups. It is also a great way to engage with people from all around the Diocese.

Our book for March is The Gospel of Mary Magdalene and we're also committing to watch the 2018 film Mary Magdalene starring Rooney Mara.

Everyone is welcome. No prior bookclub experience is necessary! Contact Ven Mel Clark at melissaclark3@hotmail.com for more details.





God Calls Women!

Movement for the Ordination of Women Conference

2026 Conference Date Claimer:
12 to 14 November
Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Canberra

ADVANCE NOTICE

Movement for the Ordination of Women Conference

MAKE NO MISTAKE ... GOD CALLS WOMEN!

12-14 November 2026

Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture

15 Blackall Street, Barton ACT

For further information, contact president@mowatch.com.au or go to the website <https://mowatch.com.au>

Pancake Night at St John's, Wodonga

It has long been the custom for St John's Friendship Group to host a Pancake Night on Shrove Tuesday in our Dawn Richardson Hall.

We began the production at 9am. [photo – Rosemary Currie, Anne Young, Lyn Richardson, Carol Gruber and Rev'd Scott Jessup] Five hours later the team had made 220 pancakes on plates of 10 ready to be heated for 58 guests. The accompaniments? strawberries and cream, maple syrup and lemon and sugar, all set out by other team members Ros Johan and Wendy Hogg. All was ready for the 6pm start.

When we were replete after the friendly and delicious repast, we were invited to come outside into the Memorial Rose Garden for the



liturgy of the Burning of the Palms, led by Rev'd Scott Jessup. The congregation had been invited to bring last year's palm crosses to be burnt to make the ashes for the morrow - Ash Wednesday.

It was a holy and beautiful way to prepare us all for a meaningful Lenten Season.

Pancake Feast Swanpool

By Ven Canon Mel Clark

On Shrove Tuesday the team from St Aidan's Swanpool hosted about 40 community members for a delicious pancake feast! Two courses of savoury and sweet pancakes were gobbled up by lots of hungry folks just in time for the beginning of the Lenten fast.

Lesley Hupe's amazing pancake recipe is always a hit, but this year the pancakes were even fluffier thanks to her grandson Riley's initiative of using a (brand new) mechanical paint stirrer to mix the batter!

Photo right - Heather, Debra, and Lesley serving up the feast!



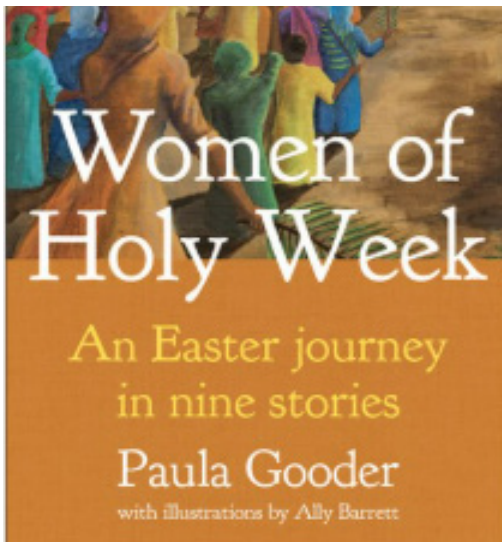
Lenten Study in the Parish of Benalla

By Molly Craig

This year the Parish is studying Paula Gooder's Women of Holy Week: an Easter journey in nine stories. Though set for Holy Week, the book is suitable for use during Lent. The nine women, real and imagined are all connected to Holy Week starting with Palm Sunday and going thru to Ascension.

Ms Gooder has recorded their stories, and we hear how women were a part of society during Jesus' time and it's a great tool to be able to hear the individuals rather than just read them.

With participants from across the parish involved, it's also a wonderful opportunity to share the Eucharist beforehand and to be together to continue our spiritual journeys together in friendship and faith.



All Saints Anglican School - Shepparton

By Bill Boyer

On Monday, March 23, our school community came together to celebrate the official opening of the new junior and middle school buildings. Students, staff, school leaders, clergy and community representatives gathered for an afternoon that marked an important milestone in the ongoing growth and development of the school. The ceremony was held in the new middle school building and was supported by a number of special guests, including Bishop Clarence E. Bester, Uncle Bobby Nicholls, Mayor Shane Sali and local Member for Shepparton Kim O'Keeffe. The event began with a Welcome to Country from Uncle Bobby, acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land, followed by prayer and a homily by Bishop Clarence. In his homily the Bishop emphasised how the formal opening and blessing represent an opportunity to start something new from that which is set apart for a particular purpose. The current opening and blessing, along with those for preceding stages, have marked the growth corridor of All Saints.

