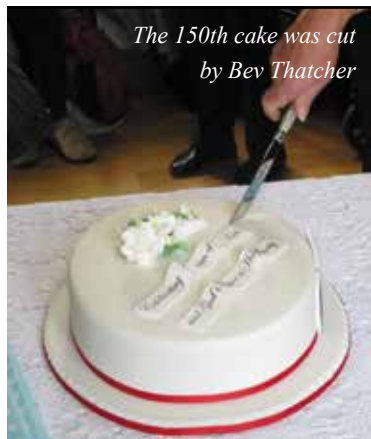


The Gippsland Anglican

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The 150th cake was cut
by Bev Thatcher

Jane Macqueen

Faithful for generations

Holy Trinity Stratford celebrates 150 years of worship

The Avon parish celebrated the 150th anniversary of Holy Trinity Stratford on the first weekend in September. The occasion was one marked by thankfulness, the sharing of memories, fellowship and prayers for the future.

On the Saturday evening the hall filled to capacity. The Rev'd David Perryman welcomed Bishop Richard, past and present parishioners and clergy, along with community representatives. All enjoyed a beautifully catered meal with much fellowship and conversation. Kate Nancarrow, daughter of past priest the Rev'd Caroline, presented the Rev'd with her mother's green chasuble and stole in her memory.

On Sunday afternoon, Bishop Richard Treloar and the Rev'd David led a celebratory service for around 140 people. Bishop Richard spoke of the "living stones" who have made



Priest-in-charge, the Rev'd David Perryman and baby Jacob

up the community of faith at Holy Trinity. Parishioners had prepared a high tea fit for the occasion and a beautifully decorated 150th cake, cut by Bev Thatcher.

Connections and people were a highlight of the day. As parish secretary Denise Vranek observed in her speech, many families' connections with Holy Trinity spanned generations. Denise's own great grandfather, Alphonse Ducret, was one of the early

pioneers. Two of the men who initially met with the purpose of building a place of Anglican worship in Stratford were Alexander Hamlyn and John King. Descendants of John King were present and Alexander Hamlyn's great granddaughter and her mother Isobel Hamlyn, still a regular worshipper at Holy Trinity aged 96, sent their apologies due to illness.

The influence of grandparents resonated. Local parishioners and those of other parishes attended because earlier generations had worshipped at Holy Trinity. Captain Mayhew's great granddaughter, Carolyn Raymond, was able to admire the sanctuary furniture carved by her grandmother, Vera Johnson (Mayhew).

At 18 months, Nora McQuitty is one of Holy Trinity's youngest parishioners. Nora's mother and grandmother worshipped at Holy Trinity and her great grandmother Nora Hibbins was a much loved parishioner at St John's Maffra. Faith shared

through the generations was visible as great grandchildren, grandchildren and children worshipped and remembered.

Celebrations concluded, the hall was swept, but the ministry at Avon parish continues. The hall was prepared for *mainly music* and parishioners prepared to cater again the following weekend. They will host afternoon tea for over 100 as the town of Stratford hosts Stratford Sister Cities. The parish will welcome people from their own community and from Stratfords around the world to worship at Holy Trinity. Community connections continue.



Ro Verspaandonk, Rosemary Cooper and the Rev'd Canon Gordon Cooper
Photos courtesy Judy Tulloch and Kate Nancarrow



Stephanie Steminger, Rebecca Steminger and Daniel Lett

Gold for Gippsland

TGA wins Best Regional Publication 2018

The Gippsland Anglican won gold for Best Regional Publication in the 2018 Australasian Religious Press Association awards. The judges commented: "The open format of this 12-page tabloid invites the reader in, and its 12 pages cover a wide range of topics: devotional reflections, profiles, social issues, well-written news stories from around the diocese (with well-chosen pictures), reviews, a prayer diary and a diocesan calendar. Interestingly, it also includes the 28-page The Melbourne Anglican as an insert, taking readers well beyond the diocese." The Melbourne Anglican won gold for Best Faith Reflection, and two silver awards for Best Theological Article and Best Editorial or Opinion Piece.



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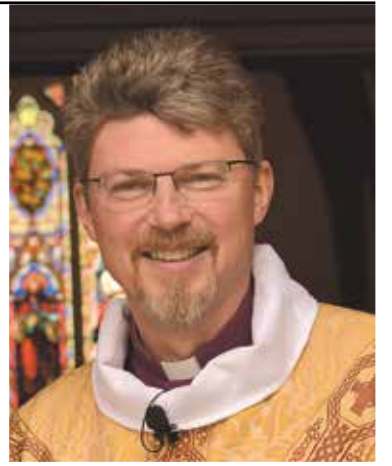
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Belonging and believing: a complex continuum



Bishop Richard Treloar

In recent weeks and months journalists from church publications, local newspapers and community radio have been kind enough to invite me for interviews.

On each occasion, whatever the questions and issues that were suggested as topics for conversation beforehand, we have circled around to the question of the church’s “relevance”, especially when it comes to young people.

One of the other early pleasures of this new ministry has been the opportunity to connect with the work of chaplaincy at Federation University, and with students, chaplains, and other staff at Gippsland Grammar and St Paul’s Anglican Grammar School. In one VCE English classroom I noticed a poster on the wall: “The world is made of stories, not atoms”.

That’s a claim which, at one level, ought to resonate with those in the Judeo-Christian tradition who share a creation narrative in which the world is spoken into being. This is especially so in an Australian context, where the “songlines” of our First Nations encode

the great stories embedded in the landscape, unlocking its ancient treasures and mysteries for current generations who receive the oral lore.

Whilst the 2016 Census results indicate that one-third of Australian teenagers have “no religion”, a recent study by four leading sociologists suggests it may be a bit more complex than that (see report at theconversation.com 18/9/2018). The recently released AGZ study, based on qualitative data variously sourced from over 1200 people around the nation aged between 13-18, identifies six spirituality types among Australian teens:

“...The world is made of stories...”

