



# MESSENGER

A MAGAZINE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIANS JUNE 2021



O sing to the Lord a new song:  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Psalm 96:1

# MESSENGER

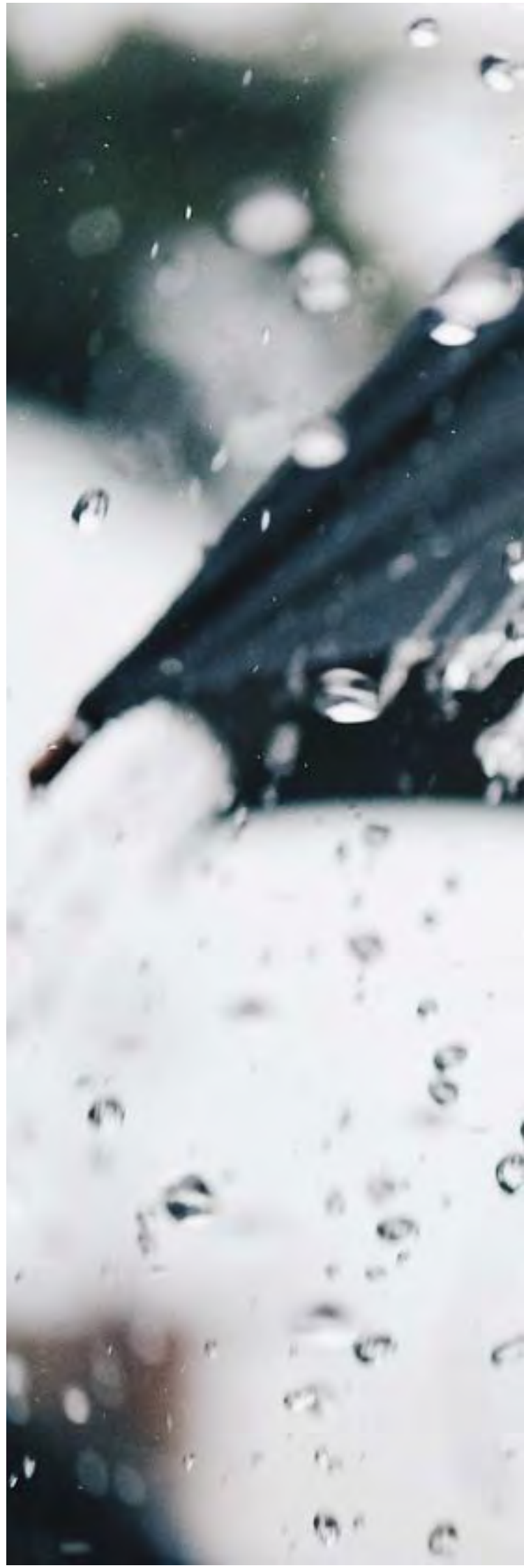
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## 5 MARKS OF MISSION

- 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



Welcome to the June edition of the *Messenger*.

This month as the weather gets colder and there are, hopefully, some good seasonal rains, the *Messenger* team highlights the arts. You may want to put on some music to accompany you.

Dr Peter Campbell's article 'Make a Joyful Noise' speaks of music's mystery and beauty by which people may draw closer to the greater mystery which it reveals.

Many Anglican churches in Western Australia are home to the icons of Marice Sariola, who works out of her studio near Dunsborough. Icon painting is an ancient art; an ancient form of prayer illuminating the mystery of God's love for the world. Marice's article on the icon as window into eternity will encourage some readers to consider opening their personal window of prayer through the use of icons, or even of taking up icon painting as a path of prayer and meditation.

Regular contributor, Anthony Howes, invites readers to consider creation and incarnation as fundamental to a Christian understanding of the arts, and looks at the ways in which the church over its history has allowed, enabled and rejoiced in human creativity.

St George's Cathedral invites readers to step inside for the annual (except for 2020) student art exhibition.

There is news from our regular contributors too, including an article on the service of regional hospitals from Elizabeth Smith, and a focus on art therapy from St Bart's. Mark Glasson asks the question 'what enhances community well-being?'. The Anglican Schools Commission and Amana Living each bring their own spotlight on the things needed for people to thrive and grow in community for well-being.

Readers will love reading about the parish of Warnbro's mission partnership with their link parish in Eldoret. It is a great encouragement for every parish partnership with the link Diocese of Eldoret in Kenya.

We know that readers will enjoy reading of the launch and the book *Who is this Vernon Cornish?* This book launch was originally intended to take place in February but postponed due to a COVID lockdown.

And as the *Messenger* goes to press, we are hearing the news of new cases of COVID and a lockdown in Victoria. Perhaps your reading will be interspersed with prayer for those across the world whose lives and families are under threat.

In the midst such sadness and grief may people in every part of the world still glimpse the grace of God in the wonder and mystery of every sunrise.

*The Editorial Team*

## 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.





## FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

The Most Revd Kay Goldsworthy AO | Archbishop

**T**he heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;

One day tells it to another: and night to night communicates knowledge.

These opening verses of Psalm 19 invite the reader to reflect on the immeasurable creative glory of God. They remind me every time I read and pray them of the painting of Yankunytjatjara woman Vicki Cullinan, an artist from the central desert region close to Alice Springs.

Most of her paintings are about the night sky. Looking at them is reminiscent of being in the middle of what my father would have called 'nowhere', looking up at the great Milky Way, the Southern Cross, Orion's Belt, Pelaiades. Most of us have looked up on one of those nights when the stars seem close enough to reach out and touch, and you can feel them wrapping around the earth as they reach across the darkness. 'The heavens declare the glory of God ...'

In Vicki Cullinan's words, 'At night in the desert, when I look to the sky – heavy with stars, I feel at my most calm. The sky is the largest presence watching these lands. It holds all our ancestral stories from a long time ago. It watches every day what happens in our community; the chaos, the beauty, the hard times, the laughter. The sky see's and knows everything. It holds all this energy and reflects back on us at night, it is forever, and it is still'.



In the last 16 or so months we have begun to understand in new ways the human need for creativity in times of hardship and threat to life, family and community. It is as though there is a low hum of anxiety reaching across the heavens, encompassing people in every corner of the globe, highlighting our common humanity.

Many will remember the images from the depths of the 2020 lockdowns showing musicians in Europe playing instruments from their balconies, lightening heavy hearts, or that Zoom choir forming from around the country, bringing together people who are able singers and those uncertain of their voices, all together working out how to bring their gifts into a harmony for the well-being and delight of others.

COVID is teaching us many lessons, but the need for humans to express ourselves through art, attempting to make sense of the world in music, painting, drama, film and other forms of expression is essential. Our creative response to disruption, confusion, and pain allows faith, hope and wonder to emerge and weave their magic. We need the prophetic eye of the artist who shows us the world against the full light of God's desire for everything and everyone. We need the sound of music opening God's heart of love singing to each of us, now and to eternity. We need to see the world as the background as well as the foreground of God's creative purpose even in the smallest glimpse of the majesty and immensity, the sun just above the dawn horizon and the night sky which is so much bigger than can be known or imagined.

In January this year, the President and CEO of the American Association of Medical Colleges wrote: 'As long as the pandemic cuts a deadly path across our world, science will of course be paramount. But none of our institutions, and that includes governments, should see the arts and humanities as frills. They are essential to our welfare, even our survival. The arts can not only help heal our bodies during these difficult times, they can help heal our souls'. This isn't something at which we should wonder, but rather a matter for which we should give thanks, celebrating our deepest needs, seeking wisdom and healing.

Look out the window, walk through the park, enjoy the crisp wind over the ocean rain falling on growing crops, paint on canvas, the sound of singing, even a dust cloud of red dirt, the hum of a city street - and give thanks to God, whose fingerprints are everywhere, whose art is love, and love and love.

*Praise the Lord. O Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.*

*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord: O praise the Lord! (Psalm 150:1,6).*

+ Kay



## MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

**M**usic is perhaps the most widely practised of all the Arts and the one most easily participated in by all, without training or equipment. While any art requires instruction and dedicated practice to bring a talent to its full potential, you don't have to be very 'musical' to make a nice sound, and the Church has harnessed this since the beginning.

The Psalmist exhorts us to 'make a joyful noise unto the Lord', with all manner of instruments and with our voices. It might have been a trumpet that brought down the walls of Jericho, and another that will announce the end of days, but this merely reinforces the power music has both to carry out the will of God and to amplify our own experience of it.

For most of us, music is a devotional tool, whether done in public or privately. Recent COVID restrictions on singing highlighted how important communal music is to us. A hymn is, literally, a song of praise: for Thomas Aquinas, the 'exultation of the mind dwelling on eternal things, bursting forth in the voice'. We use music to concentrate the mind for meditation and prayer but also, often, for joyous abandon. A rock concert, a symphony orchestra or simply a solo folk singer serve equally to heighten our feelings, our mood and, really, our experience of life. That is the essentially spiritual role that music can play: comforting us when sad, consoling us when bereaved, encouraging us when afraid, relaxing us when stressed and invigorating us when happy.

Music has a power to transport us, to connect us to the generations that have gone before; it has a transcendent power to take us to a heightened plane of experience and needs no external 'medium' through which to speak to us (as painting, writing or filmmaking do). One person alone can be the creator, the vessel and the receptor: all three in one body. If there is an audience, even a fellow congregant, they may witness our music making and participate in its effects. Yet, unfortunately, these are ephemeral and transient, a one-time experience only. The next time we sing or play, God may speak to us in a different way, or we may hear a different message, just as we may realise a different point on re-reading a book or interpret a painting differently when it is seen in a new light.

Music's ability to connect directly with the soul, to take us on a journey, is frequently remarked upon. In the fourth century, St Augustine wrote of his own baptism



that: 'The music surged in my ears, truth seeped into my heart, and my feelings of devotion overflowed'. His description is not about the words that were sung, but about the way the music affected him and the understanding that came, unbidden, to him through it.

But was Augustine merely seduced by the beauty of the music? Perhaps, but he also heard its message. We, too, can allow ourselves to enjoy and admire Art as long we also listen to what is being 'said' to us through it. Just how music does this is one of the great mysteries. In that sense, music - whether we are listening or doing - is a deeply spiritual practice, one that we must nurture and cultivate. Those with God-given talent are called to express it for the benefit of all. When we make a joyful noise we sing praise to the Lord. We also bring joy and understanding to others, as well as to ourselves.

Sing to him a new song; play skilfully on the strings, with loud shouts (Psalm 33:3).





# ICONS - WINDOWS INTO ETERNITY - MIRRORS TO MYSTERY

**I**con is a painting that reflects the spiritual reality of a Holy Person. It is depicting the life of a Saint and will encourage spiritual reality beyond the material world in which we now live.

According to the Church tradition St Luke was the very first icon painter, who painted images of Our Lady and Jesus while they were still alive. There are several old icons depicting St Luke as an icon painter.

Another tradition tells about King Abgar, a contemporary to Christ, who wanted an image of him to be painted, when suffering from leprosy and wanting to be healed. He sent his archivist Hannan to paint a picture of Jesus, but he was blinded by the dazzling light coming from Christ, therefore no image could be painted. Jesus noticed Hannan's effort and asked for water to drink, dried his face with a piece of cloth, where the image of Jesus arose.

Third, maybe the most widely known story is about Veronica, the Sixth Station of the Cross, when encountering Jesus on the Via Dolorosa to Calvary,

wipes the blood and sweat from his face with her veil. The miraculous image of Christ immediately appeared.