AngliSchools Board Chair Lynne Thomson unveiled a commemorative plaque to go on the building to formally mark the opening. In her address, she reflected on the strong relationship between the school and the wider community and the positive response the school has received since its establishment. She ended the unveiling with a prayer - asking God to guide all who teach, learn and work here.'

Reverend Peter Laurence shared reflections on the school's journey and growth, inviting students to participate in the ceremony, providing a light hearted and meaningful moment enjoyed by those in attendance.

During the service, the songs 'Equipped to Serve' and FIRE – representing AngliSchools Values of Faith, Inclusion, Respect and Excellence – both written by two talented staff members Mr Bill Boyer, Head of Anglican Identity and Mr Daniel Fenby, Coordinator of Performing Arts - were sung.

Following the formal proceedings, guests gathered outdoors for the ceremonial turning of the sod, signalling the commencement of the next stage of development — an extension to the STEAM building. This project will further enhance learning opportunities across science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics. The land was blessed by Bishop Clarence and the contribution of Keystone Building Group was acknowledged.

Foundation Principal Mr. Jim Laussen spoke about the importance of creating quality learning environments and the impact of purpose built spaces on student experience and wellbeing. The afternoon was a celebration of community partnership, growth and the shared commitment to providing excellent learning opportunities for all students.

Photos below; Left - Turning of the sod. Right - John Gilson with Lynne Thomson unveiling the plaque.



Cobram Anglican Grammar

After more than three years in the making, Cobram Anglican Grammar School Trades Centre began using this facility in Term 4, 2025. It was officially opened in a ceremony on Friday 27 March 2026 by Bishop Clarence Bester and AngliSchool's CEO Rev Dr Peter Laurence. This major project cost \$3.4 million and is the result of careful planning, extensive industry research, collaboration, and perseverance. The Trades Centre is designed to leave a legacy in the region, equipping generations of young people with the practical skills needed for trades and future-focused industries. Cobram Anglican Grammar School already leads the way as the only secondary school in Victoria with industry-standard robotics, technology typically reserved for university students. The new Centre further expands opportunities with state-of-the-art facilities including laser cutters, water jet cutters, CNC machines, and 3D printers. These resources will open career pathways vital to Australia's future, while encouraging innovation, creativity, and hands-on learning for students today.



Cathedral College Wangaratta - New Principal

The Reverend Peter Laurence OAM, Chief Executive Officer of AngliSchools, has announced the appointment of Mr Jeremy Godden as the next Principal of Cathedral College Wangaratta. This appointment follows a thorough process led by AngliSchools in close partnership with the College Council. I acknowledge the SIGNIFICANT contribution of Ms Rebecca Weir, Acting Chair of Council and the members of the Selection Panel who joined Ms Weir and me - Bishop Clarence Bester, Mrs Lynne Thomson, Mr Greg Newbold and Mr Jim Laussen. Mr Godden will join the College from Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School in Tweed Heads, New South Wales, where he's served as Acting Deputy Principal, Head of Junior School, Head of Middle School and Head of Lindisfarne International. He brings significant leadership experience, having also served as principal in a regional Queensland government school. Mr Godden holds a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) with majors in Legal Studies and English. Prior to teaching, he served in the Royal Australian Army. Mr Godden's leadership approach aligns strongly with the mission and values of AngliSchools and Cathedral College. He's committed to educating the whole person and cultivating a school culture in which every

student is known, supported and challenged to grow. His leadership demonstrates a deep understanding of the relationship between faith, learning, wellbeing and community, and of the importance of Anglican Identity being authentically lived in the daily life of a school. He brings a strong focus on teaching and learning, he values visible and engaged leadership and understands that partnerships play an important role in a regional community. We're confident that Mr Godden will build on the great strengths of Cathedral College and lead with clarity and purpose. Mr Godden is married to Louise (also a teacher) and they have three children.

