

MESSENGER

Anglican
Church
Diocese of Perth



A MAGAZINE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIANS | FEBRUARY 2024



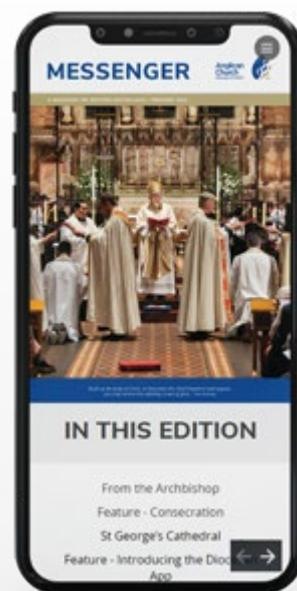
*Build up the body of Christ, so that when the Chief Shepherd shall appear,
you may receive the unfading crown of glory. - The Ordinal*

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Church Guidelines for Fasting

According to the Prayer Book, "Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are intended as days of fasting and abstinence". Fasting customarily means refraining from all food, except for one main meal. Abstinence means abstaining from meat products (fish excepted).

"The forty days of Lent (not the Sundays or festivals which occur during Lent) are also intended as days of discipline and self-denial, together with the Fridays of the year (except during the Christmas and Easter Seasons, and any festival falling on a Friday)" (APBA 450).



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

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 Feast to Fast

THE MOST REVD KAY GOLDSWORTHY AO *Archbishop*



On Friday 2 February 2024, the Diocese of Perth celebrated the consecration of two new assistant bishops – The Right Reverend David Bassett and The Right Reverend Hans Christiansen. It is not often that we consecrate or appoint new bishops, so this was a most significant and special occasion in the life and history of our Diocese.

The consecration was attended by archbishops and bishops from across the Anglican Church of Australia, as well as ecumenical guests from other churches, in recognition that the office and ministry to which Bishop David and Bishop Hans have been called is one that ultimately serves the universal Church in response to the great commission which Christ gave his apostles.

In the midst of our joyous celebration, the liturgical calendar of the Church begins to turn our gaze to the penitential solemnity of Ash Wednesday and Lent. Far from an anti-climax or unfortunate timing, this sudden movement from 'feast to fast' is a fitting reminder that responding to Christ's call must always involve walking on the way of the cross. 'If any wish to come after me' says Jesus, 'let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me' (Matthew 16:24).

The life of a disciple is cruciform, since living for God sometimes requires a dying to self – a dying to our ego and selfishness, a dying to our plans and preferences, a dying to our vices and addictions, a dying to our hostility and resentment. In the season of Lent, the Church calls us to take up with special intention and fervour the three self-denying disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer, raises our minds and hearts above ourselves. Fasting, feeds the soul and masters the body. Almsgiving, opens to others the hands which have received much from God.

If you haven't yet decided on your Lent reading, or are looking for a study, the new Diocesan App (details on [page 7](#)) has a Lent Study which could be used individually or in a group. Why not invite some others to join you in this weekly study, or use these resources as you walk through the weeks of Lent?

- Lent For Everyone: Mark Year B ([Koorong](#))
- Gathered into One: Devotions for Lent 2024: Denson-Byers, Yolanda, Ruge-Jones, Philip, Rinehart, Michael, Troftgruben, Troy M., Posselt, Lydia, Davis, Jessica ([Amazon.com.au: Books](#))
- Abraham: A Journey Through Lent ([Koorong](#))
- God's Own Country - ABM's Lenten Study for 2024 or anytime! Hard copy – Anglican Board of Mission ([intothedesert.org](#))
- What is Lent all about? ([Common Grace](#))
- The Ignatian Workout for Lent ([Loyola Press](#))
- Lent ([Loyola Press](#))

As you make your Lenten journey - following Christ from desert to cross - may you discover and experience a deeper sense of his love and calling, and may the fast of Lent prepare you for the feast of Easter.

+Kay

Consecration

2 FEBRUARY 2024, ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

In the Church of England where ordaining bishops has been reserved for centuries to the two archbishops of Canterbury and York, double consecrations are commonplace. Not so elsewhere in the Anglican Communion, and not so in Australia.

The double consecration of Peter Hollingworth and Bob Butters in Melbourne in 1985 is one of very few if not the only occasion in living memory, and certainly the only one witnessed by the current writer in over 50 years. Indeed, as far as we know, on 2 February 2024 we were making history in the Diocese of Perth and the huge Province of Western Australia as we gathered to ordain David and Hans together, two new bishops in the Church of God.

Like all bishops from at least the 4th century of the Christian Era, David from Adelaide and Hans from Melbourne are ordained first and foremost not as bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia, but as bishops in the Church of God. All bishops everywhere connect each and every baptised Christian with every other living bishop, with all bishops in succession back to the Apostles, and not just Roman Catholic or Orthodox or Lutheran bishops or bishops of any one denomination. For this reason, each new bishop is ordained not simply by the Metropolitan or Diocesan bishop of their local church, but by at least three bishops, and where possible many more. There was nothing unusual in 24 bishops sharing in laying hands

on David and Hans, and others would have joined had they been able.

Bishops, after all, are signs of the unity and universality of the household of faith, even in a house divided. They are witnesses to Christ and all his followers down the ages from the first disciples until now, not to mention the future – witnessing as well to all that is yet to be. We belong to the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church of God, reflecting not only what does exist and has existed, but striving against all that divides to hold together in one body according to Christ's Last Supper prayer. In this hope, one Archbishop of Perth customarily advised both the Pope and the Ecumenical Patriarch of every bishop ordained here!

The more we discover about episcopal ordinations, the more we hope and pray for the day when all shall be one, that day when all will be united with the crucified and living Lord. We pray that Bishop David and Bishop Hans will be blessings to Archbishop Kay who chose them, blessings to one another, blessings to sisters and brothers of whatever faith or flavour, blessings indeed to everyone they meet, as well as blessings to themselves.





The Cathedral and the Sending Parish

DR BILL LEADBETTER

Scholar at St George's Cathedral, Perth and, God willing, will be ordained deacon on 24 February



I began my journey into formation for ordination a little less than five years ago. That journey was prompted by a call that I felt was both irresistible and terrifying. My immediate response to it was to seek the advice and support of my own worshipping community, in this case, that of St George's Cathedral. The Dean and Chapter formally supported my request to be considered for admission to the Formation Program, and so the Cathedral formally became my 'sending parish'.

Every formation candidate needs to have a sending parish. This is not so much an administrative requirement as it is a pastoral one. The role of the sending parish or sending community is vital. It provides pastoral support, for example. Sometimes things do not go well in Formation. Everyone who has committed themselves to the process will encounter difficulties, failures, disappointments, even rejections, along the way. The loving support of the sending community can be really important in helping candidates in difficult times.

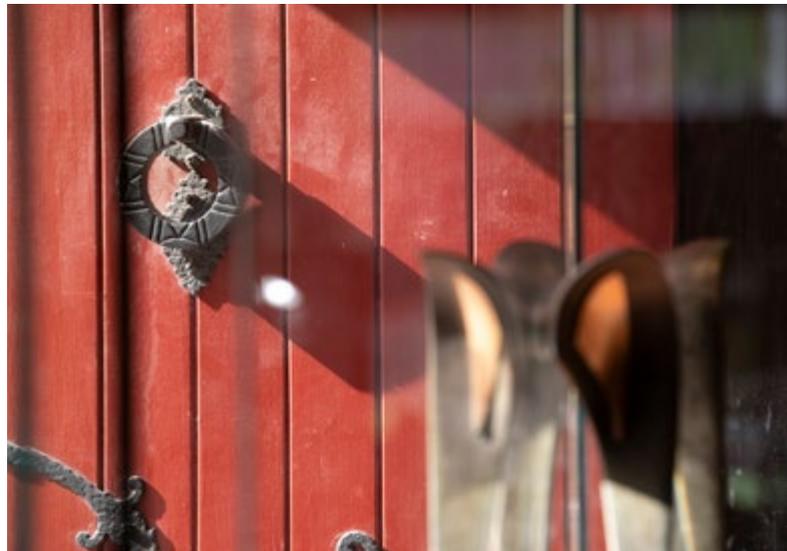
That support can be, and most often is, through prayer. There is a real security for a candidate in knowing that they are upheld in prayer, and that their needs and struggles are being put before God.

