

# MESSENGER

A MAGAZINE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIANS | JULY 2020



By faith Abraham set out, not knowing where he was going

## **MESSENGER**

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#### **5 MARKS OF MISSION**

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- 1 To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- 2 To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- 3 To respond to human need by loving service
- 4 To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- 5 To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

#### **Cover image**

József Molnár (1821–1899) Abraham's Journey from Ur to Canaan c1850 - oil on canvas Hungarian National Gallery



### EDITOR'S NOTE



We have all been reflecting on what mission has meant and means for us in the COVID-19 environment and, after these past months of 'lockdown', Western Australians are now enjoying being allowed to get together in church and community once again with very few restrictions.

The July *Messenger* addresses mission from many different perspectives, and will be good reading as we are now seeking to be inside and away from the cold winter weather.

Bishop Kate as well as others write about mission in the COVID-19 lockdown time.

There are articles on the world-wide Black Lives Matter movement as well as a feature on Human Trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Our regular writers all have something for you to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest.

Keep warm, enjoy reading the July *Messenger*.

#### Mission 2020 prayer

Come, Holy Spirit!

Give us new confidence in your grace, new words for the mission we share, new strength to go where you send us, new spring in our step, as we set out to spread our faith in changing times, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **FEATURE**



The Rt Revd Kate Wilmot | Assistant Bishop of Perth

### SOCIAL ISOLATION - THE REAL THING

When the COVID crisis hit, many of us found ourselves in situations that were much more solitary, without the usual interactions with family members, friends or work colleagues.

This was an opportunity to learn a memorable lesson about what things are like for the truly 'socially isolated' – those people who are so cut off from social networks that their lives do not change much as restrictions on gatherings and human interactions ease.

Social media shows how carefully we shape and curate the image of ourselves we want the wider world to see. The friends who are not photogenic, the slightly disreputable relatives, are less likely to appear in newsfeeds than those people we want others to think are 'like us'.

As in social media, so in person, we are sometimes aspirational about our friends. We want to associate with people who help us feel that we are attractive, clever, successful, and fun.

We want to be around people who reflect in their own presentation the way we feel we are ourselves.

The authentically socially isolated are not likely to be any of these people - though they probably started life as just like them.

Like homelessness or poor mental health, real social isolation can be a matter of circumstance rather than deficient personality or bad decisions.

Research has established that relational breakdown or loss, disability, ill health, unemployment, and differences

in orientation or marital status or ethnicity can all contribute to people having smaller friendship groups or social connections.

When we think of our own friends and colleagues, when we think of ourselves – it's horrifying to imagine that these factors could lead to any of us [or any of them] becoming seriously cut off from family, friendship groups or basic human connections.

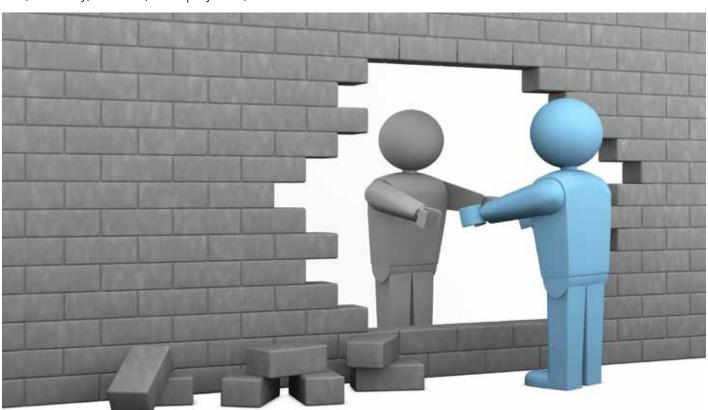
The community offered by the church can't be the whole answer to restoring an isolated person's sense of belonging.

For that, we need to reflect individually and theologically and to put that reflection into practise.

Jesus had an unparalleled ability to see the people that others ignored and [in a status-driven culture] to understand them as valuable in their own right.

When St Paul wrote in Galatians 3:28 'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus', he was pointing to the way the Good News dissolves the barriers between the people who are 'us' and the people who are 'them', between the disadvantaged and the advantaged, between the 'in group' and the 'out group'.

If we have gained 'new eyes' as a result of the lockdown, now might be the time to put that enhanced 'vision' into practise.



### FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

The Most Revd Kay Goldsworthy AO | Archbishop

### LIKE SARAH AND ABRAHAM

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore'.

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom he had been told, 'It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you'. He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Hebrews 11:8-11, 13-19

#### Dear Friends

This month mission is on our minds, and so I have turned to Abraham and Sarah for inspiration and the letter to the Hebrews to hear what God's word brings us, and offer you this reflection.

The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews and we his Christian readers are by no means alone in venerating Abraham, traditionally acknowledged as the father of monotheism, belief in one God rather than many. Indeed, we speak routinely of the Abrahamic religions, three distinct religions in terms of human history and tradition, each offering unique insights into the God of Abraham, yet all three sharing family remembrances and similarities. Judaism, Christianity, and Islam all claim to be revealed religions bearing this one God's self-disclosure, faith communities charged with keeping the flame alive and handing it on as time unfolds.

So the writer to the Hebrews finds in the story of Abraham clues for the Christian mission in the world in every age, not complete blueprints which can be lifted from ancient tradition intact and reproduced precisely in contemporary settings and different contexts, but clues, hints, pointers, directions.

 God calls Abraham to set out on a journey not knowing where he is going, promising only that he will father a great nation, and bless the families of the earth. So



differently, and yet not so differently, all these centuries later, the COVID-19 virus now presents us with unique and unprecedented opportunities and challenges as we attempt our own journey with God by placing us in the unsettling realm of the unknown, again with no reassuring destination in sight. Whatever shape our mission takes, and wherever it takes us, Christian mission is not for itself but for the blessing of others, blessing sisters and brothers of faith, as well as those claiming no faith. Authentic Christian mission is freely offered selfless service, available to anyone and everyone, without ulterior motives, with no strings attached.

- Like all of us, Abraham belongs to a particular tribe and nation, yet he is not wedded to his surroundings, his own town, his own people, his own race, but looks for the city which God is building. Like us, he is called to face the unknown future, strange new places and ways, people he has never before met. We, like him, are strangers among strangers, finding our way, looking for signposts, looking for the Lord who goes before us. Routines are comforting, but the God of surprises invites us beyond comfort zones and familiar landscapes, making us adventurers. The neighbourhood where we live and the church where we worship may be our base, but they can never exhaust the field of ministry and mission. God is out there ahead, and if we keep our eyes peeled, paying keen attention to individuals, listening deeply to people and cultures, the Christlike God meets us in most unlikely places. It is not for nothing that Jesus again and again and again tells his disciples, 'Do not be afraid'.
- Abraham and Sarah and their family go with God, heading
  for the promised land they never see, trusting that God's
  promises will be fulfilled, and so it is for us. We go with
  God and do what we can do, but when all is said and
  done, mission often means investing in things which only
  bear fruit in the hands of those who come after us.
- Abraham and Sarah are imperfect and faithful to God's promises, and both the letter to the Hebrews as well as that to the Romans remind us that through the ages faithful following and trusting in God's promises lie at the heart of mission.

Peace to you all + Kay

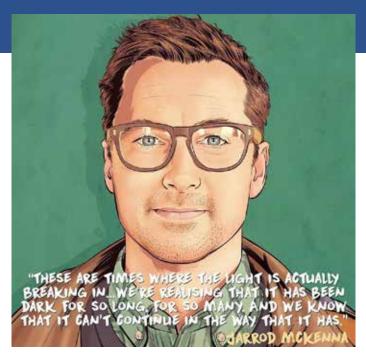
## MISSION 2020+

Jarrod McKenna | Diocesan Mission Advisor

Wil Anderson, host of ABC's popular *Gruen* TV show and one of Australia's most beloved comedians, recently had me back on his podcast for the third time to talk about my faith and this moment in history. I read him a kids' story. I'd like to now share it with you. The following story was written for my two month old baby after Kat's 90 year old Oma met our boy, her great grandson, Noah-Otis McKenna. While she held him for the first time, she commented that the footage of Trump setting militarised police on protestors reminded her of when the Nazis invaded Holland as a child.

ITTLE OMA'S DUTY

In this #BlackLivesMatter moment when God is exulting valleys and making low mountains, when statues of murder and injustice in our streets and hearts are being torn down, we must remember our baptism. We must remember what it is to be called out of all empires, ancient and modern, to be God's people. We must remember we were not called to be chaplains to the way things are, but heralds of God's will being done on earth. Our mission is to desire above all things God's reign of healing-justice, restoring-peace and liberating joy in the Holy Spirit. It is time for those who have been first to put themselves last and those made last to take their rightful place at first. We must remember and tell the stories - not of those who steal, kill and destroy - but the



saints who dare to love in public in ways that make those well-adjusted to injustice hear the call to repentance. Let us stop saying, 'these are dark times'. That's a misdiagnosis. It has been dark, for so many, for so long. These are times when the light is breaking in. It's time for God's people to let their light shine.

So here for my baby, and now for you, is a story of shining in the dark.

#### Little Oma's Duty

Once upon a time, your great-Oma was a little girl. A little Oma.

Little Oma loved many things. Sunshine on her cheeks and birds in the air. Running in the fields with her big brothers. Laughing with her friends.

But it wasn't all fun and games.

Little Oma had duties.

Little Oma would sweep the floors.

Little Oma would pick turnips.

Little Oma would help pack away the plates.

But little Oma had one very special duty.

Everyday, Little Oma had to do a most important chore. Little Oma, only 10 years old, had to lay out the mat and place all the shoes upon it.

This was a very special job. Because under the shoes... Under the mat... Under the floorboards...

Little Oma had special friends.

These friends were not kabouter, nor elves, nor fairies. Nor were they scary like monsters or dragons.

They were wonderful children, just like you.

The only difference was they were Jewish. Just like your old grandpop on my side of the family.

But this story does have a monster. More scary than a dragon. This monster adults call by a strange name, FASCISM.

And friends of Fascism wanted to kill Little Oma's friends. Because they had a different religion. And they spoke a different way. And often looked a bit different.

So Little Oma would sweep the floors, so the fascists couldn't see her friend's footsteps.

Little Oma - just ten years oldwould risk being shot by picking turnips at night so the fascists wouldn't know her parents were feeding her friends.

Little Oma would help put away the dishes so if the fascists raided the house there would be no sign of her friends.

And little Oma would do her most important duty, she would love her neighbours by hiding them

Under the shoes... Under the mat... Under the floorboards...