Mr Godden writes: I am honoured and excited to be joining the Cathedral College community as Principal. I look forward to getting to know students, staff and families, and to listening, learning and building on the strong foundations already in place. I am deeply committed to the values of Anglican education and to supporting each young person to flourish. Louise and I have been very warmly welcomed during our time in Wangaratta, and we are excited to be joining such a vibrant regional community. Our children are looking forward to joining the College community and embracing the many



opportunities Wangaratta has to offer.

Mr Godden will commence as Principal on 24 August 2026. Until then, Ms Lauren Lee will continue to serve as Acting Principal, a position she's fulfilling exceptionally well, ensuring the smooth transition between principals. I sincerely thank Ms Lee and the College's Senior Leadership Team for their dedication and commitment. AngliSchools and the College Council are delighted to welcome the Godden family to the Cathedral College Wangaratta family later this year.

Trinity Anglican College - Harmony Week

Trinity Anglican College is a community-based school that values the diverse backgrounds of all our community members and embraces the stories and histories our families come and share with us at our wonderful school.

On Wednesday 18 March, we marked Harmony Day with a relaxed and creative lunchtime, where students came together to enjoy colouring and origami. It was wonderful to see their creativity on display, with many of their pieces coming together to form a vibrant and meaningful Harmony Day wall.

Across the day, the College was filled with a sea of orange, as students embraced the theme through clothing and accessories. We also loved seeing a number of students proudly wearing beautiful cultural outfits, adding to the sense of inclusivity and celebration that makes our community so special.

What is Harmony Week?

Harmony Week is a time to celebrate Australia's cultural diversity. Australia is a vibrant and multicultural country - from the oldest continuous culture of our first Australians, to the cultures of

our newest arrivals from around the world.

Our Trinity community embraces this celebration, as it allows us to continue to foster and develop a commitment and belief about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

From the TAC Newsletter, Week 8, 20 March 2026



Duo Gaku Autumn

By Jamie Kronborg

A concert audience delivered sustained applause for Duo Gaku at our Christ Church Beechworth 2026 Concert Series Autumn afternoon performance on 14 March.

Border violinist Kaori Sparks and pianist Helena Kernaghan played a 75-minute program of works by Russian-American Igor Stravinsky, Australian Gordon Kerry and Ukrainian Sergei Prokofiev in our historic church.

Gordon, who lives near Sandy Creek, spoke to the audience about his sonata No. 2 for violin and piano. He said the work, in three movements, was dedicated to the memory of Vanessa Lewis, commissioned

by writer and poet Carolyn Masel and composed for Kaori and Helena to perform. They played its premiere in The Cube, Wodonga, in November, last year, at the time they formed Duo Gaku.

DIARY DATES

Christ Church Beechworth's 2026 Concert Series Winter performance will feature the return of the Queen's College - The University of Melbourne Choir on 23 May.

The Spring performance will be presented by Opera Scholars Australia on 19 September.

Proceeds from these concerts support performers and maintenance of the church's instruments: a colonial-built 1882 pipe organ installed in 1887 and a grand piano.

Photo left: Violinist Kaori Sparks and pianist Helena Kernaghan perform in the chancel of Christ Church Beechworth on Saturday. Photograph: Jamie Kronborg



Support for Firefighters & Volunteers

By Carol Hogg

In response to the disastrous fire losses suffered by many folk in areas close to us and the bravery of firefighters, volunteers and first responders, St Augustine's, Shepparton appealed through their locum priest Rev'd Cliff and parishioner Bev Martin for donations of food items and toiletries to aid those in need.

The photo shows the first offerings of goods collected before they were sent to the Euroa and Longwood Feed depot. A big thankyou to Carolyn Young from Pinch of Salt, Shepparton for receiving and delivering goods to the Feed Depot. Her tireless work is much appreciated and still ongoing. An acknowledgement and



thank you to the Goulburn Valley Dental Group, Nixon Street, Shepparton for their very generous donation of dental products for the brave firefighters, volunteers and displaced persons.

Many thanks also to our caring and compassionate parishioners for their much-needed donations.