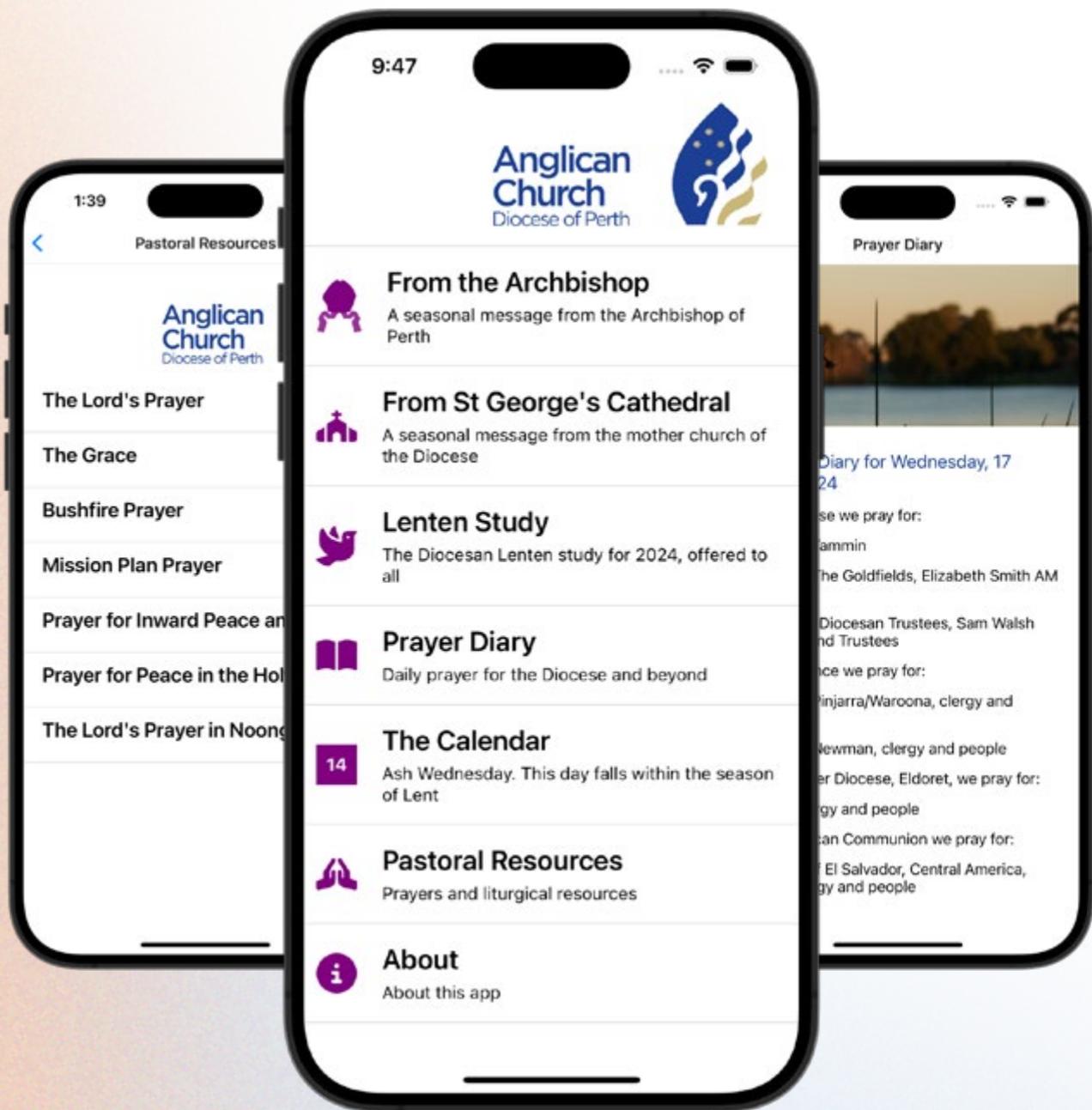
Formation candidates can experience a kind of 'rootlessness' because of the strong sense that our placement parishes or agencies are understood as temporary. As students, we are privileged visitors in our placements which leads to what a friend calls 'in-between-ness' or, more theologically, liminality. While this feeling of liminality is no bad thing in itself, the sending community provides a crucial anchor to counter it.

Whenever I have had a break, either between semesters or between academic years, I have simply come home to the Cathedral. It is my great blessing that I have always been able to do this. Return to my sending parish has enabled me to rest, recharge my batteries, and

provided me with room to prepare for my next set of challenges.

For me, the Cathedral has been a model sending community. It has provided encouragement, prayer and respite. In this, the Cathedral stands as one of the many worshipping communities of the Church who have sent candidates into the Formation program. It is the task of all our parishes and communities to discern, encourage and support vocations. The call to ministry can come at any time or stage in life, and it can be best brought to fruition by the love and active support of a community of faith. This is an important and a selfless work, because the one sent is unlikely to return. Nevertheless, I pray that all of our parishes and agencies may be alert to the possibilities for ministry in their midst and be ready to support them.





Download Now the Anglican Diocese of Perth App

*Enabling and engaging all
across the Diocese and beyond;
with prayer, reflections and resources*



Download on the
App Store



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Introducing the Diocesan App



THE REVEREND GRAHAME BOWLAND *Digital Mission Project Officer*

Over the course of the last few months we have been developing an ‘app’ for the Diocese. It is available now on Apple and Android smartphones and tablets: just scan the QR code on the flyer in this edition of *The Messenger*, or search ‘Perth Anglican’ in the App Store or Google Play.

The overriding purpose of the app is to further the mission and ministry of the people of the Diocese. It will be a point of connection for the Diocese: seasonal messages are provided from the Archbishop of Perth, and from St George’s Cathedral.

In exciting first, a Lenten study is being offered through the app. It is written by Julie Ward (of ACYM), based upon a study that previously ran in the Parish of Kalamunda. The study is suitable for individuals and small groups, in the parishes, schools and agencies of the Diocese. Each week groups and individuals are encouraged to share their reflections upon the material presented. These reflections will be reviewed by the study coordinators (Julie, Fr Clive Hillman, and myself.) That which is shared with us will be incorporated into later weeks of the study – we hope that this will digitally ‘gather together’ participants into a broader group, journeying through Lent together.

The Diocesan Prayer Diary is incorporated within the app. The prayer diary is for daily use. For those who pray the Daily Offices, it works well alongside the popular ‘ePray’ app. Each day parishes, schools and agencies are appointed to be prayed for, from the Diocese of Perth and beyond. To pray for one another is transformative – it helps us to grow in relationship with God, and with one another. You might consider praying from the Prayer Diary over Lent as a new devotion.

Also of daily use is the included Calendar. The app adopts the liturgical colour of the day throughout, so when you open it each day you’ll know if there is a Holy Day or Festival

appointed. Within the Calendar area of the app, you can access additional information about each festival, drawing upon freely available resources from the Church of England, The Episcopal Church, and Wikipedia. Learning about the festivals in our calendar teaches us about our faith; reflecting on the people and events included in the Calendar can help us to reflect more deeply on the now.

We also provide pastoral resources, for various different circumstances. We plan to gradually expand this area of the app, and we’d love your suggestions for further resources. One of the first people to try out the app let me know that they’d heard about a bushfire on the news, and had immediately opened up the app to pray the ‘Bushfire Prayer.’

The app will continue to be developed over the coming months: we have some exciting ideas lined up. After Lent, we will begin offering weekly reflections within the app upon the readings appointed for the coming Sunday. We hope this will be of particular help to those rural and regional worshipping communities who are without clergy.

You can send us your feedback on the app from the ‘About’ page, or send me an email: gbowland@perth.anglican.org



Anglican Community Fund

Helping Anglicans be Financially Stronger
Giving back to the Anglican Community since 1966



Happy New Year from the team at the ACF!

The start of a new year is a great time to review, change and form new habits including how you receive and make payments

Would you like to:

- Save time and be more efficient
- Reduce time counting coin and waiting in queues
- Reduce paper and help the environment
- Improve the security of funds received and paid to others
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- Business credit cards for Anglican Agencies, Schools and Parishes

Need an EFTPOS machine? If you wish to borrow for a one-off event such as a Fete or Fundraiser we offer the use of this facility.

Please contact ACF to see how we can help you

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Embracing the Gift of Time by Volunteering

STEPHANIE BUCKLAND *Chief Executive Officer, Amana Living*



The post-holiday period often gives us an opportunity to reflect on the gift of time. We've just spent Christmas with family and reconnected with friends, so we appreciate that the ability to spend meaningful time with others is one of life's most precious gifts.

In aged care, the gift of time is one of the things we value most. Our staff form deep relationships with our residents and clients by spending time getting to know every individual, their history and stories. These connections are one of the most rewarding aspects of working in our sector.

This year, I invite you to give the gift of time to the elders in one of Amana Living's care centres and day clubs. As members of the Anglican community, we are guided by a spirit of compassion and service and there is no better way to embody these principles than by offering time and companionship to older people.

Opportunities abound to make a positive impact. From engaging in heartfelt conversations and playing games to helping residents go on an outing or simply sharing a cup of tea, volunteers can bring joy into the lives of those who may otherwise feel isolated.

The act of volunteering is not just about the assistance you can provide; it is an exchange of stories, laughter, and understanding. It's a chance to learn from the wisdom of those who

have weathered life's storms and emerged resilient.

It's also a chance to improve your own mental health. The sense of fulfillment derived from making a difference in someone else's life is immeasurable, enriching your own life as well as theirs.

In the spirit of community, we invite you to explore the opportunities to volunteer at Amana Living. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or dedicate a day each month, your presence will be warmly welcomed.

If you feel that volunteering is something you definitely would like to do, you can apply directly by going to Amana Living's website www.amanaliving.com.au, clicking on the Volunteer tab in the upper right hand corner and following the prompts. Volunteer Services will be in contact with you with the next steps to progress your application.

Make 2024 the year you embrace the gift of time, making new friends while developing new skills by volunteering in aged care.

Image: Amana Living Volunteer Christmas event 2023



Hope and Opportunity



THE REVD PETER LAURENCE OAM *CEO, Anglican Schools Commission WA*

A New Year brings with it many opportunities. The first day of school for some. A new school for others. The move from primary to secondary or maybe just the advancement up one year level. A change of classroom or teacher. Whatever the change may be, the month of February means that the whole school year lies ahead. What an incredible opportunity a new year brings.

In the world of schools, there are many issues which will get wide coverage during 2024. I have written before of the chronic teacher shortage in Australia. This will get worse before it gets better, much as the labour shortage in so many industries. Schools are not exempt, yet society expects that there will be a teacher available for every class. Not an unreasonable expectation! With population growth in Western Australia and beyond, and a decline in available teachers, we will continue to read stories in 2024 of the great teacher shortage.

