

# MESSENGER

A MAGAZINE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIANS | JULY 2026

Anglican  
Church  
Diocese of Perth



'And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour'

*Luke 2:52*

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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



**Cover image:**

*Christ in the Temple / Christ among the Teachers*  
by Heinrich Hoffman 1884

## 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.**



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**THE RT REVD HANS CHRISTIANSEN** *Assistant Bishop*

**The July edition of *Messenger* focusses on Anglican Schools. In this edition there are contributions from each of our schools highlighting some of the great work they are doing.**

The Anglican Church has always been committed to education and to building schools. Across Australia we have approximately 160 Anglican Schools. In the Diocese of Perth alone we have 16 Anglican schools, with a further three in the Diocese of Bunbury. As a church we are so blessed to be engaged with tens of thousands of people who work and learn in our schools.

As Bishop for schools in the Diocese of Perth, it is my great joy to visit all our schools regularly. On my recent four day, 100km Pilgrimage Walk of Joy with 8 Anglican schools and one Jewish school in the southern and central region of the Diocese, I had the wonderful opportunity to walk, worship and talk with many students about joy.

The Pilgrimage of Joy began from Peter Carnley Anglican Community School with students and staff joining us from John Wollaston Anglican Community School and Frederick Irwin Anglican School from the Diocese of Bunbury also joining us. We began the journey with a tree planting and smoking ceremony conducted by Noongar elder, Barry Winmar. We then celebrated the Eucharist, where I was gifted a beautiful Pilgrimage Crozier made by staff from Peter Carnley Anglican Community School.

There was a real sense of joy and excitement as we set out together on the long walk to St George's Cathedral. Over the next four days, I walked with over 500 hundred students and many staff from 9 schools (Peter Carnley Anglican Community School, Frederick Irwin Anglican Community School, John Wollaston Anglican Community School, All Saints' College, St Hilda's Anglican Schools for Girls, Christ Church Grammar School, St George's Anglican Grammar School, AngliSchools International and Carmel College).





During the Pilgrimage many students shared how their families, friends and hobbies give them great joy. But perhaps surprisingly to some people, a large number of students shared with me how their faith gives them a deep sense of joy in life. Some students spoke about the joy and comfort of prayer; the joy of going to church together with their families; the joy and sense of purpose of reading scripture; and the joy of having a relationship with Jesus Christ and seeking in community to love others in action.

In a secular society where Christian faith at best is only mentioned in passing, the lived faith experiences of young people are rarely heard in the public sphere. One of the great gifts of our Anglican schools is that they are all built on the faith in the crucified and resurrected Jesus Christ. Therefore, we do not shy away from speaking about our Christian faith and practising it together in our school communities.

Given the faith language taught and practised in our schools, I was not surprised to learn how important faith can be to some of our students. However, I was deeply encouraged by the number of students who were keen to discuss the importance of their faith with me, and I felt honoured to hear their stories.

Central to my message during the Pilgrimage was that finding and living with joy is central to what it means to be Christian. As St Paul teaches in one of his letters, we are “to rejoice always and in everything give thanks” (1Thessalonians 5: 16-18). Throughout the journey, I kept emphasising to students that joy is distinct from happiness. Happiness is an emotion. Joy is a state of being. Joy is a gift from the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and joy comes from faith that our life has meaning and purpose and that our meaning is found in loving God and loving our neighbours as ourselves.

Deep and lasting joy is found not in isolation, but together. For the kingdom of God is between us, as Jesus teaches in Luke’s gospel (Luke 17:21). And our purpose and our joy is therefore found in community. For we are created in love and for love. And when we remain in love and community, our joy, as Jesus teaches, will be made complete (John 15:11).

It was such a privilege and joy to walk with so many students and staff from our Anglican schools, and I take this opportunity to thank all the 9 participating schools. The hospitality of the schools and enthusiasm for this journey of faith was deeply inspiring, and it showed me once again how strong and unified our Anglican schools are.

The Pilgrimage of Joy is the completion of a two-year project of walking with and in between all 16 of our Anglican Schools in our Diocese, connecting all our schools together in our shared Anglican identity. It has been an immense joy and honour and privilege to walk this journey, and I can’t wait to see what the next Pilgrimage journey together will look like.

As you read this Messenger edition, I hope you, like me, will find much joy and inspiration in reading about our Anglican schools in WA.

Grace and peace  
+Hans

THE REVD JOHNSAN DAVID *Rector, Parish of West Perth*

*A snapshot from my sharing at this year's Diocesan LPM Training Days at Wollaston.*

# Rediscovering the Church's Purpose: Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing

**Many years ago, during my curacy at St George's Church in Penang, I stepped out one afternoon looking for lunch. Just down the road, I noticed a long queue of people standing patiently under the tropical heat.**

Curious, I joined the line. About 25 minutes later, I finally reached the front. It was a small roadside stall selling *Nasi Kandar*, a beloved Penang dish of rice and curries. There was nothing impressive about the setting, no air-conditioning and terrible furnishing. In fact, nearby restaurants offered far more comfort and had no queue at all. But the food at this stall was excellent and people were willing to wait for it.

That memory has stayed with me over the years because, strangely enough, I have often seen a similar principle at work in the life of the church. After nearly three decades in parish ministry, one lesson has become increasingly clear to me: healthy churches are not built primarily on impressive programs or constant reinvention, they are built on clarity of purpose. The food stall knew its purpose: to serve good and delicious food. The crowd was a natural outcome.

Whenever we speak about parish revitalisation or evangelism, it is easy to assume that the answer must be found in something new: a strategy, a model, a fresh initiative that will somehow reverse decline or generate excitement, but often the answer is much simpler.

It begins by asking a basic question: *Why does the church exist?*

The church is not merely a gathering built around personal preferences or familiar programs. It is the Body of Christ, called to proclaim the good news, nurture believers, and love our neighbours as ourselves. When that purpose remains clear, many things begin to align naturally. But when that purpose becomes blurred, churches can slowly drift into becoming communities shaped more by preferences than by mission. Over the years, many clergy and leaders would recognise familiar conversations: "I think the church should do more of this,"



or “I wish the church were more like that.” Often these suggestions are sincere and well-intended. Yet sincerity alone does not always keep a church spiritually healthy, we need to get back to the basics.

The deeper question is whether our energy and priorities remain anchored in the church’s true calling. Perhaps one of the greatest challenges facing the modern church is not a lack of activity, but the temptation to lose sight of the main thing. The Church has never been called to entertain the world into the kingdom of God. It has been called to faithfully bear witness to Jesus. Like that little Nasi Kandar stall in Penang, the strength of the church does not come from trying to offer everything. It comes from doing the essential things well.

Faithfully proclaiming the good news, nurturing young believers, prayerfully caring for people, loving one another and serving the needy with compassion. These things are not new or fashionable. In fact, they are wonderfully ordinary. Yet throughout history, God has often chosen to work powerfully through the ordinary faithfulness of His people.

As Anglicans, we already possess a helpful framework in the Five Marks of Mission: proclaiming the Good News, nurturing believers, responding to human need, transforming unjust structures, and safeguarding creation. When churches consistently live out these callings, they become spiritually grounded, outward-looking, and resilient. And very often, genuine growth follows.

So perhaps the question before us is not, “What new thing should we try next?” Perhaps the better question is this: “Are we keeping the main thing the main thing?”

# SYNOD 2026

**Friday 16 October and Saturday 17 October**

## **Friday 16 October**

**6.30pm Eucharist**

**St George’s Cathedral**

followed by the

**First Sitting of the Second Session  
of the Fifty-Second Synod**

including the President’s Address

## **Saturday 17 October**

**9.00am - Second Sitting of the**

**Second Session of the Fifty-Second Synod**

Esplanade Hotel Fremantle by Rydges

46-54 Marine Terrace, Fremantle

**Please note: Lay Conference at 8.00am**

## **DEADLINES for SYNOD BUSINESS**

### **LEGISLATIVE MOTIONS**

to be received by the Legislation Committee  
at Diocesan Office by 5.00pm **on Friday 10 July 2026**

### **EARLY MOTIONS**

to be received by the Registrar at Diocesan Office  
by 5.00pm **on Friday 28 August 2026**

### **EARLY QUESTIONS**

to be received by the Registrar at Diocesan Office  
by 5.00pm **on Tuesday 8 September 2026**

### **NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS**

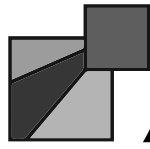
to be received by the Registrar at Diocesan Office  
by 5.00pm **on Thursday 8 October 2026**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF SYNOD PAPERS**

18 September 2026

For further information, please contact

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



# Anglican Community Fund

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

## The Anglican Community Fund celebrating 60 years of Giving Back to the Anglican Community

The ACF has a long and proud history of supporting the Anglican Community. This includes being a sponsor of **St George's Cathedral Art** that has become a premier annual event in art education in Western Australia, attracting schools from all sectors.



Participation in this exhibition provides an outstanding opportunity for schools to present work by students in Years 10, 11 and 12, in the unique setting of St George's Cathedral.

St George's Cathedral Art is a springboard for young artists, bringing a fascinating insight into the lives and minds of a new generation.

The 23rd annual exhibition of St George's Cathedral Art is open from  
Saturday 18 to Sunday 28 July 2026.

See the website for more details: [art.perthcathedral.org](http://art.perthcathedral.org)

**To enquire about how we can help you while supporting the  
Anglican Community please contact the ACF team**



#### Disclosure

Anglican Community Fund (Inc) is not prudentially supervised by APRA; and any investment in the Anglican Community Fund (Inc) will not be covered by depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959 or the Financial Claims Scheme. All financial services and products are designed for investors who wish to promote the charitable purposes of the Fund.

# St George's Cathedral Art Exhibition

**Each July, St George's Cathedral is transformed by colour, form and imagination as it hosts the annual St George's Cathedral Art Exhibition.**

Now a much-anticipated fixture in the Cathedral's calendar, the exhibition brings together senior secondary students from across Western Australia in a celebration of creative expression within one of the city's most sacred and architecturally significant spaces.

For many young artists, the opportunity to exhibit work within the Cathedral is both inspiring and formative. Works are presented across a range of media that includes but is not limited to painting, sculpture, digital works, and mixed media. The diversity of art submitted reflects the range and sophistication offered in visual arts programmes happening in high school art classes across the state. The artwork often reflects personal narratives, cultural identities and pressing social themes, and the setting of the atmosphere of the Cathedral offers a space for storytelling where young people's voices are given visibility and dignity.



St George's Art Awards Night 2025 - Overall Winner

The exhibition is more than a display; it is a gathering of community. All public, independent and private senior schools in Western Australia are invited to participate, and entries are received from metropolitan and regional areas.

The exhibition remains accessible to young artists and has no fee to enter. The generosity of corporate sponsorship and personal donations to the Cathedral Arts Foundation ensures that artistic opportunity is not limited by circumstance, and that creativity is nurtured across the breadth of the state's educational landscape.

A highlight of the exhibition is the annual Gala Awards Night, where outstanding works are recognised by a panel of judges. Categories typically include awards across different artistic disciplines, as well as a Dean's Prize and an overall winner. The People's Choice Award encourages visitors to engage directly with the works and vote for the artwork that drew and held their attention.

Beyond awards and accolades, the exhibition points to something deeper: the role of art in shaping empathy, imagination, and understanding. In the stillness of the Cathedral, amid the play of light and colour, visitors are invited to see the world anew through the eyes of its youngest artists.