“This-worldly” young people have no space in their worldview for non-material realities. The “Indifferent” includes all those who are undecided about such matters. “Spiritual but

- This-worldly 23%
- Indifferent 15%
- Spiritual but not religious 18%
- Seekers 8%
- Nominally religious 20%
- Religiously committed 17%

In short, they explain these categories as follows. “This-worldly” young people have no space in their worldview for non-material realities. The “Indifferent” includes all those who are undecided about such matters. “Spiritual but

not religious” describes those for whom the door is ajar. “Seekers” have an eclectic outlook on life – open to religion, and highly “experiential” in their discernment. The “Nominally religious” are essentially “culturally religious”, that is, the faith practices of their parents or their school community determines their religious identity, although they may not see belief or observance as important on a day to day basis. Those nominated as “Religiously committed” have a strong sense of belonging to a faith-tradition – be it Islam or Christianity or some other – and see this as being a big part of their lives.

What might we learn from all this? Perhaps that, contrary to anecdotal or statistical evidence, more than three-quarters of Australian teenagers are – in one way or another – open to what we could call “the transcendent”. Perhaps that the world really is made up of stories, including the diverse and surprising stories of our young people that we need to take the time and trouble to hear, as the AGZ study has, through a series of focus groups and in-depth interviews; and the great stories of our tradition

– especially the stories of the crucified and risen one – the faithful telling of which, afresh in each time and place, is and has always been the church’s relevance.

One of the ways we tell our story as an Anglican household of faith and fellowship in Gippsland is through *The Gippsland Anglican*, recognized as the best regional publication for 2018 by the Australasian Religious Press Association (ARPA). Congratulations to Jan Down and the Editorial Committee on this achievement, and to our sister paper *The Melbourne Anglican* which also featured in the 2018 awards. We are well served by our monthly diet of news, commentary, and narrative. I look forward to reading your stories through this vital medium, and to sharing something of those I encounter around the Diocese and beyond in the months and years ahead.

+RM

The Gippsland Anglican

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Advertising Rates

Please contact the editor for all advertising submissions, costing and enquiries, including about inserts in the newspaper. A full advertising schedule can be sent out upon request.

Parish to Parish: praying for each other

“...That we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith...” (ROMANS 1:12)

TRAFALGAR WESTERN REGION

St Mary, Trafalgar
St Mark, Yarragon
St Mark, Thorpdale
Rector: The Rev’d Sue Jacka

Trafalgar and Yarragon are growing towns while Thorpdale, like many farming communities, has a shrinking population. Strong community spirit exists in all three towns, although many newer residents from city areas have less local focus.

Prayer points: that our family and youth pastor, Josh, appointed at the start of the year, may make good connections and build on his skills; that our worship services may be vibrant and enable new people to find a spiritual home; for creative,

engaging ideas for our Sunday School teachers; for our Opp Shop as a place of welcome; for new energy for our well-established *mainly music*; for the afterschool kids’ church (many attending Trafalgar and Yarragon, plans to commence at Thorpdale in 2019); and for creative ways to connect with older adults.

TRARALGON WESTERN REGION

St. James, Traralgon
St. John, Glengarry
St. David, Toongabbie
St. Stephen, Traralgon South
Rector: Canon Jeff Richardson / Associate Priest: The Rev’d Marilyn Obersby

Give thanks for the spirit of unity, love and peace and pray that this is reflected through our worship and in the world in which we live.

Pray that as a parish we may continue to offer ministries to the local community that meet the needs of people, especially through our Op Shop, community lunches and breakfasts and other programs.

Pray that God will lead a person to become our new families and children’s minister.

Give thanks for our wonderful music team and pray that new people will become involved.

Pray that God will equip us with wisdom and insight as we consider the future of St Stephen’s Traralgon South (currently owned by the Uniting Church), the cost of painting St John’s Glengarry, and major works at St James Traralgon.

WARRAGUL WESTERN REGION

Warragul Anglican Church
Rector: (from 16 October)
The Rev’d Tracy Lauersen

This is an active church seeking to minister to the fast-growing community of Warragul, which has vast new housing estates on the edge of town. Currently there are two congregations: a traditional Anglican communion service at 8:00 am with about 20 people and an all-age service at 9:45, with about 90 people. After sixteen years at Warragul, the Rev’d Philip Muston has gone to be Rector at Lakes Entrance /Metung. The Rev’d Tracy Lauersen will be inducted as Rector at Warragul on 16 October. Please pray for Tracy, her family and the parish as they look forward to welcoming their new minister and continuing their church life and mission together in Warragul.

Two bishops to co-host Advent Conversation

Dorothy Lee and Frank Moloney to speak on Luke's Gospel at The Abbey

Robert Fordham

In a major ecumenical initiative, the Anglican and Roman Catholic Bishops in Gippsland will co-host a seasonal Bible Study in December, entitled an "Advent Conversation".

The two bishops are inviting clergy and lay people from both Dioceses to join them in a study of Luke, the Gospel featured in the common lectionary during Advent this year.

The Conversation will be led by two eminent biblical scholars from the University of Divinity, Melbourne: Dorothy Lee, Frank Woods Research Professor in New Testament at Trinity College, and Frank Moloney, Senior Professorial

Fellow at the Catholic Theological College.

It will be held on Thursday 6 December commencing at 10:30 am and finishing with a short service of ecumenical worship around 3:30 pm, at the The Abbey, the Diocesan Retreat and Conference Centre on Raymond Island.

In commending this gathering to Anglicans across the Diocese, Bishop Richard said,

Ecumenical partnership is vital to the mission and integrity of both Churches and serves as a witness to the wider community of our essential unity in Christ. The Scriptures, as "God's word written", are a common source of authority for Roman Catholics and Anglicans,



The Rev'd Canon Professor Dorothy Lee



The Rev'd Professor Frank Moloney

and when we study and reflect on them together we are enriched by the insights and experiences of our brothers and sisters from another tradition. Bishop O'Regan

and I join in warmly commending to our clergy and people this opportunity to engage with two of our most eminent biblical scholars and with each other.

For further information and bookings, which are essential for catering purposes and any accommodation needs, contact Anna at The Abbey on 5156 6580 or info@theabbey.org.au

Sue Jacka appointed Archdeacon of the West

The Rev'd Sue Jacka, Rector of Trafalgar, has been appointed as the new Archdeacon of the Western Region. She takes over the role from Archdeacon Philip Muston, who was recently inducted as Rector of Lakes Entrance and Metung, in the Eastern Region.