Another matter on the radar this year in WA will be the release of a report on a review of the senior school years. You may have read stories leading up to Christmas about a decline in the number of students following an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) stream, dropping to a low of 28% in 2023. This means that most Year 12 students in WA did not study courses that made them eligible to be awarded an ATAR for university entry. WA had the lowest percentage of ATAR-eligible students in Australia.

Interestingly, media coverage on this point often focuses on the downside of fewer students being eligible for an ATAR. The upside, and it is a huge upside, is that schools today are far better at counselling students to follow the academic and career pathway that best suits their abilities and interests. The pathway choices today for students in the upper years of their schooling are vast. Our schools are to be commended for investing in courses, programs and staffing to ensure that their students have

choices far beyond what has been traditionally offered in Years 11 and 12. 2024 will see continued discussion on this topic too.

For the Anglican Schools Commission (ASC), this month also sees a new school opening. Readers may recall that for the first 25 years since our founding in 1985, the ASC established schools throughout Perth and beyond, to Mandurah, Busselton and Esperance. Nine schools on 10 campuses, all in WA. In 2011, the ASC expanded by acquiring Cathedral College in the Diocese of Wangaratta (Victoria); then in 2015, we acquired two more schools in that Diocese, Trinity Anglican College Albury and Cobram Anglican Grammar School. This month sees the 16th ASC school open ... All Saints Anglican School in Shepparton, Victoria. This is the first ASC school built 'from the ground up' beyond WA.

Over the Christmas holidays, we were also delighted to take ownership of a magnificent 12 hectare block of land at Yanchep in Perth's north, to be the home of a future ASC school. With Perth's population growing rapidly, and spreading along the coastal corridor, Yanchep is the ideal location for a new Anglican school in the coming years. Watch this space!

So a new year is a time full of hope and opportunity. It's a time of new beginnings. Yet of course it's also just a small part of a much larger timeline. Business that was started in 2023 or earlier, will be furthered in 2024 and beyond. That's the excitement of a new year. Make the most of it. Happy new school year!

Church Community Fund

KELLY KEALL *Community Engagement Co-ordinator*



Collaborating as a community to address problems and support one another is at the heart of Anglicare WA’s mission. We work alongside other agencies and organisations to amplify our impact in the community. These organisations include our local parishes, which are on the frontline of community development, often being the first port of call for individuals or families seeking support or advice.

The Anglicare WA Church Community Fund was started in recognition of the inspiring community development work happening in Anglican parishes all over the state. We want to support those frontline projects that create community connection in times of need.

Over the last few years, we have given out 40 grants of up to \$1,000 each to help fund community development projects in parishes. We are very proud to have been able to support a wide variety of initiatives making an impact in local communities.

A diverse range of projects have been funded addressing different needs within the community. There is a parish providing back to school kits to students in need, another organising ‘Meals on a Shoestring’ education and connection workshops, a parish reaching out to a local primary school offering a

mentoring and gardening club and another has hosted a Suicide Alert Workshop. The fund has also enabled the expansion of traditional emergency relief models providing food, hygiene products, blankets and community connection to the community.

If you have an idea that can build community in your local area or would like to expand an existing project, consider applying for an Anglicare WA Church Community Fund grant.

Grants of up to \$1,000 are available to Anglican parishes to support initiatives that develop and strengthen local communities. Parishes can only receive one grant per year. Applications are assessed on the initiative’s ability to build community in your locality, the way the project or event complements Anglicare WA’s work and the project or event’s contribution to your parish’s mission.



Applications close on Friday, 17 March 2024, with successful applicants notified by 5 April 2024. Applications are now open online at www.anglicarewa.org.au/churchfund or contact me directly at kealy@anglicarewa.org.au for more information.



Transforming Out-of-Home Care 'Our Way Home' Model Paves the Way for Positive Change

In a groundbreaking move, Parkerville Children and Youth Care introduces the award-winning 'Our Way Home' model, revolutionising the landscape of out-of-home care for children and young people. Co-designed with families and young people and created in partnership with Innovation Unit, this innovative approach deviates from traditional systems, placing a primary focus on the development, retention, and strengthening of connections for children in care.

Kim Brooklyn, the CEO of Parkerville Children and Youth Care, underscores the crucial importance of lasting connections with positive adults in a child's developmental journey. Ms Brooklyn states, 'Everything we know about children's development shows that lasting and consistent attachments to positive, caring adults are critical for a child to develop into a healthy and well-rounded adult.'

The 'Our Way Home' model addresses the disruptions caused by the current system, aiming to prevent children from losing touch with significant people in their lives and experiencing instability through multiple placements and involvement with various agencies.

Research supports the model's emphasis on maintaining connections with family, even in

imperfect environments, as it correlates with better outcomes for children.

Ms Brooklyn continues 'Our Way Home focuses on helping children maintain and re-establish connections with family and communities, providing a customised journey for each child based on their specific situation, needs, cultural identity, and dreams.'

Parkerville has secured contracts from The Western Australia Government to implement 'Our Way Home,' allowing flexibility to adapt the model to the unique needs of children and families. This includes innovative approaches such as rotating shared care schedules and 24-hour shared care within group foster care placements, in addition to temporary care homes and traditional Foster Care Placements.

The shared care concept is integral to 'Our Way Home,' aiming to actively afford children the opportunity to engage with their families, communities, and culture.

The shift from the traditional style of care to the new model involves the introduction of new roles. Family Link Workers now play a pivotal role in overseeing child-centered and connected placements. This model also emphasises elevated responsibilities for Aboriginal Practice Leads and seeks input from reference groups, establishing a more inclusive and community-driven framework.



Parkerville and Innovation Unit (Collab for model design and award winners for the Our Way Home model)

Seanan, Family Link Worker

Allow us to introduce Seanan, our dedicated Family Link Worker. She plays a vital role in our important mission of rebuilding connections and fostering relationships within families when children are placed in care. Her ultimate goal is to facilitate connections between children and their families, as well as between caregivers and families.

Her journey with one specific family powerfully illustrates the profound impact of her work and its transformative potential.

When Seanan first encountered this struggling family, consisting of a mother and her three children grappling with significant challenges, the prospect of reunification seemed unlikely. Seanan embarked on a gradual approach, focusing on rebuilding the mother's relationship with her children. She offered support in honing essential parenting skills, provided guidance on engaging with the children, and orchestrated opportunities for quality bonding time. This included participation in activities such as swimming lessons and school meetings, fostering a path towards rebuilding the family's relationships.

Over time, this family underwent a remarkable transformation. The mother's commitment to change was evident through her engagement with counsellors, psychologists, and various support programs. In this transformative journey, Seanan played a pivotal role as a dedicated support system.

Seanan not only provided practical assistance such as arranging transportation to appointments, aiding with grocery shopping, and ensuring the family had essential items, but also acted as a liaison with the Department of Communities where she would relentlessly advocate for the mother to have a more significant voice during the reunification process.

Furthermore, Seanan worked diligently to nurture a positive and constructive relationship between the mother and the foster carers of the children. This strategic effort was aimed at promoting smoother reunification prospects, recognising the importance of harmonious relationships in this delicate process.

The family's progress was evident as they moved from supervised visits to sleepovers, a clear indication of improved dynamics. The mother's dedication, coupled with Seanan's support, resulted in one child returning to her full-time care, while the other two enjoyed regular sleepovers at home.

Reunification, once deemed nearly impossible, is now within reach. The family is on track to reunify, underscoring the power of patience, support, and empathy in family reunification.

For Seanan, the most rewarding aspect of her job is witnessing the sheer joy and excitement in children when they reunite with their families. These moments, filled with emotional connection, make all the effort worthwhile.

On a professional level, this journey taught her the importance of refraining from judgment and recognising that there is often more to a person's story than meets the eye. She gained a deeper understanding of the challenges parents face, especially when they lack a robust support network. Building a strong support system for families in need is paramount to their success.

Seanan's dedication, empathy, and commitment have not only transformed the lives of children and families but have also contributed significantly to the organisation's objective of creating brighter futures for children and young people right here in Western Australia. Her work serves as a testament to the difference that a supportive and compassionate approach can make in the lives of those facing adversity.





Parkerville and Wungening Aboriginal Corporation

In a strategic collaboration, Parkerville Children and Youth Care and Wungening Aboriginal Corporation have united, forming a joint senior leadership group to focus on therapeutic frameworks, foster care assessment, cultural healing practices, and family restoration. This partnership marks a significant milestone, highlighting the importance of collaboration

with an Aboriginal-controlled organisation. The alliance contributes to enhanced professional development, as staff from both teams bring diverse perspectives to joint training and reflective practice groups. Together, they celebrate the strength and impact of this crucial partnership in advancing their shared goals.

Parkerville Children and Youth Care provides a wide range of services, including the innovative 'Our Way Home,' and offers radically personalised care to children and young people impacted by sexual assault, child abuse, homicide, homelessness, and other adverse childhood experiences. Their trauma-informed care, delivered through essential service streams and programs, is designed to mitigate the long-term impacts of significant trauma. This approach provides an opportunity for each child and young person to feel safe to dream, thrive, and reach their fullest potential.

If you wish to make a difference in a child's life this Easter, consider contributing to their Easter Appeal by visiting www.parkerville.org.au/easterappeal.



-  Saturday 2, 9, 16 & 23 March
-  8am: Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
9am: Refreshments
9.15am: Lent Course
-  Beginning in the Cathedral for worship, we then move to the Burt Memorial Hall.
-  The Rev'd Dr Suzanne Boorer

St George's Cathedral
Perth

LENT COURSE 2024

Join us this Lent as we explore the
Passion narratives through
Old Testament eyes.