Prayers following the attack at Bondi Beach

By Caroline Burge

Australia was devastated by the attack at Bondi Beach on the 14th December last year. There was an outpouring of love, prayers and support

for the victims and the families affected. In light of the attack, at the beginning of Mass the following Sunday Rev Cathy invited all present to come forward and light a candle for hope over hopelessness; peace over violence; joy over grief and suffering; and love over hatred.

At the end of the Mass at Christ Church Kilmore, parishioner Dr Norman Rose gave a moving talk of his Jewish family and of the distress of family and friends he knew who were hurting following the attack on the Jewish community. Norman is well known in the parish and Diocese and has often spoken of his life as a Jew and his conversion to Christianity later in life. We pray for Norman and his family and any others known to us suffering following the atrocity.



Friends in Action – St Paul's Jindera

On Wednesday, 11th February, Revd Cathy Carden had the pleasure of leading a Eucharist for the St Paul's Anglican Church, Jindera, Friends in Action (Caritas) group, and chairing their Annual General Meeting.

This group was formed in 1995, originally under the name of 'Caritas', with links to Mothers' Union Australia. Caritas is Latin for 'Christian love for others', reflecting the spiritual and caring emphasis of the group.

The group meets monthly with organised outings to local places of interest, with morning tea and/or lunch part of the day. The group endeavours to offer social, emotional and spiritual support through caring relationships and mutual encouragement for its members. They also attend local and ecumenical church activities where possible, such as the World Day of Prayer and MU Lady Day.



There is a focus on fundraising and community support, including providing monetary and practical support for the Food Bank associated with the Anglican Parish of Northern Albury, and contributing to their Christmas Hampers.

It is wonderful that this link with St Paul's Jindera is maintained. The group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, with activities

for the upcoming year including a visit to the Pumphouse at East Albury, Browsing in Beechworth, visiting a goat farm, and a tour around Walla Walla. If anyone is interested in being involved, please contact Jane Barlow on 0438262480.

Australia Day at Kilmore

Parishioners gathered together on January 26th for Australia Day, to celebrate this wonderful country we live in and to give thanks for all that this country offers. Before the day got underway, acknowledgment was made of the Taungurung people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which the parish is sited and respects paid to Elders of the Kulin nation past, present and emerging. Aboriginal flags, Torres Strait Islander flags and Australian flags were flown together as a sign of unity and love for ALL Australians.

It was a great (but hot) day of fellowship and friendship, giving thanks for this wonderful country we live in. Eighty dollars was generously donated by those present with money raised going to 'Common Grace'. Common Grace is an Australian movement of Christians from diverse traditions, founded in 2014, united in pursuing



"Jesus and justice" to foster the flourishing of all people and creation. Led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian leaders, it focuses on four key areas: Indigenous justice,

climate justice, ending domestic violence and supporting asylum seekers.

Carols at Broadford and Kilmore

Despite the threat of rain all day, it was wonderful that the churches of Broadford could

still get together on the evening of December 19th for "Carols in the Carpark". This now annual ecumenical Carols Service is organised by the Broadford Christian Churches. A great evening was held in the carpark of St Matthew's, Broadford with parish clergy Rev André DuPlooy and Rev Cathy Turnbull taking part and nearly 50 members of the local community and churches in attendance. The local Salvation Army van catered for the evening.

The following Sunday a Service of Lessons

and Carols was held at Christ Church, Kilmore, with 20 present singing some great carols and listening to God's Word from Genesis to John. The music for the evening was wonderfully accompanied by Julie, the organist at one of the smaller churches in the parish at Tallarook.

Muriel Andrea 19.6.1926 – 15.2.2026

By Diane Grant and David Watson

In the autumn of one's life many have to decide where they will be in the winter of their life - in their own home, with relatives or in an RACF. In 2016 90 year old Muriel's decision was to stay in her home in Perrin Street, Seymour with support from family, friends and local services. Muriel didn't regret making the decision to stay in "Her Castle" until 2019 when her son Gary died and her home of 67 years had to be sold.

She moved into her daughter Elaine's house and lived comfortably until 15 February where she passed away peacefully after a short stay at the Seymour Hospital just shy of her 100th birthday in June. I had said to her recently 'I hope to write a story of your 100th birthday.' That was not to be.