As July approaches, St George's Cathedral once again prepares to open its doors—not only as a place of worship, but as a living gallery of hope, curiosity, and emerging talent.

This annual art exhibition runs from Saturday 18 July until Sunday 26 July 2026, open daily to all from 10am-4pm, and from 12pm on Sundays. The Awards Night is on Thursday 23 July, beginning at 6.30pm and tickets can be purchased at [www.trybooking.com/DMGBV](http://www.trybooking.com/DMGBV)





**STEPHANIE BUCKLAND** *Chief Executive Officer, Amana Living*

# Learning Together: Building Community Across Generations

**Celebrating lifelong learning and the meaningful connections bringing generations together through shared experiences, curiosity, and community.**

When we think of learning, we often picture classrooms, teachers, and young people at the beginning of their education journey, yet learning is not confined to childhood, it continues throughout life, shaped by relationships, shared experiences, and the willingness to remain curious and connected.

At Amana Living, we see this every day in our aged care and retirement communities, where learning, growth, and connection continue well beyond the classroom. Through meaningful engagement between generations, older and younger people alike are given the opportunity to learn from one another in ways that enrich their lives and strengthen community.

One example of this can be seen at Amana Living James Brown Care Centre, where students from Hale School visit regularly as part of an intergenerational program. During these visits, residents and students come together for activities such as arts and crafts, and what begins as a shared task often grows into conversations, laughter, and a genuine exchange of ideas. For residents, these visits bring energy and connection, and for the students, they offer insight, perspective, and a deeper understanding of life beyond their own experience.

At Amana Living Club Kinross, one of our Day Clubs supporting people living with dementia who continue to reside in the community, regular interaction and activities with Kinross Primary School fosters this sense of connection between generations. The Club Kinross plays an important role in helping participants remain socially connected, active, and mentally engaged. As familiarity grows, so too does understanding, and these relationships teach younger people empathy and respect, while offering Day Club participants a renewed sense of purpose and engagement.

Lifelong learning is not only about shared experiences, but also about developing new skills, and at Amana Living Frederick Guest Village in Bull Creek, residents have recently taken part in a digital literacy program delivered through a partnership between Amana Living and MatchWorks. Led by a digital trainer and Amana Living's Customer Engagement Lead, residents participated in hands-on workshops, receiving personalised support to build confidence using their phones, tablets, and laptops to help them stay connected in an increasingly digital world.

Alongside practical skills, participants are learning how to recognise and avoid online scams, supporting both independence and safety. The program is now being rolled out across our other villages, reflecting the strong interest and importance of ongoing learning at every stage of life.

These examples remind us that learning is not defined by age, but by opportunity and connection. In each setting, whether through shared activities, community events, or new skills, older people are both teachers and learners.

There is also a deeper sense of purpose in this work, creating spaces where older people feel connected, valued, and supported reflects a commitment to community and belonging, recognising that every stage of life holds value, and that we all have something to contribute.

When generations come together, learning becomes something shared and strengthens understanding, builds relationships, and creates communities where people continue to grow. At Amana Living, we are proud to support these opportunities, and in doing so, we are reminded that learning is not something we outgrow, but something we carry with us, shaped by the people we meet and the connections we make along the way.



**KELLY KEALL** *Community Engagement Manager, Anglicare WA*

# From Classroom to Community: Over 50 Years of Impact

**In Western Australia, Anglican schools have been places of learning since 1858 when Bishop Hale founded Bishop’s Collegiate College, now known as Hale School. These schools have always shaped not only what young people can achieve, but who they are called to be.**

That sense of calling is strengthened through connection with the wider community, particularly through partnerships with organisations like Anglicare WA.

While Anglican schools have been part of the WA landscape for more than 150 years, the system we recognise today has grown significantly since the mid-1980s. What was once a small group of traditional schools has expanded into a diverse network of communities across metropolitan and regional WA. Alongside academic excellence, there has been a growing emphasis on service, justice and compassion, values deeply aligned with the mission of Anglicare WA.

Last month, Anglicare WA celebrated its 50th anniversary. Established in June 1976 as the social services arm of the Anglican Church, it now supports more than 100,000 Western Australians each year, walking alongside individuals and families facing some of life’s toughest challenges - homelessness, financial hardship, family and domestic violence and social isolation.

Service-learning programs are now embedded across Anglican schools, with many initiatives supporting the work and clients of Anglicare WA. Through student-led fundraising, advocacy initiatives such as the Anglicare WA Advocacy Masterclass, and immersive experiences like the School Sleep Out or visits to the Thread Together Hub, young people are engaging directly with the realities faced by many in our community.

They are not simply hearing about disadvantage. They are encountering it, questioning it, and responding to it.

Just as importantly, students bring their own energy, creativity and passion, discovering that they have both a voice and a role to play.

A student who once saw homelessness as a distant issue begins to understand the structural causes behind it. A group of friends organising a fundraiser begins to see the collective impact they can have. A young person speaking at a school assembly begins to recognise their capacity for leadership.

In these moments, education moves beyond the classroom. It becomes formation in empathy, justice and action.

For Anglican schools, this is not an “add-on”. It is central to their identity. Faith is not only something we learn; it is something we live.

Together, Anglican schools and Anglicare WA are helping to shape young people who are not only well-educated, but deeply aware, connected and committed to building a more just and inclusive community.

For Anglicare WA, partnerships with schools are more than opportunities for fundraising or volunteering. They are an investment in the next generation of compassionate leaders.

A photograph from 1987 shows Hale School students engage in a reforestation project on Rottneest Island, contributing to something that would grow far beyond their own time at school.

Nearly four decades later, another image captures Hale School students carefully packing housing starter kits for Anglicare WA clients experiencing homelessness. Practical acts of care for people they may never meet, but whose lives will be touched by their effort.

Different moments. Different needs. The same spirit.

From restoring the natural environment to supporting individuals rebuilding their lives, Anglican school students have long been

responding to the needs of their time with compassion and action.

What began in classrooms continues to ripple outward - into communities, into relationships, and into the lives of those who need it most.

Anglican schools in Western Australia don't just educate young people, they empower them to change the world around them and Anglicare WA is proud to be part of this enduring partnership.



1987 - Hale School students engaged in a reforestation service-learning project on Rottneest Island, WA



2024 - Hale School students engage in a service-learning project, creating housing starter packs for people experiencing homelessness



THE REVD PETER LAURENCE OAM *CEO, AngliSchools*

# Giving Thanks to God - Looking Forward in Hope

**I am pleased to share with you the AngliSchools 2026 Annual Report. Each year, the Annual Report gives us an opportunity to look back on the life of our schools and Head Office, and to give thanks for the many people who contribute to the mission and ministry of AngliSchools.**

This year's report comes at an important time. Following the launch of Strategy 2030, we are beginning to see our new vision, strategic priorities, and shared values of Faith, Inclusion, Respect and Excellence take shape across AngliSchools in very practical ways. The report highlights work across our five Core Domains: Anglican Identity, Flourishing Communities, Stewardship and Sustainability, Optimisation and Innovation, and Governance and Compliance.

You will see there is so much for which we give thanks to God and celebrate with our community. Our schools continue to grow, now serving more than 18,600 students across three states. AngliSchools House has opened in the Perth CBD. Planning and construction continue for St Matthew's Anglican School in Yanchep, which when it opens in January 2027 will become our 17th school. Across existing AngliSchools, major capital works are providing new and renewed spaces for teaching, learning, creativity and community-building.

The Annual Report also points to important work that happens less publicly but is so vital to the strength of our system: professional learning, child safety, governance, risk, business continuity, technology, payroll and shared systems. These are not always the most visible parts of our work, but they matter greatly. They help us to support our schools well and plan responsibly for the future.

Most importantly, the Report is full of people: students learning, belonging and achieving;

staff serving with care and expertise; school leaders guiding their communities; and many others thoughtfully contributing with dedication across AngliSchools.

In this our 41st year, there is so much for which we humbly give thanks to our God who is Creator, Redeemer and Life-giver for all people.

I commend the Annual Report to you and thank all those whose work, leadership and commitment are reflected in its pages.



[https://issuu.com/anglicanschools/docs/anglischools\\_annual\\_report\\_2026](https://issuu.com/anglicanschools/docs/anglischools_annual_report_2026)



# Walking Together in Joy

**In May this year, a group of students from All Saints' College stepped out of their usual routines and into something very special - joining The Rt Revd Hans Christiansen, Assistant Bishop of Perth, on his Pilgrimage Walk of Joy.**



Spanning four days and 90 kilometres, the walk connected Anglican schools across Perth's southern and western regions, from Wellard to Mosman Park and back into the city. Along the way, students, staff and community members of all ages came together, sharing not just the physical journey, but moments of reflection, conversation and prayer. At its heart, the pilgrimage sought to connect schools more deeply to their shared Anglican identity, inviting participants to reflect on the theme of joy in both faith and everyday life.

For All Saints' College, the experience held special significance as Bishop Hans serves on the College Board, providing spiritual guidance and an important connection to the wider Anglican community. His presence within the governance of the College ensures that its Anglican identity remains an active and authentic part of school life. Walking alongside him gave students the chance to get to know him more personally - to hear his stories, understand what shapes his faith, and gain a genuine insight into his leadership.

All Saints' students joined the pilgrimage on its second day, walking 20km from John Wollaston Anglican Community School and warmly welcoming Bishop Hans to campus. That afternoon, they led a Chapel service at the College, offering a space for worship and reflection. The following morning, All Saints' students helped lead the beginning of day three,

setting the tone for another day of walking and shared experience.

All Saints' College Chaplain, The Revd Liz Flanigan said the walk was a special opportunity to come together to celebrate the joy found in faith, while strengthening connections across Anglican schools in Western Australia.

"Taking time out for activities like walking, having meaningful conversations, offering hospitality and prayer can enrich our lives and remind us of what's really important - our relationship with God and each other and connection with and care for nature," said Liz.

But beyond the kilometres walked, it was the quieter moments that left a lasting impression on students, with time to reflect, to notice the world around them and to connect more deeply with others.

Liz hopes students carried this with them beyond the walk. "I hope they were inspired by Bishop Hans' example, and that they were able to slow down and recognise the joys in their own lives including the joy we share, and the joy the Christian faith offers," said Liz.

As Bishop Hans journeyed from school to school, the pilgrimage gently strengthened the bonds between Anglican communities across Perth. For All Saints' students, it was a reminder that faith is something we don't walk alone.



# Pilgrimage of Joy

**Christ Church Grammar School was honoured to play a meaningful role in the Anglican Diocese of Perth's Pilgrimage of Joy, welcoming Assistant Bishop, The Right Reverend Hans Christiansen, during his four-day journey connecting Anglican schools across the city.**

More than simply a physical journey, the pilgrimage represented an opportunity for Anglican schools to reconnect with their shared identity and consider how joy can be lived out within communities through compassion, connection, and collective purpose.

Bishop Hans arrived at Christ Church alongside our boarders and friends from St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls, where he was warmly welcomed by students and staff. His visit created a unique opportunity for the School community to pause amid the busyness of school life and reflect on the values that unite us - faith, service, gratitude, and fellowship.

The visit was marked by a special Boarders and Community Service held in the School Chapel, attended by members of the Christ Church community. The gathering provided an opportunity for students, families, and staff to come together in worship and reflection, recognising the importance of community and shared purpose within Anglican education.

