



Anglican
Church
Diocese of Perth



The President's Address

The Most Reverend Kay Goldsworthy AO DD
Archbishop of Perth

First Session
of the Fifty-Second Synod
of the
Diocese of Perth

17 October 2025

Ngaala kaaditj Whadjuk Noongar moort keyen kaadak nidjar boodjar.
We acknowledge Whadjuk Noongar people as the original custodians of this land on which we meet this Synod.

Welcome to the First Session of the Fifty-Second Synod of the Diocese of Perth. We meet as members of the worldwide Anglican Communion under the banner of its five marks of mission: The Five Marks of Mission¹ show us what hope looks like in action. These practical, lived pathways keep us faithful in fragile times. We know them well and live them daily across the Diocese of Perth.

- ❖ *Tell* – To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- ❖ *Teach* – to teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- ❖ *Tend* – to respond to human need by loving service
- ❖ *Transform* – to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- ❖ *Treasure* – to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Prayer for Synod

Almighty and everliving God,
give wisdom and understanding,
to the members of the Synod of this Diocese.
Teach us in all things
to seek first your honour and glory.
May we perceive what is right
have courage to pursue it
and grace to accomplish it,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer Book for Australia

Introduction – Welcome*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Philippians 1:2

Welcome to Synod. This Synod meeting is the first of three Sessions in the Fifty Second Synod of the Diocese, and that means that there will be people who are here for the first time. Therefore, for the benefit of us all, long termers and newcomers, I will begin by recapping some Synod basics.

We are, as the word Synod itself means, “on the way together”, members of the body of Christ, the community of the baptised, and walking as Anglicans in this part of Christ's Church, we consider where and how the Holy Spirit is leading us for the mission of the Church in and for the life of the world.

Synod is the gathering of the clergy and lay representatives of the Diocese with the Bishop to make decisions about our life together in Christ. Each Synod session begins as we gather as the Body of Christ in a celebration of the Eucharist. It continues with our business meetings.

¹ The Anglican Consultative Council, *Five Marks of Mission*, 1984, reaffirmed 1990

Synod governs our corporate life as Anglicans, and our relationships within the Anglican Church generally, as is evidenced by the business paper of this Synod session.

Synod also brings an Anglican perspective to issues and concerns in wider society, including social and ethical matters, conflict and peace seeking, care of the environment, education, and concern for the most vulnerable among us. While Synod conducts its business on a model based on the Westminster parliamentary system, similar to that followed by federal and state parliaments, we are different. As with parliaments, each Synod member is elected for a term, usually of three years. Each Synod consists of three sessions, one session is held each year.

Synod members elect most members of Diocesan Council, and representatives on wider church bodies, including General Synod and Provincial Council. Over the years, Perth Synod has deliberated on, prayerfully considered, and made decisions on many important matters: parish governance; safe ministry practices; promoting, enabling and resourcing mission; keeping informed about diocesan finances and budgets; encouraging, and sometimes implementing change, in a variety of areas of our life.

Along with newly elected Synod members, we also welcome those clergy newly arrived and ordained in the Diocese of Perth in the last 12 months; The Reverend Canon Jan Joustra, The Reverends Raphael Beuthner, Sylvia Grevel, Rob Imberger, Rhys Roberts-Brown, Cecilia Strutt and Thomas Pote.

As is our custom, there will also be time later in the day to acknowledge and farewell those who have retired from full-time ministry during the past year. We give thanks also for lay leaders retiring from Diocesan posts, among them Mr Ian Hardy, St George's College, and Mr Mike Brown, Operations Manager Diocesan Office.

As always, we give thanks to God for the faithful ministries of those clergy and clergy spouses who have died in the last year. They include

The Reverend Pamela Halbert OAM
The Reverend Dominic Spinosi
The Right Revd Dr Keith Rayner AO
Mrs Eveline Cox
The Reverend Peter Mold
Mr Ron Whitcombe
The Reverend Frank Roe
Dr Maggie Exon
Mrs Beth Buchanan
The Reverend Bob Booth
The Right Reverend Dr John Parkes AM
The Reverend Emily Bowser
The Reverend Sidney Middlemost
The Reverend Robert Greenhalgh
Mrs Margaret Blakeway

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

The Anglican World

The last 12 months have seen several significant events in the Anglican world.

One was the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in November last year. His resignation came as a shock, following allegations of the mishandling of abuse in the Church of England. We in the Anglican Church of Australia know only too well the harm done by failure to adequately address abuse.

Now, for the first time in history, the Crown Nominations Committee included representatives from each of the five regions of the Anglican Communion. On 3 October, the appointment was announced of The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally, as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. Bishop Sarah is currently the Bishop of London and will be enthroned as the Archbishop of Canterbury in March 2026. While Bishop Sarah's appointment has been met in the main with acclamation and support there are some in the wider Anglican Communion who are making clear their disapproval of her appointment. This is based on the ground of both her gender, and the leadership role she had as the Church of England worked through their *Living in Love and Faith* agenda. Her appointment and leadership bring into sharp focus the issues of division across the Anglican world.