Icon painting is based on several antique painting styles in the Middle East already before Christianity; one of the oldest styles was painting the face masks of mummies in ancient Egypt. The painting reached its perfection thousands of years later in the Byzantine Empire. Now many revered motifs reflect golden era between 1000-1453.

Icon painting has several rules:

- 1 Perspective is inverted, several focus points can be in the same composition
- 2 Near objects are drawn smaller
- 3 Colours do not reflect realism
- 4 Value perspective is used in some cases where important persons are pictured larger than others

Many motifs were refined over centuries, when original compositions were time by time interpreted







photo 1



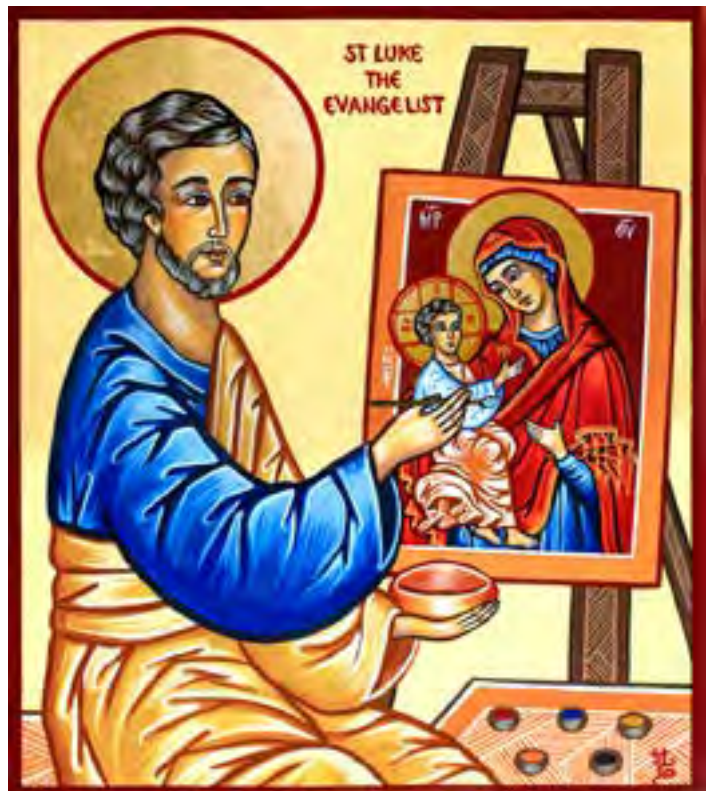
photo 2

and developed further to produce harmonious images. The oldest icons scientifically can be dated to the 6th century. Their existence 1,500 years later is the testament to the painting technique used.

The paints are an egg tempera mixture of light resistant earth pigments and egg yolk. The painting is done on solid wood that has been covered with gauze fabric and then grounded with rabbit skin glue and chalk powder. The gold used is genuine gold leaf. The typical translucent look of icons is due to many thin layers of paint and the expression is amplified by varnishing the finished painting.

When the icon is made following the procedure just described, it also makes theological statement by the materials which it contains. The wooden panel reminds us of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross. The layers which are applied symbolically re-assemble all of creation: chalk is ground rock, glue is from animals, cotton cloth represents plants, and all is combined with the life-giving water. The colours are the rocks and minerals of the earth, while the gold represents the metals. The artist represents the humanity. So when the icon is finished and blessed, we have the whole of creation once again in harmony with God as it was before the fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden.

The icons can be based on older ones like this Holy Trinity, originally painted by Andrej Rublev in the 15th century (photo 1), they are not copies but new creations



of old motifs. However icon painting is a living art form and new icons are created by professional painters all the time. Here in Australia we have our first Saint Mary MacKillop (photo 2).



## ARTS AND CHURCH

The setting was the Soldiers' Chapel of St George's Cathedral; it was a quiet time after evening prayer some years ago, when the then Dean, The Very Reverend Dr John Shepherd, and I were contemplating the details in the stained glass. As we defined 'beauty', Dean John prompted my thinking by saying: 'God created a world of beauty for humanity to enjoy and delight in. Humanity's response to God should therefore be based upon that world of beauty and the very best of human artistic expression'.



We talked about worship as a precious offering to God of the best of which humanity is capable. He said: 'The importance of beauty in worship, as experienced through music, architecture, stained glass, drama, fine art, and the words of the liturgy themselves, is a fundamental cornerstone of Anglicanism; an imperative, not only in the daily routine of our lives, but in our Worship'. He continued: 'It was not enough for worship to be ordinary for, as Lancelot Andrewes preached before the Court at St James' Palace in 1593, worship provided the opportunity for the offering of the most precious and beautiful gifts, treasures and skills. Just as God related to humanity through beauty, so beauty should be offered in return to God'. This is the basis upon which I write, today.

I believe that a fundamental task to undergo in examining the Arts and the Church is to look deeply into two great and fundamental doctrines.

The first is the doctrine of the Creation, where we find that God is sovereign over both the spiritual and the material. So it is that the artist must be dealing with the things of God in observing and placing interpretation upon that creation. It is obvious, after examining the Old Testament, that the majesty and power of God is clearly seen in his imposition of order upon chaos; and this, of course is the function of both the Creator and the creative artist. To quote T S Eliot; 'It is the function of all art to give us some perception of an order in life, by imposing an order upon it'.

The second, the doctrine of the Incarnation, tells us of the love of God, and directly relates him to the personal struggle of humankind. Therefore, whenever this action of God is investigated and shown, then Jesus Christ – God's Word, be it in fine art, poetry, music, drama or literature - is being unveiled.

This defines the Christian Gospel; thus, St Paul is able to say 'All Things are of Christ, in Him all the fullness of the created order dwells'. Simply, the whole of life is sacramental and we cannot forget that it the arts which enrich this life as they show us both the order and the discord present in our world.



TS Eliot

We need to disallow the word 'religious' when we look to the artistic expressions of God, as all works of art can be seen as sheer imaginative works of creation, whatever their subject matter, and whatever the attitudes of the artist. These are the references for Eliot's comment that God created humankind to be in turn, a creator. This may well be where our spiritual leaders need a deep understanding of the creative process, so as to be able to expand and link the Churches' redemptive and educative mission to their people.

The mystic and poet, William Blake, a true artist spoke eloquently of the vitality and clarity which comes with the marriage of the artist and the Christian faith:

*I feel that a man may be happy in this world and I know that this world is a world of imagination and vision. I see everything I paint in this world but everybody does not see alike. To the eye of a miser a guinea is far more beautiful than the sun and a bag worn with the use of money has more beautiful proportions than a vine filled with grapes. The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way. As a man is, so he sees.*

*When the sun rises, do you not see a round disk of fire something like a gold piece? O no, no, I see an innumerable company of the heavenly host crying 'Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty'. I do not question my bodily eye any more than I would question a window concerning a sight. I look through it and not with it.*

My hope and belief is that through the Arts, the Church is able to worship God with the greatest beauty, clarity and humility; and in so doing is serving humankind with a glorious access to the One in Three who sustains us forever.



William Blake





## LITURGY AND THE ARTS

In 1978, pop group 10cc wrote the cricket anthem 'Dreadlock Holiday'. Being cricket fans, Eric Stewart and Graham Gouldman meant every syllable, 'I don't like cricket, (oh, no), I love it...' Thirty seconds of this song, is shouted more than sung, whenever it is played repeatedly during T20 matches. They also wrote another song called *Arts For Art's Sake* written as a satirical comment on the music industry. They used Oscar Wilde's famous critique, and the chorus starts, 'Arts for art's sake, money for God's sake'. In other words, 'the music industry is only interested in what generates money, not in the creative process for its own sake.' So, it is ironic that 10cc receives royalties for 30 seconds of their song played at cricket matches repeatedly — 'money for God's sake'.

The history of the relationship between the church and the arts displays similar tensions between creative musicians, artists, sculptures and architects, and the needs of the liturgical life of the church. Without the work of these skilled creatives, our liturgies would be the equivalent of watching a film with dialogue only and no music soundtrack.

Creative independence and the demands of church liturgy, have had a long history of disagreement. The English Puritans of the Reformation sought the removal of creative arts from the liturgical life of the Church of England. Visual and music arts suffered as Puritans imposed their views during the 1643 Long Parliament. They rejected the *Book of Common Prayer* and introduced The Directory of Public Worship (1645) which reduced Sunday worship to prayers, bible readings, metrical psalm-singing and a sermon. They wanted to purify public worship with an emphasis on the inner spirit of people's souls, not on outward displays of sophisticated music and complex liturgical symbolism. But, in the words of Dr Henry Phillips, 'They allowed kneeling, they allowed psalm-tunes, though they shuddered at surplices and choir-music' (The Singing Church, 1945, p107). In 1644 the Commons authorised the 'speedy demolishing of all organs.' (*Music and Worship in the Anglican Church*, Paul Chappell, 1968, p59). How interesting it is that successors of puritanism in our own day, such as we see in

Baptist churches and some Anglican churches readily embrace the use of musical instruments which the reformation puritans rejected wholeheartedly. I have heard people justify the use of musical instruments over the years by misquoting Luther, 'Why should the devil have all the good music?' No one is sure Luther said this, but it is something he might have said, and it raises the issue of what is good art? When is art suitable for worship and when is it not suitable? Who decides and on what criteria?

This complex relationship between liturgy and the arts is the subject of an upcoming international congress in July this year. *Societas Liturgica* is the foremost ecumenical gathering of academic and pastoral liturgists. This year



they will focus on: 1 The Art of Liturgy, 2 The Arts in Liturgy, 3 Liturgy and the Arts, 4 Liturgy as Public Art.

The first topic acknowledges liturgical action as inspired and inspiring, where creativity has potential for transcendence. The second topic recognises that liturgy happens in space and time, so various creative arts happen, hopefully in beneficial ways to both liturgical function and artistic expression. The third topic is about the church as patron of the arts, recognising the 'tumultuous history' of the use of creative arts in the church. And the fourth topic asks how liturgy, when using artistic expression, may become a 'fitting testimony' (1 Timothy 6:13) and a

prophetic voice. These topics show how important creative arts are to the worship life of the church.

Cathedrals have always been patrons of the artistic community, and St George's Cathedral takes seriously its mission to the cultural life of the city. St George's Art, is an annual school competition for the visual arts, it develops student artists. Semi-professional company, Theatre180, performs and develops community drama in the Lower Burt Hall.

This year, the Cathedral Arts Foundation will commission three new musical compositions. Andrew Ford, host of the Music Show on ABC National Radio, has composed a new Christmas carol for premiere at the Cathedral Carol Services in December 2021. Lay Clerk, Lydia Gardiner, has been commissioned to compose A Ceremony of Carols using the same resources and text Benjamin Britten used in his famous piece. Both Britten and Gardiner versions will be performed at a concert in the Perth Concert Hall later this year. A new setting of the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus and Benedictus for choir, brass and organ has been commissioned by Lachlan Skipworth, former composer-in-residence with WASO. It will premiere on Easter Day 2022. WASO brass will supplement the organ and choir.

While the music style of these works is far from 10cc and their anthems, they add to the beauty and power of Christian worship. They demonstrate what is best when liturgy and the creative arts work in harmony.

The psalmist called on the people of God to create something new, to 'sing a new song' in response to what God has done for us (Psalm 96:1-2; 98:1), something which the creative arts can help us achieve. Rosemary Crumlin, observes that this is necessary for both religion and art:

To find new ways of clothing the myths and symbols at the heart of a belief system is a guarantee against death from a withering familiarity. Religion, like art, must continually find ways that speak out of everyday life experience. Otherwise it dies of irrelevance and boredom.