After spending the night sleeping in the Chapel, Bishop Hans joined the School the following morning as a special guest at the Senior School Assembly. Speaking to students, he reflected on the deeper meaning of pilgrimage, and the role joy plays within faith and everyday life. He noted that joy is mentioned more than 180 times throughout the Bible, reminding students that joy is not simply a fleeting emotion, but something grounded in hope, connection, and service to others.

A particularly meaningful symbol throughout the pilgrimage was the shell Bishop Hans wore around his neck and carried on his backpack.

He explained that historically, shells have been worn by pilgrims as markers of the journey - symbols of spiritual transformation, guidance, and completion. During the Assembly, Bishop Hans presented a shell to Spiritual Prefect Jeeo McGuire as a gift to the School, representing connection to faith, community, and the wider Anglican tradition.

Students were especially moved by Bishop Hans' message about the power of unity and shared action. "The key to finding joy is to know we can do something special together, not alone. When we come together, it can dispel the problems we are facing, personally and globally."

Following the Assembly, Bishop Hans was farewelled with a guard of honour formed by Year 3 and 4 students, alongside visiting students from St George's Anglican Grammar School and Carmel School. The joyful send-off reflected the warmth, spirit, and sense of togetherness that characterised his time at Christ Church.

Bishop Hans then continued on foot towards St George's Cathedral in the Perth CBD, where the pilgrimage concluded with a Eucharist attended by representatives from each participating school, including Christ Church Prefects.

The Pilgrimage of Joy served as a powerful reminder that schools are not only places of learning, but communities grounded in shared values, relationships, and faith. Bishop Hans' visit encouraged students and staff alike to reflect on the importance of walking together with purpose, supporting one another, and seeking joy through service, connection, and community.





# Finding a Home Away from Home: The Country Boarding School Experience

**For many regional families, boarding school is about far more than education - it is about finding a place where young people feel supported, connected, and truly at home. At Esperance Anglican Community School, our small and bespoke boarding experience is built on a strong sense of community, where every student is known, valued, and encouraged to thrive.**

Life in the boarding house fosters friendships that extend well beyond the classroom. Students from diverse rural communities from across the state come together, sharing experiences, supporting one another, and forming lasting relationships built on trust and mutual respect. Whether it's enjoying shared meals from our newly built Cove Cafe, participating in evening activities such as beach walks, celebrating birthdays, or simply spending time together relaxing after a busy school day, boarders quickly become part of an extended family.

Our dedicated boarding staff play an important role in creating this welcoming environment. They provide guidance, encouragement, and care, helping students navigate the challenges of living away from home while celebrating their achievements along the way. Open communication between staff, students, and families ensures every young person feels supported both pastorally and academically.

The close-knit nature of Esperance Anglican Community School means boarders are fully integrated into school life, our Boarding House is located in the centre of our School! They participate in community sport, partake in the

school's music program, are provided leadership and community service opportunities, which they may otherwise be unable to engage in. These shared experiences build confidence, resilience, and a genuine sense of belonging.

Boarding also encourages independence while reinforcing the values of respect, responsibility, and compassion. Students learn important life skills in a safe and nurturing environment. With a maximum of 40 boarding students being accommodated at any one time, the personal connections allow for personal growth and development. This is a true preparation for life beyond school. Many of the students return home at the weekend allowing additional connections throughout the term with their family.

At Esperance Anglican Community School, boarding is more than a place to stay. It is a community where lifelong friendships are formed, supportive relationships flourish, and every student is empowered to grow with confidence. Boarding at our school is a true country boarding school experience which is valued by all the boarding house students.





# Celebrating 35 Years

**As part of Frederick Irwin Anglican School's 35th Anniversary Celebration Events, school families recently came together in a vibrant display of community spirit to farewell the Bishop of Bunbury, The Rt Revd Dr Ian Coutts, before his retirement later this year, at a special Family Colour Run event – the first one ever for both of our primary schools!**

More than 300 students, staff and family members gathered for the occasion in their crisp white shirts and clear goggles, which began with a formal farewell recognising Bishop Ian's year of dedicated service.

Bishop Ian has long since had a wonderful relationship through the years with Frederick Irwin Anglican School, leading many of our pinnacle events including (just in the past five (5) years) leading our Founders' Day Eucharist (2026), Commissioning our Halls Head Early Learning Centre and Administration Building (2025), licensing Assistant Chaplain Alicia Tearle (2024), Commissioning our Kwobadiny Sports Centre (2023), performing Baptisms (2023), Commissioning of Principal Mrs Tracey Gray's (2022), and Commissioning of School Chaplain Canon James Tabor (2021).

Principal, The Revd Tracey Gray acknowledged his significant contribution and ongoing connection to the school before presenting him with a photo frame gift highlighting events at the School over the years that he led, in appreciation of his support. A highlight of the tribute from the Principal was a beautifully crafted two-tier cake, made and decorated by a Frederick Irwin Anglican School parent and

caterer, featuring a beautifully detailed replica of the Bishop's mitre, cross and Bible.

Following the ceremonial cake-cutting, Bishop Ian officially started the Colour Run, shifting the tone of the afternoon to one of energetic celebration. Bursts of colour and enthusiastic participation across all age groups created a joyful and inclusive atmosphere, with staff joining alongside students and families as colour puffs filled the air as participants ran laps around our Secondary Oval.

The event, organised by our new "Friends of FIAS" committee and coordinated by a 2005 Alumni parent, along with the support of many dedicated parent volunteers, was a great success. It highlighted the importance of relationships, lived values and a connected community in supporting student wellbeing, engagement and pure JOY!

"I am so happy that our families were able to come together to celebrate 35 wonderful years of Frederick Irwin, and at the same time recognise the love and effort and support that Bishop Ian has provided the School over the years.

"We wish Bishop Ian the best for his retirement later this year," said Principal Tracey Gray.



# Nurturing Tomorrow's Champions

**At Georgiana Molloy Anglican School, we are committed to developing young people who excel not only in their chosen pursuits but also as confident, resilient and well-rounded individuals. The PEAK Program is a key part of this commitment, empowering students to explore and develop their own personal operating system through structured processes, evidence-based development education, and a strong focus on holistic wellbeing.**

The program is led by Mr Mark Nicoski, former West Coast Eagles player, coach and wellbeing advocate, whose extensive experience and passion for youth development provide students with exceptional opportunities for growth. Through his leadership, students are supported to strengthen their mindset, wellbeing, and performance, while developing the skills required to achieve success both on and off the sporting field.

The PEAK Program represents an exciting step forward in our commitment to whole-child development and the unique cocurricular opportunities available at GMAS. Importantly, it also ensures that students in regional areas can access specialist expertise and support to help them pursue their sporting aspirations.

Working closely with selected students from Years 7-12, Mr Nicoski helps maximise their sporting potential while delivering educational sessions focused on mindset, nutrition, recovery, performance and overall wellbeing. His role combines athlete development, mentoring, education and pastoral care, supporting students to not only perform at their best but to thrive in all aspects of life.

Students accepted into the program participate in individual mentoring sessions to co-design personalised development plans tailored to their goals. These plans focus on areas such as nutrition, wellbeing, performance enhancement and targeted goal setting within their chosen sport. In addition, students engage in small-group educational workshops that provide age-appropriate theoretical knowledge and practical strategies linked to high-performance sport.

The PEAK Program is designed for students who demonstrate a high level of sporting achievement, commitment and ambition. Through targeted mentoring and specialised

support, the program aims to nurture student athletes who are actively striving for excellence in their chosen disciplines.

Recently, PEAK students participated in a high-performance development excursion to Perth, visiting the West Coast Eagles and the West Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS). The experience provided valuable insights into the demands and expectations of professional athletes, while also showcasing world-class training environments and facilities.



Students had the opportunity to meet and learn from accomplished athletes, including former West Coast Eagles premiership player Luke Shuey, current West Coast Eagles player Reuben Ginbey and Australian Olympian Alanah Yukich from WAIS. These experiences offered invaluable inspiration and firsthand perspectives on the dedication, discipline and mindset required to succeed at the highest levels of sport.

We extend our sincere thanks to both the West Coast Eagles and WAIS for their generosity and support in providing such meaningful access and learning opportunities. The excursion was a memorable and highly beneficial experience for our PEAK students, further inspiring them on their own sporting journeys.

# New University Preparation Pathway Launches at JWACS

**John Wollaston Anglican Community School is pleased to introduce *FlexiTrack Uni Prep*, a new university preparation initiative launching for the first time at the School in partnership with Murdoch University.**

Designed for students seeking an alternative pathway into tertiary study, *FlexiTrack Uni Prep* provides a clear and supported transition to university while students remain within the familiar environment of the School. The program is aimed particularly at students pursuing a General or VET pathway, or those who may not be on track to meet traditional ATAR entry requirements, yet still demonstrate the capability and motivation for university study.

Delivered through a dedicated *FlexiTrack* class during Year 12, the program focuses on building the academic skills, independence and confidence required for success in tertiary education. Students complete a structured university preparation course supported by both JWACS teachers and Murdoch University tutors, gaining firsthand experience in university-style learning before graduation.

Successful completion of the program provides students with a guaranteed pathway into Murdoch University, with an ATAR equivalent of 70. At present, Western Australian universities recognise one another's preparation programs, meaning this pathway can also support entry into other tertiary institutions.

John Wollaston's Dean of Teaching and Learning, Mr Scott Robertson, said the introduction of *FlexiTrack* reflects the School's commitment to providing personalised and future-focused pathways for students.

"Not every student's strengths or aspirations fit neatly within a traditional ATAR pathway, and *FlexiTrack* provides another meaningful option for students who are capable of university study," Mr Robertson said.

"This initiative allows students to continue developing strong academic skills while building the confidence and independence needed for success beyond school. Importantly, it gives students access to genuine university preparation within a supportive school environment."

The program contributes towards WACE, as an endorsed program, and includes a combination of core university preparation studies and elective units aligned to students' interests and future career goals. Areas of study include Business, Education, Health and Criminology.

Throughout the course, students strengthen skills in academic writing, critical thinking, research, communication, collaboration and independent learning. The program also emphasises time management and self-regulation, capabilities that are increasingly important for both tertiary study and the modern workplace.

Entry into the program is offered to current Year 11 students each year, with applications and selection typically taking place during Semester 2. The introduction of *FlexiTrack Uni Prep* forms part of John Wollaston's ongoing commitment to providing diverse, personalised pathways that support every student to pursue success in a way that reflects their individual strengths, goals and future aspirations.





# A Ministry for the Next Century

**As Perth College looks towards the centenary of the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels, the School recently celebrated both its enduring Anglican heritage and its future through the commissioning of The Revd Julie Baker as School Chaplain.**

Held in the Chapel on 17 June 2026, the service brought together students, staff, families, Old Girls, Council members and clergy from across the Diocese. Led by Assistant Bishop of Perth, The Rt Revd Kate Wilmot, it marked an important moment in the life of the School as The Revd Julie Baker was commissioned to lead and nurture the spiritual life of the Perth College community.

For almost a century, the Chapel has been the spiritual heart of the School. Since its foundation stone was laid in 1926 through the vision and determination of the Sisters of the Church, generations of students have gathered within its walls for worship, celebration, remembrance and reflection. As the School prepares to celebrate the Chapel's centenary, Julie's commissioning serves as a reminder that while buildings carry history, it is people who bring faith to life.