Over the last three years the Inter Anglican Standing Commission on Unity, Faith and Order (IASCUFO), a permanent commission of the Anglican Communion whose brief is to advise the Instruments and member churches on matters of doctrine, ecclesiology, liturgy, canon law, and ecumenical relations, has been working on a proposal looking to renew the Instruments of the Anglican Communion. These Instruments are the Lambeth Conference, Primates' Meetings, Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Consultative Council.

In Advent 2024, the Commission published a document known as the Nairobi-Cairo Proposals, 'Beginning a New Conversation - Proposals offered to the Anglican Communion' ([The Nairobi-Cairo Proposals](#)). These Proposals have been written for consideration to the whole Anglican Communion family, providing ways forward intended to help Anglican churches navigate difference and divisions, upholding the call of all Christians to sustain the unity of the Church. The proposals will be discussed at the meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council-19 in June 2026. While the Archbishop of Canterbury is President of the Council, the meetings are chaired by an elected chairperson, currently Canon Maggie Swinson.

IASCUFO is a wide-ranging and representative group, involving members from different parts of the Anglican Communion in Africa, Asia, South and North America, Europe, and the Pacific. Bishop Richard Treloar, Bishop of Gippsland, is a member. Australia is part of the Pacific region.

Closer to home, Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, Archbishop of Adelaide, announced his resignation as Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia with effect from 30 October 2025. The Right Reverend Dr Mark Short, Bishop of Canberra Goulbourn, was elected as Primate beginning 1 November 2025. I look forward to welcoming our next Primate to Perth sometime in the future.

* The full list of appointments, moves, and other significant events is attached as Appendix 1.

A Season of Hope

God of Hope

*you call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world;
by your Spirit awaken in us
a true vision of your kingdom,
a greater certainty of our salvation, and
a deeper dedication to your service;
that through our words and actions the same Spirit may
bring many who are lost to be found,
and for them to celebrate the hope
that we can only have in Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.*

In so many ways we gather at this Synod under the sign and theme of hope. This year has been celebrated by Anglicans all around Australia as together we committed ourselves to *HOPE25: Hope in an Uncertain World*, an initiative that was born from the General Synod's call to make evangelism a strategic priority for our life together. Across Australia, parishes, schools, agencies and dioceses were invited into a season of prayer, of witness, and of active proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Here in our own part of the vineyard, parishes, schools and other communities discerned anew what it means for us here and now to be a people of hope. We came to HOPE25 not wearing rose coloured glasses about the world or ourselves, because we all know the uncertainties that press on every side, the fragility of international peace, the shaking of democracies, the wounds of creation, and the struggles within our own communities. But, in places all around the Diocese of Perth, people chose to participate in Hope25 because we know that hope in Christ is not a daydream, or a fantasy, nor another feel-good hard sell. It is not our invention. It is God's gift to the human heart.

In 2 Corinthians chapters 3-4, Paul reflects on the ministry entrusted to him among the Corinthians. He reminds them that they themselves are his letter of recommendation, not written with ink or carved on tablets of stone, but written on human hearts by the Spirit of the living God. Their very life in Christ is the testimony to the work of the gospel. This ministry is described as one of hope, for the light of the gospel shines with clarity, revealing in the face of Christ the knowledge of the glory of God. Though the world may be blinded, Paul says, God has shone into our hearts, giving us this radiant knowledge. Like Paul and his companions, we too know that the power of this gospel does not rest in human strength but in God. Paul uses the image of a "clay jar" to highlight his point.

The hope we have in Christ is so very powerful for us because we know, as did Paul and those early Corinthian believers, that we are like fragile clay jars, easily broken, yet entrusted with the priceless treasure of the gospel. The hope we have in Christ is God's gift, displayed in our weakness. The image of hope as resilience, even in the face of fragility is powerful.

Biblical scholar Dr Paula Gooder, who was with us in the Diocese over Holy Week and Easter this year, emphasises that Corinthian society was well known for its pottery. And, while some vessels were what we would call inferior, easily cracked, they were still highly functional for diffusing light. Paul, she suggests, intentionally evokes this image: that our weakness is the very medium through which God's light shines. The cracks in the jar are not so many defects to be hidden. Rather, they're essential to revealing the treasure inside.

What a profound message that is for Christian communities like ours today! Our personal and communal weaknesses - our failures, anxieties, and limitations - do not disqualify us from displaying God's glory. Rather, these vulnerabilities allow God's grace to shine more clearly. Our weakness can be the very space for grace.

"We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us" (2 Corinthians 4:7).

I love this image, in part because I know it applies to me. But I suspect we all relate to the clay jar image because we know what it's like to be ordinary, breakable, unimpressive, easily chipped. Yet within us is the treasure of the light that shines in the darkness, and is always, always, always stronger than darkness.

This metaphor has resonance in the HOPE25 mission. As congregations, many of us face declining resources, ageing leadership, or uncertain futures. Yet our frailty is not a weakness to lament, but a channel for God's power. Even our ordinary efforts, prayer groups, study circles, pastoral visits, youth mentoring, outreach programs - all these can shine with God's light, because the treasure within us is God's, not ours.