Bishop Richard Treloar, in his letter announcing the appointment, noted that "Sue has had a long and fruitful ministry, including as a teacher, working in inner-city outreach programs and for Scripture Union".

Sue was appointed as Chaplain at Gippsland Grammar School by Bishop Jeffrey Driver. She was ordained in Gippsland, as deacon in 2006 and as priest in 2007. She then moved into parish ministry, being inducted as Rector of Trafalgar in 2009.

Commenting on her on-going role in Trafalgar, Sue said "It is a joy to minister in our three centres and to reach out to the wider community. It has been wonderful to see our church grow and help people reconnect with their faith or come to Jesus for the first time".

Sue has been Regional Dean in the West since 2015. She is a diocesan representative on the Council of Anglicare Victoria, a member of The Abbey Chapter, of Bishop-in-Council



The Rev'd Sue Jacka

and of the editorial committee of *The Gippsland Anglican*. She now looks forward to an extension of her leadership role within the Diocese.

Sue will be collated later this year, at a date to be advised. Bishop Richard said that a new Regional Dean for the West will be appointed soon, and that Archdeacon Edie Ashley, as the longest serving Archdeacon, will now assume the role of Vicar General when required.

GIPPSLAND DIOCESE VACANT PARISHES:

EASTERN REGION

- Heyfield
- Orbost
- Tambo

SOUTHERN REGION

- Yarram

WESTERN REGION

- Churchill / Boolarra / Yinnar (Church of Christ appointment)

CroajAMalong



The final act in the local Croajamalong music festival was a gospel / bluegrass sing-a-long service at the church.

(See page 7)



Alison and Gordon Goetz with the Rev'd Brenda Burney

Ultreya to be held at Bairnsdale

Gordon and Alison Goetz

“Ultreya” is a Spanish word, derived from the original Latin, meaning Onward! It was in common use by pilgrims to greet and to encourage one another along the way.

This word is used by the Cursillo community, a network of Anglicans committed to Christ and Christian fellowship, to signify a gathering of Cursillistas in a lay-led service of singing, prayers and a witness talk followed by refreshments.

It is an opportunity to get together with others and share their experiences. It is a means of providing support and encouragement for Cursillistas and keeping before them the goal of the Cursillo Movement – the bringing of others to Christ.

We two Cursillistas have recently relocated to Bairnsdale from Bentleigh in Melbourne’s south-eastern suburbs. We have discovered many fellow Cursillistas in our adopted parish of St John the Baptist in Bairnsdale, including the newly installed Rector, the Rev'd Brenda Burney. Brenda has been involved both in Cursillo and in leading youth of Gippsland on Cowwarr (the youth equivalent of Cursillo) weekends.

Just we do, many Cursillistas in Gippsland and Melbourne mourn the fading of the Cursillo movement, the absence of regular Ultreyas across each diocese and the joy these gatherings bring both to members of the Cursillo movement and any other Christians who attend.

Aware of this, we proposed that an Ultreya be held at St John’s Bairnsdale. The proposal was met with an enthusiastic “Yes”, both from the Rector and the congregation, and Saturday 13 October was selected as “The Day”. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if this event of encouragement fostered the regeneration of the Cursillo and Cowwarr movements in Gippsland?

So please join us and people, young and not so young, from all over the Gippsland and (hopefully) Melbourne Dioceses at St John’s on Saturday 13 October. Singing will start at 2:15 pm. The service will commence at 2:30 pm and will be followed by refreshments and fellowship over a cuppa. If you are able, please bring something to share.

Everyone is always welcome at an Ultreya.

For more information, please contact the Rev'd Brenda Burney on 0439 610 206 or Gordon and Alison on 5152 3174

Going up – Nar Nar Goon’s new parish centre



Work on St John's Parish Centre at Nar Nar Goon has begun.

Agricultural Achievement Award for Roger Leamon

**Chris McAleer
Nar Nar Goon**

At the Victorian Farmers’ Federation Annual Dinner in August, Roger Leamon of St John’s Anglican Church in Nar Nar Goon, received the VFF Agricultural Achievement Award for 2018.

This award was given for his 44+ years of consistent support of the Pakenham Agricultural Show, especially in the organization of the cattle and poultry displays.

A totally surprised Roger declared that he had no inkling of this unexpected acknowledgement. Though he didn’t have a speech prepared, true to character, he humbly proceeded to mention his mentors and assistants over the past 44 years, without whose help things wouldn’t have run as smoothly as they had.

The Rev'd Chris McAleer is Priest-in-charge, Nar Nar Goon



Roger Leamon, left, is presented with the award by long time associate, Ian Anderson

MOE ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES FAIR

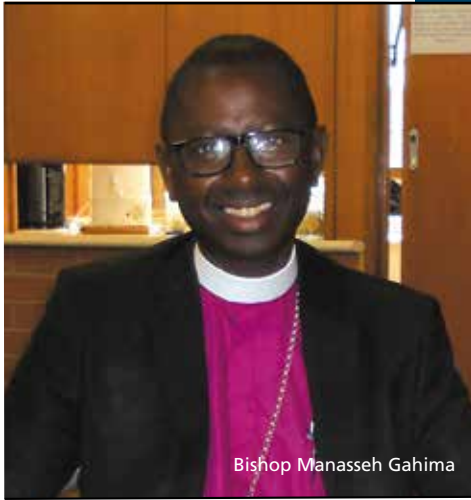
ALBERT STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

13 OCTOBER 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

This year Moe-Newborough Anglican Parish will be hosting their fourth Antiques and Collectables Fair, featuring indoor and outdoor stallholders from across Gippsland to Melbourne.

Attractions this year will include the Antique valuation services of Stephen Axe, book valuation and repair advice from Peter Lendon, a display from the Morwell Lapidary Club, and much more.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day. Entrance cost is \$5.00 for adults, children free. Further information for potential stall holders please phone the parish office on 5127 1119 or Mary: 5127 2929.



Bishop Manasseh Gahima

Bishop Manasseh Gahima to be enthroned

Philip Muston

Bishop Manasseh Gahima will be officially 'enthroned' as the new Bishop of Gahini on May 26, 2019. Gahini, in eastern Rwanda, is partner diocese to the Diocese of Gippsland.