So the fascists wouldn't win.
If you were to ask your Oma about this she would laugh at talk of being heroic, or selfless or brave.

She would tell you, 'I was just doing my duty'.

And that's why your Oma has a soft spot for Antifa. Because our family proudly is anti-fascist. So we will also do our duty, and love our neighbours too.



The Revd Gillian Rookyard | Rector, Parish of Kingsley North-Woodvale

# KINGSLEY AND COVID – A LITTLE GLIMPSE INTO LIFE AT ST ANSELM'S DURING THE WEEKS OF CHURCH CLOSURE

It's Sunday morning. He dresses in his Sunday best and, using his long white cane, steadily makes his way next door to his neighbours. They sit down in front of the computer to participate in our streamed worship.

These are unprecedented times, but even at 98 years of age, our brother in Christ is a vibrant and authentic example of faithful Christian discipleship. Not even a pandemic will keep him from gathering for worship with his brothers and sisters in Christ.

Anticipating that church closures were imminent, we had planned for Sunday 22 March to be a kind of dress rehearsal for using Facebook live, but as it turned out became the first of 11 weeks of livestreaming to our congregation, and unexpectedly – even beyond!

As I walked into church on that morning I said to my colleague - 'today can only go better than it did in my dreams!' All night I had tossed and turned, dreaming about every possible technical mishap and disaster. With just an iPhone perched on a flower stand, it did go better than all of that! While it wasn't 'perfect' (whatever that is) we were thrilled to receive affirming support and encouragement for our efforts, and were satisfied that we had honoured our commitment to continue offering an opportunity for our people to gather, albeit virtually, for worship. In the weeks that followed we refined our setup, tweaked our sound, and got better at framing the liturgy for the online environment. Thanks to a technology grant from the Diocese, we purchased new equipment which enabled us to not only enhance our online offering during this time, but also continue livestreaming into the

But Sunday mornings were only one part of a much bigger picture.

The fundamental questions remained – What does it mean to be a parish when our people can't meet? What

does it mean to be the Body of Christ when the people of God can't gather? What does it mean to be a place of hope and welcome to the wider community when the sign at the front of the church says – CLOSED?

As we grappled deeply with these questions, our people stood up. And as they did, they showed us just what it means to be all these things: They started praying the Offices with one another online, they formed phone networks, they gathered in groups on Zoom for morning tea and to participate in study groups, they arranged a contactless drive-by to deliver their mission giving donations for emergency relief, they distributed weekly material for families to work through with their children, and they shared themselves with one another by opening their hearts, homes, skills and stories in remarkable, beautiful, and humbling ways.

Many have expressed that they have felt more spiritually fed during this time than they have in a long time. Others are grateful for the rest. Some have found it extremely difficult, and everyone is just so grateful to be back!

In our preparations for re-gathering, we have been intentional about incorporating that which we have learned during this time into new ways of being the Body of Christ in our little patch. We have seen in the imposed restrictions an opportunity for growth and for exploring new ways of gathering and have given ourselves permission to be open to new possibilities. And we look forward to where God will lead us.

The Revd Max Pengelley, at 98 years old, continues to inspire us all! It is a blessing and privilege to worship and serve beside him, and to share so deeply in his journey of faithful discipleship. God bless him.





### MISSION - PARISH OF WILLETTON

N Th

The Revd Nicholas Lockwood | Priest-in-Charge, Parish of Willetton

# FAMILY ARE GOD'S GIFT TO YOU, AS YOU ARE TO THEM – DESMOND TUTU

One of the challenges of being a family in the developed world in the 21st century is busyness, and anyone who leads a church knows that we often find ourselves providing programs and services for families. For our small parish in the suburb of Willetton, with a predominately older congregation, it was a real joy to see the younger families step up and contribute significantly when we were forced online by the COVID-19 pandemic. At a time when there was a real risk of isolation and loneliness, it was such a gift to be able to anchor ourselves in worship together Sunday by Sunday, and respond to the love of God in loving one another.

The first week of lockdown was a whirlwind of getting prepared to go online, including video tutorials and phone calls to help older members get connected and confident in using online platforms. In order to build congregational connection, I would visit different homes each week to video the bible readings and prayers. In the first instance, it meant that people in the congregation were able to see their church family online over the weeks of social distancing. But the families really came into their own in leading us in the Psalms. Our tradition of praying them responsorially meant that family members could contribute multiple voices, so that those on the other side of the screen felt invited to actively join in too. Moreover, we could video families sitting together on the sofa, creating the sense that we were all in this together. We saw sisters, brothers and kids from our church family sitting opposite us on their sofa (albeit through a screen!), leading us in worship while we sat on ours.

As the weeks went on, young adults stepped up to offer their time and technological skills to make our Sunday worship *Online at Nine* an amazing experience of community and worship for our people. The live chat function on the pre-recorded service meant that we could still 'talk' to one another, and we even had morning tea over Zoom after the service (BYO cuppa, of course!). All this was intended to keep our own community connected, and a huge 96% of our congregation made the move to worship online. The

pleasantly surprising consequence of moving online was that our worship was now accessible to a number of others too. Family members who rarely join us on a Sunday morning were now joining their family *Online at Nine*. People connected to our community outreaches took the opportunity to quietly and comfortably explore Christian worship, without the discomfort of entering a building and facing strangers. Parishioners invited family and friends - both locally and abroad - to join them *Online at Nine*; it proved to be a real gift for those whose churches were unable to go online. And significantly for us, one of our people who had recently moved into aged care was able to rejoin her church family for worship.

For my family, including the two dogs, it proved to be not only a real honour to lead God's people in worship during this season online, but a lot of fun too. Because we all work and study, Monday evenings were the only time we were all available to pre-record our part in leading the church service; however, evenings are also playtime for our dogs! We oscillated between frustration and laughter as the dogs would sneak onto the sofa for pats and scratches while we were trying to do the video recordings. Eventually, they just become a part of church online, and so we made sure we sang the good old hymn 'All Creatures of our God and King' on a regular basis.

Many fellow pastors will have shared my anxieties around pastoral care. Much of our pastoral care usually stems from the face-to-face encounters we have with other on a Sunday morning. To mitigate this loss we divided the congregation up over the days of the week, and purposed to pray for each other daily. For many, this led to a deeper connection with new or other people in the parish; and one young family even took it upon themselves to write and post letters to all on the parish list who lived alone. Whilst many are still struggling with the impact of the pandemic, thankfully, for us at Willetton now that we're able to worship together again physically, the biggest struggle is no longer being able to roll out of bed for *Online at Nine* in our PJs and with a coffee in hand.



### MISSION



Lloyd D'Souza | Formation Student in the Diocese of Perth

### MISSION IN A COVID-19 WORLD

puring the last couple of months, the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging to many if not all of us. It has, however, been particularly challenging to the most vulnerable people of our community, namely the elderly and those without any welfare support. I know this first-hand since I work in an aged care facility.

During this testing time, I pondered deeply on the words 'essential workers' - on every aspect of the term. While I was not providing the more sophisticated services of healthcare workers, I know for a fact that food is an equally essential part of health care for the residents at RAAFA Bull Creek, where I work as the Chef Manager, catering wholesome meals to 160 residents in the two aged care facilities as well as those residents living in the 390 independent units and apartments.

When the government announced the closure of all hospitality venues, it became necessary to close Café Dean indefinitely to the residents on the Estate and to our regular patrons. This was coupled with the compulsory lockdown of all aged care facilities across Australia, further increasing my dilemma about what to do. I was stuck in a situation that I didn't know how to handle. There were residents who relied heavily on

Café Dean for their meals and had no alternative. And then there was casual staff whose employment was to be terminated, most of them international students not entitled to financial help from Centrelink. After much negotiating with the management, I was able to retain the casual staff by offering them a bare minimum of 10-15 hours of work every week and for the residents continued meal delivery by providing a takeaway service before lunchtime, five days a week.

My faith has sustained me during this time, by my practising the presence of God through prayer and silence, by my gathering inspiration from reading the stories of Saints and the resilience they had shown in their times of trial and by my extending that presence of God to the residents within the aged care facility, every time I was called on to offer pastoral care to those who were sick and dying. Lockdown made it difficult to have family members and visitors, but there was no locking down God's love for the residents. I may not be classified as an essential worker, but it has become essential for me to put my faith into action and live out my baptismal calling.



# FEATURE



Anne Annear OAM | Member of the Aboriginal Ministry Working Group

### WHY BLACK LIVES MATTER

As we have watched the rallies over recent weeks, perhaps our question should be: Do they matter to me? This demands an inward and maybe painful journey. Do we dare to face our ignorance or inherent racism? There has never been a more pressing time to take this step as the call comes out for change to the appalling over-incarceration and deaths in custody of Aboriginal people.

As Christians, we need to know that this is not a time for guilt; we cannot change the past, but we must learn the truths of our history since colonisation and take a hard look at how we benefit from their disadvantage.

Listening to the Aboriginal voice is not comfortable but that is the first step to listening with the heart. My first and epiphanal experience of this came in 1983, when I had been invited to an Anglican meeting with the spokesperson from the Swan Valley Fringedwellers. As I listened to the enormous suffering of dispossession, racism and exclusion these families endured daily, a fire seemed to sweep through me and I knew that God was calling me into relationship with them – my life would be changed.

The first step of that journey took me out to the camps to be with the women and children – an enormous learning curve. Sometimes Edna Bropho would ask me to take her shopping. Away from people, she would talk about being taken from her mother, who loved her, and placed in New Norcia; about how her and Robert's three sons, whom they loved, had been taken from them in Court. Her question was: Why? I had no answer, being ignorant of A O Neville and the 1905 Aborigines Act.

Since then I have listened to so many stories: in prisons, as an advocate for housing issues, hospitals, in parks, joining rallies for Land Rights and protests against black deaths in custody, supporting grieving families at the coronial inquests, funerals and so much more.

It meant speaking at Synod and to parishes about these stories of pain and suffering to bring about recognition. Today, the Aboriginal Ministry Working Group provides Yarning Times around the Diocese where parishioners can meet with and have conversations with Noongar Elders.

Of course black lives matter, truth telling and justice matter. There is no colour preference in the Creation story.

In all these years I have met wonderful First Nations people and continue to learn from their stories of struggle against disadvantage. The Statement from the Heart calls for a Makaratta: 'The coming together after a struggle . . . we invite you to walk with us in a movement of Australian people for a better [equal] future.'

How can we refuse to listen to their voice and walk with them?

#### **BLACK LIVES MATTER**

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.