Introduction to Images of Religion in Australian Art by Rosemary Crumlin, 1988, pp13-14



Joseph at QSO (Enigma) Credit: Peter Wallis, courtesy Queensland Symphony Orchestra

## ST GEORGE'S CONCERT SERIES 17TH JUNE 2021

### JOSEPH NOLAN - A RARE OPPORTUNITY

After 12 years in demand around the world as a performer and recording artist, Dr Joseph Nolan will perform once again in St George's Cathedral.

Dr Joseph Nolan is Artistic Director St George's Concert Series, which includes the Sir Francis Burt Memorial Organ Concert. This annual recital usually features a guest organist; however, this year Joseph Nolan himself will settle into the organ loft to play pieces by Charles-Marie Widor, J S Bach and Julius Reubke, plus an Australian premiere by Charles-Valentin Alkan.

*Joseph Nolan - A Rare Opportunity* is a wonderful chance to hear Widor's Fifth Symphony. From New York to London, Joseph's recordings of the complete organ works of Widor are considered the benchmark set, and have been broadcast around the world. *Gramophone* described the collection as 'one of the most remarkable box sets ever released', and *The New Criterion* placed it alongside those of the world's greatest organists, stating: 'The Nolan set is particularly fine'.

Joseph's next CD collection will be the complete works of Alkan, to be recorded at La Madeleine, Paris, as soon as international travel resumes. In his June concert, Joseph will present the Australian premiere of Alkan's Impromptu on Luther's chorale, 'A Mighty Fortress is God'.

Joseph describes Alkan's Impromptu as the most challenging of the four pieces he has chosen to play. Alkan biographer Ronald Frost wrote: 'The Impromptu makes inhuman demands upon a single player'. Although originally written for three hands at one keyboard, it was later transcribed for two pianos, yet the Cathedral audience will hear it played by one musician alone on the Cathedral's mighty West Organ.

The other two pieces Joseph has chosen to play are Bach's Passacaglia in C minor and Reubke's Sonata on the 94th Psalm, which are also amongst the most technically difficult organ pieces.

Joseph has been hailed by Sydney Symphony Orchestra as 'one of the world's leading organists'; by BBC Radio 3 for his 'miraculous playing' and by *Gramophone* as 'towering'. David Robertson (Sydney Symphony) and Asher Fisch (WASO) have both publicly described Joseph's gifts as 'extraordinary' and 'world-class'. This is an event not to be missed!

Tickets for *Joseph Nolan - A Rare Opportunity* are \$40 standard, \$30 concession, available from Perth Concert Hall via [perthconcerthall.com](http://perthconcerthall.com) or by calling 9231 9999.

Visit [concert-series.perthcathedral.org](http://concert-series.perthcathedral.org) for more information on St George's Concert Series.



## ST GEORGE'S ART RETURNS



'Roots' by Isabella Cotter, People's Choice winner of St George's Art 2019

St George's Art returns to the Cathedral this year, bringing yet more innovative works from WA's senior high school students.

The exhibition is in its 18th year, missing last year due to the pandemic. Its return to St George's Cathedral in 2021 is an exciting prospect, after the 2019 exhibition saw a record 173 artworks on display.

From 17 to 25 July, works by students in Years 10, 11 and 12 will be displayed along the aisles of the Cathedral. At the Gala Awards Night on 22 July, prizes will be awarded to selected works in four categories.

The Very Revd Chris Chataway, Dean of Perth, said: 'I look forward to my first exhibition and seeing the Cathedral transformed into a unique gallery to showcase the stunning work from young artists of over 50 participating schools. Cathedrals are centres of art and music, and St George's is no exception. In artistic expression we find the universal human yearning for meaning, which is the arena in which God communicates with us.'

With the number of artworks restricted to three per school, this ensures only carefully selected works are shown. Students often go on to exhibit their artworks in the prestigious Pulse Perspectives at the Art Gallery of WA, which, combined

with St George's Art, gives young artists an opportunity to kickstart their careers.

For exhibition visitors, this event is a valuable opportunity to see into the minds of the world's future influencers. After more than a year of global upheaval, the Cathedral expects to be providing a fascinating insight into the effects this has had on today's teenagers, along with a range of issues unique to their generation.

The student's works will be professionally curated and photographed for the souvenir catalogue, and prizes awarded by a panel of expert judges. There is no charge for exhibitors, ensuring all young artists are able to participate, from all educational sectors.

St George's Cathedral is grateful to those who support St George's Art, especially the Anglican Community Fund, Anglican Schools Commission, Cathedral Square Foundation, and St George's Cathedral Foundation for the Arts.

St George's Art is open every day from 17 to 25 July 2021, between 10.00am and 4.00pm, 12.00 noon opening on Sundays. Entry to the exhibition is by gold coin donation, and visitors can purchase the catalogue for \$15.00 to add their vote for the People's Choice prize awarded at the close of the exhibition



## KEEP CARING ABOUT AGED CARE

**W**hy should we care about aged care?

Over the past 20 years, there have been 20 government reviews of the aged care sector, which have been largely ignored. If aged care was so important, would the needs of the most vulnerable in our society be scrutinised, and their care lambasted in numerous volumes which were then shelved?

When the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety was established in 2018, it gave many of us hope that the needs of older Australians would finally be addressed.

The final report and recommendations were tabled in Federal Parliament in March, but it wasn't until last month (May 2021) that the Australian Government included its response to the commissioners' recommendations in its federal Budget.

While it supported 126 of the 148 recommendations by announcing an extra \$17.7 billion over five years for the aged care sector, the government's response fell short of the estimated \$10b per year needed to create the system of aged care the commissioners envisioned.

Pivotal to this, the commissioners said, is the creation of an independent pricing authority to determine the real cost of delivering care and ensure that every older Australian could determine their own destiny.

The commissioners' recommendations revolved around five themes, based on the premise that all home and community care programs and residential care would be combined into a single, needs-based system.

The government's response is set out under its five pillars:

### 1 Home care

At first glance, home care is a big winner as the government commits \$7.5b to clear the 100,000-strong waiting list for home care packages. However, some people have been on that list for more than 12 months, and this ongoing issue is not addressed.

### 2 Residential aged care services and sustainability

Of the \$7.8b earmarked to make improvements to residential aged care services and sustainability, half will be used to deliver a mandated minimum time for carers and nurses to spend with a resident. This meets the commissioner's interim 200 minutes per day, including at least 40 minutes with a registered nurse, but does not meet the optimum level of at least 215 minutes, of which 44 minutes would be with a registered nurse.

A small increase in the basic daily fee, as recommended by the commissioners, will go towards improving food and nutrition, and helping residential care services to be more viable and sustainable.

### 3 Residential aged care quality and safety

The royal commission was established following a public outcry when providers were exposed mistreating people in their care. The government has allocated funds to bolster the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission's oversight of the sector, to address failures, and to manage and prevent outbreaks of COVID-19.

### 4 Workforce

At the heart of aged care are people.

The commissioners identified that there needs to be a stable, professional workforce, but this is a sector which is struggling to attract and retain its people.

The commissioners made many recommendations including minimum qualifications and more training for new and existing staff, and an increase in wages to align them with the health sector.

While the budget sets aside funds for training, it doesn't address how to attract and retain staff, nor does it provide funding for better wages.

### 5 Governance

The foundations of the commissioners' new aged care system included a new Aged Care Act which would enshrine a universal right to high quality, safe support. The budget included funds for a new Aged Care Act, and a national Aged Care Advisory Council will be established to provide advice to Government.

So while this is a start, it is by no means a panacea for the aged care sector, and the hope enshrined in the recommendations of the royal commission must not fade.

As Paul wrote to the Romans, so must we 'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12), and continue to care about aged care.





“When Annie lost her hearing, she began to lose her connection with Jack, too. I just had to do something.”

Nezha Delorme, *Amana Living Client Services Manager*



“Annie had a stroke and lost her hearing. It became so hard for her to communicate with her friends and family, and it was especially hard on her husband, Jack, who loves her dearly and is her prime carer.

During my training I'd learned how relationships can become strained as physical or communication difficulties arise. So, with the help of our IT team, we created a solution. We got an iPad for Annie and showed them how to use dictation software that converted Jack's spoken words into text. It brought so much happiness back into their lives. And into mine.”

**Professionally trained. Naturally kind.**



*part of the Anglican community*

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## QUALITY TEACHERS

As Anglicans our faith is founded on a resurrection hope and life-giving possibilities. Maybe the new Federal Minister for Education Alan Tudge is filled with such resurrection joie-de-vivre, as he announced earlier this year a review of teacher training to reskill maths and science savvy professionals to work in schools. It's not the first time this has been done, to be fair. But all power to the Minister in taking the initiative to address a critical skills shortage in our schools.

Under the Federal Government plan, IT experts and accountants will be fast-tracked through rapid training to classrooms across Australia. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) is the buzzword ... and Australia is prioritising teachers in this field to ensure tomorrow's young people receive the same quality teaching and learning you and I received in our school days.

According to Ms Sue Thomson, Deputy Chief Executive of the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER), one in three students across Australia are taught mathematics classes by teachers whose speciality is not in mathematics. Yes, let's not mince words ... this is a learning crisis facing our young people.

While some will argue that fast-tracking people into teaching, (which is usually a four year bachelor's degree training program) could be fraught with danger, I want to draw your thinking to the importance of every child's classroom teacher. Without doubt, the single most important quality for learning success is the teacher. End of story. It has little to do with how expensive the

school fees are, how great the school's facilities might be, or the size of classes. Research is clear on this matter – it's all about the quality of a child's teacher. It is in this area that Principals across our schools invest heavily. They have no more important role in any year than to ensure that they engage the best possible teachers and then empower and resource them to do their job. I say 'job', but of course mean 'vocation'. Why else would a highly successful accountant, engineer or IT executive leave their lucrative corporate position to retrain as a STEM teacher? Because, like teachers across Anglican schools, they too see their work as a calling, a vocation to ministry.

Our difference is our staff ... dedicated teachers and support staff who are called to serve in our schools. This is why the recent announcement by the Federal Education Minister can only lead to good outcomes. Because good people, who have chosen to fulfil their calling by serving young people in our schools, will make great teachers. In fact, they will make fantastic teachers!

The Gospel story reminds us of the great hope we hold as Christians. In the season of Easter, we proclaimed 'Christ is Risen ... He is Risen Indeed, Hallelujah'. It is this great hope that I have in the young people in our schools to be Christ's hands and feet, that drives me to ensure we have the best possible teachers nurturing them along the way. Please join me in giving thanks for our teachers and praying that they may be lights to illuminate the paths of those young people in their care.







## WHAT ENHANCES COMMUNITY WELLBEING?

**W**e have a strong emphasis at Anglicare WA on investing in local communities.

We provide a wide variety of direct services to people requesting many different types of support and we are active in improving community wellbeing by growing local networks and resilience. This month I want to share just a few examples of the ways we are active in strengthening local wellbeing.

### **We advocate for justice and systems change**

Anglicare WA has a vision of a just and fair Western Australia where everyone can thrive. Our purpose is twofold, to drive positive outcomes with those in need and to challenge barriers to thriving. An essential component of our barrier challenging is advocacy. One encouraging example of our effort in this space is the **Home Stretch Initiative**.