During the service, Julie committed herself to nurturing and sustaining the spiritual life of Perth College in accordance with the faith and practice of the Anglican Church. In turn, the School community pledged its prayers, care and support for her ministry.

Members of the School community presented Julie with symbols of her ministry: a Cross to lead others to Christ, a Bible to proclaim God's Word, a Prayer Book to gather the community in worship, a candle representing light and hope, and the School Roll as a reminder of her pastoral care for every member of the Perth College community.

Principal Sarah McGarry said the commissioning reflected the School's commitment to nurturing young women who are academically capable and who grow in compassion, courage and purpose through the values of the Anglican tradition.

"Chaplaincy is about presence," Ms McGarry said. "It is found in the everyday conversations, the moments of celebration, the times of uncertainty and the opportunities to encourage our students to ask life's important questions with confidence and faith. We welcome Julie most warmly to our community."

Julie's commissioning reminds us that, in the 124th year of our school, our Anglican identity is defined by our history and very much by the people who continue to shape it each day.





# Peter Carnley Anglican Community School Leads Opening of Pilgrimage Walk of Joy

**Peter Carnley Anglican Community School officially launched the Pilgrimage Walk of Joy, becoming the first school community to begin a four-day spiritual journey across the Anglican Diocese of Perth in May.**

Led by The Rt Revd Hans Christiansen, Assistant Bishop of Perth, the pilgrimage covered approximately 90 kilometres and brought together Anglican schools, parishes and community members in a shared celebration of faith, reflection and connection.

The opening day at Peter Carnley Anglican Community School began with a symbolic Welcome to Country and tree planting ceremony. Elder Barry Winmar prepared the ground through a traditional smoking ritual and Bishop Hans blessed the earth before the tree was planted. The ceremony represented respect for Country, renewal, growth and the beginning of the journey ahead.

Students and staff then gathered in Grace Chapel for the official opening Eucharist service. Bishop Hans explored the theme of 'Joy' and explained the significance of the shell he carried on his backpack and wore around his neck. Traditionally associated with pilgrimage journeys, the shell served as a marker of the pilgrim route, a symbol of spiritual transformation and a sign of completion worn by travellers throughout history.

As part of the ceremony, Principal Ms Felicity House presented Bishop Hans with a handmade wooden pilgrim's crozier, topped with a cross crook to accompany him throughout the journey. The crozier was crafted by Mr Daniel Richardson.

A strong sense of unity was evident as pilgrims from Frederick Irwin Anglican School and John Wollaston Anglican Community School



joined the PCACS community. The PCACS students welcomed the pilgrims on the school oval for the Smoking Ceremony led by Elder Barry Winmar, creating a shared moment of reflection, cultural recognition and respect.

Father Raphael offered a blessing to Bishop Hans and the pilgrims for safe travel and spiritual guidance. The pilgrims then began the first stage of their walk towards Wellard Station on their way to John Wollaston Anglican Community School.

Throughout the pilgrimage, Anglican school communities across Perth hosted gatherings, services and hospitality events along the pilgrimage route. Students from participating schools joined sections of the walk, demonstrating a shared

commitment to faith, service and community connection.

The Pilgrimage Walk of Joy concluded at St George's Cathedral on Thursday 7 May with a combined Eucharist service bringing together schools, parishes and supporters from across the Diocese. During the final service, pilgrims reflected on the theme of Joy and placed the gifted shell from Bishop Hans on the altar as a symbol of the completed journey.

By leading the opening of the pilgrimage, Peter Carnley Anglican Community School embodied the spirit of the Walk of Joy, encouraging participants to walk together in faith, celebrate community and embrace joy through shared experience.



# Passport to Purpose: Service Learning at Peter Moyes Anglican Community School

**The Service Learning Programme at Peter Moyes Anglican Community School (PMACS) has quickly become one of the most transformative elements of its Secondary School culture. What began as a small initiative in 2025 – a Passport for Purpose for Year 9 students - has now grown into a whole school commitment to service, character formation, and community connection.**

This shift began when HaSS Teacher Alexandra Dodd, now the School's Service Learning Co-ordinator, recognised a need for students to look further beyond their own self-interest. In response, Passport for Purpose was introduced last year, requiring Year 9s to complete ten hours of service per semester. The impact was immediate. Students engaged deeply, reflected meaningfully, and demonstrated a growing awareness of the needs of others. The success of the programme led to the creation of a dedicated Service Learning Co-ordinator role for 2026, ensuring long term vision and continuity.

Today, Service Learning is embedded across Years 9–12, with plans to expand across PK- 12 over the coming years. At its core, the programme expresses AngliSchools values - Faith, Inclusion, Respect and Excellence. It encourages students to understand that serving others enriches both giver and receiver. For some, Service becomes a pathway to discovering or deepening their faith; for all, it is an invitation to grow in grace, empathy, and self understanding. Each year level engages with a distinct service focus:

- **Year 9 Community Service:** supporting Primary students in their co curricular activities, and co-ordinating Christmas Hampers through donation drives.
- **Year 10 Anglicare Partnership:** including a record 52 Year 10 students (and still growing) volunteering for the Sleepout for Youth Homelessness, as well as the Pop-Up Op Shop clothing drive, which collected 135kg of donated items to fundraise for Anglicare.

- **Year 11 Relay for Life:** fundraising and participating as a team in support of the Cancer Council.
- **Year 12 World's Greatest Shave:** a standout success this year, raising over \$20,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation.

To strengthen student voice, two Year 12 Service Learning Ambassadors were appointed this year. Their role includes surveying peers to select the charities the school will support - ensuring students have agency in shaping the programme.

This year also marks the return of an international Service Learning opportunity for our students. Seven senior students will travel to Cambodia during the July school holidays, teaching English to students at a Cambodian Primary School. Guided by Miss Dodd and School Chaplain, The Revd Jean-Pierre Schroeder, the group will experience first-hand the profound impact of global service and cultural exchange.

Looking ahead, PMACS aims to expand local partnerships and to reinstate an interstate Service trip. The long term vision is clear: a programme with local, national, and global reach, grounded in inclusiveness and open to all, regardless of faith background.

Ultimately, Service Learning teaches students that everyone has the capacity to make a positive difference. It invites them to engage with people they might never otherwise meet, to contribute without expecting anything in return, and to discover the joy of serving others - an expression of our shared humanity and our Anglican identity.





# Finding Courage On The Edge

## St George's students and staff take the plunge for Anglicare WA

**For eight members of the St George's Anglican Grammar School community, Friday 13 November will be a day of courage, challenge and service as they take part in the Central Park Plunge, abseiling 130m down Perth's iconic Central Park Tower.**

Representing the school are staff members Miss Sadie Yoxall, Miss Giorgia Bakeberg and Mrs Danielle de Witt, alongside Year 12 students Jade Fletcher, Sophie Gardner, Zara Jones, Mia McGurk and Zara Moesker. Together, they are raising funds for Anglicare WA, an organisation with which St George's has developed a strong partnership through a variety of service-learning initiatives, advocacy programs and community engagement.

The idea first emerged from conversations with students who had watched the annual event taking place across the road from the school's William Street Campus in the heart of the Perth CBD. Curious and inspired, they began asking how they could become involved. Their enthusiasm quickly gained momentum, supported by staff members including our Head of Year 11 and 12, Mr Tim Hayward and School Principal Mrs Tina Campbell, who helped bring the opportunity to life.

For Year 12 Service and Community Captain Zara Moesker, the event represents both an exciting challenge and a chance to make a real difference to those in need.

"We've always seen this event going on at Central Park," she said. "It looked interesting and cool, and we wanted to get involved."

While some participants admit they are nervous about heights, Zara believes that is part of what makes the experience so meaningful.

Central Park Plunge participants must each raise a minimum of \$1,100, contributing to a school target of \$8,800. Funds raised will support Anglicare WA's work with vulnerable Western Australians, including programs addressing homelessness, poverty, family violence and

mental health challenges. Mrs Tina Campbell, St George's Anglican Grammar School Principal has generously donated the first \$500 to get the group started.

For St George's Head of Camps and Service-Learning, Miss Sadie Yoxall, the initiative reflects the heart of our St George's Anglican identity.

"The Central Park Plunge is another opportunity for our students and staff to turn awareness into action," she said. "It is one thing to learn about the many challenges facing people in our community, but it is another to actively contribute to an organisation that is working every day to support vulnerable people and improve their lives."



Central Park Plunge student participants Zara Moesker, Zara Jones, Sophie Gardner, Mia McGurk and Jade Fletcher with St George's Anglican Grammar School's Service Learning Coordinator Miss Sadie Yoxall.



Jade Fletcher, Sophie Gardner, Zara Jones, Mia McGurk and Zara Moesker at Central Park Tower in Perth.

Throughout the year, St George's students regularly participate in charitable events – particularly for Anglicare WA, through the school's Anglicare Ambassadors program which drives awareness and fundraising events such as Sleepout in the CBD and Sleep Out at Optus, to support the Street Connect Bus stationed in the city. Events also include Charity House Days such as a colour run for the Heart Foundation, city lap-a-thon for Headspace, a talent show for the Stephen Michael Foundation and the World's Greatest Shave for Leukemia. For the Central Park plunge, students have already held a Silly Socks for the Summit and Jeans for the Jump Day, raising their first \$1000.

The plunge itself presents a powerful lesson in courage and action living the idea of 'not for self alone'. As participants prepare to step over the edge of one of Perth's tallest buildings, they are learning that bravery is not the absence of fear but the willingness to move forward despite it.

Zara captured the spirit of the event best when she spoke about finding "power in fear" and for Miss Yoxall. "Courage does not mean being completely fearless. Sometimes courage is feeling nervous, uncertain or uncomfortable, but choosing to step forward anyway because of the magnitude of the purpose behind it."

Ultimately, the Central Park Plunge brings together many of the values at the heart of St George's Anglican Grammar School: service, compassion, courage, leadership and community. Whether taking the leap themselves or supporting the event through fundraising initiatives, students are demonstrating that meaningful service ultimately begins when we step beyond our comfort zone for the sake of others.



Silly Socks for the Summit



Jeans for the Jump



# Called to Serve: Student Leadership in Liturgy from Classroom to Cathedral

**The joy of the past year as the Chaplain at St Hilda's has been the active participation of students across all year levels in the liturgical life of the school. This has also included involvement in the wider ecclesial community, which offers a rich expression of faith in practice.**

From our youngest pupils to the Year 12 leaders, student involvement as sacristans, readers, choir members and musicians reflects both a commitment to service and a formative process of spiritual and moral development. This participation has extended beyond our school liturgies to local parish celebrations and diocesan cathedral services, nurturing a sense of belonging within the broader Church.

Research in religious education highlights that experiential engagement is central to faith formation. Christian education is most effective when it integrates lived experience with reflective practice, enabling students to encounter faith not merely as knowledge but as a way of life. In our context, students who prepare the altar as sacristans learn reverence, responsibility, and attention to sacred detail. Those proclaiming scriptures as readers develop confidence in public speaking and a deeper engagement with biblical texts. These roles are not simply functional, but they are formative, shaping students' identities as active participants in the liturgical tradition of the Anglican Church.