The Revd Dr Martin Luther King

The recent 'Black Lives Matter' movement is part of an historical and ongoing movement seeking justice for people of colour and, in Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

The Social Responsibilities Commission (SRC) and the Aboriginal Ministry Working Group have, for many years, been working in this sphere. Some of the SRC's past statements and work have been collated at: http://www.socialjustice.perth.anglican.org/first-peoples.html

The SRC also makes the following statement, which can be downloaded to print here: https://bit.ly/SRCBLM2020

#### STATEMENT FROM THE SRC

All people, regardless of colour or race are made in the image of God and loved equally by God. God therefore calls us, as individuals and as a society, to treat all people equally.

First Nations people in Australia continue to suffer from the impact of over 200 years of colonialism and systemic racism. This suffering is identified in the failings enumerated in the 'Closing the Gap' reports and affects all aspects of life from health outcomes and imprisonment rates to access to spiritual homelands.

The 'Black Lives Matter' movement is a call for justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and all people of colour across the world. In response, the Social Responsibilities Commission:

- Affirms that black lives matter
- Recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sovereignty has never been ceded
- Calls for independent reviews of all Aboriginal deaths in custody
- Acknowledges that our silence and inaction support systemic racism

### **FEATURE**



Franca Pellegrini, Director of Global Freedom Network

# THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF FAITH IN ENDING MODERN SLAVERY

In these complicated times, the importance of faith as a moral compass has been magnified; not diminished. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, plans to be in Ghana, Africa, to celebrate the Global Freedom Networks' African signing of the Joint Declaration of Religious Leaders Against Modern Slavery have been postponed, and are now likely to be rescheduled for December 2021.

Global Freedom Network is a project of Walk Free made possible by the Minderoo Foundation, a philanthropy organisation founded by Andrew and Nicola Forrest. Walk Free is an international human rights group focussed on the eradication of modern slavery. We work from a multitude of angles to create a strategic response to address the problem, both on the ground where it occurs and through the systems which allow it to continue. Including global business, government, religious leadership, front line partnerships and measurement.

In 2014, Walk Free team launched Global Freedom Network to unite religious leaders of all faiths against modern slavery. Global Freedom Network's inaugural declaration ceremony was held at the Vatican, with Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim faiths coming together to say, 'in no corner of any faith could slavery be justified'.

A main component of my role as Director of Global Freedom Network is to provide support and education for senior and emerging faith leaders, women religious and their communities, together with faith-based youth. Education is based around understanding the

complexities of modern slavery, its impacts, and being able to equip those with the knowledge and tools to assist in their most influential ways. Whether this be through signings, awareness workshops or speaking to kids of faith, these are all important methods used to combat the problem.

Faiths' role in ending modern slavery is incredibly important, particularly in countries of deep faith and high prevalence of the problem. Africa is such an important part of the world for us to work in. One of the most powerful quotes I refer to by Andrew Forrest is: 'Politicians can enact laws banning certain practices, but only faith leaders can change the deep-seated values which influence people's behaviours'. I always retain this quote in my mind when on the ground talking to faith communities. It reminds me of the unique position they have to guide and influence action and why it's important that they are aware of the problem.

Unfortunately, slavery is also alive and present in more prosperous countries such as our own. Injustices are evident in Australia, from the exploitation of vulnerable workers in the agricultural and construction sectors through to forced marriage. As we mark World Day Against Trafficking Persons on 30 July, I ask the Anglican community to realise the impact you can have by speaking about this human rights issue in church and with your communities and to recognise the incredible role you can play to help make a true difference.

To read more about Global Freedom Network visit: https://www.minderoo.org/global-freedom-network/



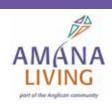
Archbishop George Takeli of the Anglican Church of Melanesia signing the Joint Declaration of Religious Leaders Against Modern Slavery in 2018

### AMANA LIVING



Stephanie Buckland | Chief Executive Officer, Amana Living

# KEEPING OLDER PEOPLE CONNECTED DURING COVID-19



The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges. One of the biggest has been the loss of vital contact with family and friends through the need to socially distance or isolate.

The closure of borders and regional travel restrictions have meant families have gone months without being able to see each other in person. These restrictions have been especially hard for older people, as Government advice has also meant they've stayed at home for longer or been unable to receive visitors within residential care.

We've been mindful about the impact this lack of contact can have on the mental health and wellbeing of our residents. Our team moved quickly to source technology that could be used for video and phone calls across all of our residential care centres.

It's been a huge effort. We deployed more than 100 devices across Amana Living, trained occupational therapy assistants (OTA) on how to set up the device, and contacted families to offer them the opportunity to take part in the program we called Keep Connected.

Since starting the program, we've organised more than 1,300 calls. One OTA from Wearne House in Mandurah has connected 41 out of 47 residents with families and friends, setting up over 236 calls totalling 5,427 minutes!

But the Keep Connected program is more than just calls and minutes. The stories of family connection have been heart-warming, and the program has truly made a difference.

Ryan Fomiatti lives in London and his grandmother, Lorna, resides at St George's Care Centre in Bayswater. Ryan told us: 'Using Skype to connect with my nanna has been a great experience. Living overseas it has been difficult at times to be able to feel connected, yet using Skype has meant that I am able to engage, say I love you and provide small updates about how my life is. It has allowed the simple pleasure of being able to make my nanna smile and hear her laugh'.

The program has enabled residents to witness their great grandchildren open their birthday presents. It's seen residents sit at the virtual head of the table to enjoy a family dinner. There's been special appearances from much-loved family pets, and joint calls between daughters, sons, aunts, uncles and more. It's even allowed one daughter see her mum walk for the first time in seven months.

This program has brought people together, it's given our staff an even deeper relationship with residents and their families, and it has proven that human connection will always triumph in times of adversity.





### To help we've created this simple guide

#### Step 1. Visit your GP to ask for an ACAT referral

Or call us and we can request the referral for you. (ACAT - Aged Care Assessment Team)

#### Step 2. Have your ACAT assessment at home

You will be contacted by the ACAT to arrange to visit you and work out the amount of help you may need.

#### Step 3. Complete an Income Assessment with DHS

Call us on 1300 26 26 26 and we will mail the form to you.

#### Step 4. Wait for three letters

- 1. ACAT letter approving your care level.
- 2. DHS letter with your income assessment.
- 3. Home Care Package Assignment letter this may take 6 to 12 months.

#### Step 5. Got all the letters? Get moving!

You have 56 days to organise your services.

#### **Step 6.** Compare service providers

With your letters in hand - call your preferred providers to compare services and costs, and hopefully we're one of them.

#### Step 7. Select a service provider and sign up

Your services can start immediately.

If you find yourself stuck, call the team at Amana Living. Leonie and Andrea have helped hundreds of people get their entitlements.

#### It's an obligation-free service.

Call us anytime during office hours.

Amana Living is the aged care agency for the Anglican Diocese of Perth, and has been providing quality care in WA for over 50 years.

1300 26 26 26

amanaliving.com.au



### CATHEDRAL



The Revd Rae Reinertsen | Cathedral Pastor

### **HOW WE DID MISSION THROUGH COVID 19**

**D**uring the COVID-19 pandemic the impact of mission on Cathedral life certainly took a different approach and adaptation.

This took me into a space where I needed to reevaluate what part I would take for 'mission' to continue in the Cathedral during this time of lockdown. The importance was for people to stay connected, to continue to hear the Gospel, be comforted in their anxious and fearful moments, reassured that God was with them always, and that when we arrived on the other side of COVID-19, we would all still be there and connected.

At the beginning of lockdown, I asked the question, 'how do we keep everyone connected to the people throughout COVID-19, and still engage in the mission of the church?'. Through using technology available, it opened other opportunities to keep the various groups connected. It brought new adjustments and challenges for everyone. Now, zooming family connect service, on a weekly basis has become the norm. Zooming a weekly fellowship group and Bible study, too, bought deeper connection for those in the groups.

I asked a couple of the families to write how they experienced mission/church, through the COVID-19 time? Their replies are very encouraging:

In respect to technology it was amazing. In many ways, it was far more convenient for our families. Watching the Sunday services at home, in a relaxed environment where the kids felt comfortable and could talk through the service and ask questions in a way we don't usually experience, even the dog joined in watching TV! Connecting on zoom weekly, with Families connect, has been a fabulous way for the kids to interact with others in the group, which seemed to deepen their relationships with others, more than they do, when seeing each other weekly at church. The children naturally asked, where God was in saving people from this pandemic and why the virus is hurting people? Through the Eastertide, we could compare the readings of the events of stories, like 10 plagues in Egypt, Noah's Ark, etc. These demonstrated for us God's love for his people during tragedy.

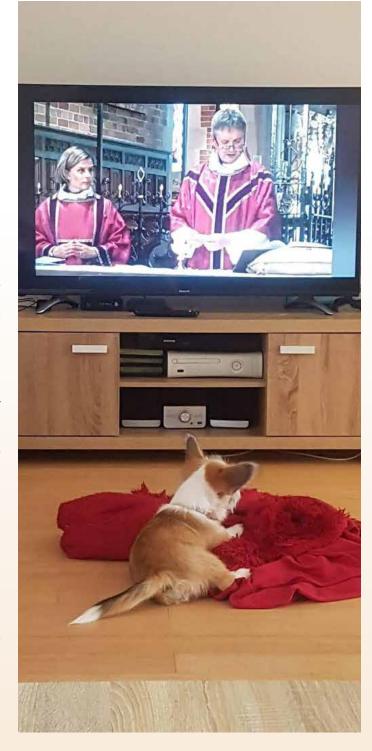
We didn't feel isolated from church and although these were hard times for us, we felt safe, supported, and protected with our faith in God, is stronger than ever. We learned and valued staying connected and knew God is with us always.

A summary comment from one of the zoom Bible Study people, that as we surface out of the lockdown, that the Gospel reading, Matthew 9:35-10:8, for this

week, continues to reassure us that, 'Jesus promises to be by our side as we forge ahead with confidence and faith.

This is a profound message, encouraging us, to look beyond just mere words, and have faith and trust in Jesus'.

Thanks to the contributors from Families Connect and Bible study groups, especially, Amanda Mc and Geoff M



### ANGLICAN SCHOOLS COMMISSION



The Revd Peter Laurence OAM | Chief Executive Officer, Anglican Schools Commission

### LEARNINGS FOR THE NEW NORMAL

ne of the joys of the past month has been to visit most of our WA schools. While May was the month of students returning to on-campus learning, June marked the COVID-19 Phase 3 easing of restrictions. This meant everything from larger gatherings of students for learning and pastoral activities through to a resumption of sports training and matches. Worship too could move from the classroom back to the Chapel, even if not yet with full numbers.