Home Stretch responds to the vulnerability and disadvantage many young people experience as they turn 18 and leave State Care. Working in genuine collaboration with young people, the Department of Communities, Yorganop and CREATE WA Foundation, the Home Stretch WA Trial has co-designed and implemented a prototype model for extended support for young people in the substitute care system.

The success of this collaboration lead to a commitment from the State government to introduce a 'once in a generation' reform to the child protection system. The Government has pledged to expand the Home Stretch service offer across the state through a \$38 million investment. This commitment is the largest ever investment into care leavers in Western Australia and will improve the lives of generations of some of the most vulnerable young people in our community.

### **We work in and support local communities**

In WA's rural and regional communities we are also hard at work in partnership with local people and organisations. Just two of these are the **Broome Foyer** project where Anglicare WA in partnership with two other organisations are designing a Foyer youth accommodation model for young people from the Kimberley Region. When completed Foyer Broome will assist Aboriginal young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to achieve



improved social and economic wellbeing and independence through the provision of an innovative and integrated housing and support service.

In the South West we are engaged in the **Bunbury Housing First** initiative. We have joined forces with two other agencies to work towards ending repeat and chronic homelessness for rough sleepers in Greater Bunbury by providing outreach and intensive case management support that will help people source and maintain housing and build their capacity to live independently.

### **And we support local Anglican communities**

I've mentioned our partnerships with Anglican schools and churches in previous Messengers. This work continues to be a strong component of our investment in localities across our State. It is great to note that both our It Only Takes One schools education initiative, and the Anglicare WA Church Community Fund are growing in their scope and reach in partnership with the Anglican Community.

Work is also underway on a resource for Churches called '**Growing Strong Communities**' designed to offer ideas on growing resilience and wellbeing within a local area. Topics include dealing with challenging behaviours, creating a culture of respect and nurture, having 'good conversations', local advocacy for justice, reconciliation with our first peoples, making connections with others in our localities and some basic mental health ideas.

Anglicare WA serves people and communities across our State through a diverse range of programs and services. We offer more than 70 different services at 47 locations across the WA, last year serving 41 602 people. This is made possible through our commitment to partnership as we seek to work towards a community which is just and fair and where everyone can thrive.



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- Plan your life after 55 or
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**For more information contact Romm Niblett**

9263 2076 | [romm.niblett@anglicarewa.org.au](mailto:romm.niblett@anglicarewa.org.au)



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**To enquire about a new or existing Parish Loan please contact the ACF team.**

\*note that as we don't charge set-up or ongoing fees the interest rate is equivalent to a comparison interest rate.

\*\* Repairs & Maintenance (Special offer) loans have a maximum amount of \$10,000 for each Parish with a maximum term of 24 months.

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## THE POWER OF ART THERAPY IN RECOVERY

While the therapeutic benefits of both creating and appreciating art have been enjoyed for centuries, the now renowned term 'art therapy' was in fact first coined by British artist Adrian Hill in 1942. It was while Hill was recovering from tuberculosis that he discovered the benefits of art through creating his own paintings and drawings.

Since then, many studies have been carried out to determine the exact benefits of art as a form of therapy in the treatment of trauma, anxiety, grief and abuse. According to an All-party Parliamentary Group on Arts Health and Wellbeing inquiry report (Creative Health: The Arts for Health and Wellbeing):

- Music therapy has been found to reduce agitation and the need for medication in 67% of people with dementia.
- An arts-on-prescription project has seen a 37% drop in GP consultation rates and a 27% reduction in hospital admissions.
- A study conducted within deprived communities in London found that, of those people who engaged with the arts, 79% ate more healthily and 77% engaged in more physical activity, while 82% enjoyed greater wellbeing.

(cited from: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/blog/getting-creative-to-change-peoples-lives/>)

**For more information on St Bart's services, please visit [stbarts.org.au](https://stbarts.org.au) and get in touch with me on 9323 5101 or [chaplain@stbarts.org.au](mailto:chaplain@stbarts.org.au)**

At St Bart's we are fortunate to have a number of residents and clients who engage in artmaking, which assists greatly in their recovery journey. One such resident is Karlene, who says art has helped her push past some really tough times in her life.

'I have my own way of expressing my feelings through art,' says Karlene. 'A lot of passion goes into it and I find it really therapeutic. I will always be doing art because it makes me happy and I feel at peace and a sense of healing within me.'

Ollie is another St Bart's client who delves into art as a way of easing some of her mental health challenges. While residing at our Women's Service, Ollie encouraged other residents to start painting for its therapeutic benefits, and pays it forward by donating her pieces to people with disabilities. In December 2020, she had the opportunity to present one of her paintings to Premier Mark McGowan on his visit to St Bart's.

'When I'm painting, I don't notice the change in personalities,' says Ollie. 'I like bringing colours out in the canvas, and the idea of someone smiling at it.'

We are very fortunate to have a diverse team of volunteers here at St Bart's, and through them we look forward to being able to provide many more opportunities for art therapy for our residents and clients going forward.





## OUR RICH LITURGICAL HERITAGE

The 'arts' covers a wide range of creative endeavours. Singers, composers, actors, painters, authors, musicians and entertainers are variously described as artists. Producers of hand made goods, be it bread, leather goods, handicrafts, wood, metal work and jewellery are styled artisans. The sons of Lamech, Jubal and Tubal-Cain, are described as the fathers of the flute and harp and of the makers of tools of bronze and iron in Genesis (4:21-22).

Such gifts from God, represent one aspect of what it means to be made in his image: creative. Along with every other human endeavour, those with artistic flair should use this gift to bring honour and glory to God and good to others. Our liturgies remind us of this privileged responsibility when we affirm: *we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice ... to live and work to your praise and glory.*

Artists, like the rest of us, are not exempt from keeping the commandments, which set boundaries that shape and enrich our public words, behaviour and lifestyle. Public artistry enhances this responsibility, because of its widespread influence and power to persuade as it entertains. Our endeavour takes place outside the garden, by fallen creatures. The image of God remains but it is easily defaced. For this reason it is much easier to entertain, and live, in ways that appeal to sinful nature, rather than to what is good and God honouring.

Simone Weil challenges artists and consumers alike to resist this seductive bias: 'imaginary evil is romantic and varied; real evil is gloomy, monotonous, barren, boring. Imaginary good is boring; real good is always new, marvellous, intoxicating.' It takes much more talent, skill and wisdom to promote real good than evil.

Our liturgies come to our help. By lifting our minds and hearts upwards, away from the trivial, tempting, traumatic and titillating, we are ennobled, kept from degrading others and honouring our Creator. Phrases like: *cleanse the thoughts of our hearts; worthily magnify your holy name; incline our hearts to keep this law; we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life; lead us not into temptation; strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; lift up your hearts* ringing in our ears, help us to be discerning as to what artistry we allow into our minds, homes and lives.



Given the loving warning of our Lord about the importance of what we allow ourselves to look at and think about in terms of money and sexuality (Matthew 5:27-29, 6:21-23), we are wise to be careful about what we allow ourselves. The arts are persuasive, and sadly, like advertising, easily appeal to our sinful natures. Books, theatre or movies can bring joy and life-long harm. Unlike animals made to act by instinct, we are given minds and instructions so we can love God and respect others.

The appeal of the Bible and our liturgies is made primarily to our minds, so that we can feed on the nourishing and reject all that would demean others and ridicule God and his gracious commands. We owe it to artists, ourselves, our fellow believers, our children and grandchildren to be discerning. If it is not good for the eyes and minds of children, it won't be for ours either. If we cannot thank God for the entertainment we are planning to watch or read we would be wise, in the interests of honouring God and care for others, not to engage. We are our brother's keeper and are taught to *love our neighbour as ourselves.*

Matthew Henry's prayer was wise, 'Father put my mouth out of the taste of the food with which Satan baits his hooks'. Os Guinness's concern for future generations, left to imbibe the often narcissistic and mindless entertainment of our age, without the discernment grid of Biblical liturgy, warns: 'woe betide the family, the nation, or the church that fails to pass on its best and its wisest to the next generation'. Passing on the best of human endeavour is a God given responsibility and privilege, worthy of our prayer, effort and praise.





# HOSPITALS

**Y**ou might come to Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital after a car accident on a highway, or a fall at home. Most of our parish children were born at the hospital. You can see a visiting specialist, get urgent mental health care, have your blood cleaned up by dialysis three times a week, be treated for infections, have simple surgery or get chemotherapy. You may be a Kalgoorlie-Boulder local or far from your home in a distant town or a remote Aboriginal communities. I have visited most parts of the hospital many times, praying for people who are in distress or dying, or grateful that they are recovering.



In recent months, I've been on the receiving end of care at Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital. A Government-sponsored screening test led to a colonoscopy. I discovered whole new areas of the hospital: day procedures, pathology collections, experienced and emerging doctors with expertise in bowel care and anaesthesia, nurses with questions about medical history and information about what to expect from various procedures. Sitting in waiting rooms, I've wondered about (and prayed for) my fellow patients, facing their own medical challenges. I've done my background research and asked all my practical and scientific questions about what, why and how.

All the people who cared for me at Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital were generous with their skills and information, and very approachable. They've answered my questions and given me the advice I've needed. After the colonoscopy, the CT scan and the diagnosis of

bowel cancer, they referred me to the Goldfields' bigger partner hospital in Perth for the life-saving surgery that I had in April.

I believe in, and I pray to, a God who heals. Jesus of Nazareth brought God's life-giving power to all kinds of people whose lives were ground down by pain or disease of body, mind or spirit. Sometimes Jesus Christ still comes with powerful and scientifically unexplained restoration of health to people who are sick. Sometimes his gift of healing takes the form of peace, courage and companionship as we make our last journey through death to the place that he has prepared for us in his Father's

house. Often, his gift of healing is given through the medical skills of the women and men who work as our GPs and in our community clinics, labs and hospitals. And, yes, through those Government-sponsored screening tests – please do yours!

As I give heartfelt thanks for the healing and compassionate care that I have received at Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital and in Perth, I keep on praying for our local hospital. God bless all the healers: the multi-skilled nurses and the specialist doctors; the Aboriginal liaison workers and the admin people behind the scenes; the experienced medics and the young registrars on rotation in the bush; the radiologists, obstetricians, paediatricians, psychiatrists. May each patient feel Christ close to them in their distress. May every healer be enfolded by God's healing strength and wisdom, as they care for each of us in our times of need.



## REFUGEE WEEK 20-26 JUNE

Each year around this time, Australia celebrates Refugee Week as a way of honouring the contribution refugees make to our society. It is also a time to remember and reflect upon the often terrifying, dangerous and perilous journeys many refugees make before finding sanctuary in Australia.

Christian and other faith groups celebrate Refugee Sunday during this time as a day to focus our prayers, hearts and services in companionship with refugees and people seeking asylum. Our Church has a long history of supporting and offering sanctuary to refugees. This is our response to the injunction for us to care for the foreigner or alien in our midst: 'The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself' (Leviticus 19:34a).

Today in Australia there are many people among us who are not treated or loved as our fellow citizens. They are denied the full social support and work rights given to citizens as they seek asylum and refuge, often for an extended indefinite period while their asylum requests are processed.

Because of our modern urban life, coupled with the need for many people seeking asylum to work in regional areas, our physical neighbours may not be refugees or asylum seekers. We may not, in our daily life, 'see' the pain and suffering caused by our government policies on refugees and people seeking asylum.