This is who we are. Ordinary people, fragile communities, vulnerable institutions. And yet we are stewards of the precious treasure that is God's astoundingly beautiful gift.

Through the prayers, studies, plans and actions of so many of you through HOPE25 activities, the light of Christ has shone anew in the hearts of many, many people. The bishops have been incredibly fortunate to be part of many of the activities that took place. Parishes held neighbourhood welcome days, intentionally invited people to church, or to a church event; or went to local community events with blessings and information about how the church is part of their local community.

Bishop Kate tells of events in the Parish of Gingin-Chittering, and a Saturday lunch at the "Archbishop's table" in Holy Trinity Church, Chittering. Pews were turned sideways and long tables set up. "A simple fare of soup and bread preceded our guest speaker and allowed us to bounce questions around. This was a real treat for us."

"A Shearing Shed Children's Service on a fifth Sunday of the month in an old shearing shed, cleared out but still smelling of sheep, on a cold stormy Sunday morning with rain and hail on the tin roof. A cross and candles stood on rusty 44-gallon drums. Hay bales for seats and blankets on the slatted wooden floor. This was our church for the day. Thirty good folk including 10 children enjoyed a lay led children's service followed by crock pot lunch. Smiles and delight were all round. Singing to guitar with pauses in bursts of heavy rain on the tin roof. Warmth and fellowship abounded. It is good to remember that the church is where(ever) we gather."

Bishop David writes about the Parish of Canning's Open Day; "The Parish of Canning held an Open Day on Saturday 17 May. The event focused on the dedication of their Purple Bench with the Mayor unveiling the bench and Bishop David blessing it. Both the local State and Federal Members along with many community groups were present. The Parish Op Shop had a big sale and there was a home baked goods stall as well as a Coffee Van run by Cana Communities. Inside the church were several displays and a prayer station. Anglicare WA ran their Standing Together training. It was a terrific display of love for the community from the church".

Speak with Bishop Hans and The Reverend Dr Eleanor O'Donnell about walking 115kms on the Pilgrimage of Hope with more than 400 students, and the conversations that were possible with young people who want to talk about matters of deep meaning and importance: about the place of hope in their lives.

HOPE25 has been an invigorating time for many and has brought to light new ways in which we can share with others the hope within us, precisely because we know the power of God's amazing grace, welcome, and love, as our true home.

Anniversaries

This year, the global Church is also keeping an anniversary of deep significance: 1700 years since the ecumenical Council of Nicaea in the year 325. That Council began a process that led to the Nicene Creed, a confession of faith. For 1700 years Christians have stood and said this creed together. These are words that are larger than us, words that carry us when we falter, words that have shaped the faith of countless multitudes. They are the words of our orthodoxy – shared with Christians of many traditions.

When we say the words “We believe”, we put our trust in the Triune God, rather than ourselves. We put our trust in the God who is faithful, no matter the day, the season, or our own wavering and doubts. “We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty ... We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ ... We believe in the Holy Spirit ...”

Week by week, we Anglicans, along with millions of other Christians worldwide, stand and say these words. They're not only abstract formulas; they are also declarations of trust. Across the centuries, in times of persecution, famine, war, reformation, and renewal, the Creed has been a scaffolding, weaving together great themes of the biblical witness. On this scaffolding, Christians have faithfully built lives of hope and love.

Across the Diocese, small groups, online Bible studies, and confirmation courses have been quietly forming disciples. A young adult recently reflected after confirmation: “*I don't understand everything in the Creed, but I know I want to grow into it*”. Paula Gooder reminds us, “Christian life is not about acquiring ideas but about being reshaped into a people of hope”.²

We are, without doubt, living in a season of global disruption and uncertainty. In it, we are called not only to recite the Creed, but also to live into it. We are called to allow its vastness to expand our faithful imagination, and to let its hope-shaped vision guide our mission. It points us to a horizon, a vast landscape into which we grow. Rowan Williams put it like this, “The Creed is not a checklist but a map; not an exam we must pass but a landscape we inhabit.”³ A generous orthodoxy indeed.

This year also marks the 175th anniversary of the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM). This is the subject matter of one of our motions. We in Perth have always been very supportive of the mission work undertaken in so many parts of the world under the auspices of ABM.

² Paula Gooder *Body: Biblical Spirituality for the Whole Person*, SPCK 2016, p82

³ Rowan Williams, *Tokens of Trust: An Introduction to Christian Belief*, Canterbury Press, 2007

Many of us will remember having an ABM mission money box, the annual Lenten visit of a mission partner, and are supporting mission through 'Church to Church' partnerships. This includes our support of the disability project in the Diocese of Eldoret. ABM continues to develop and work with partners in many countries, and this year many of you will have supported the appeal for the Anglican hospital in Gaza.