It is interesting to hear tales of nonagenarians around the district as to why they think they have lived so long. I asked Muriel when she turned 90 what had kept her living so long and she replied: "I was born Muriel Baker and I worked hard in our family and, when I married Merv Andrea, I enjoyed being a mother and wife.

Muriel was a gracious Christian lady as many from the local Anglican Church attest. At 99 she was their eldest parishioner at Christ Church and also the oldest and longest serving member of the world wide Mothers' Union (MU) Organisation, a member of the local branch for 66 years. On March 25 2025 at the Lady Day service in St John's Nagambie, she was presented with her 60 years long service badge and certificate. She was saddened that her MU branch had to close late last year due to lack of numbers and the immobility of members.

Muriel's funeral was held at the Seymour Anglican Church on Wednesday 25 February with members of her family, friends and local community folk in attendance.

Rev Andre Du Plooy led the Communion service including a couple of Muriel's favourite hymns. Christ Church parishioner David Watson gave the eulogy for his dear friend and parish members Peter and Anne Foote read the Psalm and prayers. Here is some of the eulogy (edited for space reasons):

EULOGY

May I begin by expressing my sincere appreciation of the very great privilege extended by Muriel's family in inviting me to speak here today, a task that I approach with much sadness. Who here today shares my memory of Muriel - always smartly groomed and dressed and wearing lots of beautiful jewellery?

Muriel was born at Shepparton to parents Herbert and Lillian Baker who moved to

Seymour when she was a child. She attended State School and then Seymour High School. On completing her education, Muriel worked at the Refreshment Rooms at Seymour station.

Muriel's mother Lillian catered for many dances and Church functions in Seymour and Muriel and her sisters went along. They all enjoyed dancing and having a good time with the soldiers and local lads and it was at these dances that Muriel met Christian Harold, known as "Merv", Andrea who later became her husband. They married in this Church in 1946. Muriel then worked for a number of years as a domestic at the old and then the new Memorial Hospital, also at the Steam Laundry in Wimble Street which washed sheets and blankets for the Army.

Muriel's mother was heavily involved in the affairs of this Church, catering for functions, a member of the Mothers' Union and Secretary of the Ladies Guild for 25 years.

Muriel followed in her mother's footsteps and she and Merv, both devout Christians, were connected with many church programs and activities. They both served at the altar and taught dancing for the popular Anglican Church Debutante Balls.

Her membership of the Mothers' Union branch made it a very long second generation of family membership.

In the church she provided the Sanctuary Lamp and, on the wall behind, is her memorial.

Muriel and Merv (deceased) had six children: Elaine, Graham (deceased), Robyn (deceased), Garry (deceased), Kelvin (or Kelly) and Christopher (deceased). There

are eight grandchildren andsome great-grandchildren, Muriel peacefully left this life on Sunday 15 February, to rest in the arms of her Saviour and be reunited with Merv, her children, her parents and her siblings.

In her 99 years Muriel suffered many illnesses, but throughout she maintained a strong belief in God. That faith remained with her until the end. She cherished her Bible and her Prayer Book and she prayed for those who needed prayer and, until failing health intervened, she seldom if ever missed attending Church on Sundays and Holy days. I was privileged to be with her when she received last rites before her passing and she faithfully murmured all the appropriate responses.

How do we sum up Muriel? Hospitable, generous, busy, friendly, modest and unassuming but, at the same time, feisty, stubborn and strong-willed; she was all those things and we shall greatly miss her.

Good-bye dear friend. You have fought the good fight, you have finished the race, you have kept the faith. Rest in Peace Muriel.

Photo below: Muriel seated, received her 60 years plus MU badge and certificate on Lady Day last year on 25 March at St John's church Nagambie. Pictured with Muriel are : Back Fr Andre Du Plooy and other long service MU recipients. L-R Diane Grant, Marlene Brew, Muriel's daughter Elaine Youngman, and Dawn Elliott



A New Chapter for Canterbury: The Installation of Archbishop Sarah Mullally

Continued from front page

Ordained Ministry

Archbishop Sarah's background in healthcare deeply informed her subsequent ministry: Ordained deacon in 2001, then priest in 2002. She initially served in local non-stipendiary ministry while continuing her government work. She was consecrated bishop in 2015 and was consequently installed as Bishop of London in 2018. As the first female Bishop of London, she was praised for her "managerial and professional" approach to a complex diocese, leading the Church's national response to the COVID-19 pandemic and championing safeguarding reforms.