As I have journeyed from Alkimos to Busselton, from the Swan Valley to Esperance, I have been meeting with School Executives and teachers and asking the same questions... what have we learned from the COVID-19 'at home' phase that we will carry through as permanent changes for good; and what will we do differently in our schools in the future as we embrace the new normal?

In one sense, WA schools were not in the learning from home phase long enough for real and lasting change to be effected simply through inertia. Two to three weeks at the end of Term One, then only a matter of days into Term Two and schools had most of their students back on campus. While a crisis inevitably leads to real and lasting change in some way, has the WA experience of COVID-19 to date been long enough to achieve a revolution in school teaching, learning, strategy and operations?

The answer for me came through the many discussions in our schools with those who have led (and will continue to lead) the change. In itself, the few weeks won't embed permanent change, but schools are being both reflective and intentional in their approach to what learnings come from these past months that should form part of 'the new way we do things around here'.

The biggest change is how technology is being used in teaching and learning. When schools went off-campus and online, change was forced on every teacher and student. They came up trumps. What a truly remarkable reshaping of teaching and learning occurred across our schools, with creative and purposeful engagement through technology. Schools are determined to ensure that, albeit now with students back on campuses, they will embrace the good learnings of technology application in education.

Schools were doing extraordinary things in applying technology to learning before COVID-19. We can expect the benefits learned over the past months to bring about greater flexibility and purpose, and most importantly the empowering of students to take greater control of and responsibility for their learning. In many ways, the greatest outcome already has been the creation of far more independent learners.

Flexibility and adaptability have been the words of the times for everyone. Schools have talked with me about everything from the option of parent-teacher interviews in future being conducted by Zoom (why do parents and carers need to come on campus for meetings?) to ensuring a less crowded curriculum (and therefore less crowded day) for students. They don't need to be doing co-curricular or extra-curricular activities after school EVERY day of the week and sport twice on the weekend!

Conversations around the learnings arising from COVID-19 will continue for years to come. Anglican schools are leading the way in this space.



### ANGLICARE WA





Mark Glasson | Chief Executive Officer, Anglicare WA

# WE NEED TO PREPARE FOR THE SECOND WAVE. IT WILL BE SOCIAL, NOT HEALTH RELATED

ver the last three months each of us has had to adapt to new ways of working, communicating and going about our daily lives. For each of us, it has brought a range of challenges – in our families, our communities and our own lives. The images of the Centrelink queues that splashed across our screens will live with me for a long time; sadly, their impact will also be with us for a long time. We need to prepare.

At Anglicare WA we are searching for ways to deal with the social fallout of the public health crisis. The leap in the unemployed population has been tempered by temporary initiatives like JobKeeper and the Coronavirus supplement which effectively doubled Newstart. These initiatives have staved off the worst impacts. If they are withdrawn, as is currently planned, we will be witness to a swelling in the ranks of the poor unseen before in our living memory.

It is often reported that the health crisis will be followed by an economic crisis. In the world of social service, we see it differently. It will be a social crisis. We believe that the economy should exist for the wellbeing of all people and any attempt to fix the economy must not do more harm. In our rush back to surplus budgets we cannot let the wellbeing of our most disadvantaged be the price we pay.

As a community we are at a point of great importance. The Coronavirus supplement which has doubled Newstart has effectively lifted everyone that receives it above the poverty line. Surely this is something we must hang on to. It has also brought a whole new range of housing options into play for those who until now have had few. Before this crisis, the idea of ridding poverty from our community was just too big and too difficult to comprehend. This crisis has shown us that it can be done.

At Anglicare WA we recognise that as the human family we can and must work together to create a

society where the vulnerable are supported and well resourced. Where we acknowledge that difficulty can come to all of us and so we must create safety nets and opportunities for anyone who finds themselves in a hard place.

The communities of Western Australia have done a marvellous job of containing the spread of COVID-19. We must now turn our mind to containing the impact on the wellbeing of our neighbours.

We will not go back to normal. Normal never was. Our pre-corona existence was not normal other than we normalised greed, inequity, exhaustion, depletion, extraction, disconnection, confusion, rage, hoarding, hate and lack. We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to stitch a new garment. One that fits all of humanity and nature.

Sonya Renee Taylor

I am so pleased to share a special message from both the Archbishop and Mark Glasson for the Messenger audience.

Click the play video button to start the video







### **Invitation: Planning For Your Future**

We warmly invite you to a free information session. Learn more about:

- Financial planning for your future
- Writing your Will

- Providing security for your loved ones
- Structuring a gift in your Will to a charity

Join us on 17 July 2020 at 10:00am at St Matthew's Church, 114 Onslow Road, Shenton Park Register today at anglicarewa.org.au/events

For more information, contact Romm Niblett

Phone: 9263 2076 | Email: Romm.Niblett@anglicarewa.org.au

Anglicarewa



Peregrin Campbell-Osgood | Project Officer, Advocacy Commissions

### PLASTIC FREE JULY

A cross the world, millions of people each July take a pledge to reduce their use of consumer plastic. This is an ideal opportunity for your parish, school or agency to take the pledge together as an act of Christian witness.

It's a common misconception that plastic takes a long time to decompose. When organic material is sent to landfill, bacteria get to work and begin the process of biodegradation, transforming waste into useful compounds which in turn serve to enrich the soil. Those bacteria don't have the same appetite when it comes to plastic, and so that process of returning nutrients to the earth doesn't happen.

What does happen, is that plastics break down. They become brittle and fragment with age, particularly thanks to a process called photodegradation. This kind of decomposition requires sunlight, not bacteria. And this kind of decomposition does not mean a release of trapped nutrients back into the earth, but instead leads to smaller and smaller pieces of plastic. Plastic buried in landfill rarely sees the light of day; but at sea, where a lot of discarded shopping bags, soft drink bottles and six-pack rings end up, plastic is bathed in as much light as water. Plastic in warm ocean water can degrade in as little as a year, which sounds like a marvellous thing until we realise that these 'microplastics' (remember, plastic just breaks down into smaller and smaller bits of the same material) end up in the guts of animals or wash up on shorelines, where humans are most likely to come into direct contact with the toxins.

#### Every single piece of plastic ever made still exists.

Plastic, as its name indicates, can be molded and manipulated by human will and creativity into limitless forms. Our personal creative powers are gifts from the Triune God, who is an eternally relational community of Three Persons, each giving one to the other. This image of a self-giving community is what we, as human people and human societies, are called to be.

Our plastic use however is generally individualistic and opportunistic, even before we consider the damage done to Creation. Plastic production and consumption often hinders and harms the communion and interpersonal connectedness God created us for, as those who bear God's image. Disposable bags, replacement heart valves, novelty plastic toys and hearing aids are all products of human creativity. For all of these forms, plastic is the vehicle but our creativity and our will is the cause. This creativity is a gift from God. We may choose to use it for service, as in the examples of heart valves and hearing aids, or to satisfy our individual human wills and desires. This malleability of plastic to our will means it can become a temptation to express our will over that of God's, satisfying our desires over God's

Plastic misuse and disposal then is not simply an environmental or economic problem. It is a spiritual and theological one: it speaks of the way we understand the God we claim to



worship. From a Christian view, it stems from not applying our tradition, which views the world and our lives Eucharistically, into all realms of human endeavour. A Eucharistic view of life is one where we engage in thanksgiving to God and Creation, allowing our thankfulness to inform our decisions and actions that impact upon Creation.

Self-focused, individualised use of the gifts of Creation, such as plastic, is contrary to the personhood God calls each of us to inhabit. We are called to be in communion with Creation and in communion with all people, full of the spiritual knowledge that our actions and non-actions affect everyone in Creation and Creation itself. By engaging more deeply in our Christian faith, with the knowledge of whom God calls us to be – a relational person with creatures and Creation – we are moved to change our actions which harm that relationship.

By viewing and engaging the world through a eucharistic lens, we begin to discern those actions and non-actions we participate in which are not eucharistic, which do not offer thanksgiving to God, and which attempt to keep benefit within the human realm and limited to individuals or individual groups. This may inform our choice to refuse or limit purchasing single-use plastic.

To help us reduce our plastic use, EcoCare has produced its annual 'Plastic Free July' e-resource to download: https://bit.ly/ECPFJ2020

Here you will find more information, patterns to make shopping bags, prayers, a hymn by The Revd Dr Elizabeth Smith AM and a theological reflection on plastic use. Let us know how you are reducing plastic use by joining us on our Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/perthecocare/



The Revd Ross Jones | Chaplain | St Bart's

### St Bart's

### LIVING THE MISSION

Vision: A world where everyone has a home.

**Mission:** Together, empower everyone to choose today the future they want for tomorrow.

It is wonderful to celebrate 'mission accomplished' for the consumers here at St Bart's, just like the young man who recently made the transition from our service to long term, stable accommodation. Today, he is excited to use his trainee tickets to work on mine sites that will see him carrying out maintenance on equipment. Not only is he in a place he can call home, he is now employed in a worthwhile job and contributing as a valuable member of society.

We were so pleased to celebrate another 'mission accomplished' recently with Carissa's story of hope. Carissa (pictured here) lost her way as a 14-year-old before working her way into employment, only to be derailed through a mentally and physically abusive relationship that lead to drug use. Eventually, Carissa's four children were removed for their own safety by the Department of Child Protection. From this low point, Carissa went into drug rehabilitation before entering St Bart's Family Service.

Two-and-a-half years later, Carissa feels empowered,

strong, independent and confident. She has moved into a private rental with her two-year-old son and is seeking to be reunited with her four-year-old daughter, while her father has custody of her two eldest sons.

Here at St Bart's, we hear many stories just like this young man's and Carissa's every day. It is our aim to assist as many people as we can by creating opportunities for a better tomorrow . . . but we need your help.

A donation today will help us provide safe accommodation and support for the vulnerable people in our communities in most need. You can help us support these people to stand on their own, to look back on their past with understanding, and move towards a future with excitement and hope.

A contribution of \$14 will help us provide meals for one person for the day; \$25 allows us to cover monthly utilities for one person for a week; and \$337 enables us to pay for a staff member for the day. Any donation over \$2 is tax deductible.

For more information on St Bart's services, please visit **stbarts.org.au** or get in touch with us by calling **9323 5100**.