Some of our Synod motions make clear how engaged we Perth Anglicans are with the big issues in the world, and the ways in which God's love is made known in so many challenging circumstances. As Anglicans, we consider every challenge in the light of faith and reason and prayerfully make our responses to them.

The 40th anniversary of AngliSchools this year has highlighted the vibrancy of our work with young people in our schools. We have seen afresh the impact of Anglican identity in our mission priority with children and young people. Students, families, and staff are responding to the ministry of pastoral care, the work of chaplains, the excellent curriculums and the strong Anglican leadership that are the hallmarks of all our schools. Each of the bishops has had significant involvement in the spiritual life across all the schools, both AngliSchools and our independent schools.

I acknowledge and thank Principals and Council Chairs who are committed to our partnership in the gospel as educators in Anglican Schools and leaders in the wider Western Australian community.

Alongside those who lead in our schools are leaders in so many areas of community concern. I think of Parkerville Children and Youth Care's response to and support of more than 12,000 children and young people because of family trauma associated with abuse. The Diocesan Secretary and I have now visited the site of Parkerville's planned Therapeutic School which, when complete, will offer real options for young people living with significant trauma. In the face of these and other matters our prayerful support of the wider actions of Diocesan life count.

A Wider Lens

The big picture of mission and ministry in the Diocese of Perth is rosier than we often notice, and it is not all as rosy as we would like. As your Archbishop, I enter the life of smaller and larger suburban and rural parishes in various ways, and I notice both the highs and the lows.

The highs include Sunday and festive occasions, pastoral meetings with parish clergy and lay leaders, hearing from parishes about your plans for community connection, creative responsiveness to changing local community needs, because neighbourhoods change over time. I get to hear, see and celebrate with people across the Diocese as you respond to God's call, collectively and individually.

During this, also on the strongly positive side, what I see and experience and receive is a steadfast faithfulness and continual openness to being Christians in the world; to being communities of hope, nourished by the round of liturgical worship that is our shared inheritance as Anglicans. I see you living this with a generous welcome that touches people.

Along with this, I also bring to my prayers my observations of parishes which are sitting with ageing congregations and diminishing numbers. There is an ache, about what people would like to be, and don't feel that they are, anymore. This is the not-so-rosy part of our life together. We are not always eager to invite the Holy Spirit in, despite our desire to reshape and reframe and redefine our past ways of doing community or being church. In a world that is changing so rapidly, we grieve for what no longer works as well as it used to, when we try to get our message across to society. We can no longer make assumptions that our local community will be tuned into us.

Yet community leaders continue to look to the Church for spiritual wisdom in these changing times. This challenges us to strengthen our spiritual muscles and refresh our theological identity, so that we will always have significant spiritual wisdom to offer and can point to the Lord Jesus Christ as the source of the energy for what we do well. German pastor and theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer writing from prison during World War II said, "The Church is only the Church when it exists for others".⁴ In other words, hope becomes visible in service.

In several parishes, volunteers prepare food parcels every week, some supported by Anglicare's emergency relief programme which makes significant funding available through our partnership with them. One regular recipient of this relief outreach said: "It's not just the food. It's that people here remember my name".

This year, Anglicare WA and St Bart's have once again responded to the issues of rising homelessness and housing stability and affordability, working with government and local councils to provide safe housing, and to raise their voices in advocacy.

The Amana Living report tells us that more than 9,000 people have been supported through their work, work done by a further 2,500 people. Meath Care also operates across residential aged care, home care, transition care, dementia and Alzheimer's support for individuals and families. This is vital work and service in our communities.

So, we don't need to be anxious about what's not happening, or what we can't do. Please don't fall for the myth that "unless we're doing something AMAZING, we're not doing anything." Instead, let something other than anxiety be your companion. Instead, allow trust to be your friend: trust that our heavenly Father knows what we need before we ask; certainty that the Spirit will keep putting new mission opportunities in front of us; confidence that Jesus will continue to nudge us in the direction he wants us to go.

Now, all the Spirit's new initiatives will not happen everywhere on a neat timetable. Change does not roll out with smooth uniformity. The direction that the Lord Jesus chooses for us is not always towards the goal we had set our hearts on. But the gradual reshaping of our life as a Diocese is not a competition. When we count our blessings, we count those of our neighbours as well as our own, as we are called to rejoice with those who rejoice.

Rejoice with me in the impact of big events; the centenary celebration in our Cathedral, of the ordination The Reverend James Noble, the first Aboriginal man to be ordained in Australia; the State funeral of World War II veteran Arthur Leggett OAM. Rejoice with me in the inauguration of the new Parish of Lake Joondalup and dedication of St Monica's, a long-held dream for the Dinka-speaking Anglican community.

⁴ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Letters and Papers from Prison*, SCM Press, 1953

Rejoice with me in the English language classes for new migrants at St Mary's, West Perth. Rejoice with me as I think of the hospital chaplain who described sitting with a patient who asked, "Where is God in this?" The chaplain replied, "Right here with you". Their conversation went on. That is evangelism. I think of the aged care chaplain who recently took time with a man in his 80s to talk about Jesus and then helped that person prepare for baptism and confirmation.