Bishop Manasseh, who visited Gippsland earlier this year, has been Assistant Bishop of Gahini since his consecration in April, 2017. He is known to many in our Diocese, and especially to those who have visited Rwanda as part of Diocesan or school visits.

He follows the soon-to-retire Bishop Alexis Bilindabagabo, who has been Gahini's episcopal leader for the last 20 years. Bishop Alexis with Bishop Jeffrey Driver set up the Diocesan Partnership with Gippsland in 2002. Bishop Alexis, like Bishop Manasseh, has made regular trips to our Diocese.

A number of Anglicans from Gippsland and other parts of Australia

are already planning to visit Gahini for the installation service, which will take place at Gahini's new Cathedral, which was opened last year.

People from all over the world will be in Gahini for the service. Those planning to go should try to secure accommodation well in advance, as bookings at Diocesan venues such as Seeds of Peace are likely to be very full.

The diocesan partnership has seen regular exchanges of people, along with practical aid from Gippsland in helping to provide buildings for the fast-growing Anglican churches of Gahini, helping equip education and water supply, hospital and other care facilities. One of the wings at Seeds of Peace is called Gippsland House after the many from Gippsland who contributed practical aid and service in the development of the accommodation centre.

The Rev'd Philip Muston is Rector, Lakes Entrance/Metung.



Bread (provided by Joyce Occhipinti: St Laurence's Catholic Church) and Wine (Dean and Dayna Roberts: Lythostylis Winery)

Daffodil Festival – "Preserve for Life"

**Marion Dewar
Leongatha**

The theme for St Peter's contribution to the annual community Leongatha Daffodil Festival this year was "Preserve for Life".

The usual Flowers in Praise display included arrangements contributed by the churches of the town. The idea for the Preserve for Life display came from the words for the distribution of Holy Communion: "The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life."

Display items included preserves (fruit, jams and pickles), preserving

kits, bread kneader, christening dresses and baby clothes, furniture, découpage violin, crockery and cutlery, recycled teatowels, upcycled garments, and a tractor (it was outside!).

Refreshments were served 10:00 – 4:00, Thursday to Sunday. Sunday morning church services were held amongst the display, using the seating set for visitors. A special order of service titled Preserve for Life – on the themes of creation and preservation – was prepared for the 8:00 am service. The donations jar attracted a sizeable sum to assist the breakfast program at the primary school.

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Is it I Lord?

Sue Newcombe

*I the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry...
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am Lord, is it I Lord?...*

(DAN SCHUTTE 1981)

God's calling, God's challenge and my response is how I see this song, leading me over the years to being gently nurtured and mentored by my Pastor as I learned on the job how to do lay and pastoral ministry both in a Melbourne church where I served for nine years and in the wider community.

After "church surfing" for far too long, late 2015 found me at St Mark's Yarragon – only three doors from where I live so no excuse – and in 2016 I had the privilege of taking my first service there. Involvement with Andrews House Trafalgar, visiting residents and helping with services soon followed.

I had returned home to the roots of my faith, my Anglican upbringing and its beautiful liturgy.

In July this year I received an email from the Rev'd Sue Jacka (from the other side of the world while she was on leave) with the invitation and challenge to attend a Diocese of Gippsland Discernment Session. "No, that's not for me, really, at my age, what is Sue thinking of? The sun must have gone to her head", I thought. God always has the last laugh though, as I sent my affirmative response to attend the session held on 26 August at St James' Traralgon and, unusually for me, I arrived slightly ahead of time.

The Rev'ds Graham Knott, Brian Norris and Philip Muston facilitated. Following prayer, the Rev'd Dave Perryman related his journey to ordination (via KFC) and the wonders of modern technology brought to our screen the Rev'd Jude Benton from Mallacoota, who shared with us her ordination journey (via New Zealand). The session concluded with Evening Prayer and reflection followed by a cuppa, where we were joined by Bishop Richard, who encouraged each of us as we begin our time of discernment.

Getting it: spontaneous praise Discernment versus decision making

Sue Fordham

This year's diocesan retreat at The Abbey in September was led by Bishop Gary Weatherill (Ballarat) who told us that he would chat a bit, do a few readings and play some music. What an understatement!

Held over a day and a half it was structured in four sessions, each introduced by the playing of "When it's All Been Said and Done" by Robin Mark, an Irish composer and musician, and included the poetry of the wonderful Mary Oliver.

The first session, entitled "Praise", tackled a topic that had always puzzled me. "It is right to give our thanks and praise." I had always assumed that thanks and praise were compulsory precursors in our approach to God. You had to do it. It was a required courtesy. And then I got it. Finally.

Thanks and praise come spontaneously and involuntarily when we allow ourselves to surrender to the enormity of God's grace and in the beauty of His creation. I got it on a day



of glorious weather, staring out the chapel window and watching four kangaroos loping along the shoreline past the chapel.

The second session was called, 'Our Broken Selves' and looked at sin. Bishop Gary said, "We aren't meant to feel like worthless worms. We are broken, but God still loves us and uses us. Don't make sin the focus. It's a reality but it doesn't stop the resurrection in us".

He said that forgiving and accepting forgiveness was the most soul enriching activity we could practise.

In the third session,

"Encountering the Christ", Bishop Gary said that it was not just the historical Jesus, the Christ of the scriptures that was important but the encountering of Jesus in our own context.

The final session, held in the context of the Eucharist, was called, "Going On". It was about the ministry of the baptised, not just the ministry of the priest. If we build ourselves up in love, nourished by the sacraments, then we fit ourselves for ministry, we were told.

By the end of the fourth session we felt charged and ready.

Sue Fordham

The July gathering of those who aspire to be a dispersed Abbey Community heard an inspirational address on the way of Francis and Clare by the Reverend Nikolai Blaskow. Nikolai's reflection was based on Franciscan, Richard Rohr's meditations. The focus was on discernment versus decision making.

Nikolai explained that whereas decision making involved the weighing up of pros and cons and reaching a conclusion, discernment involved contemplative stillness in which we might listen to God in the quiet of our own hearts. That, he said, was our core business, and it would enable each of us to find the

authenticity of our real selves.

God, he reminded us, accepted us as we are, and that being authentically ourselves would enable us to find joy in the suffering we encounter in our lives.