Grounded in Family

Despite the weight of her office, the Archbishop remains grounded in her family life. She has been married to Eamonn Mullally, an IT architect, since 1987. The couple has two adult children, Grace and Liam. Her family was a visible presence during her installation, symbolizing the "ordinary" life that grounds her extraordinary calling.

The Installation as ABC

During the service, Archbishop Sarah delivered a sermon centred on the theme of the Annunciation. She drew parallels between her own "yes" to this calling and the biblical Mary's response to the Angel Gabriel. "As I look back over my life, I could never have imagined the future that lay ahead," she told the congregation. "Like Mary, we are called to trust that nothing will be impossible with God, even when we see so much in the world that makes hope seem impossible." She did not shy away from the challenges facing the Church, specifically addressing past safeguarding failures. She pledged to remain "committed to truth, compassion, justice, and action," emphasizing that the Church must be a "trauma-informed" institution that listens to survivors.

Unity in Diversity

In a deliberate nod to her role as the first female Archbishop, the service prominently featured the contributions of female scholars, musicians, and writers. "All Shall Be Well", a centrepiece of the service was a contemporary anthem by British composer Joanna Marsh. The piece sets the famous words of the 14th-century mystic Julian of Norwich, the first woman known to have written a book in the English language. The music also reflected the "Global Family" of the Anglican Communion, moving beyond traditional English cathedral music. The African Choir of Norfolk provided the music to greet the

proclamation of the Gospel. Their performance included choral songs in Swahili, accompanied by guitar, as well as music from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Namibia. The liturgy was multilingual, with the Kyrie sung in Urdu (arranged by C. Ouvry-Johns), and the Gospel (Luke 1:26-38) proclaimed in Spanish by the Bishop of Mexico, Alba Sally Sue Hernández García. In total, the liturgy featured six different languages.

Sacred Symbols and Oaths

The ceremony utilized rare artifacts that linked the new Archbishop to both ancient history and modern craftsmanship. The St John's Bible was used for the Corporal Oath of Archbishop Sarah, a heritage edition of the first hand-scribed, illuminated Benedictine Bible commissioned in over 500 years. In a moving personal touch, the silver clasp on the Archbishop's gold cope was fashioned from the belt buckle she wore as an NHS nurse, physically weaving her past service into her new vestments. She wore a pastoral ring originally given to Archbishop Michael Ramsey by Pope Paul VI in 1966, a symbol of the enduring quest for Christian unity.

The Historic Chairs

The musical energy reached its peak as the

Dean of Canterbury, David Monteith, led the Archbishop to the Chair of St Augustine, a 13th-century seat of Purbeck marble, symbolizing her status as the spiritual leader of the 85-million-strong global Anglican Communion.

Blessings for all

Following her installation, she was presented with a Compass Rose pendant, the symbol of the Anglican Communion, by the Secretary General, Bishop Anthony Poggio. The service concluded with a final blessing in multiple languages

As she stepped out of the Cathedral to bless the city of Canterbury she was greeted by local schoolchildren and the Prince and Princess of Wales. Archbishop Sarah, the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury, began her ministry not just as a pioneer for her gender, but as a "pilgrim among pilgrims," tasked with leading a fractured church toward a unified future.

Photos below: Archbishop Sarah seated in the Chair of St Augustine and arriving at Canterbury on the final leg of her pilgrimage (Source: Archbishop of Canterbury Website)



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICE TIMES

BEECHWORTH

Palm Sunday
9.30am Blessing of Palms, Christ Church, Beechworth
11am Morning Prayer, St Jude's, Eldorado
5pm Stations of the Cross & Lent Group, Christ Church, Beechworth.
Holy Wednesday
10am Mass, Christ Church, Beechworth
Maundy Thursday
7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, Christ Church, Beechworth
Good Friday
11am Morning Prayer, St Jude's, Eldorado
3pm Liturgy of the Passion & Cross, Christ Church, Beechworth
Holy Saturday
7.30pm Paschal Vigil & Mass, Christ Church, Beechworth
Easter Day
9.30am Sung Mass, Christ Church, Beechworth
11am Mass, St Jude's, Eldorado
5pm Mass, Christ Church, Beechworth

BENALLA

Maundy Thursday
6pm at Holy Trinity
Good Friday
12pm St Aidan's, 3pm Holy Trinity
Holy Saturday
prayers and meditation
5pm Holy Trinity
Easter Day
9.30am at Holy Trinity,
11.15 at St Aidan's .