- Session 1: Exodus and Passover Traditions & The Last Supper
- Session 2: Kingship traditions & Jesus as 'King of the Jews'
- Session 3: Lament Psalms and Jesus' Suffering
- Session 4: Priestly creation tradition and the death of Jesus

To book email: info@perthcathedral.org

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God-Talk: Leaf Litter

THE REVD DR ELIZABETH J SMITH AM *Mission Priest, Parish of The Goldfields*



It's a dry, dry ecosystem out here. Every leaf or twig that falls, every strip of bark that peels off, just lies on the ground. Nothing really rots; it merely accumulates. The leaf litter crunches and crackles underfoot as I walk.

Eventually, some of it will dry out completely and turn to dust, to be blown away on the breeze or merge with the soil. Some of it will be carefully nibbled and marvellously digested by termites, or carried away by creatures that use it to line their cool, underground homes or weave their nests in the trees.



Although the rain here falls erratically, there is enough of it to sustain an amazing diversity of plants, from lofty salmon gums to the smallest desert-lovers. But the evaporation rate is high, and today's thunderstorm moisture will be well and truly gone by the day after tomorrow. Thus the dry leaves rest lightly on the ground, and the shards of bark lie where they fall.

Fire is the dry country ecosystem's answer to the build-up of organic material that will not decay and cannot contribute its goodness to the plants that are otherwise eager to grow in the red dirt. A lightning strike, or a carefully

managed First People's burning, turns leaf and twig and bark to accessible nutrients for the trees that survive, though singed. Awakened by chemicals in the smoke, new seeds will germinate, springing up to repopulate the understorey.

What do I need, to deal with the accumulation of dead matter in my life? I am beset by patterns of thought, habits of speech, and images of God that were once alive and useful. They were positive contributors to my faith and prayer, to my relationships and ministry, but are now dried out, inert or even burdensome, the spiritual equivalent of leaf litter in the bush.

Some of it I can deal with through the ordinary good habits of prayer and worship. I confess the dessicated, lifeless debris of my life. God hears and forgives, every time; and the breeze of the Spirit blows the dust of death away to give me more breathing space, more living space.

As Lent approaches, I will be adding a few eucalyptus leaves and some bark to last year's Passiontide palm crosses, as we burn them to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday's solemn ritual. There is the fire! The ash is marked as a cross on my forehead. It points to the cosmic conflagration of Jesus Christ's offering of himself to die for all the sin of all the world, and for mine. It comes with gentle words about my mortality, and God's mercy.

Ash from devastating burning smells like disaster to anyone who has lost a home or a livelihood to out-of-control bushfires. But Ash Wednesday's ashes are a sign of forgiveness, not of destruction. They are neither a judgement nor a punishment. They are a promise of fertility and growth, so that new life can begin to flourish.

Being a Human Becoming

THE REVD DR CHRISTY CAPPER

Deputy Warden and Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Academic Dean



As I write this, my parents are moving out of their house – the truck is there, the boxes have been packed, and the furniture is headed into a truck. Four years ago, my parents decided to knock down the house, subdivide the land, and rebuild. It is a big decision and a lot of work. I helped them pack boxes when I visited recently; as we did that, we sorted items. What needed to be kept? What wasn't coming on this move? As we threw out, sold and gave away items that weren't necessary in their new house, I was thinking about the things that we choose to leave behind.

As we move towards Lent, reflecting on who God is calling us to be is a good idea. All of us are in the process of becoming; in fact, theologian John Macquarrie argues that calling us 'human becomings' might be more accurate than 'human beings'. As we go through life, we grow and change. We are the same person, and yet different as well. So, it is worth thinking about who we are and who God calls us to be and growing on purpose rather than simply responding to what life throws at us.

In speaking of running the race that God sets before us, just as the heroes of faith have done before, Hebrews 12 tells us to 'throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles'. That verse has always interested me. Given the general themes of Scripture, it seems evident that we should lay off sin. However, the additional call to throw off the things that hinder us is fascinating. What are the things that we have that weigh us down? Perhaps they aren't sinful, but they get in the way of our relationship with God, of us engaging in God's human becoming for us.

As we move into Lent, I encourage you to think about who God is calling you to continue becoming – and it's not just for the young; if you're alive, you are called to continue becoming more like Jesus, more like the person that God calls you to be!

So, what things in your life, practices, and beliefs might you need to throw off? Not sinful things, but perhaps good things that hold you back. Despite what we sometimes think, we can't do everything. Maybe there is something good that must be set aside for something better. Like my parents selling or giving away good items because they are no longer needed, no longer suit who they are or the house they will move to, sometimes we need to say goodbye to things to embrace what God has for us and the human becoming God calls us to become.

THIS MONTH AT

WOLLASTON

- FEB 18 Commencement WTC Academic Year, 2024
- FEB 19 Academic Orientation
- FEB 21 Formation Orientation
- FEB 22 WTC Certificate Graduation
- FEB 26 Semester 1 Begins

- UD Unit - English Reformations 1543-1662
- UD Unit - New Testament Greek A
- UD Unit - Theology: The Big Picture
- UD Unit - Faith, Conflict and Human Rights
- UD Unit - Christian Ethics and Contemporary Moral Issues
- UD Unit - Being Anglican
- Wollaston Certificate in Theology Unit - Critical Thinking

Talk to us about certificates and degrees

08 9425 7270 - WCTinfo@perth.anglican.org

THE REVD ALISON GILCHRIST *Chief Executive Officer*



One of the intriguing parts of my role at GFS Perth is the reaction of people when I tell them who I work for. Some just look puzzled because they have no idea what something called the Girls' Friend Society might be or do, and others exclaim, 'Oh my gosh is that still going, I thought that shut down many, many years ago. I recall it from my childhood, but thought it was long gone!' Still others take great delight in telling me that they used to be part of GFS, here, somewhere else in Australia, or even overseas, or that someone in their family was a member in the past.

As well as being intriguing it's also a little bit sad that anyone assumes this is a 'has-been' organisation, whereas in fact GFS Perth has been developing, and is moving on into a bright new future.

In recent times we have:

- Moved to a new site in West Swan, one of the fastest urban growth corridors in Australia, offering plenty of opportunity to engage a wide audience, including young families. The site has been shaped with the tenets of the Fifth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion in mind, ie to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. Progress is being made for the staged development of the site and we are hoping that the first stage will be fully completed in 2024.
- A new mission statement: GFS Perth creates places and spaces where all people are welcomed, belong and grow, friendships flourish, and kindness and generosity thrive. This is backed by our tagline 'GFS Perth: catalysing a #friendshiprevolution'.
- A new logo with a more current feel and carrying forward the traditional blue cross in the centre.
- A measured, though confident, strategic plan.
- A revamped website.
- A vibrant women's group with a twist. Wednesday Women has been running for almost two years now with some 75 women being involved at various times. 'Wednesday Women want to be famous for strong supportive friendships, heart-warming fun, and life changing feats'. The twist is obviously the final component, which was included because we know that when women pull together for a cause not only are they formidable, but it solidifies friendships.
- An innovative intergeneration initiative with two components, also running for coming up to two years. Under our Engaging Generations umbrella we deliver both Sunflower Club (soon to be clubs!) and Letter Link Up. Engaging Generations is a social mentoring initiative via which people of all ages interact in various ways, to build a stronger and more connected community, through mutual sharing, learning and support. Its objectives are to reduce isolation and increase social connectivity, contribute to greater community wellbeing and inclusion, and help people develop community life-skills, so as to generate positive about, and develop resilience in, the community.

- A membership that has nearly tripled in size and is growing.
- New partnerships with organisations, both locally and further afield.
- A vastly extended social media presence with two of our weekly outputs - Monday Musings and Friendship Friday's - reaching more than 300,000 people over this past year. In 2023 Friendship Fridays moved to on to become an IRL (in real life) experience through our partnership with St Matthew's Anglican Church in Guildford.
- A fresh connectional initiative called Sociable Saturdays. Research informed us that many young people shy away from making regular commitments, and so this part of our delivery offers irregular 'catch ups,' advertised through a Facebook page. So far, we have had a games event in a local park, a walk along the Swan River in

Woodbridge and a coffee catch-up in a local café, that also hosts music events and a church. We are hoping to increase the frequency of these events in 2024.

All backed by a very hands-on board and a small, but expanding team, of staff and volunteers.

The good news is that GFS Perth is alive and kicking and looking hopefully towards the future.

It's our hope that many of you will take the opportunity to connect, or reconnect, with us, which is done fairly easily through our social media pages or our website, also via email - office@gfsperth.com.au or text/phone 0455 507 039, so that together we can catalyse the #friendshiprevolution so needed in today's world.

Stay safe and hopeful, Alison

GFS Perth - catalysing a #friendshiprevolution

NOW welcoming NEW members

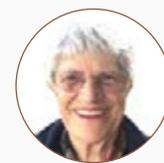
contact:office@gfsperth.com.au

What could be more life-giving than belonging to an organisation that has FRIENDSHIP as its core purpose.

For almost 140 years FRIENDSHIP has changed lives through GFS Perth and still does. DON'T miss out on the chance of joining us in the next phase of the journey when, with you, we will change many more.

Nor'West Postcard

JOCELYN ROSS OAM



A wonderful start to 2024 for the Diocese of North West Australia with a big welcome to Tabitha Nicol, a fourth child born to Frank and Jo Nicol, the ministry family in Karratha, on 17 December 2023! A lovely Christmas gift!