Similarly, involvement in music ministry fosters both communal and spiritual growth. Choir members contribute to the aesthetic and prayerful dimension of worship, embodying what can be described as the transformative power of music within our Christian practice. Through singing as well as playing instruments during a service, students participate in a shared act of praise that transcends individual expression, cultivating unity and a sense of collective purpose. This is particularly evident when students serve not only within school chapel services but also in our local parish and cathedral settings, where they encounter diverse congregations and experience the universality of the Church.

The inclusion of younger students alongside senior leaders is especially significant. Developmental studies suggest that early exposure to meaningful roles within a community fosters long-term commitment and a sense of agency<sup>1</sup>. Younger students, guided by older peers and staff, learn through observation and imitation. Our senior students are offered opportunities for leadership and mentorship.

This intergenerational dynamic strengthens our school community and mirrors the collaborative nature of parish life.

Moreover, participation in parish and cathedral liturgies extends the educational impact beyond the classroom. Astley, Francis, and Crowder<sup>2</sup> argue that faith development is reinforced through engagement with authentic worshipping communities. When students serve in local parishes or in our diocesan cathedral, they encounter the wider Church in action, deepening their understanding of ecclesial identity and mission. Such experiences can be particularly powerful in fostering a

sense of vocation, whether to continued service within the Church or to broader expressions of faith-inspired leadership in society.

The commitment of our students to roles such as sacristans, readers, choir members and musicians is both a testament to their generosity and a vital component of their holistic education. By participating in school, parish, and cathedral liturgies, students are formed not only in knowledge but in faith, service, and community. This integration of worship and learning exemplifies the enduring value of liturgical participation in nurturing engaged and reflective individuals.

1 Erikson, E. H. (1968). *Identity: Youth and Crisis*. Norton

2 Astley, J., Francis, L., & Crowder, C. (1996). *Theological Perspectives on Christian Formation*. Eerdmans





**St James' Anglican School continues to place a strong focus on living out our Anglican identity through service, compassion and meaningful community connection. Guided by the AngliSchools values of Faith, Inclusion, Respect and Excellence, our students are encouraged to look beyond themselves and understand the importance of supporting others within our local community and beyond our School gates.**

One of the ways this commitment comes to life is through our ongoing service initiatives and charity partnerships. Each term, our House groups lead a Charity Day, where students work together to raise awareness and support for causes chosen by their respective Houses. These opportunities allow students to actively participate in giving back while learning valuable lessons about empathy, gratitude and social responsibility.

A particularly meaningful initiative at St James' is our partnership with Eat Up through the "Cub Sandwiches" program. Coordinated by our Service Team, this service initiative brings together students, families, parishioners and staff to prepare sandwiches for local primary schools supporting children experiencing food insecurity.

Each term, volunteers gather in the School Chapel to make fresh sandwiches, with funds raised supporting Eat Up, a not-for-profit organisation that provides sandwiches, yoghurt and fruit to schools across Australia. Eat Up supplies the ingredients, while St James' provides the facilities, equipment and delivery support to ensure the program can continue safely and effectively.

Currently, six local primary schools benefit from the Cub Sandwiches initiative, helping to ensure students have access to nutritious food throughout the school day. More than simply preparing meals, the initiative creates valuable opportunities for our students to engage in service learning and understand



the importance of caring for others within our wider community.



St James' is also proud to continue its partnership with Food4All, a local not-for-profit organisation supporting families experiencing food and resource insecurity. Through our "Pack the Pantry Campaign", students, families and parishioners are encouraged to donate non-perishable food items, toiletries, sanitary products and household essentials.

This initiative not only provides practical support to local families but also helps educate our students about the challenges many people face within our own community. Through assemblies and service opportunities, students are encouraged to reflect on how they can contribute positively to the lives of others.

An important part of this partnership has been the support of our Student Action Group, who committed to donating an additional \$200 per month to Food4All. This contribution reflects the strong sense of community partnership that exists within St James' and demonstrates how families, staff and students can work together to make a lasting difference.

At St James' Anglican School, our Anglican identity extends far beyond Chapel services and religious education lessons. It is reflected in the everyday actions of our community through service, generosity and compassion. Through initiatives such as Cub Sandwiches, Food4All and our House Charity Days, our students are learning that faith is not only something we speak about, but something we actively live out each day.

# A New Chapter in Chaplaincy at St Mary's

**Chapel has long been a vital part of life at our School, shaping its spiritual character and supporting students growing in faith, compassion and service. Our faithful Chaplains have always enriched our community and established a strong foundation for this important work. Recently, we have been blessed to welcome The Revd Dr Gift Makwasha, who leads chaplaincy at St Mary's, into its next chapter.**

Fr Gift's connection to St Mary's is both personal and significant. Having previously been part of our community as a parent, with his daughter Gamu graduating in 2019, his return as Chaplain feels particularly special. This lived experience gives him a deep understanding of the rhythms of school life and the needs of our students, staff and families.

During his Commissioning Service, The Rt Revd Bishop Hans, Assistant Bishop of Perth, spoke of Fr Gift's warm and compassionate nature, highlighting his deep commitment to pastoral care and service.

"Not only does his name suggest that he is a gift, but Fr Gift also brings many gifts with him into this new season of his ministry among you. Chiefly among his many gifts is his care for all the people he ministers to. I know that Fr Gift will be totally committed to every single one of you."

Since his Commissioning Service, Fr Gift has quickly established a warm and engaging presence. This is perhaps clearest in his chapel services with our Junior School students, where he sits with them on the altar steps to create a sense of connection and belonging. In these moments, his messages are not only heard but shared, inviting even our youngest learners to reflect, respond and participate.

Fr Gift's ministry is marked by authenticity and generosity of spirit. He regularly gathers our Prefects and Captains to welcome girls as they arrive on campus at the beginning of the school day. This simple gesture speaks volumes about the relationships he is building and the way he is connecting and resonating with our students. It is a reminder that chaplaincy is not only

about teaching, but about connection, care and shared understanding.

His messages are thoughtful and practical, encouraging students to reflect on their daily lives. In one recent Chapel Service, he distributed cards to the students and asked them to reflect on and write about what they are thankful for and to cultivate gratitude in both big and small moments. It is a message that reflects our community's values and continues to shape how our students engage with the world around them.

As we reflect on the legacy of chaplaincy at St Mary's, we give thanks for those who have gone before and for the strong traditions they leave behind. We also look forward with confidence, knowing that Fr Gift's leadership and impact will continue to grow.



L-R: The Rt Revd Bishop Hans,  
Fr Gift, St Mary's Principal  
Mrs Judith Tudball



Fr Gift's Commissioning Service



Fr Gift with St Mary's 2026 Head  
Girl and Chapel Prefects at his  
Commissioning Service



Fr Gift sitting with Kindergarten  
students on the altar during a  
Chapel Service



# Heartbeat of the Valley: Celebrating Place and Purpose

**In 2026, Swan Valley Anglican Community School is celebrating a significant milestone - its 20th anniversary. Over two decades, the school has continued to grow as a place of learning, connection, and shared purpose, set within the unique landscape of the Swan Valley.**

While the school's history spans 20 years, it stands on land that has been cared for by the Whadjuk Noongar people for tens of thousands of years. Honouring this enduring cultural connection has been a central feature of the school's anniversary celebrations.

As part of the milestone, the school commissioned a large scale artwork by Aboriginal artist Richard Websdale, titled Heartbeat of the Valley. The artwork reflects the deep cultural significance of the Swan River as a place of life, ceremony, gathering, and knowledge sharing for Noongar people, symbolising the enduring heartbeat of Country and the role of its first caretakers.

The original artwork is now displayed in the school's Boardroom, with a print also featured at the entrance to The Collaboration and Creativity Centre, allowing students, staff, families, and visitors to engage with the work on a daily basis.

To further mark the anniversary, a specially designed 20th anniversary staff polo shirt has been created, incorporating elements of the artwork. Staff will wear the shirt throughout 2026 and beyond as a visible celebration of both the school's milestone and its ongoing commitment to place, connection, and reconciliation.



Principal Melissa Powell described the importance of the commission:

"Heartbeat of the Valley reminds us of our responsibility to honour the story of the land on which the school stands. It connects our 20 year journey as a school with a much deeper history of care, learning, and stewardship."





# A different kind of school opening in Parkerville in July

## New specialist school addressing a critical gap for young people affected by trauma

**Lily was 14 when school started to change. She kept to herself more, and her work was often left unfinished. Over time, it became harder to keep attending, and eventually she stopped altogether.**

Experiences of abuse, neglect, family violence or significant interpersonal trauma can change how a young person feels about the world around them. For some, school becomes overwhelming or unsafe, and over time it stops being possible. Parkerville Grove School has been created for these young people.

Opening in the Perth Hills in Term 3, Parkerville Grove School is an independent secondary school. It follows the Western Australian curriculum, but it does so differently. At its heart is a simple understanding. Before young people can learn, they need to feel safe. That means care and healing come first.

Kim Brooklyn, CEO of Parkerville Children and Youth Care Therapeutic Education Services, said the school responds to a clear gap in Western Australia.

"We know there are young people who have been through experiences no child should face, and that can disrupt every part of their life, including their ability to engage in school," she said. "Parkerville Grove School is the only specialist school in WA designed for young people who have experienced interpersonal trauma. It brings learning and therapeutic support together every day, so young people can reconnect with education in a way that works for them."

At Parkerville Grove School, students are supported by a consistent team that works together each day. Teachers, youth workers and wellbeing staff all play a part. Class sizes are small. Routines are calm and predictable. Each young person is supported to build

confidence at their own pace. School fees are kept intentionally low to reduce barriers to schooling, and breakfast and lunch are provided each day so the focus can remain on feeling safe, settled and ready to learn.

From the very beginning, support extends to families as well. Parents and carers are part of the journey, with the school taking time to understand each student's circumstances and strengths, and providing assistance where possible.

Alice Alibrandi, the school's founding Principal, said many families arrive feeling unsure of what comes next, but still holding onto hope.

"One parent said to me, 'Things have happened in my child's life that have made her so nervous, she can barely function around other people. School just isn't possible right now, but I know she's capable of so much more,'" she said.

"That's who we are here for. Young people who have so much potential, but who need the right environment to feel safe again. We're not asking them to fit into a system that hasn't worked. We're creating a place that fits around them, where they can rebuild trust, reconnect, and take steps forward in their learning."

Students continue to learn across key subject areas following the WA curriculum. At the same time, they are supported to understand their emotions, build confidence and interpersonal skills, strengthen relationships, and re-engage with learning in a way that feels possible again.

Over time, this can open doors. Some students may return to more traditional schooling.

## PARKERVILLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

Others may complete Year 12 and move into higher education, training or employment. All are supported to rediscover their strengths, build confidence, and set goals for their future.

Parkerville Grove School recognises that behind every young person is a story, and often a community of people who care about them.

There may be a young person in a family, school or wider community who is finding school difficult right now. Someone who has become quiet, withdrawn or overwhelmed, and may need a different kind of school.

Sometimes, the most important step is simply recognising that another option exists and sharing it with the people who need it most.

\*This image is for illustrative purposes only and is used to protect the identity of the children and families we support.