Rejoice with me in the successful relocation of over 30,000 books from Murdoch University and the opening of the Wollaston Library. Rejoice with me, then, in meeting people in their early teens and in their 80s, often from very small communities, who have had a new experience of God's love in their lives through Jesus. Let's rejoice together at the progress on redeveloping the parish plant and mission at Spearwood.

Let us rejoice together with new initiatives in schools for discerning vocational pathways and providing training and theological education. Let's rejoice together with new certificate courses and graduate studies being taken up at Wollaston Theological College. Let's rejoice together when smaller parish communities agree to partner with each other and share people and resources. Let's rejoice together about these and all the other signs that God is with us.

It is so good to be able to report that the work of the Reconciliation Action Group has borne fruit and our Diocesan plan has been accepted. It seems that we are already a long way down the path of the RAP. Thank you to the members of the working group for your commitment to this project and the attention to detail which has brought this work to fruition.

Walter Brueggemann wrote that hope is "the daring act of imagining the world as though God's promises are true."⁵ That daring imagination leads us to challenge violence and seek reconciliation. This is long work which needs a constancy in faithful witness and action. In declaring God's constancy, God's desire for the world, for his children of every place, every tribe, every language and nation to be brought together under the wings of his love. Many people are fearful about the world, about the absence of peace, which can, in turn, contribute to a sense of anxiety in our own communities, families and intimate circles.

Working together in kindness and for good, even on a small scale, is such a sign and witness of the reconciling love of God in action. Theologian, Lesslie Newbigin reminds us, "The business of the Church is to tell the story which will give meaning to the whole of life".⁶ Here in the Diocese of Perth we proclaim hope by telling the story of Jesus, risen and alive.

The world may seem fragile, broken, or even hostile. Yet God's treasure endures. God's promises remain. Our hope is living, visible, and active. And through our own shortcomings and vulnerabilities, we shine God's light into a world that desperately needs it.

This Synod time in which we walk together, gives us through our prayer, conversation, and consideration of the business before us renewed hope in Christ. It offers strength, as we hold together into the loving heart of Jesus Christ for our mission and ministry. We travel on, not as perfect disciples, but as faithful ones.

⁵ Walter Brueggemann, *Hopeful Imagination: Prophetic Voices in Exile*, Fortress Press, 1986

⁶ Lesslie Newbigin, *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*, SPCK, 1989, p98

This is our trust, certainty and confidence: that the God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead is faithful, and God's future is already breaking into this present moment.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1

Finally, some words of thanks.

The Perth Diocesan Trustees, under the careful leadership of the Chairman, Mr Sam Walsh AO, continues to attend to the broad sweep of matters affecting our life at every level - financial, legal, commercial, property and trust related. The Trustees bring a profound and professional experience to this work as well as their Christian care and commitment. The amount of work which is required in between meetings is significant, and we often see individual Trustees in the office meeting regarding some matter or another.

The bishops have continued to develop and strengthen our working relationship, meeting together weekly. Once a month we begin our meeting with Holy Communion at Archbishop's House and take extra time for prayerful conversation and consideration of the life of the Diocese. We are deeply aware of the importance of our roles, and the complexity of the life we share in Christ as we exercise this episcopal ministry among you.

I thank Bishops Kate, David and Hans and their families for their prayerful and caring ministry among us, and for their humour and joy in the life we share together.

My thanks go to the Archdeacons. I want to record our thanks to recently retired Archdeacon of Perth and Archbishop's Registrar, Archdeacon Angela Webb. Angela has been a caring, prayerful and faithful minister of the gospel as she has fulfilled the demanding role of Archdeacon of Perth. When resources are stretched, she has picked up extra duties and responsibilities for the wellbeing of our clergy and parishes without complaint. Over the year her work often includes some of the thankless tasks of following up with clergy and parishes when they run late or do not furnish evidence of safe ministry clearances, parish returns, leave forms, financial information, faculty details and the like. Angela also picked up most of the work seeking locums and supply.

As she has laid this ministry down, it has been a joy to welcome Archdeacon Justine Coverdale to her new role as Archdeacon of Perth, with some shared time alongside Angela for handover. Justine is now sitting comfortably in her new role. Archdeacon Justine is also working alongside Bishop Kate in the Gnamma Archdeaconry. I know many of you are getting to know her as you speak with each other.

It has been a blessing to have welcomed The Reverend Jacob Legarda back to the Diocese and to a part-time role as Archbishop's Chaplain once again. Thank you, Fr Jacob for your prayer and practical support. It is much appreciated by me, by the staff in Church House and the diocesan clergy and lay leaders amongst whom you minister.

Archdeacon Kathy Barrett- Lennard OAM retired earlier this year. Kathy's capacity to be everywhere in the rural region of the Diocese is something which Bishop Kate is considering as she looks to future ministry developments in the rural and regional centres.