St Teresa of Avila, however, reminds us that ours are the eyes with which Christ 'looks compassion on this world'. It is our seeing of the reality of the current refugee arrangements in Australia that will allow Christ to look with compassion. We are therefore called to see, so Christ may see, the reality of the situation. We can begin by going to the Refugee Council of Australia's website ([www.refugeecouncil.org.au](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au)) and reading the stories of people, taking note of the statistics, remembering each number means a unique person made in the image of God.



And as St Teresa continues, Christ has no body, no hands, and no feet now but ours. So, moved by what we see and know, we may act as Christ and act with our hands, feet and bodies. As we shake the hand of the politicians we meet to advocate for refugees and people seeking asylum. As we embrace the stranger in our midst, as we write letters seeking change – as we wildly, but with love, gesticulate to make our point when discussing with family and friends.

This important work is not up to 'the Diocese' or the Archbishop; it is not up to the Social Responsibilities Commission, it is up to us all, as we are all the eyes, hands and body of Christ.

### A PRAYER FOR REFUGEES

Almighty and merciful God,  
whose Son became a refugee  
and had no place to call his own;  
look with mercy on those who today  
are fleeing from danger,  
homeless and hungry.

Bless those who work to bring them relief;  
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;  
and guide the nations of the world towards that day  
when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of  
justice and of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Peregrin Campbell-Osgood, Advocacy Commissions Project Officer, will be preaching in recognition of World Environment Day at the 5.00pm Choral Evensong on Sunday 6 June in St George's Cathedral



## PARISH OF WARNBRO - LINK PARTNERSHIP WITH KAMAGUT PARISH, ELDORET, KENYA

*Being in partnership is an outward sign of us being in communion with each other as we strive to grow in our communion with God. The body of Christ cannot be contained within any one Diocese, and our being in partnership is one way to demonstrate the need we have for each other in our want to live, and be, the body of Christ.*

*Quote from Diocesan Website*

In 2017 the Diocese of Perth and the Diocese of Eldoret recommitted to a further three years of Partnership in Mission. The partnership began in June 2020 on the request of Jill Bowman, a member of the Diocesan Partnership in Mission group.

A Whatsapp group was established between members of the Kamagut Parish (17 participants), The Revd David Lord, Jill Bowman, Mike Rayner and myself as the link person for St Brendan's by the Sea, Warnbro. One of the members of the executive council of the Kamagut Parish, Jeremiah Morogo, is the Group Administrator, and the main person who contributes to the communication in the group.

We generally have weekly communication via Whatsapp as this seems to be the best way for the Kamagut members to access technology.

Most of the sharing of information between us has been in the form of photos and videos plus inspirational pieces taken from the internet. The inspirational pieces are the most favoured type of communication by the Kamagut members. We are encouraging our brothers and sisters to contribute more information about their churches by modelling different ways of sharing information. I often ask them for prayer points that can be included in our intercessions and ask them to pray for our particular needs.

I have become a friend of the daughter of one of the Kamagut parishioners, Celline Jekirui, who is studying to be a nurse in Perth. Celline and I co-presented a PowerPoint session at both our services on 25 October 2020. This was the beginning of making our parish aware

of the Kamagut Parish, their church life and some of their culture. On the 14 February 2021 I shared a PowerPoint for our congregation to watch before each of our services. This was the first of a monthly information and awareness raising activity that I hope to continue on the first Sunday of each month – COVID-19 shutdowns permitting.

We persist in finding ways in how the whole parish can engage and contribute to the building of the partnership. We continue to pray for the people of Kamagut as they struggle with all the difficulties that the COVID pandemic presents to a very poor country like Kenya. I personally enjoy the communication we have and have been humbled by the strength of their Christian faith.





# AROUND THE DIOCESE

Dr Christine Ledger

## LAUNCH OF CHRISTINE LEDGER'S BOOK *WHO IS THIS VERNON CORNISH?*

Sermon preached by The Revd Jon Cornish  
St George's Cathedral, 19 May 2021

### **Revelation and Memory**

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Welcome and thank you all for coming. Vernon and Dell would be delighted. It's 42 years to the day when my father was ordained a bishop here at St George's Cathedral and became an Assistant Bishop of Perth.

I think my Father would have liked the fact that 42 years later, some memory of his time here is being recalled. Forty-two is a good number. In Douglas' Adams book *The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, 42 was the answer to 'Life, the universe and everything'.

Douglas Adams was a Christian and in fact, the answer to 'Life the universe and everything' as '42' was a reference to Isaiah 42 (1-3) . . . It is a prophetic reference in the Christian tradition to Jesus, his life and teaching: *Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.*

Special mention goes to my brother Philip who has come all the way from Melbourne to be here and my brother Nicholas sends his apologies. To have two out of the three brothers here isn't bad, as the song goes, 'Two out of three ain't bad' . . . it was a song first performed by Meatloaf in 1977 (from his album entitled 'Bat out of Hell', which should remain nameless – especially in this place!). I don't like Meatloaf anymore – his music I mean, not the meal – but that's another story.

Finally, special mention also to Christine Ledger the author of *Who is this Vernon Cornish?* and her husband, Geoff, all the way from Canberra. I will shortly invite Christine to share some fascinating facts about *Who is this Vernon Cornish?* but before I do that, I wanted to share my theme today.

My theme today is Revelation and Memory.

Revelation is that unveiling, be it of a person, an insight into creation, the witnessing of something beautiful and full of light, or indeed, revelation can be the unmasking of something dark and hidden, difficult and ugly.

The life of Jesus is a revelation of God. The revelation of the light – so we can see and follow him.

Memory on the other hand, is to recall something, a detail, a thought, a memory of an action, a memory of a feeling. Feelings are the strongest memory. The memory can be clear, a little foggy or dim.

Memory in the ancient world is fundamental in understanding who we truly are. For the ancient world, to remember who you truly are, is actually a revelation of the

truth. The truth that we come from God, we are invited to walk with God in our lives and that we return to God.

Both Memory and Revelation are fundamental Spiritual themes in Christian discourses. In remembering Vernon, we remember too, what was revealed in his life as a Christian, as one of the faithful, who lived a full and busy life in the service of the Lord.



Vernon Cornish at 1981 Perth Synod

I now invite Christine Ledger to share with us five fascinating facts, perhaps even revelations, revealed in the process of writing a book about Vernon:

Christine Ledger's Five Fascinating facts about Vernon's vocational path:

- 1 *Vernon's first love was the stage. He was an actor, musically talented and a natural comedian. In the 1940s, while still a teenager, he won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London. He was shattered when he couldn't take it up.*
- 2 *Vernon left high school in Ipswich in 1949 to work as a cadet journalist on the Queensland Times. This honed his talent for storytelling. When television arrived in Queensland in 1959, he was on the screen within a fortnight and soon discovered that live television had its perils. Storytelling infused his sermons.*
- 3 *Vernon was a rectory kid and knew that the life of a priest was not all smooth sailing. He did not rush into it. It was Hilda Beaumont, a pioneering woman leader in the Anglican Church in Brisbane, who finally convinced him to heed the call and he entered theological college in 1955. He proved to be an influential and much-loved priest and bishop.*
- 4 *Vernon met Dell Caswell at Brisbane diocesan summer schools. Dell's family were not church goers and she had a questioning mind. She embraced faith in Christ and embarked on theological training that closely resembled Vernon's. Vernon embraced marriage to Dell in 1960. They made a wonderful and inspiring team.*



5 The Cornish family arrived in Perth in 1976. Soon, Dell embarked on a degree and did a research project on the attitudes of lay people to the ordination of women. Vernon led the debate at the 1980 synod on the ordination of women and so helped pave the way for this diocese to make history with the ordination of women by the new archbishop, Peter Carnley. We have since seen the fruit in the blossoming of the vocations of many women. Vernon and Dell would be thrilled to witness the leadership of Archbishop Kay and Bishop Kate in this diocese today.



What I didn't realize at the time, was that I was in communion with him. This is what communion is all about. Here he was, a kind-hearted, faithful man, loving his children and reaching out to them, providing emotional and practical support. It was his gift to me.

As too, is the gift of the Sacraments to us in the life of Jesus.

When we hear the words 'Do this in remembrance of me'. This is a call to be 're-membered' – to be pulled back into line to be part of the body of Christ. Communion and the shared meal is lived.

Christine has given you some revelations of the light of Vernon's life revealed for God's glory. I now share with you, one memory of Vernon from me. A memory of his revelation, of his light and lightness.

My time at UWA was short, but while I was at St George's College; once a week I would happily ride my bike into St George's Cathedral to have lunch with my father. We would just go up here to a shop (I point in the direction of where the old Law Chambers was). He would buy me lunch and we would just talk. Honestly, we'd talk about anything. I think I would do most of the talking! He would usually get a jaffle - I would get a ham and cheese toasted sandwich. In short, these were happy days and he remained patient with me.

We too are called to do the same. To be members of his kingdom and to live the faith.

Memory and revelation are inextricably linked, and it is the fundamental purpose of the Gospel to invite us into this process of ongoing transformation.

God through Jesus calls us to be one, like he is one and through this, remember the Gospel and reveal his light. God wants us to remember who we truly are. That we are in **truth** of God, all love and lightness and to live a life of that truth as his revelation.

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.



Consecration day - with Cornish family



## NEWS FROM THE NOR'WEST - ROEBOURNE

**T**o God be the glory! Holy Trinity Church reopening, in Roebourne, the West Pilbara Parish, on 7 May. A wonderful service of praise and thanksgiving. About 100 people, locals including members of the Pilbara Aboriginal Church, and travellers including descendants of the original pioneer families. Others connected with the church from the 1970s and 1990s when living in Karratha and Wickham and the restoration project had travelled from Perth for the occasion, including the Chair of the Heritage Council of WA John Cowdell, to welcome the restored 125 year old building reopened.

Joy Brann, who in 2010 was dismayed to see a very decrepit church, set the wheels in motion to restore the historic building. A decade later, after working with the Heritage Council, the National Trust, the local Anglican Minister Richard Goscombe, Dave Baessler a local German stonemason, and the Friends of Holy Trinity, her vision came to fruition. So many stories and memories!!



The congregation at the end of the service.

The Pilbara Aboriginal Fellowship celebrated 50 years the same weekend with an outdoor service on the old reserve beside the Harding River. What a privilege to attend with former pastor David Stevens, who began working in Roebourne in 1960, and founded the church in 1970. He recounted the history, and encouraged us to look to God's promises, as God always fulfils what he promises!!



Joy Brann (centre) with descendants of the Withnell and Hall families, original settlers in the 1860s and Canon C Groser, minister there in 1886-87

Bill and I took a trip down memory through Dampier and Karratha, marvelling at the developments in the past 30 years. Special time was spent with the Parish of West Pilbara Minister, The Revd Frank Nicol and his wife Jo, Lydia, Eli and Silas in the Karratha Rectory. Frank's parish consists of Karratha, Dampier, Wickham, Roebourne. At present the Mission to Seafarers' Centre has no resident chaplain, so Frank also manages there.

As well it was lovely to spend a couple of nights in Port Hedland with Harbour Master, Lindsay Copeman, and visit Port Hedland Minister Eion and Claire Simmons. The Mission to Seafarers' Centre has just started Harbour Tours again after Covid.

The Visitors' Centre is managed by the Mission to Seafarers, another stopover with Manager Julie Arif, a passionate advocate for Port Hedland. There is so much new to see there and learn about. For those who are snow geese and looking to travel north this winter, check out Onslow, Roebourne, Port Hedland – great places to visit - so much to see and enjoy! If you are in town on Sunday, please find a church to visit. You become such an encouragement for the local congregations!