Nikolai said that Francis and Clare of Assisi created a very different "imaginarium" for many people in their time. They showed them and us today that Christianity could be joyful, simple, sweet and beautiful.

Eucharist with a distinctive Franciscan flavour was celebrated in the chapel to conclude what was a very important day in the life of The Abbey.

Two dates were set for meetings later this year to continue the discernment process.

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

How the family home can affect aged care fees

Residential aged care is playing an increasing role in helping many older Australians enjoy comfortable and carefree lives. However, one of the tasks for anyone assisting an elderly relative with the move into aged care is to investigate the various fees and charges, some of which are subject to both assets and income means tests. As the family home is often the largest asset and can be a source of income if rented out, it's particularly important to understand how it is treated in relation to these tests.*

Assets test

For individuals entering aged care after 1 July 2014 the value of the family home is **not** counted as an asset if it is occupied by:

- a partner or dependent children,
- a carer who is eligible for government income

support and who has been living there for at least two years, or

- a close relative who is eligible for income support and has been living there for at least five years.

However, even if that is not the case, the value of the family home that is counted as an asset is capped at \$165,271 as at 1 July 2018. If the actual value is less than the cap then market value applies.

For a couple where neither partner is living in the family home, half of the net market value of the home will be included as an asset for each of them, up to the cap.

Income test

For people who entered aged care between 1 July 2014 and 31 December 2015, rent on the family home is exempt from the income test only if they are

paying some level of daily accommodation payment.

Where aged care commenced after 1 January 2016, net rental income is assessable.

Split by health

Eric, 85, and Wendy, 87, own a home valued at \$650,000. In February 2016 poor health made it necessary for Eric to move into aged care. Wendy remained in the family home so the house was exempt from the assets test, and as there was no rental income, there was no impact on the income test.

Reunited

In March 2017 Wendy's increasing frailty also saw her entering residential care, fortunately in the same nursing home as Eric. Their former home was rented out and became

assessable as an asset. As the value of the home is more than twice the current cap, they each have \$165,271 included in their assessed assets.

Under the income test, half the net rental income is applied to each of their assessments.

Expert help

Aged care is a complex area requiring important decisions to be made at a time of high emotional stress. Expert advice can help to reduce that stress, so talk to your qualified financial adviser early in the process of moving a loved one into aged care. It will make everything just that little bit easier for all concerned.



Julie Irving

For more information about Aged Care please contact Julie Irving at DMG Financial Planning 1300 932 3843.

* Note that there are some important differences in the way the family home is assessed by Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) for aged pension or DVA pension purposes. This article only covers the rules that apply to aged care.

Journey to the centre of the Diocese

PART TWO

Cynthia Grove (Sale) and the Rev'd Geoff Pittaway, Rector of Mirboo North

Cynthia

“Let’s get together and have fun.” That *wasn’t* the theme for the afternoon of 9 September but it might well have been as we certainly lived up to it at the Cathedral.

In 2017 the Rev’d Geoff Pittaway was installed as a Canon of the Cathedral Greater Chapter. Although many people come to the Cathedral for special events Canon Geoff was eager for his Mirboo North parish to visit the Cathedral in a more relaxed way. We at the Cathedral were delighted to host such a visit.

As they arrived a slideshow was playing showing the Sale church, later Cathedral, in its many historical forms and pointing out a number of items of interest. Thank you, Christine Morris, for putting together such an interesting and informative show. Anthony Hahn gave a brief talk about the organ, and Dean Susanna Pain talked about the Cathedral’s history.

But just sitting listening isn’t the best way to get to know

a place. Ro Verspaandonk had put together a delightful hunt for information about Cathedral items.

We came together to hear the answers and then return to worshipful mode for a Eucharist service.

The Cathedral parishioners had provided a sumptuous feast to follow and we had excellent time of mixing, sharing and getting to know each other.

Eventually the Mirboo North folk had to re-board their bus and return home. I hope they felt it a worthwhile trip; we certainly enjoyed sharing with them and it made a great afternoon.

It would be lovely to see this become a regular practice of visiting other parishes and sharing our faith and community spirit. To get to know each other and find out more about how each area functions can surely only improve our sense of being the Anglican diocese in Gippsland. As it says in the Eucharist prayers, we are many, but we are one, as we share the same bread.

Geoff

As planned, the Mirboo North congregation (22 of us anyway) boarded a bus to go to Sale to worship and have fellowship with the St Paul’s Cathedral congregation. On the whole, it was a visit well spent as we made connections and shared in a time of gathered worship with new, and re-acquainted, friends at Sale

For many of us, the bus trip helped to revive the “old days” when we would go on Sunday School picnics or church outings together, or perhaps the school trips to the Centre of Australia. Fortunately for most of us, now older, we did not have to be on the bus too long!

What a great blessing the people of Sale Parish are to us all! Many thanks to the Dean, Susanna, and the congregation for welcoming and showing hospitality to St Mary’s Mirboo North folk. I hope that other congregations can take the opportunity to get to the “Centre” before too long and reap the blessings therein.



Fr Ken Parker presenting Brian Chapman with a gift in thanks for his lecture

A revisionist view of Moonlight Sonata

Chris Bennie
Bunyip

On the afternoon of 2 September the fourth of the Bunyip Lecture series for 2018 was given at St Thomas’ hall. The lecturer, Dr Brian Chapman, is a well-known professional pianist, teacher and performer who has broadcast frequently and recorded for the ABC.

His topic was a challenging one, its title, “Grief, Denial and Rage: A Revisionist View of Beethoven’s ‘Moonlight’ Sonata”. In it he set out to show that this piece of music has been widely misunderstood, from Beethoven’s own time to the present.

It was believed that the *Sonata* was specifically written for its dedicatee, Countess Julie Guicciardi, and that she was the composer’s “Immortal Beloved”. Neither of these things was true; rather both were instances of 19th Century “fake news”.

These myths were not disproved until 45 years after Beethoven’s death. In the meantime influential pianists such as Franz Liszt

and Hans von Bülow, and Beethoven’s publishers, who named it “*Moonlight*” *Sonata*, changed the time signature of the first movement to a slower speed and made other changes to support the lovelorn composer image. When the truth was discovered in 1872, nothing was done to correct the interpretation and performances by famous pianists to this day have reflected the myth, not the reality.