18



oey and Dallas are fluent speakers of the Ngaanyatjarra language of the country far to the north and east of Kalgoorlie, round Warburton. Now they live at Edward Collick Home, our Amana Living aged care facility in Kalgoorlie.

Dallas needs dialysis three times a week at Kalgoorlie Hospital. At least it's closer to home than Perth was, before the new dialysis centre was built in the Goldfields. Her heart is a thousand kilometres away near the state border. Joey has care needs due to injury. His heart is in the country around Laverton. Disability and dialysis mean they can't go home for funerals, to see grandchildren, or for the spiritual refreshment of simply being on country.

Joey was taken to a mission as a child, and worked as a stockman on stations around Laverton. He was a fine horseman, and an ace at mustering cattle on a motorbike. He worries about his children and grandchildren. He longs to be protecting and guiding them, but he rarely sees them.

Dallas is a Bible translator, and an artist whose designs made it on to posters and even vehicles in Alice Springs – 'when my eyes were good', she says. She still loves to paint. She uses the traditional colours of ochre, and sings softly to herself as she makes her art. She knows the stories of the land, the songs that are mind-maps for walking or driving across country and remembering where she is, and who she is. I tune my ear to her soft speech, and sometimes she tells me the stories that go

with the paintings.

Life has not been gentle to Dallas and Joey. Joey was never paid proper wages for his work on the stations. He bears the physical scars of grog-fractured community, and emotional wounds that persist after traditional family systems have been chewed up by government bureaucracy and by missionary policy that tried to overwrite an ancient culture with religious paternalism. Dallas says, 'We're all right here, but we do get homesick'.

I sit with their sadness, even as I recognise their astonishing endurance and courage. I listen intently when they speak Language together, or talk to the old, old lady who sleeps almost all day, but sometimes responds to their soft voices in the language of her desert childhood. God weeps, and so do I, for everything that has been taken away from them and from their people. Dignity, agency, family, land – they didn't 'lose' it. It was actively, intentionally taken, with pastoralists, miners and pubkeepers profiting hugely. With miners, pub-keepers and missionaries among my ancestors, I have some atoning to do.

Sometimes Dallas or Joey will sing me a favourite hymn. I find it on my phone. We listen, they sing, then I type up the words for singing at chapel services. 'I need thee every hour.' 'Does Jesus care?' These, too, are among the many spiritual treasures that Joey and Dallas share with me. I am humbled by their generosity, and awestruck by their resilience.

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Mark Davis | Team Leader ACYM

### INNOVATION IN MINISTRY

At the end of last month's article, I shared with you how ACYMC was planning some new events for the second half of 2020. Within this article, I wanted to tell you about a few events that are happening in July.

You have noticed from our Facebook or Newsletter that ACYMC launched a Children's network. The purpose of this network is to provide space for all those who work and care for our primary school-aged children to share ideas and encourage each other.

So far we have had two of these gatherings with the second one having happened as recently as last night (24 May). At the second event, we talked about intergenerational ministry and how it could be an approach some parishes might adopt now restrictions are lifting.

Although the next Children's ministry network won't happen until September, we are excited to say that July will see the launch of our Anglican Youth Ministry Network (AYMN) on **15 July at 7.30pm** via Zoom.

Like the children's ministry network, this will be a time for all those people who care for our secondary school-aged young people to come together to share ideas, encourage each

come together to share ideas, encourage each other and hopefully learn new things.

At the event, we will take some time to explore 'Innovation in Ministry'. This is something that youth ministry naturally does as we look to adapt to today's youth culture. To help us to explore this idea, we will be joined by Jonny Baker from CMS (UK) who, when he is not travelling around the world to speak at events, spends his time teaching and writing on how the church can reimagine and innovate itself.

Another event I wanted to tell you about was our next Webcast which will take place

on **23 July at 7.30pm** on the theme of 'Parenting for a lifetime of faith' with another great speaker Rachel Turner.

I know from having my own children, parenting isn't easy, and some days you can feel like you are causing more damage than good. If our children learn from watching how we act or the words we say, it can be stressful to think that also applies to their Christian faith development.

Like our last Webcast, we want parents to know that the church is there to support and help them in growing and nurturing their family's faith.



By the time this event is happening, we will be able to meet in more significant numbers, and so this might be an event that parishes might want to show on a screen in their buildings or small groups in houses.

It could be an event where you invite new families to watch with you as well as those who have been around your church for a long time.

If anyone would like to know more information, please feel free to contact the ACYMC office at (info@acym.perth. anglican.org).



### LITURGY



The Rt Revd Dr Peter Brain

# OUR RICH LITURGICAL HERITAGE - WHAT IS OUR MISSION

Just about every business and not-for-profit has a well-crafted mission statement. Sometimes they are more for show and style, reflecting the desire to garner our support, rather than statements of substance to engage our minds and hearts. Thankfully, when it comes to mission, our liturgies, if we are attentive, focus our minds and captivate our hearts for mission. But what is our mission?

The answer is plain when we say in the Nicene Creed: for us and for our salvation and we define the salvation as being from the judgement to come: He will come to judge the living and the dead. That this is at the heart of Anglicanism is seen in the collect for Good Friday: Merciful God, you have made all men and hate nothing that you have made, nor do you desire the death of a sinner but rather that he should be converted and live: have mercy on your ancient people the Jews, and all who do not know you, or who deny the faith of Christ crucified. Take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of your word; and bring them home to your fold, blessed Lord, so that they may become one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

We are reminded that we are saved **from** judgement **for** life eternal. The Creed reminds us of the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection of the dead, the general confession of newness of life and the Collect of the security and nurture of the one shepherd. These reflect the Scriptural understanding that eternal life begins the day we are converted, with a new quality of life of the Holy Spirit within and an assured quantity of life with God in Heaven not apart from him in Hell.

The assurance and wonder of this is succinctly set forth in the words of assurance for those who truly turn to Christ: Matthew 11:28, reminding us that salvation is a gift conditional on our coming to Jesus. John 3:16 affirms that salvation is not automatic, with eternal consequences that are diametrically apart: whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. I Timothy 1:15 reminds us that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners was His primary purpose. To seek or preach salvation apart from turning to him is a travesty of Anglicanism and true Christianity. 1 John 2:1-2 makes it clear that our salvation is possible because of Jesus Christ the righteous and his perfect (propitiatory as BCP) offering for our sins.

These clear reminders give us reason every Sunday for gratitude to God for his mercy. The Eucharist is a thanksgiving for Christ's death in our place and gracious invitation to find welcome and nourishment through him. But gratitude demands obedience. A guilty silence, indifference, complacency or prayer-less concern for the unconverted is a betrayal of the love asked of us each

Sunday. Our baptism service does not ask people if they are spiritual, good, religious, sincere, environmentally friendly, or humanitarian but simply and plainly: do you turn to Christ? And why? Because we are all rebels in dire need of salvation, Christ Jesus is clearly unique and our turning to him in repentance and faith is the door through which all must enter if they are to find salvation. Having been rescued by Christ we are privileged to become his mission statements to the world.

in prayer, such a priceless privilege and joy.



### NOR'WEST



Jocelyn Ross OAM

### NEWS FROM THE NOR'WEST

Shark Bay to the fore again in Nor'West Postcard, as Bill and I have just left this beautiful place (when it's not hugely windy!) and returned to Geraldton after almost three years living in Denham. The church house is two storey and has a wonderful view of the Bay; the little Shell Block Church is a beautiful place in which to worship Almighty God; and we have found the town a friendly welcoming place, and have really enjoyed our time here. Please continue to thank God with us in faith that he has someone (a couple) to move here and continue the Anglican ministry, and seek with the other Christians in the town to express God's love to all who live and visit here. Our church has been re-opened for five weeks, such a blessing to be together again. It is heartening that Shark Bay World Heritage Area is open with many visitors arriving since the beginning of June, allowing businesses to return to normality.

Our condolences go to Newman Parish Minister, Roger Kyngdon and Amanda (Bishop Howell Witt's granddaughter) and their three littlies, at the recent death of his mother in NSW. Roger's parents, Geoff and Marylin Kyngdon served as locum in Exmouth some years ago, and we in this Diocese were delighted to have Roger and Amanda move to the Diocese six years ago as Assistant Minister at St George's Bluff Point, and now as Minister of Newman Parish.

What is it like to have two school chaplains in the family? Matt and Naomi Warth from Wickham have become school chaplains. They travel to Karratha, where Matt serves at Karratha Primary,

and Naomi at Peg's Creek Primary (two days) and Karratha Senior High School (two days). They also visit Roebourne Regional Prison on Wednesdays, another great ministry, where Matt leads a weekly Bible Study with up to 25 guys.

Mid-June, St George's Anglican Church at Bluff Point had all their services' congregations (8.00am, 9.30 am and 6.00pm), hold a picnic lunch launch, and are now meeting face to face.

Exciting news from Onslow where a service was recently held, the first for ages. Exmouth Minister, Simon Roberts and Alison will drive there regularly to conduct services. Bible studies have already started in the town. Please pray for members as they spread the good news in town.

And more exciting news from the Pilbara. Holy Trinity Church restoration is almost complete! And looks beautiful. Dave Baessler of Baessler Construction – Builder is a miracle of God, in that such a craftsman was actually living in Roebourne and available to do all that was needed over the past few years. Call in when you travel north and have time to visit and pray.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and don't lean on your own understanding. In ALL your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths (Proverbs 3:5,6).

forelyn





The Ven Julie Baker | Archdeacon

### **BUNBURY BULLETIN**

As WA has moved through the roadmap of COVID-19 restrictions we are reopening some churches for public worship, albeit within the regulations. The majority of our parishes have some pattern of in-person worship, and many are continuing online worship for those unable to attend in person and as a help to places where public worship cannot yet resume.

We give thanks for the continued ingenuity and dedication of our clergy and lay leaders in facing these challenges and enabling the Gospel to continue to be proclaimed among us.

Despite the disruption of COVID-19, we have been able to prepare for two significant events. The first is the appointment of The Revd Dr Lucy Morris as Priest-in-Charge at Dunsborough and the second is the appointment of The Revd Rose

Guok as the Priest-in-Charge at Busselton. It is with great rejoicing that we are able to gather for the recognition services for both priests in July, Lucy on 24 July at 5.00pm and Rose on 11 July at 11.00am.

Lucy had begun her ministry in Dunsborough during the COVID restrictions, but we can now gather to recognise this, and Rose will begin her public ministry at her service of recognition.

We thank God for these appointments, giving particular thanks for all that Lucy has contributed as Diocesan Secretary and the assistance she continues to bring to the Diocesan Office in the area of Safe Church. We welcome Rose into the Bunbury Diocese as a new member of our diocesan family.