Mullewa is our next 'must see'! Not only the wildflower season but the centenary of St. Andrew's Church on 29 August with a service at 11.00am followed by a light lunch. Contact: Judy Critch - 0429 625 044

'Look to me!' - all the time and for everything (Isaiah 45.22).

*Jocelyn Ross*



## THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SHINES FROM THE 'CHURCH ON THE HILL'



Holy Trinity Church Roebourne shines brightly over the town

*Photo by Bob Ellis*

On Friday 7 May the north west pioneer town of Roebourne in the Pilbara experienced what locals called an historic event. The occasion was a Thanksgiving Service in Holy Trinity Church to mark the 125th anniversary of its opening in 1895, and the completion of a five year restoration project. Holy Trinity stands on Mt Welcome, overlooking the township and the Harding River flowing to the sea at the distant old port of Cossack. It is the first built and oldest church in the North West. Local people regard it as a steadfast reminder of the presence of God, and as beacon pointing people to the eternal gospel of salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Service was conducted by The Revd Frank Nicol, Senior Minister of the Parish of the West Pilbara, with Gary Nelson the Bishop of North West Australia preaching from the text of the Lost Sheep. We give glory to God for the contributions of everyone who had a hand in the restoration of the church and the Thanksgiving Service.

The church was too small to hold the crowd of about 100 and the overflow were seated outside watching via a giant TV screen. People came from all over WA and as far away as NSW to celebrate alongside local residents and VIPs. It was a highlight to praise God along with people linked to original pioneer families, past church members, members of the Pilbara Aboriginal Church and members of the Friends of Holy Trinity - a key support group of the restoration. The congregation included seven descendants of John and Emma

Withnell - pioneer settlers at Roebourne and faithful foundation members of the church - Pastor David Stevens (founder of the Pilbara Aboriginal Church 50 years ago), the former Wickham Minister and project manager The Revd Richard Goscombe, and David Baessler (the builder responsible for the restoration).

It was a joyful occasion for Dr Joy Brann AM, who was the instigator and tireless worker to raise people's commitment and funds to restore the church to its former glory after some years of neglect and decay. Sadly, Ms Maureen Lissman, a key supporter of Holy Trinity Roebourne, was ill and unable to attend.



Joy Brann AM at the Thanksgiving Service

*Photo by ABC Karratha*

Conversations continued over supper long after the Service concluded, as old friends and acquaintances shared memories of their days at church, and stories of earlier days passed down by relatives. Another talking point was the plans displayed for future development which include landscaping and essential facilities such as toilets. Our prayer is to revive regular worship and gospel ministry at Holy Trinity.

We welcome your prayers and support for those hopes to be realized, that the light of Christ may again shine brightly from the Church on the Hill and draw people to join in the worship of Almighty God. We pray that the ongoing proclamation of the Gospel of salvation will draw many into his Kingdom.



## BUNBURY BULLETIN

As our theme is 'The Arts' I was inspired to share with the province a wonderful gift of religious art which has been received by St Boniface Cathedral, Bunbury.

The series of seven oil painting is entitled 'The Seven Days of Creation' and is the work of Australian artist, John Coburn (1925-2006). Completed in 1969, the purpose of the oil paintings was to form the prototype for a set of woven tapestries which were created in Aubusson, France in 1970 and one set of these tapestries now hangs in the John F Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts in Washington, sent to the USA as a gift from the Australian Government.

The series has been donated to St Boniface Anglican Cathedral by The Revd John Simpson in memory of the Sisters of St Elizabeth Hungary and hangs in the St David Chapel. The works are bold and abstract but sit in their new home as though they were created just for that place. They depict the days of creation as the title would suggest in Coburn's unique style. We would extend a welcome to anyone visiting the area to call in and experience the profound effect religious art can have on the soul.

In other news, we continue to try to plan and minister as usual despite the uncertainty of lockdowns and covid restrictions. Our next diocesan event will



be the Cursillo weekend planned for 9-11 July and welcome your prayers for the team and participants as they prepare for this.





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The Rt Revd Dr Jonathan Holland | Principal, St Francis College, Milton

## **Who Is This Vernon Cornish?**

by Christine Ledger, G&C Brisbane, 2020



Bishop Jonathan Holland from St Francis College with biography writer Christine Ledger in February 2021

'Vernon was a natural entertainer...with the capacity to generate a laugh, not at others' expense or at the faith, but laughter at things as a sign of the redemptive presence of the risen Christ. Ledger's biography explores this aspect well, along with two other strengths that any ordained person might aspire to,' says Bishop Jonathan Holland in this biography review.

Anglicanism has a tendency to produce in its members a unique understated goodness. A good example is Vernon Cornish. He is described early on in this biography as a 'solidly good person' (p5). One is reminded of the description given to Barnabas in Acts: a 'good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith' (Acts 11.24).

This biography by Christine Ledger follows a chronological narrative of Cornish's life. Born in 1931, he had a happy childhood as the eldest son in an Anglican clergy family, despite his mother having some debilitating sickness for some years. He took up journalism, although acting and drama were his passions, before offering for the priesthood. Ordained in 1957, he served first as a chaplain at The Southport School, then rector of St Matthew's in Sherwood, rector of St Luke's in Toowoomba, Dean of Perth Cathedral and Assistant Bishop of Perth. In 1981 he was elected Bishop of Tasmania, but never had the chance to take up the office, dying suddenly and unexpectedly of a brain haemorrhage in January 1982. He is one of a string of ordained Anglicans who seemed to have so much to offer the Church and the world, yet died prematurely. One thinks of Frank Coaldrake, John Gaden, Graham Delbridge and David Penman.

I met Vernon a few times in Perth when he was Dean, but did not appreciate his background in drama and theatre. Vernon was a natural entertainer – in the best sense of entertainment – with the capacity to generate a laugh, not at others' expense or at the faith, but laughter at things as a sign of the redemptive presence of the risen Christ. Ledger's biography explores this aspect well, along with two other strengths that any ordained person might aspire to: he was a sensitive and loving pastor and he was a gifted communicator, skills which served him well in every appointment given to him.

His ministry was a hinge between two very contrasting times in the Church's life. He grew up and was ordained in the halcyon days of the 1950s and 60s, a time when congregations were growing, churches were being planted, hundreds of children were in Sunday Schools and churches in the suburbs were providing a range of social activities not otherwise available to the young families settling there. Then he participated as a more senior cleric in the days that marked the numerical decline and increasing marginalisation of the Church in the 1970s and 80s. Yet even in those times, Cornish was an effective clergyperson, dealing sensitively and with good humour the abrasions – some of them quite dismaying – of school, parish and cathedral life. Ledger chronicles these abrasions well.

There are some areas I would have liked to see explored a little more in the biography. Why was his father so resistant to him as an 18-year-old taking up a prestigious acting scholarship in London and how did Cornish integrate within himself this point-blank patriarchal refusal for him to develop what was both his natural talent and his passion? Did it not affect his relationship with his father, even a little?

As well, Cornish comes across as a little too virtuous. Perhaps he was. On the few occasions I met him he struck me as a balanced and warm man, good humoured and not easily flappable. Yet I imagine he was as flawed as any of us, although any flaws are not very evident. Is it the case that deep tragedy alone really reveals our most honest and true selves? There seems to have been little or no deep tragedy to explore in Cornish's life, but lots of challenges and difficulties, which he rose to and resolved with pastoral sensitivity, personal equanimity and sociable goodwill.



This biography brings to life one who was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, whose untimely death at the age of 51 brought a great loss to his wife Dell and family, his friends and the Church. Yet his goodness shines through in that shorter life and that should encourage all of us who seek to tread the same path of discipleship of Jesus Christ.



The Rt Revd Dr Peter Brain

## **In The Year of Our Lord: Reflections on Twenty Centuries of Church History**

Sinclair B Ferguson, Reformation Trust 2018

Ferguson has given us an interesting tour of the last 20 centuries selecting one major highlight from each century which made a real impact on the church and world. It was fascinating to be introduced to two or three of the main players from each century who shaped our church family.

The title is a deliberate correction, to the secularised CE (Common Era) reflecting his conviction that 'we cannot avoid the significant impact on history of Jesus of Nazareth'.

Each chapter is enhanced with a hymn from that century. I was encouraged by the ones I knew but equally keen to find tunes, and a context, to sing the ones I was not familiar with.

This is not a complete Church History, but it does serve its purpose of giving us a real appreciation of our family forebears, upon whose insights, convictions, work and bravery, we are beneficiaries.

# A Journey of Hope. One Year On...



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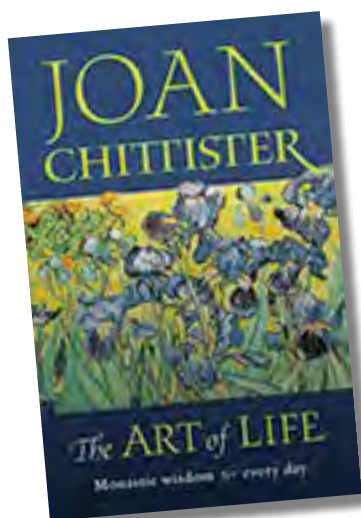
To find out more, please visit [abmission.org/tax2021](http://abmission.org/tax2021)





## BOOK REVIEWS

Shirley Cloughton



### **THE ART OF LIFE, Monastic Wisdom for everyday - RRP \$24.95**

**Joan Chittister**

Joan Chittister in this classic book, looks to masterpieces of Art for inspiration and in her monastic wisdom helps the reader discover when fullness of life begins. Sister Joan is a beloved and best-selling author, speaker and gifted spiritual guide.

This beautifully presented book takes twelve art masterpieces – one for each month – and then further divides the month into a reflection for each day. To divulge the creative method she uses would spoil the anticipation, but it is a delightful way of drawing the reader into the meditation.

The art works are by such as Cezanne, Charles Hunt, Van Gogh. They are reproduced in full, lustrous colour and Sister Joan proceeds to bring the artworks to life in her meditations. Reflection on 'Nocturnal Berlin Street with Cab' by Lesser Ury, she reminds us that 'when we cultivate silence, we are really cultivating communication . . . night is the first line of therapeutic defence for those exhausted by the demands for attention that come with the day'.

Pondering on Van Gogh's Riot of Irises: 'winter teaches us what it means to close one phase of life so that we can begin something else, totally different, totally new. It gives us the joy of beginning over and over again throughout the whole of life'.

Sister Joan is one of the great spiritual writers of our time and calls us to recognise God in all aspects of life. On her website [www.JoanChittister.org](http://www.JoanChittister.org). Sister Joan is headlined as having a Passion for God a Passion for Justice and a Passion for Life. However, her passion leads to her being forthright and just last month, she spoke in the news defending her outspoken views regarding inclusion of women and laity in the Roman Catholic church. Also in May 2021, she was presented with an honorary degree from Carlow University USA as she 'provided our graduates with the message they need to hear in these turbulent times'. This talk and many other reflections, conversations, on-line discussions and links can be accessed on her informative website. Log in for a wealth of links and meditations.