CENTRAL GOULBURN

Palm Sunday
9.00am Christ Church, Seymour
11.00 am St John's, Nagambie
31st March - Tenebrae Service
5.30 pm Seymour
1st April - Stations of the Cross

10.00 am Seymour
Maundy Thursday
Holy Eucharist with washing of the feet
11am Nagambie
5.30pm Seymour
Good Friday
9am Christ Church Seymour
11am St John's Nagambie
Easter Day
8.30 am Christ Church Seymour
11 am St John's Nagambie

MILAWA

Good Friday
9 am Liturgy of the Day.
Easter Day
9 am Eucharist

MARYSVILLE

Palm Sunday
10.00am: Palm Sunday Liturgy and Eucharist – Christ Church, Marysville
Maundy Thursday
7.00pm: Commemoration of the Last Supper – Christ Church, Marysville
Good Friday
12noon Good Friday Liturgy – Christ Church, Marysville
Easter Day
8.30am: Easter Holy Communion – St Thomas, Buxton
10.30am: Easter Family Eucharist – Christ Church, Marysville

WANGARATTA

Palm Sunday
8.00 a.m. Eucharist
10.00 a.m. Eucharist with Palm Procession
Maundy Thursday
6.30 p.m. Combined Parishes Eucharist of the Lord's Supper with washing of the feet
Good Friday
2pm Liturgy
Easter Sunday
7am Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Eucharist of Easter.

1000 am Eucharist.
9.30am – All Saints, Moyhu
11.00am – Holy Trinity, Whitfield.

WANGARATTA WEST

Palm Sunday
9.30am Parish Eucharist with Palm Procession – @St. Michael's
Maundy Thursday
6.30pm Combined Parishes Eucharist of the Lord's Supper with washing of feet – Cathedral
Good Friday
8am Liturgy @St George's, Taminick
9.30am Liturgy @St Michael's
Easter Eve
6.30pm Lighting of the Paschal Candle, First Eucharist of Easter @St. Paul's Glenrowan.
Easter Sunday
8.00am Eucharist @St George's, Taminick.
9.30am Sung Eucharist @St. Michael's, Wangaratta.

WODONGA

Palm Sunday
9:30am – Sung Eucharist with procession of palms.
Maundy Thursday
7pm – Sung Eucharist with Footwashing, Stripping of the Altar – followed by the Watch.
Good Friday
9am – Liturgy of the Day.
Easter Eve
8pm – Easter Vigil with liturgy of new fire, renewal of Baptismal vows, and the first Eucharist of Easter.
Easter Day
9am – Sung Eucharist, St John's, Wodonga.
9am – Sung Eucharist (Anglican Tradition), Emmanuel, West Wodonga.

YACKANDANDAH

Holy Thursday
6pm St Mark's Tangambalanga.
Good Friday
9am Holy Trinity Yackandandah. incl. veneration of the cross
10.30am Ecumenical Stations of the Cross. Yackandandah Memorial Park
Easter Day.
9am St Paul's Allans Flat.
10am St Aidan's Tawonga

YARRAWONGA

Palm Sunday
8.30am Inter-church Palm Service in Kennedy Park
9.am Sung Eucharist
Wednesday, 1st April
7.30pm Stations of the Cross
Maundy Thursday
7.30pm The Last Supper, with Foot-washing and Stripping of the Altar
Good Friday
9am—Good Friday Liturgy
5pm stations of the cross @ Boomahnoomoonah
Easter Day
6am Lighting the New Fire and Holy Communion
8:30am Eucharist @ St Thomas', St James
10am Sung Eucharist

YEA

Palm Sunday
11am St Luke's Yea
Maundy Thursday
6.30pm St Luke's Yea
Good Friday
11am St Luke's Yea
Easter Day
11am St Luke's Yea.

Please contact your local Parish directly for their service times if they are not listed.