**Parkerville  
Grove School**

### **Enrolments for Years 7 to 10 Are Open Now**

Visit <https://www.parkervillegroveschool.wa.edu.au/enrolment>, or contact us at:  
(08) 6386 7900 or [hello@parkervillegroveschool.wa.edu.au](mailto:hello@parkervillegroveschool.wa.edu.au)



**VANESSA BAXTER** *General Manager Strategic Partnerships*

# Show your support during Homelessness Week 2026

**This August, St Bart's invites Anglican schools, churches and parish communities across Western Australia to take part in Homelessness Week and support people experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.**

Homelessness Week 2026 will be held from Monday 3 August to Sunday 9 August. It is a time to challenge myths, build compassion and take practical action.

At St Bart's, the week has traditionally been marked by sharing soup, paying it forward and reminding one another that homelessness is not a choice. A simple act of hospitality can become a moment of learning, generosity and hope.

Already, 24 schools across Western Australia have committed to joining St Bart's for Homelessness Week by hosting their own soup kitchen activities and raising awareness within their school communities.

This year, St Bart's also welcomes Hale School students into its Ambassador Program, which builds leadership through advocacy, volunteering and fundraising. Year 10 and 11 students will become "Friends of St Bart's", with Year 7 and 9 students taking part in learning activities.

Anglican schools are invited to join the Ambassador Program or host a Homelessness Week activity. Churches and parishes can also take part through prayer, learning, fundraising and practical support.

Over 12,000 people experience homelessness in Western Australia each year and behind every number is a person who needs safety, dignity and belonging.

St Bart's believes every person is unique, precious and known to God, and continues to work towards a community where everyone has a safe and secure place to call home.

Ways to get involved include:

- Host a soup kitchen at your school or parish
- Hold a fundraiser for St Bart's homelessness services.
- Join St Bart's as a volunteer.
- Share a prayer, reflection or act of service.
- Encourage students to become advocates through the Ambassador Program.

**Together, we're creating awareness and support for Western Australian's experiencing or at risk of homelessness.**



To register your school, church or parish community, or to find out more about hosting a Homelessness Week activity, contact Gedda, Fundraising Specialist at St Bart's via [gedda.brooks@stbarts.org.au](mailto:gedda.brooks@stbarts.org.au) or call 08 9323 5130



**DR MEG WARNER** *Principal*

# Bearing Witness

**In all of the publicity and complexity of the situation in the Holy Land it can be easy to forget that Palestine is home not only to populations of Jews and Muslims, but also to Christians. We do not hear often in our news broadcasts of the experience of Palestinian Christians, but they are impacted by policies and fighting in their homeland just as others are.**

Jerusalem’s Church of the Holy Sepulchre, for example, was closed by Israeli officials in late February, along with other sacred sites and places of worship, with the Israeli government citing security concerns in Jerusalem. Only a limited number of clergy are permitted entry, and there was no public access to worship over Easter. This represents one of the longest periods of restriction to entry to members of the public in the Holy Sepulchre’s history.

Dr Yousef Khoury, Academic Dean of Bethlehem Bible College, writes that the Nakba (“Catastrophe”) of 1967 “never ended”:

The State of Israel was created on the bodies of Palestinians, molded in the blood of innocent people, and constructed on the ruins of their towns. During the years of the Nakba, more than 750,000 Palestinians were dispossessed, including around 50,000 Christians, and hundreds of villages and towns destroyed. Within only a few years, Palestine lost nearly 35 percent of its Christian population. More than twenty churches were closed, and their communities were prevented from returning.

Dr Khoury is visiting Australia next month, supported by Palestinian Christians in Australia and the National Council of Churches in Australia. I have taken the opportunity to invite him to deliver the Principal’s Lecture for 2026 at Wollaston Theological College. The lecture will be held at 7.00pm on Monday 3 August. Dr Khoury will be examining the concept of the theology of a ‘just peace’ and asking, “How can

Christians support a just peace in the Holy Land? You can book your free ticket on TryBooking ([trybooking.com/events/landing/1598536](https://trybooking.com/events/landing/1598536)) or by contacting Wollaston Theological College. Refreshments will be served. We expect heavy bookings, so get in early!

For tour information and tickets, visit:  
[palestiniachristians.org.au/bearing-witness-speaker-tour-2026/](https://palestiniachristians.org.au/bearing-witness-speaker-tour-2026/)



JOCELYN ROSS OAM

# Nor'West Postcard

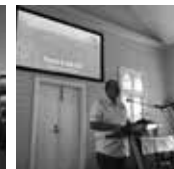
Bishop Darrell and Elizabeth Parker recently toured the Pilbara and the Kimberley to touch base with the parishes of Newman, Port Hedland, Broome and Karratha - 4,500 km, a round trip! The Bishop was the speaker at the combined camp of Port Hedland/Karratha parishes held at Point Samson in the Pilbara. A great venue!



Later he met with the Pilbara clergy, Roger Klingdon (Newman), Frank Nicol (Karratha) and Eion Simmons (Port Hedland). Darrell remarked, "It is so helpful to experience the distances our ministry families work in, both to fuel our prayers and to aid decision-making regarding future ministry."



The Diocese is tremendously thankful for \$12,000 from Mothers' Union Australia donated towards the costs of clergy children attending Christian camps; the visit of Parenting Seminar Speaker Anne Cunningham to Geraldton from Sydney; and the costs of Elizabeth being able to travel with Bishop Darrell to the Pilbara and Kimberley recently.



(Left to Right) Broome baptisms; Preaching in Broome; Confirmations in Port Hedland

A two-day, in-person Diocesan Council Meeting was held recently with members travelling from all over the Diocese to Geraldton. The agenda focused on formulating a strategy for the Diocese going forward and a job description for a new Diocesan Registrar. The Registrar of the Diocese of Armidale visited in June to help the Bishop and Diocesan Council determine what is required. Thankfully our Assistant Registrar, Andrew Thorburn is doing a very good job in the interim.

Exciting news that, our former Registrar Khim Harris and Eugenie, have received their visas to enable them to go to Jerusalem to take up their new positions working with CMJ Israel at Christ Church Jerusalem.

Newman Parish is most innovative in its outreach in the community. Besides a very busy Op Shop, every Monday 'Playtime Music and Movement' is on the calendar. Roger and Amanda Kyngdon, parenting four daughters and a son, aged 5 to 12 who this year all attend school, are active members of the primary and high school P&Cs as well involved in their children's sporting activities.



The Geraldton Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, when Christians are encouraged to invite friends in the community to join together to pray for civic, business, industry leaders and service providers is held each August. This year's guest speaker is a man with an international reputation.



Henry Olonga former test cricketer and political activist from Zimbabwe. He now resides in Australia. His story is one of conviction, courage and sacrifice.

He continues to stand in solidarity with the marginalised and oppressed. He is also an accomplished classical singer and will hopefully grace his audience with something from his repertoire.

Mrs Jessie Larman, a St George's Church Carnarvon and Mothers' Union stalwart for over 60 years has recently moved into the Carnarvon Aged Care facility where she is being well looked after. Jessie came out from England with her husband, Pat, 53 years ago and together they farmed a banana plantation for many years. She is an accomplished artist, a prolific writer of stories and poems, which have brought blessings to many people.



**A favourite hymn: "To God be the glory!! Great things He has done" and IS STILL DOING!!!**

THE VEN GEOFF CHADWICK *Archdeacon*

## Bunbury Bulletin

### Four Deaconings, Two Collations, One Preisting, and One Installation

It was all happening in St Boniface Cathedral on 27 June! Michelle Collins from Mandurah, May Griffiths from Narrogin, Nicky Latham from Bunbury, and Scott Thompson from Augusta/Margaret River were made Deacons; Gaerlan Baguil from Coodanup and the Bunbury Mission to Seafarers, was ordained priest; and alongside them Justine Richmond from Dunsborough was Installed Canon of the Cathedral, and Karen Cave with James Tabor were collated as temporary Archdeacons of the South and North respectively. Their role is to support Archdeacon Geoff Chadwick who becomes Administrator when Bishop Ian retires in August.

It was a full Cathedral filled with colour, music, praise and joy as the call to ordained ministry was celebrated!

Bishop Jeremy James, from Willochra, led the Ordination retreat and preached a memorable sermon. The Gospel reading for the day, the Woman at the Well (Jn 4:5-30) was highly appropriate as most of the candidates were women. During Communion, members of the Filipino Community serenaded the congregation in Tagalog, the native tongue of Gaerlan.

The biographies of the candidates make interesting reading:



Michelle arrived with her family at Mandurah from South Africa in 2024. She has a background in the Corporate world, but has long felt the tug of God to serve the community pastorally. She writes:

I keep Proverbs 31:25-26 as a guiding verse, seeking to live with strength, dignity, wisdom, and kindness wherever God calls me to serve.



Scott has returned to his childhood home at Margaret River with wife Eilidh and children Anna (3) and baby James. Bush Church Aid is supporting his ministry which includes Augusta, Margaret River, Cowaramup and the locality of Osminton.



Gaelan has been doing marvellous work with the Mission to Seafarers in Bunbury. Most of the seafarers are Filipino, and quickly warm to him once they discover he is one of them!



May was born in Lake King, lived in Albany and now on a ten-acre property in Cuballing. Her faith was rekindled in her twenties as she attended the Narrogin Baptist Church. She served the church in many capacities, and after completing her Bachelor of Ministry in 2011 took up ministry with the Uniting Church. After sensing God's call to ordination some 15 years ago is pleased to be serving as a Deacon at the Narrogin Anglican Church.



Nicky has always wanted to care for those who are less fortunate. As a result, she served as a social worker for 30 years; yet underneath she sensed that God had a call on her life. Finally, she was able to say "yes" to God's call and begin the process of ministry formation. As a Deacon she will continue to minister to those in need.

Blessings from Bunbury,  
Archdeacon Geoff



**THE REVD BRUCE HYDE** *Chair, Anglican EcoCare Commission*

# Out and about with Anglican EcoCare

In March my wife and I travelled to Europe and the UK for a holiday and most importantly to visit our grandson and his parents. While travelling through Spain and Portugal by train, I refrained from reading so I could soak up the scenery and observe the farming activities across the Iberian Peninsula.

During the 400+km journey from Madrid to Granada, I was struck by the endless groves of olive trees, which were growing on every available piece of land, from the top of the rocky hills, down into the fertile valleys. Olives have been cultivated there since the Phoenician times, nearly 3,000 years ago. Since then, they have become a staple of the Mediterranean diet, with Spain now the world's largest producer of olives. While this was a surprise, the thing that stood out for me was the complete absence of natural vegetation or woodlands. Coming from Australia, where significant tracts of natural habitat are intact, we might be forgiven for assuming this is the norm everywhere, but not so in southern Spain.



Andalusian landscape. Photo credit: FernandoAH (istockphoto.com)

So, what happened to all the natural vegetation? Does it matter that there are hardly any native forests/trees?

You might find it interesting to know that, while journeying on horseback from Seville to Granada in 1829, Washington Irving, author of the famous book *Tales of the Alhambra*, made the following observation:

“...though there are some exceptions in some of the maritime provinces, yet, for the greater part, it is a stern, melancholy country with rugged mountains and long sweeping plains destitute of trees and indescribably silent and lonesome, partaking of the savage and ‘solitary character of Africa. What adds to this silence and loneliness is the absence of singing-birds, a natural consequence of the want of groves and hedges.” (Irving 2007, p15)<sup>1</sup>.

The absence of native vegetation in southern Spain caused me to reflect on our own landscapes in Australia. Even though we are very fortunate in Western Australia to have large areas of natural forest close to the city of Perth, this does not mean we have the luxury of being complacent. Habitat loss remains an ongoing issue for native wildlife, with the Black Cockatoo being one species that is particularly under pressure. At last year's Synod, the Diocese passed a motion presented by the EcoCare Commission titled *Wings and Wildflowers*.