### **MY VERY FIRST BEDTIME STORYBOOK – Stories and blessings for the very young - \$24.95**

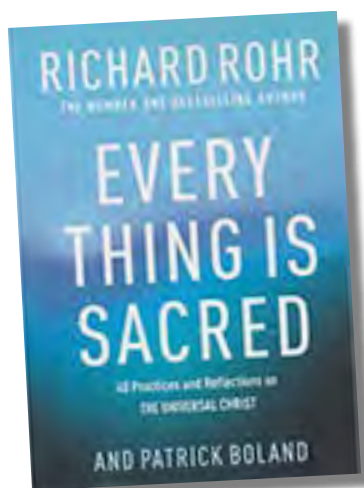
**Lois Rock**

The ten stories here are not just random stories – each reflects on values such as sharing, caring, compassion and listening. The collection reflects the sincere belief of the author's 'exuberant goodness of little children'. Christian values are drawn out intrinsically, not only in the narrative itself, but particularly in a 'blessing' which draws together the positive thoughts of the story, in a comforting way to round off the day. The examen (a way of prayer drawn from the teachings of Saint Ignatius) is a way many Christians use as a way of reviewing each day with gratefulness, and of expressing gratitude. In a wise and gentle way, each blessing encourages the child to reflect on that story and their own day, with gratitude, and to look forward to tomorrow.

The presentation of this book with vibrant colour illustrations by talented artist Alex Ayliffe, makes the book appealing. The charming papercut pictures work extremely well for children and the stories cover the type of everyday adventures, children will recognise – building sandcastles, the toys' tea party, special friends, pets, parties and lost toys.

A sturdy A4 hard cover book with dust jacket, it is remarkably good value and a wonderful addition to any child's library. Aimed at children from around 3-7, the messages can also be helpful for a much wider audience. It is the blessing (the gratitude prayer) which makes it different to other storybooks.





**EVERY THING IS SACRED, 40 Practices and Reflection on the Universal Christ**  
RRP \$32.95

**Richard Rohr and Patrick Boland**

First stocks are just arriving at St Johns Books and discounts can be given for groups as the book becomes more available.

This is Richard Rohr's latest book, just published. A companion/study guide to the Universal Christ, it is also an inspiring book itself.

The Universal Christ was our best-selling book in 2019, and it seems that every parish that has a study group, has used it! Richard has, this time, worked in partnership with Patrick Boland, a psychotherapist and member of the Centre for Action and Contemplation.

In his Introduction, Richard says that 'this book is neither pious nor academic but is filled with spiritual knowing waiting to be transferred to you if you have the right app... yet this book is not a workbook either because it is hardly work at all, nor does it ask for grinding concentration. We might just call it A Guide to Christian Freedom and Fun! (But in a Quite Serious way). Why not?'

Forty reflections – great for Lent of course, but for anytime at all, for readers who want to unpack the liberating message of The Universal Christ and to use that message in their everyday lives. Each chapter incorporates valuable Reflective Exercises – some suitable for a group whilst other exercises will work perfectly for individuals. Included are some very different, unique types of exercises.

Every Thing is Sacred should increase one's awareness of God in the world. It might take you a whole year to read this book!

In the meantime, log in to Richard Rohr's website at [www.cac.org](http://www.cac.org) and discover a wealth of spiritual helps, daily blogs and links.



**THE ART OF ADVENT: A painting a day from Advent to Epiphany** - \$22.00

**Jane Williams**

This beautiful pocket-size book is a gem involving Art, Biblical study, Prayer, Discussion and Reflection on 37 both famous and lesser-known masterpieces of Western Art. Reading this book will be a pleasure and a discovery of which artists she chose to include. The images are in clear, vibrant full colour, but the text is small.

The book was chosen by then Archbishop of York, John Sentamu as his Advent book in 2018. He wrote that Jane takes us on a journey which challenges us to think more deeply about what we believe, why and how it affects and influences our lives. And how certain paintings can help us to understand different aspects of our most holy faith, often in surprising ways.

The cover image is of Brian Kershisnik's Nativity 2006 and Jane's discussion draws on elements focusing on how Mary, Joseph and the midwives are transfixed by the baby, in contrast to the cloud of witnesses, steaming in, pointing and peering. She also contrasts the mundane and the extraordinary and the wish for safe space.

A brilliant description of Dreamtime Birth, a remarkable painting by Indigenous Australian artist Greg Weatherby, draws out some surprises, including eternal, universal motifs, discovering meaning and purpose in creation and encouragement to go back to the Genesis creation accounts and see again that the world is created to be interconnected. This meditation is wonderful and invites discussion.

Whilst it is not easy to obtain copies of The Art of Advent currently, St Johns Books has sourced several copies of this book in time for Advent.

Naomi Lam | Diocesan Archivist

With this month's theme for the *Messenger* being the Arts, it is an opportunity to write about the Archives themselves and some of our work over the year.

Archives sit within the GLAM sector (Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums). Archives are often described as the memory of an institution and have a role in record keeping and good governance. Through their practical and symbolic meaning, they can also be used to explore ideas and tell stories. What is collected and what is not can all contribute to a greater understanding of organisations and individuals.

In 2020, the Perth Diocesan Archives were recipients of a Community Heritage Grant awarded by the National Library of Australia. The grant was to fund a Preservation Needs Assessment (PNA) which looks at the condition of the collection and the environment in which it is housed. The assessment was undertaken by conservator Stephanie Bailey who came out to view the collection in March 2021.

The recommendations which were listed in the assessment were broken down into short-, medium- and long-term. These recommendations will be used to guide our work in Archives over the next few years, prioritising the more vulnerable collections.

Our magnetic media, which includes cassette tape, video tape and film, has been identified for conservation in the assessment. A previous assessment which was done in 2008 recommends an annual program of rewinding magnetic media. Since then, guidelines have changed, and Conservators now recommend that magnetic media be digitised with some urgency.

*All magnetic tape is vulnerable due to both the intrinsic instability of the medium and format*



2013/00019/001 Afternoon wear of Mrs Riley 1890 – 1900. One of the recommendations are to repack costume using trays within the box to separate parts of an outfit. Padding out some collections with Dacron filled cushions so as not to create creases will also be something we will work on in the coming years.



*obsolescence. Digitisation of this material is an urgent need as it is estimated by the National Film and Sound Archive that 'tape that is not digitised by 2025 will in most cases be lost forever' (Bailey, 2021, p9).*

Other recommendations include looking at our disaster recovery strategy. This means having a plan in place so that we can respond quickly to any disasters within the archives. This can include water damage, mould, insect outbreak and fire and minimise any damage.

Working through the recommendations within the PNA will support the archives into the future ensuring this nationally significant collection remains accessible.

Archive shelving. Recommendations within the PNA also include an update to some of the shelving using more inert materials such as powder coated steel.

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- Bailey, Stephanie. (2021) Preservation Needs Assessment the Anglican Archives of the Perth Diocese  
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## MULTI-FACE DUNE



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

- 1., & 8 across. Hack around in a daze. (4)
2. Medical rounds in a fraction. (7)
8. See 1 across.
10. Traditional tarpaulins across the communion table? (5)
11. Atmosphere in the prairies. (3)
13. I hear two of me are Arnhem Land fairies. (5)
16. The abbreviated Hebrew scriptures. (2)
18. Me to be a rapper? (3)
19. Suitable in a baptism. (3)
21. Yellow Hawaiian bird in zoo! (2)
22. Were, I hear, making a drone noise. (5)
24. Listens right off for the funeral car. (5)
26. Alas, am I turning to make a prostration? (6)
28. Legate mixed up in hoisting apparatus. (6)
29. We back away from expressing disgust. (2)
30. Society of Friends without a hundred ducks! (7)
32. The shortest epistle. (2)
33. Monotone in a ronde. (5)
34. O, so like Disney's Special Agent! (2)
36. A chore mixing clay pigments. (5)
- 39, 41, 42, 43 & 45 across. The alb left us folded by the laden altars. (9)
46. Fantastic about a trader in oryx. (13)

## DOWN

- 1., & 9 down. A bale rolled into the cane, I hear. (4)
3. Evangelical Alliance initially. (2)
4. The calm I muster is a demand. (5)
5. Interchurch Trade and Industry Ministries for short. (4)
6. A measure from the docks for the Roman mother of Jesus? (5)
7. Silver in Arkansas?
9. See 1 down.
12. The rows we dodge with the killjoy. (6)
13. Go plundering across the grammar audience. (6)
14. He reps around for the Globe. (6)
15. Can cross Jose philosophise with Mary's husband? (6)
17. Melt around what? (4)
18. The prophet's hegira quickly crossed Baghdad! (4)
20. Moveable seat for the cuppas. (4)
21. Reprise role to keep crest on knight's helmet. (4)
23. Top of immortal living. (2)
25. Initiative of Almighty God. (2)
27. Reordered macro for French Morocco. (5)
- 28, General drift of singer. (5)
31. Shocker rebounded without the century for the rabbi's dinner. (6)
35. Tie around the end of the Latin Mass. (3)
36. Mexican wave starts on loud arena. (3)
37. Environmental sustainability index. (3)
38. Deviously contains artful cunning. (3)
40. Chop axle. (2)
41. Be ready for the friar. (2)
44. First name for Marine le Pen's. (2)
45. You are on the Euphrates. (2)



## THEATRE - AND OTHER ARTS

Anthony Howes

Anthony presents more news of arts and entertainment every Saturday from 10.00am till 12.00 noon on Capital Radio 101.7 FM and Capital Digital

I don't usually write about productions after they close their season. But then, there is nothing 'usual' about Theatre 180's May offering in the Burt Hall theatre. The double bill made up of two plays from the theatre worlds of Britain and the United States, brought to life by the outstanding theatrical talents of Western Australians, deserve space whenever good theatre is cherished. **The Children** by the UK's Lucy Kirkwood and **I And You** by the US's Lauren Gunderson, directed by Stuart Halusz and Kate Cherry, respectively, must surely rank as the finest productions Perth has seen in a long time. As one of the first night audience I came away feeling I had witnessed a theatrical lightning bolt. Three of our most experienced thespians, in Jenny Davis OAM, Vivienne Garrett and Andrew Lewis in **The Children**, were joined in **I And You** by the young WA talents of Sophia Forrest and Darius Williams. These five shared a common excellence, as did the direction, design, sound and lighting. Fine writing, performances, direction and staging were allied with the ambience of the Cathedral's latest gift to our city – the Burt Hall theatre. The intimate space gave power and impact to what we saw and heard, but also meant that, due to that intimacy between player and audience, only the very best of performance values and technique would succeed.



They were and succeed they did! Theatre 180, which had its beginnings with Agelink Theatre some 25 years ago, is assuredly the Company to which we can look without questioning its integrity or ability to create quality Theatre clearly and proudly stamped 'Made in WA'.

Now to some theatre coming our way in June.

If you are quick, you might catch the Abba/Tim Rice work **Chess The Musical** at the Concert Hall from 3-5 June, featuring the Perth Symphony Orchestra, and starring Natalie Bassingthwaite, Paulini, Rob Mills, Alexander Lewis and Mark Furze. A love story set against the background of the Cold War in the 1980s, where opposing forces attempt to manipulate an international chess championship for political gains, *Time Magazine* declared the score as 'rock symphonic synthesis ripe with sophistication and hummable tunes'.



The West Australian Ballet Company season at the State Theatre Centre is called (for obvious reasons) **State**. However, I am also told it signifies a modern 'state of mind' and new tradition for the Company. The season plays 24 June to 3 July. To achieve a diversification in programming, they have brought together various and distinct choreographic talents. These are, West Australian Ballet newcomer, Javanese-Australian Melanie Lane, Australian 'legend' Graeme Murphy AO, and the Company's Adam Alzain who is creating his first major work, **Gainsbourg**. This takes place in a French bistro and follows a journey into the eccentricities of relationships. Melanie Lanes' creation promises some surprises with electronic music as a significant inspiration – it's called **New Creation. Air And Other Forces**, by Graeme Murphy AO, uses abstract encounters, together with 'gods who dwell in the everyday' to provide its motivation. The Company says that this first season of **State** will be an historic moment in WA Ballet's history.