Brian believes that in this *Sonata*, Beethoven was dealing with the fact of his own growing deafness, and that the first movement should actually be played nearly twice as fast as has normally been done, as given in Beethoven’s Autograph score and in modern Urtext editions. When played in this way, the first movement becomes an expression of dumbstruck grief and the following movements express denial and rage, respectively.

Brian concluded his illustrated talk by performing the whole sonata with this new approach, to great applause from those present.



Mirboo North visitors with Cathedral parishioners

CroaJAMalong (continued from page 3)

Jude Benton
Mallacoota

On Sunday 26 August, there was toe-tapping music, laughter, singing and dancing radiating from St Peter’s Mallacoota. The final act in the local Croajamalong music festival was a gospel / bluegrass sing-along service at the church. It was fantastic.

Local identity Linda Bruce had pulled together a band of locals and others – with members from as far a-field as Melbourne and Sydney – who came and led the music. The service was woven together with Bible readings and prayers creating links to our on-going “Faces of Faith” series that is looking at lesser-known Bible people.

All of the songs were easy to join in with, and before

long the congregation of regular attendees and visitors were joining in with gusto.

After the conclusion of the official part of the service there was a fabulous morning tea and the sounds of happy chatter filled the church. With nothing but positive feedback from all who were there, we hope it will be something we can do again.

The Rev’d Jude Benton is Priest-in-Charge in the Croajamalong parish.



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Strength to strength

**Belinda Seabrook
Leongatha**

Here at St Peter's in Leongatha we are very blessed with so many young families with children, including pre-schoolers. Long standing ministries such as *mainly music* and "Pray and Play" have nurtured little ones to grow in their love of Jesus, as well as encouraged mums and dads to start to think about making church life a part of their family life.

Mainly music is a weekly program that runs 10:30 am each Tuesday morning. The month of August brought two particularly exciting days for the kids and families that attend. Firstly, a circus-themed day where mums, dads, kids as well as the *mainly music* team enthusiastically dressed up as clowns, animals and ballerinas and enjoyed a day of laughter and juggling under the flags of the circus-themed hall.

This was followed a couple of weeks later by a Father's Day theme, with a special music session for dads, grandpas and special friends, concluding with a shared lunch of pies and chips.

Pray and Play is a more restful ministry where parents and carers of pre-schoolers can meet on a Monday morning for support, devotion, prayer and some delicious morning tea. Pre-schoolers are kept entertained and occupied in another area of the hall by our dedicated team, to provide a rest for those who normally care for them.

Currently parents are enjoying learning from *The Parenting Course for 0-10 Years Olds* on DVD. This is followed by a stimulating discussion and shared encouragement for one another.

Alongside these ministries we also have "Kids' Church", a dynamic Sunday school program that runs parallel to the 10:00 am Contemporary Service on a Sunday morning. Kids wait with anticipation as the countdown for the start of the program is broadcast on the large projection system. 10, 9, 8... 3, 2, 1! The Church erupts in shouts of joy as children

are championed to come forward and participate.

A dedicated team of volunteers currently run our kids' programs with endless enthusiasm and creativity. A recent theme has been The Lord's Prayer, where kids have explored each section of the Prayer in detail with craft activities and take-home discussion sheets for parents.

St Peter's is currently recruiting a part-time (24 hours) Children's and Families worker to oversee the whole of Children's Ministry, as well as develop ministry for future generations to come.

Belinda Seabrook is Ministry Assistant and Worship Band Coordinator, St Peter's Anglican Church Leongatha.

Typhoon Mangkhut: Urgent Support Needed for the Philippines

ABM (Anglican Board of Mission) has launched an emergency appeal in response to a request for assistance from the Episcopal Church in the Philippines (ECP), after Super Typhoon Mangkhut struck the northern parts of Luzon on Saturday 15 September, 2018.

To donate to the Typhoon Mangkhut Emergency Appeal, please phone 1300 302 663 or give online at www.abmission.org/typhoon-mangkhut-emergency.

ABC Radio National's Religion Programs

Frequencies: Bairnsdale – 106.3 FM (3ABC RN)
Melbourne – 621 AM (3RN)

Religion and Ethics Report

Andrew West Wednesday 5:30 pm
– repeated: Thursday 5:30 am and Friday 11:00 am

The Spirit of Things

Rachel Kohn Sunday 6:00 pm
– repeated: Wednesday 1:00 pm

God Forbid

James Carleton Sunday 6:00 am
– repeated Sunday 10:00 pm and Monday 2:00pm

For more details: abc.net.au



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Called to be different

Kerrie Armstrong

How far would you go to fit in?" This was the topic for discussion at our first secondary school small group at Warragul. It was great spending time together, talking and eating burgers.

In today's worth-seeking world, being "liked," and "wanted" is something we all yearn for. And whether we want to admit it or not, it's how our culture forces us to feel, and not to mention it's how our culture advertises as the way we should feel.

We all want to be liked, cherished, and appreciated by our peers. But what if I told you that God couldn't care less about these things?

What if I told you that God didn't care how many Facebook friends you have, or how many people follow you on Twitter? And what if I told you that God isn't worried about how popular you are? In fact, what if I told you that the purpose of the Gospel isn't to fit in at all, but to in fact stand out. (Romans 12:2)

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind".

God has called us to be different; to go against the grain; to be a city on a hilltop (Matthew 5:14); to be the change for a world that lacks hope.

You weren't made to fit in. You were made to fulfill your calling in Christ. You were made to fit out.

State Youth Games

Aimee Armstrong

State Youth Games (SYG) was held at Lardner Park in June. It is a gathering of thousands of Christian youth from churches all around the state. They come to Warragul to compete in sports and games like netball, chess, football, basketball, volleyball, UNO, handball, bubble soccer, dodgeball, lawn bowls and bocce – no matter your level of sportiness or skill there is a game to suit you.

I was part of the Community Church Warragul team and stayed there overnight instead of camping out at Lardner Park. It was certainly warmer sleeping in the church than in tents outdoors!

For young disciples



Photo by MPH Photography. Used with permission.

Aimee Armstrong and her cousin Emily at the State Youth Games

Every night there was a rally where you worship and sing with a band and listen to a guest speaker. After the rally, there are heaps of other activities to do around Lardner Park. Stuff like, talking to the Red Frogs (camp counsellors), games, campfires, music and stalls.