The motion recognised the impact that habitat loss has had on Western Australia's native flora and fauna and reaffirmed our commitment to the Fifth Mark of Mission: to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. Through *Wings and Wildflowers*, parishes, schools and agencies are encouraged to learn more about our native birdlife, plant native species, provide watering points and record bird sightings as a practical way of caring for creation in their local communities.

<sup>1</sup> Irving, W 2007 [1832], *Tales of the Alhambra*, Ediciones Miguel Sánchez, Granada, Spain

A significant agency within the Anglican Diocese of Perth is the Anglican Schools Commission, with more than 22,000 students attending schools across Western Australia. The sheer number of young people within this network highlights the important role Anglican schools can play in nurturing an appreciation for the natural world and encouraging practical care for creation.

Over the past two years, members of EcoCare have joined Bishop Hans for part of the Pilgrimage of Hope and Pilgrimage of Joy between Anglican school campuses. As a passionate advocate for the environment, Bishop Hans has helped create opportunities for EcoCare to connect with students and school communities. The pilgrimage itself also encourages pilgrims to slow down, engage with one another, and appreciate the beauty of the natural world through which they journey. A highlight of each pilgrimage is the planting of a tree at a participating school, providing a lasting reminder of our shared commitment to care for creation.



2025 Pilgrimage Walk of Hope, Bishop Hans - Tree planting at St Mark's School



2026 Pilgrimage for Hope, Bishop Hans - Tree planting at Peter Carnley School



Bishop Hans Christansen in an EcoCare T-shirt endorsing the fifth Mark of Mission

More recently, this commitment was evident during a visit to the Lorax environmental group at All Saints' College. It was encouraging to meet young people who are already passionate about caring for the natural world and actively involved in environmental initiatives within their school community. Our visit provided an opportunity to share how Christian faith can offer another perspective on why caring for Creation matters.

It is fitting that this edition of the *Messenger* coincides with Schools Tree Day and National Tree Day. These events provide practical opportunities for schools, parishes and households to put their care for creation into action. For EcoCare, they also align closely with our Wings and Wildflowers project, which encourages the planting of native species that support black cockatoos and other wildlife.

The State Government's WA Treebate program provides an additional incentive by helping Western Australians offset the cost of planting suitable native trees. Together, these initiatives offer simple and practical ways for all of us to contribute to the restoration of habitat in our local communities.

Trees and native shrubs provide important food sources for Western Australia's black cockatoos, as well as the nesting hollows they depend upon for breeding. With the relentless march of urban sprawl across the Swan Coastal Plain - home to the banksia woodlands that provide an important food source for this species - black cockatoos are finding it increasingly difficult to survive.

The Synod motion sends a clear signal that the Anglican Diocese of Perth deeply cares about both protecting our natural environment and the creatures that depend upon it. Through Wings and Wildflowers, the EcoCare Commission is exploring ways to encourage and support people to take practical action in their local communities.



**THE REVD DR BILL LEADBETTER** *Chair, Anglican Social Responsibilities Commission*

# Who Is My Neighbour?

**Earlier this year, on Palm Sunday the Social Responsibilities Commission hosted its annual “Prayers for Peace” around the theme “Who is my neighbour”. This was the question asked of Jesus that prompted the telling of the Parable of the Good Samaritan.**

On Palm Sunday, we explored this question through prayer and reflection on experience.

This question persists. Christians are still asked, and we still ask ourselves, what neighbourliness is and where its limits may lie. In our community today, there are influential voices asking us to reflect upon, and perhaps even redefine what it means to be an Australian. Within our own church community, there are questions about the limits of inclusivity. These are questions that have their own consequences and are deeply traumatic for those on the wrong side of them.

Jesus was asked the question by “an expert in the law” (Luke 10:25, NRSVUE) who was trying to win an argument. It may have been a throwaway question, a kind of deflection to show that Jesus did not know where his argument led. But Jesus took him seriously. He knew exactly where the argument led, and he took the legal expert there. For Jesus, neighbourliness was not so much a quality to be defined as experienced. We continue to be challenged by this parable in a society that seems increasingly determined on the language of blame and the identification of culpable communities.

The Commission will continue to explore these questions in a panel discussion on Saturday 1 August at Wollaston College. The panellists are Dr Meg Warner, Principal of Wollaston Theological College; Associate Professor Mark Jennings, A/Prof of Religious Studies; Professor Robyn Heckenberg, Dean of Teaching and Learning, Centre for Aboriginal Studies, Curtin University; and The Revd Dr Bill Leadbetter, Cathedral Scholar. The panel will be moderated by The Revd Bec Bydder, Director of the Centre for Spirituality and Cathedral Missioner. Each panellist will address an aspect of contemporary neighbourliness and its social and human implications. The presentations will be followed by a broader discussion engaging attendees as well as panellists.

It is important as Christians that we discuss these kinds of questions openly and not try to treat them as matters secondary to the conduct of our lives. We also need to acknowledge that there may well be disagreement, but the point of panels like this is not to agree with everything that is said, but to disagree well.

**Who Is My Neighbour?**  
A Panel Discussion

*Moderated by The Revd Bec Bydder, Director of the Centre for Spirituality and Cathedral Missioner*



**Dr Meg Warner**  
Principal  
Wollaston Theological College



**A/Prof Mark Jennings**  
Assistant Professor  
of Religious Studies



**Professor Robyn Heckenberg**  
Dean of Teaching and Learning,  
Centre for Aboriginal Studies,  
Curtin University



**The Revd Dr Bill Leadbetter**  
Cathedral Scholar

What does it mean to be a neighbour in contemporary Australia? This panel explores questions of inclusion, identity and belonging, and invites honest reflection on how we listen, speak, and disagree well.

<b>Dr Meg Warner:</b>	"Neighbourliness and Trauma"
<b>Assistant Professor Mark Jennings:</b>	"Neighbourliness and Sexuality"
<b>Professor Robyn Heckenberg:</b>	"Neighbourliness and the experience of Australian Aboriginal Communities"
<b>The Reverend Dr Bill Leadbetter:</b>	"Neighbourliness and the scandal of Christian Antisemitism"



**WOLLASTON THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

**Venue:** Wollaston Theological College  
**Date:** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2026 **Time:** 10:00am - 12:00pm






**THE REVD JUDY VAN ROSSUM** *Programme Director, Tree of Life*

## 2026 Ignatian Retreat

***“And the greatest consolation he used to receive was to look at the sky and stars, which he did often and for a long time, because with this he used to feel in himself a great impetus towards serving Our Lord.”***

*St Ignatius of Loyola: Personal Writings - Autobiography (11)*

I often think of these words when I look at the night sky, imagining St Ignatius of Loyola standing in awe as he gazes upward. I remember my grandchildren visiting our rural property from the city, looking up at the night sky and exclaiming with childlike wonder, “You have more stars than us, Grandma!” I also think of a person I accompanied who came to realize that the God he believed did not love him was, in fact, expressing love through the night skies, where he discovered a rare peace and wholeness despite his difficult life.

Ignatius encountered this God of Awe during his long convalescence after an injury that left him bedridden for a long time. Unable to find the tales of chivalry he loved, he reluctantly turned to reading about the life of Christ and the lives of the saints. This experience planted the seeds of his conversion, ultimately leading to the creation of the Spiritual Exercises. Five hundred years later, we continue to benefit from his desire to love and serve Christ with freedom, intimacy, and the ability to find God in all things. This is the invitation of an Ignatian retreat.

Our upcoming seven-day silent retreat offers participants a space to pray with Scripture using imagination and the senses, encouraging a deeper relationship with Christ. Through prayer, silence, and spiritual conversations, retreatants are invited to become aware of where God is already present in their lives and where distractions may be hindering that loving relationship. The retreat also provides opportunities for prayerful play with art materials, creativity, walks on the beach, and beautiful gardens to wander in, helping each person respond more fully to the God who continually calls them to life. Through various

forms of Ignatian prayer, with spiritual direction each day, and the rhythm of daily Eucharist and communal prayer, we are gently drawn into deeper friendship with Christ. This gentle pattern opens space for the spiritual work and purpose of the Exercises, which is to fall in love with Jesus.

Tree of Life invites you to step away from the busyness of daily life for a few days and come and meet God in all things - in silence, in the night skies, in the gifts of nature, in rhythmic prayer - that invites you into a profoundly intimate friendship with Christ.

“I hear a drum in my soul’s ear coming from the depths of the stars.” - Rumi

Come and experience the surprise and wonder of God calling you.



### 2026 Ignatian Retreat

**Monday 28 September to Sunday 4 October**  
**St John of God Retreat Centre, Shoalwater Bay**

All enquiries to The Revd Judy Van Rossum  
Director, Tree of Life - [judithaclay1@bigpond.com](mailto:judithaclay1@bigpond.com)

Limit of 12 participants  
**Bookings close on 7 August**

## Appointments

The Revd Gemma Baseley	Priest-in-Charge, North Beach	18.08.26
The Revd Canon Linda Pilton	Clerical Canon, St George's Cathedral	01.06.26-31.05.29
The Revd Canon Tim Spencer	Locum and Supply Co-ordinator	01.07.26

## King's Birthday Honours 2026

The Revd Fr Ted Doncaster OAM

## Locum Tenens

The Revd Gunnar Rippon	Canning	01.05.26-31.07.26
The Revd Frank Sheehan OAM	Swanbourne-Mt Claremont	08.06.27-28.06.26
The Revd Clive McCallum	Lynwood-Langford-Ferndale	01.07.26-31.07.26

## Retirements

The Revd Roger Kay 15.06.26

## Resignations

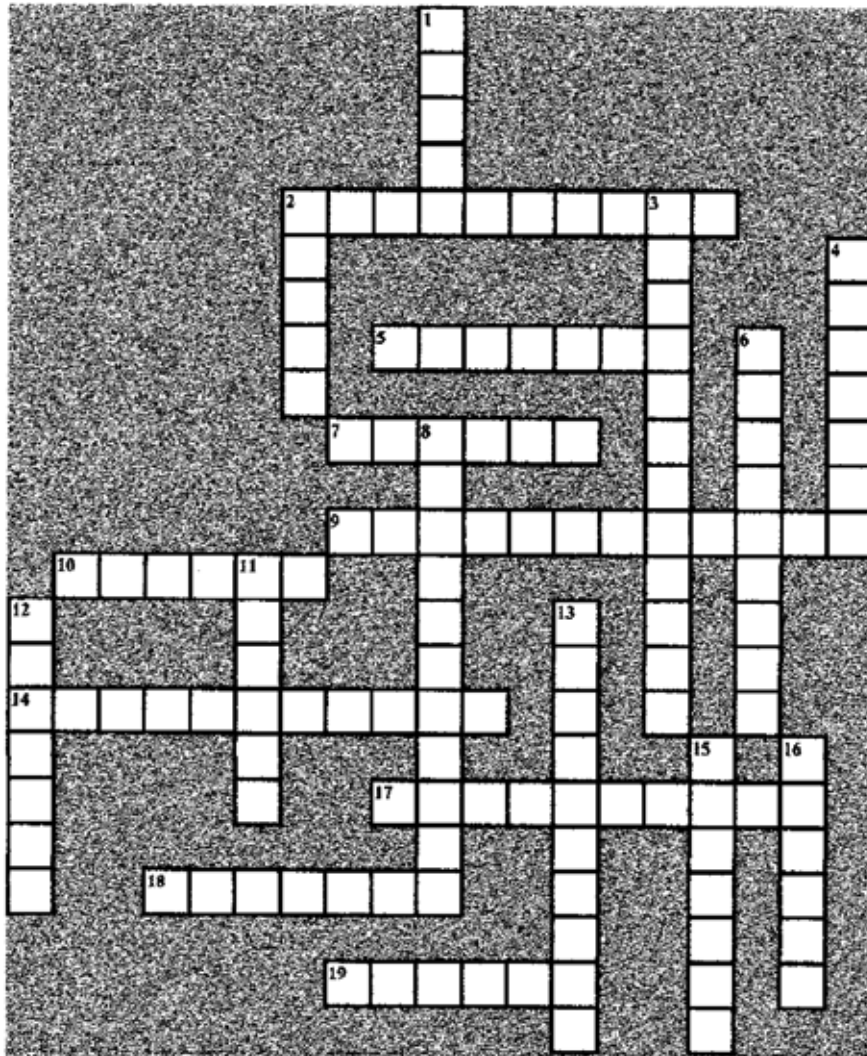
The Revd Roger Kay	Chaplain, Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group	15.06.26
The Revd Gemma Baseley	Rector, Beaconsfield	08.26