The Parish of Kununurra welcomed Henry and Crystal Trewren and their children Abel, Judah and Daniella in November, a difficult time to move to a town in the Kimberley with the 'build-up'. The wet season is hot and humid, with violent storms, which seem to be coming (lovely) and then pass by (frustrating – no rain, and the steamy heat goes on!!)!! Henry is the assistant minister and supporting the youth and children's ministries.



The Parish of Dongara has welcomed its new minister, David Thompson, and his wife Emma with their two children, Reuben and Paige. They have moved from the Diocese of Armidale in NSW, and we are so pleased to have them here in the North West. David's induction was on 1 February.



A welcome to Nathan Hiscock, the first ministry apprentice in the new Ministry Training Pipeline which is enabling to identify, train and support home-grown people to become lay and ordained ministers in the North West. Nathan is the organ scholar at Holy Cross Cathedral and will be trained in this programme by the Dean, Lachlan Edwards.



In January Beach Missions and camps are great opportunities to share who Jesus is with holidaying families and folk at beaches and caravan parks. Annalise Edwards with her primary aged son Lincoln and daughter Audrey from Holy Cross congregation, joined other church families from Geraldton for a week at Jurien Bay at a Beach Mission conducted by Scripture Union.

Eugenie Harris with two of her sons, Samuel and Luke, took part in the Denmark beach mission starting after Christmas. Geraldton's Archdeacon Paul and Melinda Spackman with their daughter Anneka, and Luke Harris were leaders at the CRU West Big Summer Senior Camp near Bridgetown with campers from Port Hedland, Karratha and Geraldton. And Gabrielle Spackman was a leader on the CRU West Big Summer Junior Camp at Lesmurdie.



Bluff Point Parish farewellled Ray Yeates, a longstanding member of St George's. He and his wife Jean originally from Kenya, with their daughter Katherine shared their lives and interests with so many of the Geraldton community. Hospital Chaplain Jeremy Rice led a wonderful funeral service in Holy Cross Cathedral followed by a wake at the St George's Church Hall.

Fear not! For I am with you, I have called you by name; you are mine! (Isaiah 43,1,2)

For more news about the North West visit anglicandnwa.org | [@northwestanglicans](https://twitter.com/northwestanglicans) or sign up to receive the North West Network magazine

Bunbury Bulletin

THE VEN GEOFFREY CHADWICK *Archdeacon*

Recognition of Nick Freeland

In Busselton on 8 December 2023, a packed church full of joy greeted Nick Freeland, Jane and Toby into their midst. Whist acting as Diocesan Secretary and Registrar, Nick sensed a call to continue sacramental ministry. Busselton had a need, and after much contemplation, it was realised that Nick could fulfill both roles by being half time Priest in Charge of Busselton and half time Diocesan Secretary/Registrar. An assistant Curate will work alongside Nick to complete the Busselton role, and Wanese Moloney has joined the Diocesan Office to pick up the Accounting role.

Nick "hit the ground running" having to prepare for Advent and Christmas. Nevertheless, it was indeed a new Advent for him, the Parish, and the Diocesan Office.

Vale Bishop Hamish Jamieson (15.2.1932 - 27.11.2023)

On 20 December in St Boniface Cathedral, Bishop Ian presided over the funeral Eucharist for Bishop Hamish Jamieson (formerly a Bishop of Carpentaria and Bunbury). Many had come from far and wide to honour Hamish's life and ministry. Hamish was bishop of Bunbury from 1984-2000 having translated from Carpentaria. He is remembered for promoting charismatic renewal across the Diocese, and for his passionate preaching. He came to Bunbury after a diverse history. As a young boy his father had hoped that he would follow in his footsteps as an accountant. This was not for Hamish, and following a sense of God's call, he went into training at The Society of the Sacred Mission in Crafers (SA). He then went on to serve as a Bush Brother of the Good Shepherd, Rector of Darwin, Navy Chaplain, and Bishop of Carpentaria (North Queensland.)

His three children, Debbie, Robert and Libby spoke beautifully of his history and character; and long-time friend, the Rev Cliff Parish, preached a sermon highlighting the hope that Bishop Hamish had in the resurrection.

After a long retirement in Rockingham he died on 27 November 2023. May he rest in peace and rise in glory!

Flight to Gnowangerup

Bishop Ian and Archdeacon Geoff recently needed to visit the people of Gnowangerup. Realising that this would be an eight hour round trip by car, and that Bishop Ian had to maintain his flying hours, the trip was taken by plane. So hiring the Bunbury Aero Club's Cessna 182, the intrepid travellers set out early in the morning on a flight path to Gnowangerup.



Along the way the massive Bunbury Bypass roadworks could be seen, along with the recently harvested paddocks.

Fiona Gaze greeted Bishop Ian and Archdeacon Geoff at the airstrip, took them to Borden to inspect tremor damage at the Church, gave them a tour of Gnowangerup, and introduced them to Jan House who is a stalwart of the Parish.

After this, it was in the Plane to be back in Bunbury by lunch time!

Cooperation with the Orthodox Church

St Mary's Anglican Church at Dardanup has hosted very few services in recent years. Just as the Diocese was contemplating what to do about this, Archdeacon Geoff was approached by The Rev John Sullivan from the Orthodox Church wondering if the church would be available for a newly formed English speaking Orthodox congregation.

After a few meetings with the local Anglicans and a morning tea hosted by the Orthodox, it was agreed that the Congregation hire the Church for a trial period of six months. All parties are hoping that this might be a more permanent arrangement!

The first service is planned for Orthodox Christmas (7 January).



FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING FOR CLERGY AND LAITY

Training in family and domestic violence (FDV) is a mandatory component of professional development for all licenced and active clergy, and licenced and/or paid lay workers, according to the Ministry Wellbeing and Development Policy that our Synod endorsed in 2022. It is also one of the Ten Commitments for Prevention and Response to Domestic and Family Violence in the Anglican Church of Australia that our diocese has adopted.

The Diocesan Family and Domestic Violence Working Group have been working alongside Anglicare WA to compile a suitable training program for clergy and lay leaders in our Diocese for 2024. The training is being fully funded by Anglicare WA, and we offer our deep gratitude to them for their generosity in this regard.

OVERVIEW OF TRAINING

Family Domestic Violence (FDV) is an ever-increasing area of need. Many of Anglicare WA services assist adult and child survivors of FDV as well as working with perpetrators to hold them accountable for their violence and to change their behaviour, increasing women's safety and assisting to keep children safe with the non-offending parent.

We know that FDV has considerable negative impact on many areas of people's lives; for example, as many as 56% of youth homelessness cases are linked to FDV and up to 95% of female prisoners in WA have identified FDV as an issue in their lives. FDV towards children, young people and adults is a primary cause of anxiety and depression; early pregnancy loss; suicide and self-harm, problematic substance abuse and alcohol use; young people entering out of home care. Children living in families with FDV are more likely to experience low self-esteem; learning difficulties; behavioural problems; depression; bullying and homelessness, with long term impacts on their wellbeing.

Anglicare WA, together with the Anglican Diocese of Perth, is pleased to offer a workshop to all licensed and active clergy and lay leaders to assist participants to identify and address FDV in their parishes, school, and sector ministry settings.

The Workshop will cover:

- The gendered lens.
- What is Family and Domestic Violence (FDV)?
- The underlying drivers of FDV.
- FDV and the Anglican Church
- Identifying FDV.
- Impact of FDV on children and family functioning.
- Partnering with victim survivors.
- Holding those who use violence accountable.
- The role the Church can play.
- Practical things Faith Leaders can do.
- Referral pathways.

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)



TRAINING DATES

FDV Training - Clergy

9.30am – 1.30pm
Wollaston Theological College
2 May | 17 July | 24 October

FDV Training - Laity

(LPM's and any who are interested)
9.30am – 12.30pm
Wollaston Theological College
5 March | 31 August

Kees Waaijman and the direction of contemporary spiritual direction and formation

THE REVD ROSS JONES *Director of the Tree of Life Programme*



Kees Waaijman is a respected researcher and contributor to the study of spirituality. In the 1960s, he entered the Carmelite Order in Boxmeer, then in the Flemish-Dutch-speaking part of Belgium. Waaijman did his doctoral studies under the Dutch Dominican scholar Edward Schillebeeckx.

Our focus on Kees Waaijman arises from his 2007 paper *"Spirituality - A Multifaceted Phenomenon: Interdisciplinary Explorations"*.

Kees Waaijman's article identifies three crucial aspects of contemporary Christian spiritual formation and spiritual direction. Firstly, spiritual practice must be aligned with the currently accepted understanding of cosmology. Secondly, this current cosmological understanding is informed and enhanced through the contribution of indigenous spiritualities. Thirdly, authentic spirituality will express itself through specific recognisable characteristics.

This article focuses on the first aspect of spiritual practice of spiritual practice aligning with the current understanding of cosmology.

The Newtonian science of the seventeenth-century Enlightenment Revolution understood the physical world in an objective, separated state that was mechanistically operated. Spiritual insights were eliminated from the scientific projects that focused on a closed, causally driven system. The role of the divine was limited to an Unmoved Mover as the first cause who set the system up to run and left it to its own devices. Human reason observes, analyses, and understands the causes in the material universe. Through the information gained, humans can manipulate, control, and direct these physical responsibilities for the benefit of humankind.

This worldview comes with the cost of the human being separated from the universe and the world, feeling burdened and alone in a vast universe in constructing a meaningful home for humankind. The world feels fragmented through all the analysed parts, which are difficult to see as a whole, with the modern person carrying a sense of alienation and homelessness.