Archdeacons Mandy Herriman, Peter Boyland, Gillian Rookyard and Clive Hillman each fulfilled different areas of responsibility including territorial archdeaconries, deacons, those new to the Diocese, formation and training, those newly ordained as well as clergy wellbeing. Archdeacon Lionel Snell is continuing in a role as Locum Archdeacon to Sudanese Communities, which I know is much appreciated by the clergy and lay leaders of those parishes and congregations. I thank him for his tenacity and perseverance alongside the Dinka community as we moved toward the Parish of Lake Joondalup.

Dr Megan Warner's creative and strategic leadership of the Wollaston Theological College, aided by her academic depth and professionalism, is a great boon to the work of the College and the Senior Staff leadership group.

The Reverend Grahame Bowland continues to work, albeit very part-time, in the Episcopal Office further developing the Diocesan App. We thank him for all that he brings to this role for mission 'on the ground'.

Thank you for the leadership you all bring in this season of our life together.

I am blessed to work with the staff in the Episcopal Office, so ably led and overseen by the Manager Episcopal Services, Mrs Susan Harvey. Susan oversees a very heavy load continuing to manage arrangements for the Episcopal Office with a minimum of fuss. It is so good to know that Susan is a trusted point of contact for Archbishop's Office. Mrs Melanie Hare now works as the Personal Assistant to Bishops David and Hans. Together Susan and Mel are welcoming, helpful and so very positive in their approach to all they do. Ms Cailin Hovell has returned to the Episcopal Office as Administration Officer and will soon be offering more support to Bishop Kate. Their hard work is undertaken with a wonderful attitude of service, and I thank God for all of them.

The Chancellor, Mr Eric Ross-Adjie, as Chair of the Legislation Committee works in conjunction with that Committee to bring legislation to Synod. He also oversees the numerous matters which need consideration by and referral to the Chancellor across any given year. It is a blessing to have a Chancellor whose faith in Christ, prayers and loyalty to the office of the Archbishop and diocesan life is unwavering.

The Diocesan Council continues to work with the good of the Diocese at the centre of its business as it oversees a wide agenda of strategic mission overseen by commissions, redress, policy, finance, parish property, wider governance matters. I thank the members of Diocesan Council for their careful consideration in those times when the matters before us are difficult, as well as in those in which it is easier to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit.

I want to acknowledge all the staff in Church House whose work across property, risk, safe ministry, finance, payroll, HR, communications and the Anglican Community Fund contribute to the life of the Diocese day by day. We are all very aware of the way in which your work contributes to the life of the Diocese.

The Diocesan Secretary, Mr Keith Stephens, continues to support the ministry and running of the Episcopal Office and Diocesan life with strategic intent and an attention to detail that has assisted us all in making careful and considered decisions for our life together, both in the Diocese and in the wider life of the Australian Anglican Church. Ms Meshell Sandilands, the minute secretary for the Trustees and Diocesan Council respectively, ensures all is in place for those meetings.

The close and trusted working relationship between the Archbishop's Office and that of the Diocesan Secretary is of paramount importance for our life. Very careful consideration of decisions made for the life of the Diocese and facilitating clear information for consideration of the matters concerning our ministry and mission, is vital as we seek to serve God's people in this place wisely and well for God's Church in God's world. I thank Keith for the time and hard work that he continues to undertake so that our working relationship has the hallmarks of mutual respect, transparency and trust.

I thank each of them for everything they do on our behalf.

Above all, I give thanks to God for all of you and for our life together under God, in the body of Christ in this wonderful Diocese of Perth.

May the God of peace sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:22-23

The Most Reverend Kay Goldsworthy AO DD
President of Synod
Archbishop of Perth and Metropolitan of Western Australia

17 October 2025

APPOINTMENTS AND MOVES

1 October 2023 – 30 September 2024

Appointments

The Reverend Marie Aitken	Chaplain, St James' Anglican School	01.01.25-30.06.27
The Reverend Julie Baker	Chaplain, Perth College	21.07.25
The Venerable Kathy Barrett-Lennard OAM	Archdeacon Emeritus	01.03.25
The Reverend Emily Bowser	Assistant Curate, Woodlands-Wembley Downs and Scarborough	01.01.25-22.07.25
The Reverend Raphael Beuthner♦	Chaplain, Peter Carnley ACS	14.07.25
The Revd Peregrin Campbell-Osgood	Priest-in-Charge, Darlington-Bellevue	21.01.25
The Reverend Ruth Chapman	Chaplain, John Wollaston ACS	01.07.25
The Reverend Canon Justine Coverdale	Archdeacon Assisting, Episcopal Office	21.04.25-16.09.25
	Archdeacon of Perth and Archbishop's Registrar	17.09.25
The Reverend Gareth Gilbert-Hughes	Chaplain, Amana Living	01.12.24
Ms Sylvia Grevel*	Lay Chaplain, Amana Living	01.12.24-23.02.25
	Chaplain (Deacon) Amana Living	24.02.25
	Assistant Curate, Subiaco	01.05.25
The Reverend Brett Guthrie	Hon Port Chaplain, Esperance Mission to Seafarers	06.25
The Venerable Clive Hillman	Director of Formation and Vocations Advocate	15.11.24
The Reverend Rob Imberger♦	Assistant Priest, Cottesloe	01.01.25
The Reverend Canon Jan Joustra♦	Rector, South Perth	01.02.25
The Reverend Martha Kongor	Priest-in-Charge, Lake Joondalup	15.03.25
The Reverend Jacob Legarda	Archbishop's Chaplain	01.04.25
The Reverend Andrew Milne	Chaplain, Amana Living	01.03.25
	Priest-in-Charge, Bayswater	07.05.25
The Reverend Barry Moss	Area Dean, Wagyl Deanery	01.11.24-31.10.25
The Reverend Thomas Pote	Chaplain, Guildford Grammar School	01.11.24
The Reverend Rae Reinertsen	Priest-in-Charge, Thornlie-Kenwick-Huntingdale	22.01.25
Mr Rhys Roberts-Brown*	Assistant Curate, St George's Cathedral	24.02.25
Ms Cecilia Strutt*	Assistant Curate, Beaconsfield	24.02.25
The Reverend Meliata Thomason	Priest-in-Charge, Bull Creek-Leeming	15.09.25
The Right Reverend Onesimo Yagusuk	Priest-in-Charge, The Goldfields	01.09.25