### Messenger Quiz - *with thanks to The Revd Frank Sheehan OAM*

- 1. On 1 July we celebrate the arrival of the first missionaries to this strait**
  - (a) Bass
  - (b) Cook
  - (c) Torres
  - (d) Bougainville
- 2. It is only in this Gospel that the risen Lord appears to Thomas**
  - (a) Matthew
  - (b) Mark
  - (c) Luke
  - (d) John
- 3. In 1516, he wrote Utopia**
  - (a) St John Fisher
  - (b) Sir Thomas More
  - (c) Erasmus
  - (d) St Simon Hunn
- 4. In 530, St Benedict the founded the great monastery of Monte Cassino which lies on a hilltop between Rome and this city**
  - (a) Naples
  - (b) Venice
  - (c) Florence
  - (d) Milan
- 5. In Luke 8:2, we read that Mary Magdalene was healed by Jesus of this many demons**
  - (a) three
  - (b) five
  - (c) seven
  - (d) nine
- 6. Along with Peter and John, this apostle was present at the raising of Jairus' daughter**
  - (a) Andrew
  - (b) James
  - (c) Philip
  - (d) Thomas
- 7. According to tradition, this saint was Mary's mother**
  - (a) Anne
  - (b) Elizabeth
  - (c) Martha
  - (d) Sapphire
- 8. William Wilberforce was buried in**
  - (a) St Paul's Cathedral London
  - (b) Durham Cathedral
  - (c) Manchester Cathedral
  - (d) Westminster Abbey
- 9. Legends associate him with the Holy Grail**
  - (a) King Herod
  - (b) Eusebius of Caesarea
  - (c) Joseph of Arimathea
  - (d) King Ealdwulf
- 10. Ignatius of Loyola was one of the founders of the**
  - (a) Dominicans
  - (b) Augustinians
  - (c) Franciscans
  - (d) Jesuits

*Answers can be found on page 42*

**Messenger Crossword** - with thanks to Larry Lockyear



**ACROSS**

- 2 Last righteous man to die before the flood.
- 5 The condition of the children of Israel in Egypt.
- 7 This brief period covers the life of the Son of God.
- 9 This word designates the time after the flood and before the call of Abram.
- 10 This period continues even now as the Kingdom Age.
- 14 This word means ruled or led by men
- 17 Word that describes the world before the flood.
- 18 Number of periods of Bible History.
- 19 These men ruled the children of Israel for nearly 450 years

**DOWN**

- 1 This period includes those kings who ruled in Jerusalem beginning with Hezekiah.
- 2 Leader of Israel during the Wilderness Wanderings.
- 3 This word means "before the flood".
- 4 The four hundred years from the close of the OT to the beginning of the NT.
- 6 The condition of Judah when deported to Babylon.
- 8 What Zerubbabel, Ezra and Nehemiah accomplished when Judah returned home.
- 11 This is the land Israel conquered under the leadership of Moses
- 12 Lived in both an ark and a tent.
- 13 Where the children of Israel wandered for 40 years.
- 15 This historical period includes the reigns of the 19 kings of Israel.
- 16 This historical period describes the Kingdom under Saul, David and Solomon.

*Solution can be found on page 42*

# 23RD ANNUAL ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL ART



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**JACKSONS**



### ANTHONY HOWES OAM

*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*

## **My life-time in the arts, and confirmed with every programme I broadcast, is given real joy with the oft quoted remark, “Western Australia punches well above others” in this creative world.**

So much of the quality of our performers, designers, fine artists and creative technicians begins with the exposure they receive as young people, at home, at school, in community opportunities, and tertiary institutions. It is fitting that I record something of such things in this *Messenger* as it examines the life within our Schools and the opportunities which are available in the arts, as a consequence.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Royal Schools Music Club (RSMC). When asked, for what does the RSMC stand, its members reply simply: “We support keeping alive, local music”. True; but this has meant from 1926 to today, presenting concerts, seeking out musical professionals of excellence to offer mentorship to would-be musicians, staging concerts of demanding standards at which young artists develop beyond the ordinary; finding finances for bursaries, scholarships and the like.

So, this year alone, there are recitals seeing mentors performing alongside students, six finalist choirs performing in concert, opportunities celebrating the awards for singers and instrumentalists, and, later this year, at the Gala Concert and Dinner at the Government House Ballroom in the distinguished presence of His Excellency the Governor, the Honourable Chris Dawson AC, APM, and Mrs Darrilyn Dawson, musicians of the past, present and future will be celebrated. The world premiere, commissioned by RSMC, from composer Ian Grandage OAM, will be performed by “Aquinas Schola” directed by Hugh Lydon. Also, the RSMC Patron, Geoffrey Lanceast AO, will launch the book, *Past, Present, And Future - One Hundred Years of the RSMC*, by John Meyer, based on Jean Farrant Harvey’s work on the first 90 years. I have been tempted to relate some of the ‘history’ that will be found in that book; but, I shall leave that well alone, other than to record that the first President of the Club was the musical identity of 1926, Harry Vowles, with today’s President, musician and lecturer, Tommy Seah. Information concerning the work of the RSMC, and possible involvement in their mission of assisting our young musicians, may be had by contacting the indefatigable Secretary, Judy Thonell OAM - Email: [rsmc@rsmc.info](mailto:rsmc@rsmc.info) Website: <https://rsmc.info/>

St George’s Cathedral has been involved in nurturing young people in the arts for its entire existence: before WAAPA, it offered free training to young thespians, and later, as ‘Home Base’ with Christ Church Grammar School and Government House, it shared Midnite Youth Theatre Company. It continues as a concert venue for up-and-coming musicians; and exhibition space in celebrating the ‘fine’ arts. Now in its 23rd year, The St George’s Cathedral Art Exhibition opens from Saturday 18 to Sunday 26 July, where the Cathedral nave, features the works of senior fine art school pupils from suburban and regional Western Australia.

Entry to the exhibition is by gold coin donation. You may purchase a souvenir catalogue for \$15.00 which provides the opportunity to add your vote in the People’s Choice. Your prize, a voucher from the State Buildings. Other award-winners are selected by a panel of judges. A special Awards Evening will be held 6.30pm 23 July. Details from the Cathedral office 9325 5766. Pictured here, with her “Time Flies When You’re Having Fun”, is last year’s Overall Winner, Alice Lin of Perth Modern School, with the Lord Mayor of Perth and the Dean of Perth. Also pictured: unpacking the next Exhibition.

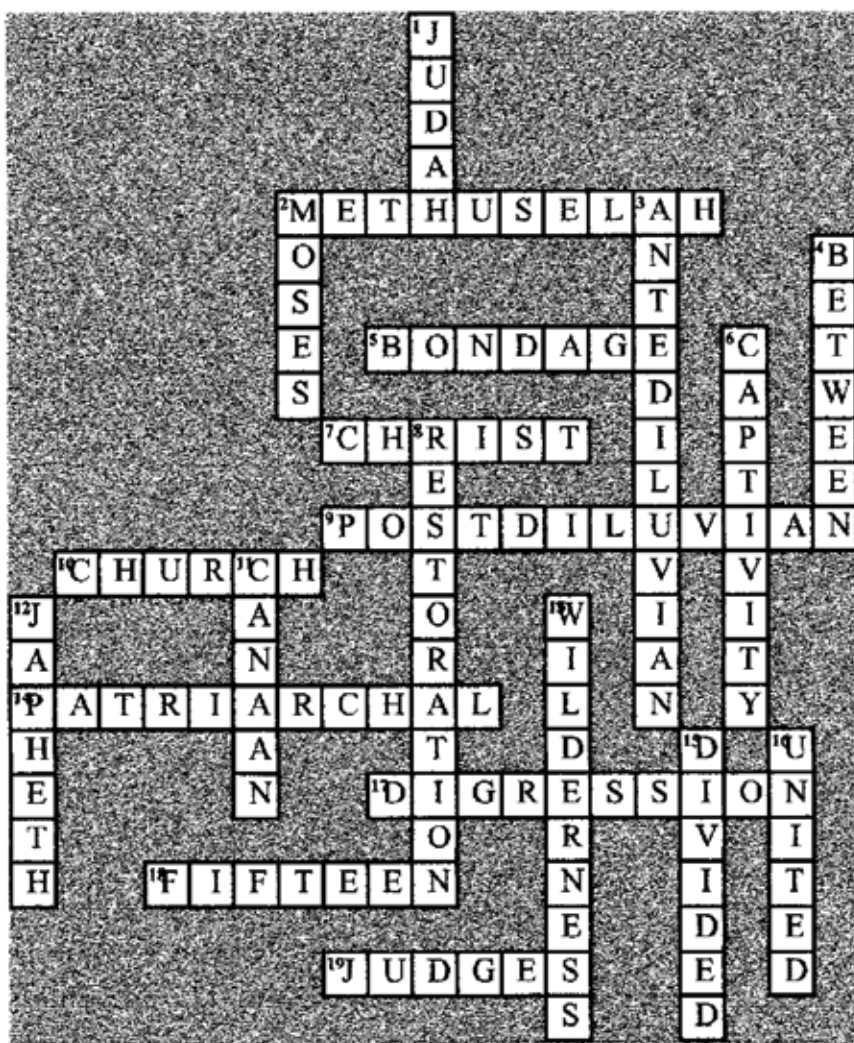


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### Quiz Answers

1. (c) Torres
2. (d) John
3. (b) Sir Thomas More
4. (a) Naples
5. (c) seven
6. (b) James
7. (a) Anne
8. (d) Westminster Abbey
9. (c) Joseph of Arimathea
10. (d) Jesuit

### Crossword Solution



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## Get in touch with the Messenger team

Phone: **08 9425 7200**  
Email: [messenger@perth.anglican.org](mailto:messenger@perth.anglican.org)

### DEADLINE:

Usually around 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.



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For a private discussion call (08) 9374 2409 or email [bequests@anglicarewa.org.au](mailto:bequests@anglicarewa.org.au)

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