# July 2020 School Holiday Adventure Days

Creating Inspiring Experiences

You can be assured that we have COVID-19 Safe practices in place and are following all government regulations to ensure your health and safety.

### **ACTION PACKED SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Your kids will love every minute of our Adventure Days.

Skilled instructor lead activities - Flying Fox, Bush Craft, Commando Course, Orienteering, Frisbee Golf, Archery, Crate Stack & Blackout Zone.

For 7 to 14 year-olds.

### Dates:

Week 1: July 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Week 2: July 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

Drop Off Time: 8:30 am Pick Up Time: 4:00 pm \*\*\*BYO LUNCH & SNACKS\*\*\*

### Tickets \$59 + Booking Fee

Book Tickets at https://swanvalleyadventurecentre.eventbrite.com.au



Get your kids outdoors these school holidays.



# July 2020 School Holiday Adventure Days Schedule of Activities

Date	<b>7 to 9 year-olds</b> (max 15 in group)  Adventure Activities	10 to 14 year-olds (max 15 in group) Adventure Activities					
Wednesday	Crate Stack, Blackout Zone, Bush Craft &	Flying Fox, Bush Craft, Commando					
08-July-2020	Commando Course	Course & Blackout Zone					
Thursday	Orienteering, Frisbee Golf, Team	Team Building, Archery, Orienteering &					
09-July-2020	Building & Archery	Frisbee Golf					
Wednesday	Crate Stack, Blackout Zone, Bush Craft &	Flying Fox, Bush Craft, Commando					
15-July-2020	Commando Course	Course & Blackout Zone					
Thursday	Orienteering, Frisbee Golf, Team	Team Building, Archery, Orienteering &					
16-July-2020	Building & Archery	Frisbee Golf					

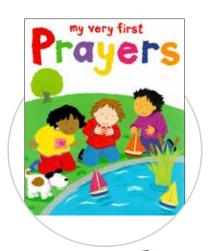
Note: Schedule is subject to change based on bookings and staff availability.



# 1

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

Shirley Claughton



Lois Rock

Illustrated by Alex Ayliffe

\$24.95

#### MY VERY FIRST PRAYER

Glossy coloured paper-cut pictures enhance this striking beautifully presented book of prayers for the youngest children. The illustrator and author worked closely together, and the reader can feel this connection.

Prayers include traditional, liturgically based, bedtime prayers and prayers for family. A cleverly designed Index of first Lines, presents a unique opportunity to use this as a learning experience in discovering how a book works!

Beautifully separated into themes including: Me, All the Animals, Around the Year, Quiet Times, Now the Day is Over included is a prayer for All Saints' Day:

Dear God,

We think of the people we know today

Who help us to follow Jesus

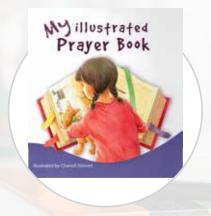
We think of the people from days gone by

Whose stories help us to follow Jesus.

We think of their words and their good deeds

And ask you to help us to follow Jesus.

A companion volume First Bible Stories is also in stock. Both books are large A4 size and superbly presented. Being durable hardcover with dust jacket and presentation page, either of the books in the set would make a great gift on any occasion for a little one.



\$14.95

#### MY ILLUSTRATED PRAYER BOOK

In a world of e-books, zoom, visual and audio projections, valuable room can still be found for a child's own liturgical prayer book.

In 2000 Broughton Press published their first edition of this popular children's book and it was an immediate success. Many parishes stocked 'class' sets and handed them to children while adults would have or be handed a copy of the APBA. The first production was revised in 2011 and is still one of the best-selling books by Broughton Press, the National Australian Anglican Publisher.

With so many changes taking place recently with regard to following the liturgy, it could be seen as a special privilege for a child to have their own version of the service of the Eucharist.

The hard cover, durable and colourful book will be very useful for all aged children – the cover suggests 4-6 years but as the text is an exact rendition of the Communion service, it can work for any age at all.

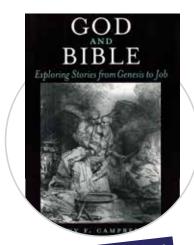
The whimsical, timeless illustrations are inclusive and delightful. This is the ideal gift for children at any stage of their faith journey.

All books reviewed available at St Johns Books Fremantle books@stjohnsbooks.com.au.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Shirley Claughton





**Antony F Campbell** 

\$26.95

## GOD AND BIBLE, EXPLORING STORIES FROM GENESIS TO JOB

This reader-friendly brilliant little book is 'Dedicated to all lovers of a good story' and in the 125 pages which follow, the reader is invited to take an intelligent perspective of the dizzying heights and arcane depths to which biblical scholarship has gone, take it all on board and 'return to the delights of wide-eyed reading of the Older Testament texts, untrammelled by outworn specters from bygone days'.

Briefly explaining how he will free stories like the ancestral stories of Israel from 'the lens of sons and land' to allow older traditions to come through, looking at mysteries of books like Joshua, stories of David and the prophets he admits that 'many of the biblical texts or stories raise questions or discreetly leave issues open for reflection'.

'Creation requires poetry. The smartest minds are overwhelmed by the facts and figures of its physics. Whether on the scale of galaxies or quarks, it is mind-blowing. When prose won't do, we turn to poetry.'

As Campbell unpacks the Genesis story (so skilfully) and the stories of Kings and Prophets he admits that he needs to lay out the 'hard evidence in some detail' in order to be able to interpret the text. As an example, he says that 'these early texts in Genesis – on their own evidence - are...not a portrayal of how it was thought to have been back then, at the beginning'.

He follows this with a surprising invitation: 'Because it is important, we need to lay out the hard evidence in some detail; what follows can be heavy going for some readers. If it is

for you, skip to the conclusion. To anticipate that conclusion right here: these early stories in Genesis did not tell Israel and do not tell us how it was back then at the beginning, or even how it was thought to have been back then at the beginning'.

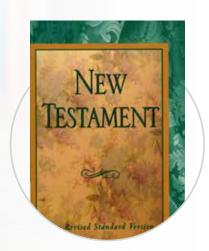
Some advice from this reviewer - do not skip to the conclusion. If you are fortunate to have read comedian Andy Lee's delightful and memorable children's book titled *Do Not Open This Book!*, the anticipation evoked by the title assures the reader will not be able to resist reading every word.

The book is divided into five parts:

- 1 Revealed Beginning or Pondered Present
- 2 Faith Faithlessness and Fear
- 3 Private Image and Public Power
- 4 Faith, Fidelity and Justice
- 5 Beyond the Past

Included in each section are reflective moments and a reflective activity as well as a wealth of the 'hard evidence' which you will not want to skip. It is a book which one can read and appreciate, but it is likely that the reader will be wanting to share the insights, not just the conclusions, with others. The Reflections provide a great resource for making this book one to study as a group.

Antony Campbell describes himself as 'a New Zealander by birth, an Australian Jesuit by choice, and a lover of the Older Testament by passion' and teaches at the Jesuit Theological College, within the ecumenical United Faculty of Theology in Melbourne.



\$14.00

#### THE NEW TESTAMENT

New Testaments in NRSV are not easily found. Most New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) bibles include the Old Testament, understandably as the library of books which make up the Scriptures is usually read and studied as a whole, and the NRSV is rarely published in 'portions' as other biblical versions might be. Nevertheless, having the New Testament by itself can be useful and amongst the annotations and suggestions, the editors encourage the reader to read the Old Testament.

This publication is special in that, not only is it inexpensive, it includes a 15 page insightful and comprehensive section of Appendices including New Testament, Maps, a brief summary of **every** book in the New Testament, a handy chart providing an overview of the library of books which make up the New Testament, some suggestions as to reading, and many other guides. The guides correspond in quality and scholarship to the appendices found in the annotated bibles.

It almost sounds too good to be true – and there is a proviso – it is a budget-type presentation, the paper is not the best quality and print is small. As long as you are not wanting to give it as a really special gift, this paperback New Testament will fulfill many other purposes.

With so many helps included it could be a valuable discovery and a sleek and useful addition to one's library.



### PARKERVILLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

Tony Hansen | Co-Director at Parkerville Children and Youth Care and Aboriginal man, connected to the Noongar Country and people of the South-West of Western Australia; with tribal links and connections to the Wilman, Great Southern Noongar and Wagyl Kaip tribal boundaries, and connections to the South-West Boojarah tribal boundaries around Busselton, Margaret River and Manjimup region.

# STAYING CONNECTED IN THE FACE OF COVID-19 COVID-19...CORONAVIRUS...2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS....

Whatever you call it, due to the impact of the virus, life as we once knew it has changed, probably forever. Children have watched as adults nervously await the daily updates from Premier Mark McGowan: What restrictions will we get today? When do you think I can go back to work? I wonder if I'll still have my job?; they don't see their friends as much anymore, and for a while they didn't have to go to school, an answer from heaven for some, and for others another cruel blow dealt by this loathsome virus.

The resilience of children should never be undermined. When reflecting on the strength of the children in our care one of our Co-Directors here at Parky said,

I find it sobering to think that, while so many of us are losing our heads in the mass panic and hysteria of this global 'crisis', for so many of the children and young people in our care, this is their normal or even a stroll in the park compared to the real adversity they have faced in their young innocent lives.

Johnny Rylatt, Co-Director OOHC

Pretty powerful stuff when you consider some of these children haven't even hit high school yet!



#### WELCOME TO CAMP . . .

I recently reached out over the phone to one of our Therapeutic Foster Carers, Moria, who was out busily shopping for supplies for some children who were due to arrive that evening for their first night in care. Whilst she was at Spotlight browsing the aisles for bedding and other necessities, we spoke about what life has been like for the three children she currently cares for.

Moria has been a foster carer with Parkerville for an amazing 10 years with some of the children in her current care having been with her for the past four years.

When I asked Moria, how the kids were coping she responded, 'they are brilliant'. Whilst the challenges for some of the children are still there, overall they've taken to homeschooling and ISO-life like fish to water. 'We've been lucky, being surrounded by the bush means the kids are able to still take their bikes out, play basketball

and get up to their usual mischief.'

As I am sure many parents can attest to, homeschooling was always going to be a challenge, but alas a new reality meant that it needed to be faced head on. Moria suggested to the kids that perhaps they should name their new 'Home School'. After some deliberation, a unanimous decision was reached, it was to be 'CAMP CORONA' - they designed a school emblem, just to make it official. This was complimented throughout the house with posters which read, 'Quiet Please we are learning' - advising all visitors that class was now back in session.