In July there is a chance to see another of the 'historic moments' in theatre evolution. I refer to the presentation at Crown Theatre of the Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim musical **West Side Story**. Yes, everybody knows the Romeo and Juliet theme; and many know much of the music. Despite this familiarity, every time I see a new production, I depart having felt a new vitality, a different insight – and a world away from the mundane and ordinary.







Channel: Netflix Time-Slot: On Demand Rating: M

Mark Hadley

## THE KOMINSKY METHOD



Growing old is a comic tragedy. Ask anyone who has spent fifteen minutes wandering around the house with spectacles on their forehead asking, 'Has anyone seen my glasses?' But it can also be no laughing matter. The older we get, the more we find ourselves bearing the dual trial of having increasing wisdom to offer and a shrinking audience to offer it to. If there's a still more bitter pill to swallow, though, it's the personal realisation that we continue to be troubled by the same failings we were combatting in our teenage years. With so much material to draw from, it's not surprising that new comedy series *The Kominsky Method* has collected critical applause and awards at the Golden Globes.

*The Kominsky Method* is testimony to how much real meaning two great actors can pull out of a relatively simple idea. Michael Douglas plays Sandy Kominsky, an actor who had a brief fling with success decades ago and is now a revered Hollywood acting coach. Alan Arkin is Norman Newlander, Sandy's long-time agent, but mostly now his closest friend. The title might lead you to believe that this is another one of those tales about a fading actor trying to find his place in the sun. But in reality it's an often amusing, frequently moving reminder about what it means to grow old. The result has been so successful, it's earned *The Kominsky Method* the Golden Globe for Best TV Comedy, and Douglas the Globe for Best Actor in the same category.

*The Kominsky Method* is structured very much like *The Odd Couple* or *Grumpy Old Men*.

Douglas's Sandy is active, passionate and devil-may-care in his take on life. He's also unorganised, relationally selfish and on the verge of bankruptcy. Arkin's Norman is conservative, acerbic and pessimistic. He's also insightful, quietly successful and committed to those he loves – in a curmudgeonly sort of way. So, there's all the sparks you'd expect as the two of them travel the bumps on life's senior highway.

The first two seasons of *The Kominsky Method* cover the death of life-long partners, the end of careers, health scares and the uncertain future of children. Douglas and Arkin are simultaneously serious and cynical in a way that guarantees to please. The third and final season kicks off with the continuing treatment of a serious health condition for Sandy as well as an unexpected death, the trials that a will brings on, a late in life marriage and the pain and

perversity of family dynamics. It is every bit a 'must watch' as the first two.

Sandy and Norman as symbols of the wisdom that comes with age. In the case of Sandy, it is the sad truth that no-one can control the outcome of their life:

'Hey, can I tell you a secret? When I was a kid, I didn't dream about being an acting coach. I dreamed about being an actor.'

What Sandy and Norman's characters share, though, is a grappling with the need to find something permanent in a passing world. Their bodies are betraying them (prepare yourself for lots of conversations about the male waterworks), their careers are unsatisfying (success just doesn't seem to please them the way it used to), and saddest of all, their relationships are slipping away. Norman's wife has died, leaving a huge hole in his life, and Sandy is starting to see sadder side of two failed marriages.

What emerges is a modern portrayal of some of the most ancient wisdom on the planet. Three thousand years ago, a man called Solomon the Great (reputed to be the wisest man who ever lived!) wrote a book called Ecclesiastes. It was a fully funded, exhaustive examination of what was worth doing in life. In it, he warned people that:

- 1 Nothing on earth really satisfies, because
- 2 nothing really lasts, and so
- 3 it would be a good idea to realise this before you got too old.

So, what did Solomon think the answer to life, the universe and everything was?

'Remember [your Creator] – before the silver cord is severed, and the golden bowl is broken ... and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.'<sup>1</sup>

Sandy and Norman haven't got there yet – but they're thinking in the right direction. *The Kominsky Method*'s success has guaranteed it will return for a second season. But, since I can't guarantee either of us will be around to see it, I'm recommending we give some thought to Solomon's wisdom, before we become the next punchline.



<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastes 12:6-7, NIV, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ecclesiastes+12%3A6-7&version=NIV>

JUNE 2021

## APPOINTMENTS

The Revd Caroline Hemmings	Chaplain, Swan Valley Anglican Community School (from the United Kingdom)	17.05.21
The Revd Johnsan David	Rector, West Perth (from the Diocese of Melbourne)	15.07.21

## LOCUM TENENS

The Ven Jack Thomson	Woodlands-Wembley Downs	01.07.21-31.12.21
The Revd Dr Ric Barrett-Lennard	Locum Warden, Wollaston Theological College	01.07.21-31.12.21

## RIP

The Rt Revd David McCall	Former Bishop of Bunbury	07.05.21
The Revd Dr John Neal		15.05.21

**SYNOD 2021****8-10 October****Friday 8 October at 6.30pm**

Synod Eucharist at St George's Cathedral  
followed by the

**First Sitting of the Third Session of the  
Fiftieth Synod** - including the President's Address

**Second and Third Sitzings of the Third  
Session of the Fiftieth Synod**

**Saturday 9 October – commencing at 8.10am**

**Sunday 10 October – commencing at 12.30pm**

HBF Stadium - Main Arena, Stephenson Avenue,  
Mt Claremont

**DEADLINES for SYNOD BUSINESS****LEGISLATIVE MOTIONS**

to be received by the Legislation Committee at  
Diocesan office  
by 5.00pm on **Wednesday 30 June 2021**

**EARLY MOTIONS**

to be received by the Registrar at Diocesan office  
by 5.00pm on **Thursday 19 August 2021**

**EARLY QUESTIONS**

to be received by the Registrar at Diocesan office  
by 5.00pm on **Monday 30 August 2021**

**NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION**

to be received by the Registrar at Diocesan office  
by 5.00pm on **Tuesday 28 September 2021**

For further information, please contact  
**Susan Harvey, Synod Co-ordinator**  
**9425 7200 or [synod@perth.anglican.org](mailto:synod@perth.anglican.org)**

**PARTNERS IN MISSION (PIM)  
ELDORET**

**Do you have a Parish Link  
within the Diocese of Eldoret?**

**The PIM Committee is offering direct  
connections for Parishes seeking a link**

**Call PIM to arrange ways of connecting  
with our sister Diocese in Eldoret, Kenya**

**For more information  
call Jill 0400 513 943**

Are you the person in your parish who would like to commit to making regular contact with one of our brothers or sisters in Eldoret? You can gather their prayer points and share your parish joys and concerns. Perhaps you could include our sister Diocese in your parish newsletter and Sunday Worship prayer? We all know God's love is made real whenever we pray together, no matter how much joy or sorrow we find with life, having someone to pray with makes a big difference.

Perhaps your parish could include prayer partnering as a mission goal? Then join with us and discover the blessings small shared steps can make. Please prayerfully consider our request, our sister and brother in Kenya need help and have so much to offer. Will you be there?

You may be thinking your parish can do more than pray? Please get in touch with us, we would love to hear your plans.



## Crossword solution

A	D		D	E	C	I	M	A	L		Z	E
B				A	L	T	A	R				L
				A	I	R						
W				M	I	M	I	S				J
O	T		I	A	M		A	P	T		O	O
W	H	I	R	R				H	E	A	R	S
S	A	L	A	A	M		T	E	A	G	L	E
E	W		Q	U	A	K	E	R	S		E	P
R				D	R	O	N	E				H
				O	S	O						
I				O	C	H	R	E				S
T	A		B	L		E		S	F		U	L
E	X	T	R	A	O	R	D	I	N	A	R	Y

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[kinlarvestments.com.au](http://kinlarvestments.com.au)



## MESSENGER

### GET IN TOUCH WITH THE MESSENGER TEAM

PHONE 08 9425 7200

E MAIL [messenger@perth.anglican.org](mailto:messenger@perth.anglican.org)

**DEADLINE** 20th of every month prior to publication  
Articles must be under 400 words and may be edited without notice, images to accompany articles are encouraged

**PHOTOGRAPHS** Permission needs to be sought from parents/guardians/carers for photographs with children.  
Digital photos should be a high resolution 300 DPI jpeg or tif

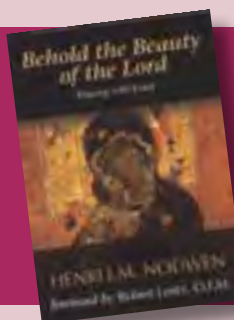
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# WHERE TO WORSHIP



## St George's Cathedral

The Cathedral is open – COVID-19 restrictions apply  
Information about our services and events can be found at [www.perthcathedral.org](http://www.perthcathedral.org)

### MONDAY TO SATURDAY SERVICE TIMES

Mon-Sat	8.00am Morning Prayer and 8.15am Holy Eucharist
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	12.15pm Holy Eucharist (Except on Public Holidays)
Wed	10.30am Holy Eucharist (Except on Public Holidays)
Mon-Sat	4.00pm Evening Prayer (Except on Public Holidays)

### SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.00am	Choral Eucharist
5.00pm	Choral Evensong

### SPECIAL SERVICES

<b>Tuesday 1 June</b>	12.15pm: Service for Healing and Wholeness
<b>Thursday 3 June</b>	6.30pm: Festal Eucharist at the High Altar for Thanksgiving for the Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 6 June</b>	5.00pm: World Environment Evensong
<b>Sunday 20 June</b>	10.00am: Choral Eucharist with the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem
	2.00pm: Families Connect
	5.00pm: Order of Australia Evensong
<b>Saturday 26 June</b>	11.00am: Airborne Forces Association service
<b>Sunday 27 June</b>	5.00pm: Evensong for the Birth of John the Baptist with the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem

### MUSIC

<b>Thursday 17 June</b>	7.30pm: Sir Francis Burt Memorial Concert featuring one of the world's finest concert organist, Dr Joseph Nolan, Cathedral Master of Music
	Tickets: <a href="http://www.concert-series.perthcathedral.org">www.concert-series.perthcathedral.org</a>

### CONCERTS-AT-ONE

<b>Wednesday 2 June</b>	1.00pm: Lunchtime concert with Cathedral Senior Organ Scholar Holly Broadbent
<b>Wednesday 16 June</b>	1.00pm: Lunchtime concert with talented students from Presbyterian Ladies' College
<b>Wednesday 30 June</b>	1.00pm: Lunchtime concert with talented students from Christ Church Grammar School

### THEATRE

<b>Thursday 3 June</b>	11.00am-12.00noon: Morning on the Terrace: <i>The I's Have It</i>
	Tickets: <a href="http://www.theatre180.com.au">www.theatre180.com.au</a>

### SPIRITUALITY SERIES

<b>Wednesday 9 June 9.30am-2.00pm:</b>	<i>C12 Hildegard of Bingen: Vision and Panentheism</i> with The Revd Eleanor O'Donnell, Chaplain of Hale School, and literature on the theme with Professor Christopher Wortham, Cathedral Scholar
<b>Wednesday 23 June 9.30am-11.30am:</b>	<i>Spirituality and The Baton</i> with Ms Jessica Gethin, Conductor, Perth Symphony Orchestra