In the 1900s, this worldview undertook a massive shift through the atomic physics discoveries of Marie Curie and Albert Einstein's theories of relativity and matter being constituted through energy.

As quantum field physics developed, it became clear that interconnectedness is the key concept, and this took the postmodern age to the interrelated and interbeing worldview of the premodern cultures of indigenous spirituality. The universe is now an open system with synchronicity, and the observer is integral within the interconnected, relativity, complementary and vibrant web of interactive organic life.

Premodern worldviews of the cosmos were holistic, with no split between the seemingly material and spiritual worlds. The sense that the divergent aspects of the lived world experience were unified in a greater whole. When humans came to the limits of their knowledge, they were evoked by the awesomeness of natural wonder arising within them that enabled them to be aware of the sacred.

Creative artistic expression is crucial in both the premodern and postmodern cosmologies. The primary text to be deciphered is the universe that unfolds the evolutionary complexities of life through emergent consciousness, as the divine presence is an inherent and internal agent with the processes unfolding in the universe.

Spiritual experiences arise within the examined life in the reflection upon the dynamic history of the universe, earth, and humankind, as viewed by the human participant observer. This examined spiritual life of unfolding and transforming is expressed through ethical behaviour toward humanity and creation.

This ethical reflection can arise from the awareness of connection in responding to the beauty and goodness of life encountered. Perhaps, more often, the response arises

from the need for ethical correction and redirection from the emotional sense of disturbance, disquiet, regret, remorse, sorrow and displeasure, especially around causing hurt to others. Forgiveness for reconnection is required.

The sense of connectedness is not easily won as it involves living with the tension of conflicting opposites engaged in life's experiences. The challenge is to keep the energy of tension without falling into the trap of dualistic thinking of differentiated opposites in trying to hold all together in a whole more significant than the sum of the contributing parts.

Next month, we look at Kees Waaijman's second characteristic of the contemporary spiritual practice of aligning with indigenous spiritualities' insights.



Tree of Life
Centre for Christian Belief,
Spirituality and Australian Culture
Wollaston College



For further information on the Tree of Life programme, please contact the Programme Director:
The Revd Ross Jones on 0404 233 780 or rossj6508@gmail.com

ASH WEDNESDAY

Choral Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes

Preacher:

The Reverend Dr Raewynne Whiteley

Music: The Cathedral Consort

Mass for Four Voices (Byrd), A Litany (Walton)

📅 Wednesday 14 February 2024

🕒 6.30pm

📍 St George's Cathedral

St George's Cathedral
Perth

openminds | openhearts | opendoors

Our Rich Liturgical Heritage - Repentance

THE RT REVD DR PETER BRAIN



There is no other place I would like to be on a Sunday than in church with fellow believers. Doubly so on the first Sunday in the New Year where we heard an excellent sermon from the gospel reading on repentance. I was reminded of its importance and began reflecting on how helpful our public liturgies are in keeping fundamental truths like repentance before us.

Repentance is so easily diminished when it is confused with remorse or regret. Regret so often has to do with sorrow for being found out and remorse with sorrow for our own failure, particularly when hurting someone else, or letting oneself or others down. But repentance goes far deeper, and unsurprisingly, brings us much more hope. Unsurprisingly, because something commanded of us by both God and our Lord and Saviour, as it is, will always be our best course of action. Repentance is required because our sin offends God.

This is why our liturgies are so rich. Take for example the opening Scripture quotations in *BCP* and *AAPB* Morning Prayer from Ezekiel 18:23/32. *'When a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is lawful and right, he shall save his life. For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the*

Lord God; so turn and live', and Mark 1:15 *'The Kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel'*.

The double action of repentance mirrors the truth of these verses, and is clearly set forth in our baptism services with the questions: *Do you turn to Christ?* and *'Do you repent of your sins?'*. To become a believer we must own our rebellion against God, evidenced by our many sins and our chief sin of rejecting the Lordship of Jesus. When we own Jesus as our Saviour and embrace him as Lord, we are doing a U turn, that involves a new Master and a new direction. There can be no pardon without our turning from sin and embracing Jesus as our sin-bearer.

When we do, we receive pardon from God, adoption as his beloved child and the Holy Spirit.

Each of these is the result of our repentance toward God and trust in Jesus. As God's children we want to keep short accounts with him. We want neither to let our Father down, grieve the Holy Spirit, show scant regard to our Lord for His sin-bearing sacrifice, nor letting our local church teams down by unrepented sin. This is why we have the general confession in our services which serve as a reminder and pattern for our personal repentance. In one way or another they emphasise repentance, not because we cease to be believers when we sin, but because we do not want our fellowship with either God or our fellows to be broken. Having become a believer when we confessed Christ as our Lord and Saviour we don't want our sin to darken our relationship with God, instead we deal with it as soon as the Holy Spirit convicts us.

The order of our services is vital. There can be no declared pardon of our sins without our prior repentance. The second order has *'who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith'* and the first order exhorts us *'You, then, who*

truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to live a new life, following the commandments of God and walking in his holy ways, draw near with faith and take this holy sacrament to strengthen and comfort you...', as the condition for receiving God's grace in the sacrament.

Three thoughts have come before me this week. Each brings a challenge, but when heeded brings comfort. William Barclay warns: 'The gravest disservice anyone can do for a fellow is to make him think lightly of sin'. John Owen's advice is life-givingly realistic: 'Be killing your sin, or it will be killing you'. John Murray's wise counsel keeps us from complacency and despair: 'There is a total difference between surviving sin and reigning sin, the regenerate in conflict with sin and the unregenerate complacent to sin. It is one thing for sin to live in us; it is another for us to live in sin'. Repentance will keep us on track as it remains one of this essential means of receiving our Father's daily grace.



Anglican Cursillo® Movement of Perth

CURSILLO REGENER8 DAY

Saturday 24 February 2024

9.00am – 4.00pm

St Michael and All Angels Anglican Church

23 James Street, North Beach

Cursillo is back !!

Come and join us as we regener8 the Cursillo movement in Perth.

This is an opportunity for Perth Cursillistas to get together and strengthen our understanding of the role Cursillo can play in our lives.

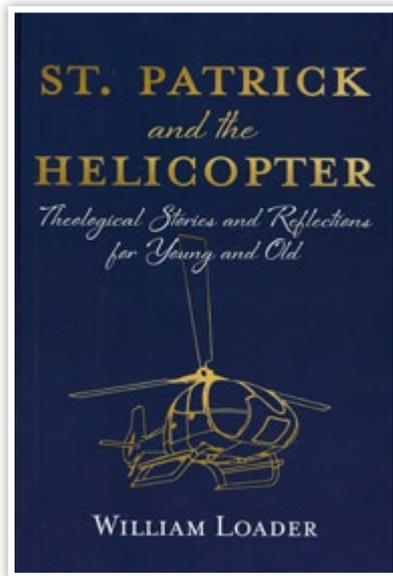
Please join us for a day of worship, fellowship, reconnecting with old friends and revisiting the commitment you made to Christ at your Cursillo.

This opportunity is available at no cost and will include morning tea and lunch.

For more information, please call Leanne Doyle on 0403 199 186 or Kathleen van Son on 0421 380 452 or email vansonke@gmail.com by 10 February 2024 with any food preferences. We look forward to seeing you there and enjoying a day of fellowship!



REVIEWED BY SHIRLEY CLAUGHTON



St Patrick and the Helicopter, Theological Stories and Reflections for Young and Old

William Loader

Paperback approx \$56.00 256 pages; e-book available from his homepage or other on-line sources

This brand-new book is an amazing collection of 92 poems, stories, reflections and conversations, gathered into a liturgical framework. The divisions 'Around Christmas, Around Easter, Around Pentecost and Anytime' wittily suggest a very loose arrangement, a playfulness, and a willingness to negotiate!

William Loader is Professor emeritus, a highly respected New Testament scholar and ordained Uniting Church Minister. Bill, as he is known to his many students from recent years at Murdoch University in Perth, says himself of his many writings, that 'all have required imagination: how to fit together the limited data we have about the past. Imagination, however, does not stop there. It is also a playground for ideas and reflections, stories, poems, pictures in words.'

Ian Tozer, moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia says Bill 'demonstrates his characteristic range: serious scholarship underlying deep and challenging reflections alongside parabolic simplicity. For over forty years he has been my teacher. Come and see and then tell your friends'.

Suzanne Boorer (former senior lecturer in Old Testament at Murdoch) adds: 'A rich tapestry of insights, arising from lifelong study and reflection by one of the outstanding New Testament scholars of his generation. Each imaginative thread draws the reader into the heart of the New Testament, making it accessible to all ages and backgrounds.'

Catch a glimpse in this reflection, from 'Any Time'

Beside the Ocean

'Sitting early this morning on my upturned sandals on rugged rocks beside the ocean, the vast ocean which at its fringes allows me to see through clear waters its intricate systems of life and scattered shells across the sand, the quietness occasionally interrupted by a couple of humans walking their dog.

Their presence is fleeting on the fringes of life's ocean which breathes in and out across the sand as it has done for millions of years.

I am a mere momentary observer beside the wonder of life which can be calm or turbulent and reaches far beyond the horizon of my seeing and my time. More than a sacred place, a meeting with reality.

As a theologian do I now put God in there? My folly. I am the visitor here. It is God who makes me welcome.'

Bill himself advises against reading this book cover to cover, rather 'use this book as a resource to keep coming back to'. Reflections, discussion starters, for storytelling and celebrations, or in the context of worship.