Some days at CAMP CORONA were a real success, others . . . not so much (cue all parents nodding in agreement).

One of the children in particular found homeschooling to be a BIG adjustment. This child has quite high needs and requires lots of attention and assistance to complete the tasks assigned. He coped really well, however, he was definitely ready to go back and see all his friends.



#### **CONNECTION TO FAMILY**

For an 11-year-old girl in Moria's care, homeschooling was a blast and she wished it could stay like it was forever. Moria said this child, who has been in her care for the past four years, really shone these past few weeks and the time spent at home has helped her reflect on her own connection with family; 'She (the child) has never had much information on her culture and has recently begun to show a keen interest in where she is from and finding out about her family roots. Fortunately, Moria was able to connect her to her father via Skype and they were able to speak about her relations and their history.

Moria said this was a wonderful experience for the child, she was so excited to learn that she had a huge network of relatives up north, they have even started learning some of her native language from resources they've been able to access via the internet.

Keeping connected during COVID-19 has been a challenge we have all had to navigate. For the children in our care, it is so important that where appropriate, they maintain the connections they have

28 ...over

### PARKERVILLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

with their biological families. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters here at Parkerville we have been able to ensure these connections are maintained and nurtured, which has led to much better outcomes for the children we serve.

We were very fortunate here at Parky to receive a donation of laptops and tablets from our long-time supporters RSM. This new technology, along with the provisions made by us all ensured that the children in our care had early access to not only e-learning whilst being home schooled, but also social media and video calls to continue to engage remotely with their biological families. This has truly made a wonderful impact on the lives of these wonderful children and young people in our care, and assisted during the isolation period to enable them to stay connected with family.

It is important that we remind ourselves that whilst the meaning of family may be different for each of us, it is connection that we as human beings yearn for. For the children and young people in our care keeping connections with family and culture is so important on their journey to live full and happy lives.

Thank you for taking the time to read this little story, and for all the work you do to change the lives of children for the better.



### **BOOK REVIEW**



The Rt Revd Dr Peter Brain

#### **MONEY COUNTS**



Subtitled "how to handle money in your heart and hands", Beynon, a pastor in Cambridge (UK) reminds us that any healthy and godly use of money involves, as our Lord taught, a heart set on honouring God. It is short (122 pages), readable, challenging, balanced and practical.

Two examples highlight the balance. The first in a helpful critique of the dangerous error of the prosperity gospel. But he balances this with two other false ways of viewing money, in asceticism (the poverty gospel) and approval of our practice. The second is the way he approaches the relevance of the tithe for believers today. Affirming it as a helpful guide he then opens up the far more challenging reasons for giving that the New Testament sets before us. In so doing he anchors it all in the grace of God to us in Christ offering timely critiques of bucket lists and investing in ways that take no account of our stewardship, eternity or the exciting opportunities money affords us, to glorify God, help others, promote Christ and protect ourselves from the dangers of money. Ideal for personal and small group use or study by a parish council (most chapters have questions for reflection). The prayer for the rich (Appendix 3) is worth its weight in gold. Highly recommended as a way of reading ourselves rich thus keeping us from the poverty of worldly wealth.

### CHAPLAINCY



The Revd Linda Pilton | School Chaplain

### CHAPLAINCY AT PERTH COLLEGE

Aschool, like any organisation, has its own seasonal rhythm. Like most organisations this year, that rhythm has been disrupted. A typical day as chaplain at Perth College at the beginning of the year might have included teaching in the classroom, attending and praying at an assembly, running a chapel service, meeting with students, teachers and members of the community and organising future events. In short, a typical day, could be quite frenetic.

COVID-19 has forced us to rethink how we do chaplaincy. I would argue that the main role of the chaplain is to proclaim, through words and life, God's abundant love for all. This requires accompanying members of the school community on their collective and individual life journeys. It requires being receptive to God's work in the world and people's lives, being willing to identify this and being prepared to invite people to join in with this work.

Pre-COVID-19 the patterns of this work have been established in the traditions of the School. As we have moved through the various phases of government restrictions and school requirements in response to the pandemic, the challenge of this while keeping physical distance has been great, but the core tasks remain.

Looking for where God is working, means looking for life, love and hope often and especially in times where these seem to be distant. We have been provided with an opportunity for a new way of living the Gospel. The work of prayer seems to me, more important than ever.

As we recover (we hope) from the effects of the pandemic, being present, waiting, listening, paying attention and discerning are paramount.





### CROSSWORD

The Revd Ted Witham

### CHILLY JULY



The Revd Ted Witham has been helping *Messenger* readers flex their brains for more than a decade, setting challenging crosswords in his spare time.

Ted is fascinated by linguistics and teaches French and Latin at the University of the Third Age.

1			2	3	4	5	6	7			8	9
				10								
					11							
12				13				14				15
16	17		18				19		20		21	
22		23						24		25		
26					27		28					
29			30			31					32	
				33								
					34							
35				36				37				38
39	40		41			42		43	44		45	
46												

#### **ACROSS**

#### Across

- 1, & 8 across. Additional saint went around Rome. (4)
- 2, Spiky fellow chained around Australia. (7)
- 8. See 1 across.
- 10. Firm belief in a decade of extra-terrestrials.
- 11. Far from a dog barking? (3)
- 13. Sheds tears while stirring rices. (5)
- 16. Shortly into the general state of affairs. (2)
- 18. Right away with sharp intellect. (3)
- 19. Bone found in baby's bed. (3)
- 21. Emergency! (2)
- 22. Shared microphone was hilarious. (5)
- 24. I care about the Heath family. (5)
- 26. The mutant mule at the charm against evil. (6)
- 28. M's pals turned up to sing from the Bible. (6)
- 29. Rhythm and Blues. (2)
- 30. It's a little bit true to pay a tithe! (7)
- 32. And the French! (2)
- 33. Splice a rope in Aïda! (5)
- 34. Sounds like I'll be surrounded by sea. (3)
- 36. Redo a mix of praise. (5)
- 39, 41, 42, 43 & 45. Sing as ten as you declare your agreement. (9)
- 46. The deal my manager swung for the apostle. (4, 9)

#### **DOWN**

- 1, & 9 down. I at Eastman Kodak shortly am humble. (4)
- 3. Computer Tomography. (2)
- 4. Earth's core. (5)
- 5. In ribbons across the cross. (4)
- 6. Delay an article for those harder of hearing. (5)
- 7. Greek Bible, in short. (2)
- 12. Six Roman vehicles in charge of parishes. (6)
- 13. Roman orator sounds a little like six in a row. (5)
- 14. As I set about an afternoon nap... (6)
- 15. Safest to not have feria days. (6)
- 17. Custom being across where they lay Jesus. (4)
- 18. Future tense of thou might wither. (4)
- 20. A bear on a Scots hillside? (4)
- 21. The best across lilac meadows. (4)
- 23. Organising Anglican women. (2)
- 25. Little Israel. (2)
- 27. Dip it slightly boozed. (5)
- 28. Hiss away from the purser it's more genuine. (5)
- 31. Can the second letter wait to own it? (6)
- 35. Stopping the flow in the macadam. (3)
- 36. Association of Evangelical Missions. (3)
- 37. English Teachers' Association. (3)
- 38. Five gave out for the epoch. (3)
- 40. Close for an Eastern State! (2)
- 41. Back the wise! (2)
- 44. For Illinois. (2)
- 45. Night, night! (2)

### ST CORONA

St Corona (also known as St Stephanie – a name derived from the Greek word for 'crown') was a young woman who was martyred for her Christian faith in the second century AD, possibly in Syria. Little else is known about her, but according to a widespread legend, she was only in her teens when her persecutors tied her between two bent palm trees which were then released resulting in her being torn apart. St Corona's relics have rested in Aachen Cathedral, Germany, ever since the tenth century when they were transferred there by Emperor Otto III. Over the centuries, St Corona has been invoked to help with money problems because European coins were often called 'crowns' since they bore the image of the sovereign.

While St Corona has no direct relation to the coronavirus (which was named so because of its crown-like structure) some now seek her prayers to assist with the economic and health crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. St Corona's feast day is observed on 14 May in the western Church and on 11 November in the eastern Church; and she continues to be an example of those who have been faithful to Christ and have received 'the unfading crown of glory' (1 Peter 5:4).

Lord Jesus Christ, healer and friend, come and care for all of us through the danger and uncertainty of the coronavirus epidemic.

To people who are sick, bring healing.

To people who are displaced, isolated,
or cut off from family, friends or work,
bring comfort and companionship.

Work with medical staff as they care for the sick,
and protect them from harm.

Give skill and fruitful research to scientists as they work on treatments and a vaccine. To public health authorities, give wisdom to decide the best ways to manage both this crisis and our anxieties.

When communities are fearful,
give a calm spirit,
and kindness to neighbours and strangers.
Through this testing time,
and through all the risks we face together,
teach us once again how we can love one another
as you have loved us. Amen.



St Corona with palm branches and the martyr's crown 14th century Italian painting, National Gallery of Denmark

Notes given to Anglican Archives by Fr Ted Doncaster October 2010

### HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF WONGAN HILLS - DALWALLINU

The name 'Wongan' is derived from the aboriginal word for whispering: 'wongan catta' = whispering hills. The district was discovered in 1836 by Surveyor General, John Septimus Roe. Augustus Charles Gregory recorded 'Wankan Hills' in 1848. The first settlers arrived in 1905, the first store opened in 1909, the town was gazetted 30 June 1911 and Local Government was established in 1916.

The first Anglican service was held in 1908 in the home of Edward Stickland. In 1928-9 the Diocesan Trustees reported that Lots 28 and 29 (north side in middle of Wilson Street) had been reserved by the Government for a church site.

Tenders were called in December 1931 and the foundation stone of the Church of St John the Baptist, in Ackland Street (a pressed-concrete building) was laid by



The Parish Hall in the 1930s (photographed by Archdeacon C L Riley) print by courtesy Anglican Diocesan Archives

Archdeacon C L Riley on Sunday 7 February 1932. The architect was Herbert Parry and the contractors Messrs Ford and Sons of Wyening, with Roger Brown erecting the walls. The church, facing down Wilson Street, was consecrated by Archbishop Le Fanu on Sunday 26 June 1932. In October 1935 the building was ceiled and a vestry was dedicated in memory of Pioneer Women on 24 October 1957 by Archbishop Moline, and also The Mothers' Union banner.