♦ New to the Diocese

* Newly ordained

Change of Status

The Reverend Kieran Carr	Priest-in-Charge, Cottesloe	01.01.25
The Reverend Brent Frieslaar	Rector, Carine-Duncraig	01.01.25
The Reverend Marie Aitken	Priest-in-Charge, Yanchep	01.01.25
The Reverend Luke Hoare	Rector, Morley-Noranda	01.03.25

Locum Tenens

The Reverend Cheryl Absalom	Forrestfield-Wattle Grove	20.10.24-30.04.25
The Reverend Chris Bedding	Senior Chaplain, Amana Living	14.07.25-15.08.25
The Reverend Grahame Bowland	Kalamunda-Lesmurdie (IIM)	01.10.24-30.09.26
The Right Reverend Dr Peter Brain	Maddington	01.01.25-01.12.25
The Reverend Lynne Eastoe	Bull Creek-Leeming	03.11.24-31.01.25
		24.03.25-07.05.25
The Reverend Ros Fairless	Mt Pleasant	31.08.25-30.09.25
The Reverend Dr Alan Forsyth	Bayswater	01.11.24-30.04.25
	Lynwood-Langford-Ferndale	01.08.25-01.02.26
The Reverend Rose Guok	Riverton	01.03.25-30.04.25
	Riverton (IIM)	06.07.25-05.07.26
The Reverend Jacob Legarda	Swanbourne-Mt Claremont	09.02.25-31.03.26
The Reverend Andrew Milne	Mt Pleasant	01.12.24-30.04.25
The Reverend Richard Minol	Roleystone	12.03.25-08.06.25
The Reverend David Prescott	Bayswater	01.10.24-31.10.24
The Reverend Rae Reinertsen	Thornlie-Kenwick-Huntingdale	30.12.24-21.01.25
The Very Reverend Dr John Shepherd AM	Bull Creek-Leeming	01.02.25-23.03.25
The Reverend Dr Elizabeth Smith AM	Floreat Park	07.09.25-26.10.25
The Venerable Jack Thomson	Balga-Mirrabooka	01.10.24-31.12.25
The Reverend Pamela Turner	Floreat Park	01.01.25-30.06.25
The Reverend Steve Warren	South Perth	25.11.24-31.01.25
	The Goldfields	24.04.25-12.05.25
The Right Reverend Onesimo Yagusuk	Ellenbrook	02.12.24-31.07.25

Permission to Officiate

The Reverend David Bradbury		16.10.24
The Reverend Andrew Burr		04.04.25
The Reverend Neil Ellis		06.02.25
The Reverend Donato Fimognari		01.01.25
The Reverend Lorna Green		17.06.25
The Reverend Bruce Hyde		09.01.25
The Reverend Karen Lewis		13.08.25
The Reverend Steve Pivetta		18.02.25
The Reverend Dr Elizabeth Smith AM		30.07.25
The Reverend John Smith (deacon)	Chaplain to The Flying Angel Club	01.05.25
The Reverend Wayne Sutton	Parish of North Midlands	16.12.24
The Reverend John Taylor		01.01.25
The Reverend Pamela Turner		01.11.24
The Reverend Andrew Williams		15.04.25
The Reverend David Williams		01.11.24-03.03.25

Retirements

The Reverend David Bradbury		15.10.24
The Reverend Donato Fimognari		31.12.24
The Reverend John Taylor		31.12.24
The Reverend Bruce Hyde		08.01.25
The Venerable Kathy Barrett-Lennard OAM		28.02.25
The Reverend Lorna Green		01.06.25
The Reverend Dr Elizabeth Smith AM		29.07.25
The Venerable Angela Webb		16.09.25
The Reverend Rob Healy		28.09.25