He has written masses of books and articles and has consistently made his resources widely available. A visit to his homepage www.billloader.com lists dozens of resources freely available, including the story which gives this collection its title; St Patrick and the Helicopter- 'a playful way of where we find God.' Check it out!

An amazing collection of Lectionary resources at this site, includes entire Biblical and seasonal (Lent/Advent) studies, liturgies, homilies, and includes resources like this meaningful reflection Bill wrote on 13 February 2008, a timely 16 years ago, to reflect on Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's apology to the 'Stolen Generations'.

*The tears touch the red dust beneath our feet
changing the colour of our land.
The cries of children forcibly removed
and mothers running behind parting cars
echo today in Australia's parliament.
The drought of denial is broken,
the stories heard at the highest level.
Old men and women, first peoples
- and some still in their thirties -
who bear the wounds, respond to heal the nation,
embracing the bipartisan apology,
bringing a coolamon, cradle for newborns,
container of nourishment,
to the heart of government,
a symbol of new beginning.*

*Rejoice, peoples of the world, in our tears!
Celebrate our pain, our being born again to new hope!
Watch over our grief and our setting out afresh
to bring justice and hope,
to walk and work with the ancient peoples of this land,
to rebuild a nation with reconciliation
and engagement which brings seeds to life,
sees the deserts bloom,
and builds firm trunks and mighty trees
across our land.*

*The tears will dry.
The pain will always remain.
No equation can right the wrongs.
No need to fear or deny memory,
but only to welcome new possibilities,
let life burst from the burning,
fresh shoots from charred remains,
and the beauty of diversity and change
redress our ancient land.*

Don't hesitate to look for this book – it is a gem, and will shortly be readily available in Christian bookstores and well worth the outlay.

Prepare to be informed, delighted and surprised. Some copies are available at St Johns Books.

Email books@stjohnsbooks.com.au



Volunteer Board Members

L'Arche is a not-for-profit, faith-based organisation for people living with an intellectual disability. We offer high quality, person-centred support for adults with intellectual disability who makehome together in cities across Australia (Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Bendigo, Brisbane) and around the world.

The community in Perth is expanding and seeking expressions of interest to join our volunteer board and be part of a trusted and integral community organization, in particular those with professional background and experience in the following:

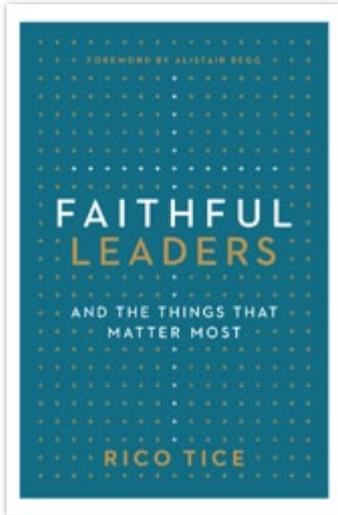
- Secretary
- Accounting/Finance
- Fundraising and Marketing
- Legal
- NDIS and Disability Services.

These positions are non-remunerated. Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday (6-8pm) each month in Scarborough.

If you would like to make a difference in the lives of people with an intellectual disability, get in touch to discuss the possibilities with:
Derek Meates, Chair on 0438 372 743 or
Chris King, Secretary on 0403 804 620



THE RT REVD DR PETER BRAIN



FAITHFUL LEADERS and the things that matter most

Rico Tice

The Good Book Company 2021

Every new year brings new challenges for those who lead our churches. Lower numbers easily demoralise and community opposition and apathy to the gospel threaten to depress us or cause us to seek some new solution that at least makes us feel good.

Rico Tice a long-term team member at London’s All Souls Langham Place has written a short book (110 pages) that may prove to be a tonic for church leaders, paid and lay, jaded and joyful that would keep us on track in our desire to serve our Lord in our local churches.

The four chapters are designed to help us attend to our character and attitudes rather than rely upon strategies. They are: Define Success, Fight Your Sin, Lead Yourself and Serve Your Church.

Tice writes clearly and memorably. His own one-liners and pithy quotes bring home the point. Each section takes us to our Lord’s teaching (with the final chapter on serving from Mark 10:35-45 alone worth the price of the book). To whet your appetite: from an Aussie friend: ‘Rico, there’s no thanksgiving in your life. Morning and night, I want you to kneel by your bed and give thanks to God’. ‘Your day off is your statement that you truly believe God is sovereign’... and that that day belongs to your family’. ‘You have a choice each day ‘will I serve like Jesus or like the world’... will I be self-serving or self-sacrificing’. ‘We need friends with whom we commit to the CIA’, Confidentiality, intimacy and accountability. Friends who will speak the truth not flatter us.

An ideal book for personal reading, with parish leaders and those who will help us reflect our Lord’s agenda and character. Challenging, but like all good medicines a discipleship tonic.

St George's Cathedral Perth

2024
YEAR OF WELCOME
OPEN DOORS

Director of the Spirituality Centre

- Is God calling you to lead our Spirituality Centre?
- Do you have a passion for the spiritual life?
- Do you want to encourage others in their journey with God?

St George's Cathedral is on the look out for a new member of the clergy team who will lead our Spirituality Centre into its next phase. For many years, the Spirituality Centre has been an important part of the Cathedral's outreach and mission, as it helped people connect with God and search for life's meaning.

Our new Director will help people in their life with God through providing a welcoming programme that encourages people to learn to rest in God, to let God love them, to let that love flow out into the world, as they recognise and respond to God's presence and love in every aspect of life.

We hope our new Director will use the teachings and insights of spiritual writers and teachers down the centuries to ignite a passion for the spiritual life in the twenty-first century.

Position Description and more info at: www.perthcathedral.org

To apply send your CV to the Dean: chris.chataway@perthcathedral.org

Spirituality at Wollaston

OBITUARY: THE VERY REVD DR ALAN JONES OBE

THE MOST REVD DR PETER CARNLEY AC

Alan Jones died peacefully in his room at a residential care centre in San Francisco on Sunday, 14 January. His wife, Cricket, who had been visiting him, had slipped out to see a friend and returned to find that he had passed into the timeless eternity of God; he had been watching a eucharist live streamed from the National Cathedral in Washington.

Originally a Londoner, Alan became known on the international stage of world Anglicanism as a naturalized citizen of the United States, and Professor of Ascetical Theology at the General Theological Seminary of The Episcopal Church in New York. Apart from his academical interest in the rich history of Christian spirituality from its Biblical roots through the contributions of the likes of Benedict and Bernard of Clairvaux, Therese of Arvilla and John of the Cross, Francis and even Dante, he pioneered the creation of a Centre for Christian Spirituality, which drew upon the modern psychological and spiritual insights of Carl Jung and the Myer Briggs personality indicator so as to foster the actual practice of prayer, intentional inner spiritual growth, and the art of spiritual direction. He was the author of a succession of books in his field.

In the early 1980s he visited Perth to help us establish a similar Centre for Christian Spirituality with similar goals at Wollaston College. Given that Archbishop Geoffrey Sambell had judged it prudent to send the then relatively small number of Perth ordinands to Morpeth, Melbourne or Adelaide for their basic theological education, Wollaston continued in use for a creative programme of practical training-for-ministry for deacons in their first year as they and their families re-adjusted to life back in Perth, in addition to its commercial use as a Conference Centre. But clearly the facility was an under-utilized diocesan resource that, with its splendid chapel, cried out to be put to more extensive use.

Alan Jones came from New York to help fill this bill. He introduced an initial programme called Amicitia (Friendship) which encouraged both clergy and lay people to embark on a spiritual journey of self-knowledge and self-discovery in the context of a firm belief in the love of God. This was achieved with the help of a 'soul friend' with whom they could explore their spiritual lives and hold themselves accountable. This in turn called for education and training of soul friends in the skills of spiritual direction. The Centre for Christian Spirituality soon began to flourish first under the local direction of George Trippe and later, Roger Sharr. Then came the development of the Cursillo Movement with Wollaston as its centre for the stimulus of the spirituality and deepening of faith of both clergy and lay people in a vibrant community experience of fellowship and prayer.

* * * * *

Following his time at the General Seminary in New York, Alan Jones became the Dean of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, and remained in that position for twenty-four years. This coincided with the AIDS pandemic with all its frightening consequences, which broke upon San Francisco with a particular vengeance. Jones was called upon to oversee a practical response of pastoral care which was accomplished with enormous courage and distinction – something for which Grace Cathedral was widely applauded.

At the same time, with the help of The Revd Dr Lauren Artress, Alan Jones's spiritual interests were sustained through the development of labyrinth spirituality, based upon the ancient

medieval tradition of spiritual pilgrimages, but with the use of a single accessible local space, of which the labyrinths found in the pavement of the ancient Church of San Vitale in Ravenna and, very notably, in the nave at Chartres Cathedral, are surviving examples.

As this project began to take off there was an occasion when the alarmed vergers at Chartres came running from all directions crying 'What are you doing!' when they saw that a group of Anglican enthusiasts were removing the chairs from the nave – so as to expose and walk upon the ancient labyrinth which had long since fallen into desuetude and lay hidden from view.

A beautiful labyrinth soon became a feature of the west end of the nave of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, along with an al fresco version outside in the Cathedral precinct. Before long labyrinth spirituality had spread around the entire globe, and was revived in Chartres itself. The disturbance of the peace of the Cathedral at Chartres was quickly forgiven and in an act of ecumenical generosity, Jones actually became an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Chartres.