We didn't go to bed until midnight each night and had to be up at 7:00 am to get to the sports in time. I made new friends and enjoyed spending time playing against other Christian youth. The theme this year was INSPIRE! I had so much fun at SYG, I am definitely inspired to go again next year!

Anglicare Fare

Anglicare Victoria: change that adds value

Cathrine Muston

Albert Einstein has been attributed as saying that insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. The need to apply new responses to entrenched problems is something that Anglicare Victoria is focused on and so it was exciting to hear that Anglicare Victoria has been included in the top 100 of Australia's most Innovative Companies of 2018.

For the past seven years the Australian Financial Review has been assessing Australian and New Zealand companies on their innovation "prowess". Defining innovation broadly as "change that adds value", Anglicare Victoria was ranked 85 alongside 1000 other nominations including large corporations, banks and mining companies.

Anglicare Victoria is committed to innovation, trialling programs that are recognized internationally. In the past year Anglicare

Victoria has launched a number of Australian-first pilots for Victorian young people and families, as well as introduced our own evidence-based programs.

The TEACHaR program is an innovative way to help young people with their schooling.

TEACHaR involves education specialists working alongside young people in out-of-home-care to improve school attendance rates and ensure more active engagement in learning for vulnerable children and young people.

Alongside this, Anglicare in Gippsland is piloting Safe Care, an international, evidence based model that works with families in the home to improve parenting skills and protect children who may be at risk of neglect or abuse.

In 2017, Anglicare Victoria won the opportunity to work with the Victorian Government to develop a program to transform the way young people leave care in Victoria. The Social Impact Bond (SIB) is a new way of funding community services

by bringing private investors, government and community services together to finance approaches that will deliver a financial and social impact in the community.

Working in partnership with VincentCare, the SIB aims to provide young people leaving care with a range of wraparound supports, including housing and tailored case management to help young people establish themselves as they move into adulthood, and deliver better outcomes for them and for the community. Critically, these support services extend beyond when the young person turns 18 giving them the best chance to create a future they want.

These are a few of the innovative ways Anglicare Victoria is ensuring it continuously improves itself to respond to the needs and aspirations of the children, youth and families we serve.

If you'd like to read more about the work of Anglicare Victoria visit www.anglicarvic.org.au





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Loving the earth

Jo White

While the Feast of St Francis of Assisi (4 October) is often celebrated with blessing the animals because St Francis is the patron saint of animals, he is also regarded as the patron saint of the environment.

Francis and his friars lived simply, wearing the garments of the poor, living in simple wattle and daub huts; they slept on the ground, with little or no furniture and very few books. One of Francis' most famous writings is *The Canticle of the Sun* in which Francis expresses his deep love and connection to the Creator and creation. This connection is emphasized by his familial address to Brother Sun and Sister Moon. In this canticle Francis praises God for wind, water, fire and earth –

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Mother Earth, who sustains us and governs us and who produces varied fruits with coloured flowers and herbs.

(Canticle of the Sun, stanza 8; 1224 CE)

Francis rejected the excesses of courtly life. He rejected what we might call the excesses of consumerism. He loved and respected creation, which is what we might call environmentalism. He regarded the earth as intimately connected to human beings – something we in the 21st century are rediscovering.

Many of us find a sense of mystery, wonder and transcendence in our experience of the natural world: looking at the stars as St Francis must

have done; walking in a rainforest; or being overwhelmed by the beauty and abundance of the sea. All this is part of an ecological planetary spirituality. It is a spirituality that provides a point of contact with people who might never darken the door of a church. People like designer Nick Fouquet who said in a recent interview that “The beach and nature are my higher powers” (*The Age Good Weekend* 25/8/18).

Many people are rightly concerned about our planet. Since China stopped importing Australian recycling material we have become acutely aware of what happens to the things we throw away. The “rubbish bin” is now called the “landfill bin”.

I used to love bin night. I would hunt around the house looking for all the rubbish I could throw out. I would put it in the bin and then at some ungodly hour the garbos would come and take it all away. I didn't really care where it went just as long as it went.

I remember as a child my mother explaining to me how to use the large pages of *The Herald* newspaper to line our galvanised rubbish bin – yes we only had one. We arranged the sheets of newspaper in crisscross fashion and then pushed them into the bin to form a liner of sorts. I remember too when mum brought home the first loaf of bread wrapped in a plastic bag. That

“...I used to love bin night...”

plastic bag and the others that followed were prized possessions in her kitchen. She would wash them out and hang them on the clothes-line to be used and used again

until they couldn't be used anymore.

Glass jars were washed out and used to store all manner of items in the pantry or they were given to Granny to make jam. We didn't have a compost bin. Scraps were wrapped in newspaper and put out in the bin. It made that galvanised bin stink so my sister and I were given the job of washing out the bin with Pine-o-clean each week before we put in the newspaper liners.

Those days are long gone.

Reading Genesis chapter one again recently it occurred to me that God created the world to be self-sufficient:

“I have provided all kinds of grain and all kinds of fruit for you to eat; but for all the wild animals and for all the birds I have provided grass and leafy plants for food” – and it was done. God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased. Evening passed and morning came – that was the sixth day.

Everything in relationship and harmony – human beings, wild animals



Photo: Christine Morris

and birds, grass and plants for food – and yet something went wrong. Could it be that we became greedy, or lazy, or just unaware of the consequences of our actions? We cannot hide behind that anymore. God created us to be like God's self and to be responsible for creation. God created us to love the earth as we love a sister or a brother.

There are a great many ways we do this. The problem is that caring for the environment is inconvenient. We have to sort our rubbish. We have to think about recycling. We have to think about manufacturing. We have to remember our cloth shopping bags. We have to think, “Do I need it or is it just that I want it?”

If we live a simpler life in close relation with the earth and our Creator then these things are not a burden; they are an act of love, love for God and for God's creation.

St Francis lived a simple life, a life that was full of love for God, God who created the heavens and the earth, who put breath into Adam and set the earth on its axis. St Francis' example is one of love for God and for the environment. He loved it as he loved a mother, a father, a sister or a brother. Perhaps this is where we need to start; loving the earth and all that is in it.

The Rev'd Jo White is Rector, Bass/Phillip Island.