The Ballidu-Wongan Budget reported on 26 November 1932, 'A beautiful piece of mosaic work, in the form of a Reredos, the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral, England, is to be seen in the Wongan Hills





church. This Reredos is getting on for 100 years old, and comes out of the Cathedral which is 700 years old, it is an interesting and historical link with its past.'

The Ladies Guild presented a lectern which Archdeacon Riley dedicated on 12 December 1933. A bible from St James's Church Southampton had been given by The Revd W R Ward of Goomalling and this rested upon it. A new font was dedicated 1 April 1934 which was given by girls of the Sunday School. The altar was dedicated on 10 July 1966 in memory of the wife of Charles Ellis.

The Ladies' Guild formed in June 1930 and The Mothers' Union branch in 1933.

The parish hall made of pressed concrete was built in 1934 at 24 Wilson Street, to the south of the first Rectory. It was financed by friends in England and was opened on Sunday 1 July 1934 by Archbishop Le Fanu. St Peter's Church of England Nursing School was run by Mrs Stevenson in 1957.

The Rectory was built in 1929 at Lot 29 Wilson Street, towards which the Diocesan Trustees granted a loan of £677. In the 1980s there was a brick Rectory (location not ascertained). A new rectory was built at 10 Rogers Street at a cost of \$175,000 and was dedicated in May 1993.

Wongan Hills was worked from Goomalling for a time before 1929. Church sites were dedicated at Ballidu on 1 December 1934 and at Manmanning on 2 December 1 934. In 1951 the only centre was Ballidu but by 1955 services were being held regularly at Hines Lake, Ballidu East, Yericoin (where



### HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF WONGAN HILLS - DALWALLINU

in 1955 efforts to build a church were being explored). The parish assumed responsibility for the Parish of Dalwallinu in 1975 and became known as Wongan Hills-Dalwallinu. The parish produced a paper entitled The District Magazine in

#### Parish of Wongan Hills-Dalwallinu 2020 **EXPERIENCE OF COVID-19 - MISSION**

Following the initial challenge of changing how we run services and programs and then spending time properly cancelling just about everything we do, it was important to work out what was possible.

To be completely honest, for some parishioners it was just great to have a break after a very busy start to the year in our parish. However, we discovered there were little ways to be God's children in this place.

The first priority set by The Revd Leon Stickland was to ensure our Christian community was cared for and connected. We did this with phone calls and a weekly Christian encouragement letter. For those who don't receive or read emails, it was hand delivered. The parishioners who delivered these, made the time to chat on the doorstep and generously dropped off fresh chook eggs around Easter. The letter encouraged members to go on-line for church or download e-pray or we could drop off a prayer book for personal devotions. Many appreciated the Archbishop's Facebook Page. We also included weekly encouragement messages in our local community newsletter.

The parish pantry continued to support families in need. As we heard of mum's who needed to be at home caring for children instead of being able to work in their casual role, we were able to deliver food.

Mainly Music was able to continue with a weekly zoom program. Instead of our big Mothers' Day morning tea, we organised an account with the local bakery so that mums could pop in and pick up a take-away coffee. This was wonderful for mums and great for a small town business which had been significantly impacted by COVID-19.

The local ANZAC committee put the Wongan Hills service on-line, so when we pre-recorded the prayers, we made





sure that our church was pictured in the background. On Good Friday and Easter Sunday we rang the church bell at 9.00am over the town as a reminder of the significance of this day for Christians. We put up a photo of this on our Community Facebook page wishing all a Happy Easter and were delighted with the comments, especially from those who haven't lived locally for many years, but have great memories of their time worshipping in St Peter's. We continued to ring the bell other Sundays.

All little things. Our prayer is that God may have used these small happenings to touch the lives of our community in some way.



### THEATRE - AND OTHER ARTS

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Anthony Howes

Anthony presents more news of arts and entertainment every Saturday from 10am till 12noon on Capital Radio 101.7 FM & Capital Digital

A phone call from an actor friend in Sydney has prompted the thoughts behind the column this month. My friend, originally a Perth actor, posed this question to me. He said, 'In your long association with St George's Cathedral directing productions; would you say you had healthy attendance numbers?' In a way, this was a strange question, but he clarified it by saying he wasn't asking about box office returns, but whether there was a real interest in drama with a spiritual, perhaps even religious, content. My answer to him was guarded: 'Attendances were good, so I suppose the answer is 'yes', there was a real interest'. My friend explained that his question had arisen following a conversation he had, via Skype, with an actress colleague in India. This is what he had learned.

The lockdown in India, caused by the pandemic, has seen millions of Indians turning to stories of their gods; but not in prayer rooms or temples, but in front of their TVs. Reruns of popular Hindu religious drama, with their tales of moral and ethical choices in times of crises, and invoking individual sacrifice for social good, are capturing the hearts and minds of people throughout the world's largest democracy. One production of a faith story, which aired on 16 April, from India's public broadcaster had a record 77 million viewers. The broadcaster, in commenting on this success, said: 'In this era of crisp and Gen Z content, these figures clearly indicate there is still demand for values and ethos driven content'. India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, often quotes Hindu verse in his speeches.

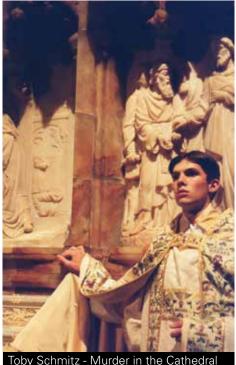
Obviously, in India, the drama of faith has a strong appeal, as it demonstrates how it transcends the politics of extreme Hindu nationalism, with millions of moderate, practising Hindus, finding, in these uncertain times, the drama of their religion is aiding them in making sense of their lives.

So, this information sent me scurrying to check through old files and programmes to see if my claim of 'good attendance' of our Cathedral's drama could be substantiated. No, I couldn't claim audiences of the millions like our Indian friends. But I was able to see that over the years, the wide range of people who attended productions in St George's Cathedral came from the general public as well as churchgoers; that their age range was significant, and that the divergent subject matter of the productions attracted large numbers.

Interestingly, the 'classics' like 'Murder In The Cathedral' (starring Toby Schmitz as Archbishop Thomas) and 'Not About Heroes' (with Mark Desebrock and Sam Devenport as poets Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon), claimed the same large audiences as the specially commissioned plays written by WA playwrights Elizabeth Backhouse and Tony Nicholls; and of course, the thousands who attended the outdoor productions of the traditional and the 'modern' Passion Plays, staged in the grounds of Government House. I mention just a few plays; but over the years, there were many and all with good attendance figures. This I record, not for any sense of 'grand-standing' – but to demonstrate that our own faith, represented on stage and screen, speaks with a loud voice; and an appreciated voice. Long may it continue.

Frederic Garcia Lorca wrote: The Theatre is one of the most expressive and useful vehicles for the edification of a country's people, and a barometer that marks the country's greatness or decline. A sensitive theatre ... can alter a people's sensitivity in just a few years, while a decadent theatre where hooves have taken the place of wings can cheapen and lull to sleep an entire nation.







### **CLERGY NEWS**



#### St George's Cathedral

The Cathedral is open with restrictions in place as per Government directive

#### Monday to Saturday service times

8.00am Morning Prayer
12.15pm Holy Eucharist (note new time)
4.00pm Evening Prayer

#### JULY SUNDAY SERVICES

#### Sunday 5 July 2020 - Pentecost 5

8.00am Holy Eucharist (BCP) 10.00am Choral Eucharist Mass Setting - *Missa in F* (Haydn)

Communion motet - Ave verum corpus (Mozart)
5.00pm Sung Evensong

#### Sunday 12 July 2020 - Pentecost 6

8.00am Holy Eucharist (BCP) 10.00am Choral Eucharist

Mass Setting - Missa in simplicitate (Langlais) Communion motet - Sicut cervus (plainsong)

### 2.00pm Families Connect 5.00pm Choral Evensong

Responses - Plainsong Canticles - Plainsong Anthem - Te Lucis Ante Terminum

### Sunday 19 July 2020 - Pentecost 7

8.00am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.00am Choral Eucharist

Mass Setting - Mass in G (Rheinberger)
Communion motet - For the beauty of the earth (Rutter)
5.00pm Sung Evensong

### Sunday 26 July 2020 - Pentecost 8

8.00am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.00am Choral Eucharist

Mass Setting - Missa Brevis (Palestrina)
Communion motet - Sicut cervus (Palestrina)

#### 5.00pm Choral Evensong

Responses - Plainsong
Canticles - Plainsong
Anthem - Deus misericordiam tuam

With Government restrictions and building works, some changes to our worship are in place:

- If more than 100 people arrive, the overflow will be accommodated in the upper Burt Memorial Hall, with live video streaming onto a screen.
- The 10.00am service will be live streamed onto our website, Facebook and YouTube for those for whom it is too vulnerable for them to be physically present. We don't intend to film members of the congregation, but we cannot guarantee you won't be filmed at all. If this concerns you, consider worshipping in Burt Memorial Hall.

More information about services can be found on the Cathedral website at www.perthcathedral.org or by telephoning 9325 5766

#### JUIY 2020

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

The Revd Timon Yanga

Associate Priest, Balga-Mirrabooka 01.05.20 – 31.12.20

The Revd Frida Lemi

Sudanese Women's Ministry Support Priest 01.06.20 - 31.05.21

The Revd Lyn Harwood

Senior Anglican Prison Chaplain 28.05.20

#### LOCUM TENENS

The Ven Jack Thomson

Woodlands-Wembley Downs 01.08.20 - 31.12.20

The Revd Joe Newbold

Murdoch-Winthrop 08.07.20

#### PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE

The Revd Annette Desfosses 14.04.20
The Revd Frank Sheehan OAM 02.05.20

#### **RETIREMENTS**

The Revd Michael Jessup

Deacon, Beaconsfield 27.08.20

The Revd Professor Rowan Strong

Professor of Church History, Murdoch University

#### RIP

Mrs Kathleen Pierce

Widow of The Revd Duncan Pierce 09.06.20

### WA Anglicans named in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2020

#### The Reverend Elizabeth J Smith AM

Mission Priest, Parish of The Goldfields For significant service to the Anglican Church of Australia, and to liturgical scholarship

#### Ms Donna Shepherd AM

Parish of Cottesloe

For significant service to children through international humanitarian aid organisations

#### Mr Ian Kaye-Eddie AM

Parish of West Nedlands

For significant service to medical administration, and to community health

#### Mr Malcolm Seymour OAM

Parish of Wongan Hills-Dalwallinu

For service to agriculture through roles with a range of associations

Crossword solution

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