Resignations

The Reverend Marie Aitken	Archbishop's Examining Chaplains	20.10.24
The Reverend Julie Baker	Chaplain, St Bart's	04.07.25
The Reverend David Bradbury	Industrial Chaplain	15.10.24
The Reverend Dr Christy Capper	Deputy Warden, Academic Dean and Lecturer in Systemic Theology, WTC	23.01.26
The Reverend Ruth Chapman	Assistant Chaplain, St Mary's Anglican Girls' School	30.06.25
The Reverend Ros Fairless	Chaplain, Amana Living	11.07.25
The Reverend Donato Fimognari	Industrial Chaplain	31.12.24
The Reverend Gareth Gilbert-Hughes	Rector, Floreat Park	30.11.24
The Reverend Lorna Green	Chaplain, Amana Living	01.06.25
The Reverend Brett Guthrie	Chaplain, Esperance Anglican Community School	31.12.24
The Reverend Rob Healy	Priest-in-Charge, Lockridge-Eden Hill	31.07.25
The Reverend Steve Hilton	Precentor, St George's Cathedral	25.09.25
The Reverend Chris Hind	Priest-in-Charge, Lynwood-Langford-Ferndale	31.03.25
The Reverend Bruce Hyde	Area Dean, Wagyl Deanery	31.10.24
The Reverend Matt Malcolm	Priest-in-Charge, Leederville	10.03.25
The Reverend Steve Pivetta	Priest-in-Charge, Rockingham-Safety Bay	31.01.25
The Reverend Dr Elizabeth Smith AM	Senior Mission Priest, The Goldfields	29.07.25
The Reverend Debora Spencer	Area Dean, Marli Deanery	20.09.25
The Reverend Pamela Turner	Rector, Mt Pleasant	31.10.24
The Venerable Angela Webb	Archdeacon of Perth and Archbishop's Registrar	16.09.25

Ordinations

The Reverend Emily Bowser	Priest	30.11.24
The Reverend Dr William Leadbetter	Priest	30.11.24
The Reverend Jackson Lisok	Priest	30.11.24
The Reverend Meliata Thomason	Priest	30.11.24
The Reverend Chris Thomason	Priest	30.11.24
Ms Sylvia Grevel	Deacon	24.02.25
Mr Rhys Roberts-Brown	Deacon	24.02.25
Ms Cecilia Strutt	Deacon	24.02.25

Lay Appointments

Dr Meg Warner	Principal, Wollaston Theological College	11.24
Ms Sarah McGarry	Principal, Perth College	10.24
Mr Neil Walker	Warden, St George's College	13.01.25

Lay Resignations

Mr Ian Hardy	Warden, St George's College	31.12.24
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Congratulations

Mr Julian Burt AM	Australia Day Honours 2025	26.01.25
Ms Christabel Chamarette OAM	Australia Day Honours 2025	26.01.25
Mr Allan Tranter OAM	Australia Day Honours 2025	26.01.25

RIP Clergy and Clergy Spouses

The Reverend Pamela Halbert		04.11.24
The Reverend Dominic Spinosi		23.12.24
The Right Reverend Dr Keith Rayner	Former Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia	12.01.25
Mrs Eveline Cox	Widow of The Reverend Gordon Cox	19.01.25
The Reverend Peter Mold		22.02.25
Mr Ron Whitcombe	Husband of The Reverend Carol Whitcombe	12.03.25
The Reverend Frank Roe		11.05.25
Dr Maggie Exon	Wife of The Reverend Dr Andy Exon	14.05.25
Mrs Beth Buchanan	Widow of The Reverend Fred Buchanan	25.05.25
The Reverend Bob Booth		16.06.25
The Right Reverend Dr John Parkes		03.07.25
The Reverend Emily Bowser		22.07.25
The Reverend Sidney Middlemost		09.08.25
The Reverend Robert Greenhalgh		09.09.25
Mrs Margaret Blakeway	Widow of The Reverend Roger Blakeway	09.25

Deconsecrations

St George's, Safety Bay	Secularisation	08.12.24
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New Parishes, Dedications, Anniversaries, Building openings

St James' Anglican School	10th Anniversary	2025
Peter Moyes ACS	25th Anniversary	2025
AngliSchools	40th Anniversary	2025
Parish of Dianella	50th Anniversary of current building	29.06.25
Moline House, Amana Living	50th Anniversary	01.09.25
Moline Village, Amana Living	60th Anniversary	01.09.25
Parish of Victoria Park	90th Anniversary	29.06.25
Parish of Darlington-Bellevue	100th Anniversary of consecration	02.03.25
Parish of West Perth	125th Anniversary	01.10.24
Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)	175th Anniversary	2025
Parish of Lake Joondalup	New parish	18.02.25
St Monica's, Lake Joondalup	Dedication	15.03.25
Parish of Cockburn Central	Change of name from Lakelands	28.11.24
Parish of Toodyay	Change of name from Toodyay-Goomalling	18.02.25
Esperance Anglican Community School	Opening of Thistle Block	17.09.25
Peter Carnley ACS	Blessing of Stage 9 site	11.04.25