Naturally, with Jones's help labyrinth spirituality was also introduced and pursued with vigour at the Centre for Christian Spirituality at Wollaston. A labyrinth temporarily laid out with a tennis court marker in the Cathedral Square in Perth for an Anglican Expo, also survived for many years before developers had their way and it was dispatched in the name of progress. Fortunately, the more enduring institutionalized version may still be found at Wollaston itself, and also south of the river at St Basil's Church at Murdoch.

For a brief time the Centre for Christian Spirituality also began to explore the shape of a distinctly Australian spirituality under the direction of Fr Nigel Leaves who also had an interest in the Sea-of-Faith Movement. However, by the end of the first decade of the twenty-first century a new set of diocesan priorities saw Wollaston returned to its original function as a theological College, and since the cessation

of theological teaching at Murdoch University, as the Western Australian embodiment of the University of Divinity. The Centre for Christian Spirituality was thus eclipsed, but the purpose that it was created to facilitate, most notably the programme of Weekends at Wollaston, now under the umbrella title of the 'Tree of Life', has continued, first with the valiant direction of Fr Michael Pennington, and currently under Fr Ross Jones. The legacy of Alan Jones thus continues to live on in Perth.

* * * * *

Alan visited Perth a number of times, but the New York/San Francisco/Perth axis was not a one-way street: in the last quarter of the twentieth century many Perth clergy attended Summers-at-General Programmes at the Centre for Christian Spirituality in New York, and others enrolled in units of the General Theological Seminary's Master of Sacred Theology in Spiritual Direction programme. I myself went to San Francisco for a weekend(!) and was privileged to preach on the day of Alan's installation as Dean.

Alan Jones was a great friend to me personally and to the Diocese of Perth; without doubt he enriched our lives in a very remarkable way.

A Requiem Eucharist was celebrated for Alan at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco at 2.00pm on 24 January. This was live-streamed and may still be accessed.* Apart from the splendid liturgy, its poetry and music, and the exemplary sermon of the current Dean, the eulogy helpfully contains a clear and precise introduction to the key elements of labyrinth spirituality.

Very appropriately, surviving labyrinths in many parts of the world, not least here in Perth, will continue to stand as his tangible memorial.

May he rest in peace.

+Peter Carnley

*Go to www.youtube.com/@GraceCathedralinSF/streams - and then scroll down to: **January 24, 2024 | Requiem: Dean Emeritus, The Very Rev. Alan William Jones - 2pm**

ANTHONY HOWES

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



Let me begin by wishing you every blessing for a happy and healthy 2024. Certainly, let's hope that the Arts and, especially, the Theatre, will be positive forces in all our lives this year!

With that in mind, you might expect that this column will look at things like the Festival of Perth and the Fringe Festival - but, I will leave that up to you to investigate those major events through brochures that are available, and concentrate on things a little different, but possibly, more important. These come under the titles of 'Heritage and Thanksgiving'. Let me explain.

On the 10 January, a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Jenny McNae OAM was held in St George's Cathedral. Thanksgiving, yes; but Heritage marked, also. For Jenny's artistry as a thespian, a director, a mentor and theatre educator, resulted in significant gifts to the development of the Arts, both through the individuals she touched, and to the wider creative institutions of Western Australia.

Jenny, born in 1938, arrived here from England in 1970, having been contracted by Perth theatre entrepreneur Frank Baden Powell. She stayed! Jenny quickly established herself as a force in the local industry, with a decades-long career as an actress, director, educator and arts advocate. Jenny served on the Perth Theatre Trust, the Women's Advisory Council and was President of Actors Equity WA. She directed and performed many roles at The Playhouse and other Perth Theatres; and for Agelink Theatre, of which she was a highly valued Board member for many years. Jenny was also Artistic Director of The Hole in the Wall Theatre. She played alongside the young company members of the Midnite Youth Theatre Company, including the role of the feisty history teacher in Alan Bennett's 'The History Boys'.

The funeral, attended by so many people at St George's Cathedral and presided over by Her Grace the Archbishop, The Most Revd Kay Goldsworthy AO, assisted by the Dean of Perth, The Very Revd Chris Chataway, was testament to the affection in which Jenny was held by so many people across all walks of life. Jenny Davis OAM, with her husband Bernie, outlined Jenny McNae's life and commitment to Faith, while the Archbishop linked all of these matters together in a powerful address denoting thanksgiving for Jenny's life, her works and her example of the faithful servant of God. I was privileged to have participated in the service, together with family members, the Chaplain of St Mary's School for Girls and the Minister for the Arts. One of Australia's finest sopranos, Lisa Harper-Brown, accompanied by Tim Chapman, brought many to unabashed tears with Faure's *Pie Jesu*.

Great people, like Jenny McNae, when they die, leave behind a significant legacy; Jenny's faith and the application of what that faith meant to her in her work and life, has added so much to what we know as our 'heritage'. For this, we give thanks.



Jenny McNae OAM and Tony Howes OAM

Stop Press!

After many years of waiting, and some promises that didn't eventuate, Theatre 180 has a place to call its own! In mid January the Company moved into a new office at the Como Theatre (previously known as The Cygnet Theatre) kindly provided by Australian Property Collective. It is situated in the corner office at 16 Preston Street, Como. The Como Theatre is in the process of renovations in which Stage and Screen will be enjoyed by patrons and where Theatre 180 will be able to further develop its philosophy of 'Stories Well Told!' This is where the Vivian Bullwinkel play - **21 Hearts**, will have its world premiere on 11 April.



21 Hearts - Vivian Bullwinkel and the Nurses of the Vyner Brooke

Appointments

The Revd Canon Linda Pilton	Priest-in-Charge, Woodlands-Wembley Downs and Scarborough	08.02.24
The Revd Luke Durham	Priest-in-Charge, East Victoria Park-Bentley	01.03.24
The Revd Tim Russell	Chair, Archbishop's Examining Chaplains	01.01.24

Ordination – Diaconate

10.00am - 24 February 2024, St George's Cathedral

Mr John Barnes	Assistant Curate, Gosnells	25.02.24
Mrs Emily Bowser	Assistant Curate, Floreat Park	25.02.24
Dr William Leadbetter	Assistant Curate, St George's Cathedral	25.02.24
Mr Jackson Lisok	Assistant Curate, Dianella	25.02.24
Mrs Meliata Thomason	Assistant Curate, Applecross	25.02.24
Mr Chris Thomason	Chaplain (Deacon), Anglicare WA	25.02.24

Locum Tenens

The Revd David Prescott	Bayswater	01.01.24-31.03.24
The Revd Frank Sheehan OAM	South Perth	15.01.24-19.05.24
The Revd Andrew Milne	Mt Pleasant	05.02.24-29.04.24
The Ven Jack Thomson	Woodlands-Wembley Downs	01.01.24-08.02.24
The Revd Canon Ray Arthur	Rockingham-Safety Bay	01.01.24-31.01.24
The Revd Bill Hawley	Scarborough	01.01.24-08.02.24
The Ven David Ingleson	Mt Hawthorn	01.01.24-31.03.24
The Revd Dr Alan Forsyth	Swan	01.01.24-30.06.24
The Revd Terry Pickersgill	Warnbro	01.01.24-31.03.24
The Revd Bob Milne	Amana Living	01.01.24-31.12.24
The Revd Sebastiana Pienaar	Forrestfield-Wattle Grove	06.02.24-31.03.24
The Revd Clive McCallum	Lakelands	01.02.24-04.04.24

Permission to Officiate

The Revd Heather Turner

Resignation

The Revd Luke Durham	Rector, Gosnells	19.02.24
The Revd Canon Linda Pilton	Chaplain, Perth College	02.02.24
The Revd Canon Dr Philip Raymont	Chair, Archbishop's Examining Chaplains	31.12.23

**Get in touch with
the Messenger team**

Phone: **08 9425 7200**
Email: messenger@perth.anglican.org

DEADLINE:

Around the 24th or 25th 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 quality.



MAY 2024

COME AND SEE,
COME AND FOLLOW

Revised Pilgrimage
announced:
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Rome & Assisi.

For our new revised pilgrimage pack
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If anyone is interested in serving as the
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Your Cathedral Welcomes Everyone

We are seeking to share our living faith in an inclusive and openhearted way as we empower people to transform the communities in which we live and serve with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am
Holy Communion
from the Book of Common Prayer

10.00am
Choral Eucharist

5.00pm
Choral Evensong

MONDAY TO SATURDAY SERVICES

Monday to Saturday
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday
Wednesday
Monday to Saturday

8.00am
12.15pm
10.15am
4.00pm

Morning Prayer & 8.15am Holy Eucharist
Holy Eucharist
Holy Eucharist
Evening Prayer

FEBRUARY

Friday 2

6.30pm

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Choral Eucharist with the Consecration of The Venerable David Bassett and The Reverend Hans Christiansen as Assistant Bishops.

All are welcome - early arrivals advisable.

Wednesday 14

8.15am
10.15am
6.30pm

Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Choral Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Cathedral Consort - Mass for Four Voices (William Byrd),
A Litany (William Walton)

Saturday 24

10.00am

Matthias, Apostle and Martyr

Sung Eucharist with Ordination of Deacons

CENTRE FOR SPIRITUALITY

Wednesday 14 February

9.30am - 2.00pm

The Safe Ministry of all God's people: going beyond compliance

with Davina Goldthorpe, Safe Ministries Services Manager

Cost \$15, includes lunch

Bookings spirituality@perthcathedral.org or 9325 5766, by the Monday before the presentation.

OTHER EVENTS

Sunday 18 February

10.00am - 3.00pm

Perth Wedding Open Day

Information can be found on our website: perthcathedral.org or on Facebook @stgeorgescathedral