EDITORIAL

Silver, gold and the cost of newspapers

A silver denarius from the time of Jesus sits under glass, along with many other ancient coins, inside St John's Anglican Cathedral in Brisbane. I found it quite startling to see the actual profile of an individual (Tiberius Caesar) from a time long before photography. And of course, Jesus' words “Whose image is this?” rang in the ears.

Across the road at the hotel where the Australasian Religious Press Association (ARPA) conference was held, was another display. Magazines, journals and newspapers of many shapes, sizes and Christian denominations were spread out on a table.

Christian publications matter. They encourage, inform, nurture faith and stimulate thought, offering a platform for deeper Christian reflection and debate on theological, ecclesiastical and social issues; on living the Christian life; and for considering world or local events from a Christian perspective.


For a geographically spread-out diocese like Gippsland, our paper is one important way of keeping parishes in touch with each other, and up to date with diocesan news.

So thank you to everyone who has laboured over articles and photos to keep up the standard of this paper. Without the contributions of so many people, TGA would not have won the gold award for Best Regional Publication.

From silver and gold to filthy lucre. Jesus often talked about money, as Bishop Richard reminded us in his Installation sermon, and sometimes we have to. The costs of producing and distributing a printed publication are significant and continue to rise. These costs are significantly defrayed by a diocesan budget allocation to TGA. However, as our Registrar, the Rev'd Brian Norris has noted, the Diocese faces financial challenges.

TGA has not had a price rise in at least five years, and the time has come – beginning from February 2019. We thank readers in anticipation of your continued support and invite your comments on what you appreciate or would like to see different in TGA.

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It's your call

As parishes around the Diocese prepare for Vocations Sunday on 21 October, Archdeacon Graham Knott remembers how one woman discovered her calling.

The phone rang at the most inconvenient moment during my Monday morning staff meeting with Dave the curate. It was Eileen, a caring church member, who said, "I'm with Liz (not her real name) who says she has taken a huge overdose and the ambulance won't be here for 45 minutes. What should I do?" I replied, "You need to get her to hospital as soon as possible", finished the phone call and thought nothing more about it.

A couple of days later I saw Eileen and asked how she got on. "OK", she said. "After what you said I picked Liz up, who was losing consciousness, and carried her down three flights of stairs, put her in my car and took her to emergency where I carried her in."

Nobody doubted that Eileen had saved Liz' life. Eileen was 59 years old and with a heart that was much stronger than her muscles! A short while later we advertised for a Pastoral Worker and Eileen applied. Hers was not a particularly well written application but it was hard to forget Eileen struggling down those flights of stairs carrying that load, or the hundreds of other times Eileen had done similar other things. Employing Eileen was a no brainer.

I remember a few months later when Eileen sat with me with tears in her eyes as she said, "Graham, I have waited all my life for what I'm doing now. This is my calling. All my life God has been preparing me for this and it has been my thirst too".

There is nothing that brings an ordained person more joy than to see others flourish in their calling whatever that is. After a couple of years Eileen had seen remarkable things happening – the regular pastoral work of the church continued but Eileen had also developed a comprehensive ministry to homeless and drug addicted people.

Well over 200 meals were served every week in a hall that had been freely renovated by a supermarket chain who had heard of what Eileen was doing and wanted to help. This person who thought herself very ordinary now ran large teams of people including medical staff and others who freely gave their time. There were showers and facilities for the homeless to wash their clothes. In that town the homeless no longer stood out and began to develop self-esteem and dignity.

There are many stories that could be told. Among the most vivid concerns a time when

"...we are called through our baptism into being a person poured out for others."



A Gippsland ordination in 2007, with L-R The Rev'd Edie Ashley, the Ven Heather Marten, the Rev'd Lyndon Phillips, Bishop John McIntyre, the Rev'd Sue Jacka and the Rev'd Brenda Burney.

Dave, Eileen's husband, was on a coach over 300 kilometres from our church and got talking to the woman sitting next to him. In the course of time that person said that she had little time for Christianity and the church, except for one church. Dave asked which one and she named ours, "because without the work that church does among drug addicts, my son would be dead".

Writing in *Called or Collared* Dewar says, "There is an old Christian tradition that God sends each person into this world with a special message to deliver, with a special song to sing for others, with a special act of love to bestow. No one else can speak my message, or sing my song, or offer my act of love. These are entrusted only to me". Speaking that message, singing that special song, sharing unconditionally that act of love won't simply be for your blessing and fulfilment;

your life will become a gift poured out for the building up, freeing or enriching of others. Here is your calling. Eileen had discovered her own unique calling and that had brought her deepest joy and peace as she stayed faithful to the call of God.

We are holding our first Vocations Sunday on 21 October and we hope that every parish will focus on what it means for each one of us to be someone who know to the depths of our being that we are called through our baptism into being a person poured out for others. We are called to be Christ's gift to the world.

For a few this may be the beginning of exploring the possibility of ordination or chaplaincy, but vocation is much wider than that. There are many like Eileen who can become champions of the faith in their own community as they quietly live out

their Christ-centred calling and purpose.

It is easy to get discouraged along the way. There will be obstacles and setbacks just as there is for anything worthwhile in life. Fulfilling a calling, though satisfying, is not easy. I hope that we will all reflect during this month on what the Spirit is leading us towards, and will find perseverance to follow that through.

When you find the way difficult, remember these words spoken to a young man, "There is no place for you in the Church of England." The young man was Justin Welby, the current Archbishop of Canterbury! May each of us discover a genuine sense of vocation that will carry us through the setbacks until we know we are singing our God song in the world.

Archdeacon Graham Knott is Archdeacon of the Southern Region and Rector at Leongatha.



A LASTING GIFT: A bequest to the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland or your parish

The Church, over the years, has been blessed with the generosity of Anglicans and others in support of its mission. One way you can support this ideal in a relatively easy way, is to make a gift through your will. In the first instance, of course, you will consider carefully the needs of your immediate family and friends before proceeding with a bequest to the church.

We offer a way of helping you to carry out your wishes. Your gift, through your bequest, will be very much appreciated. You may wish to support the Diocese of Gippsland as a whole, or your own parish, or for a particular purpose.

Making your bequest in your Will is a simple procedure, although in preparing or amending your Will you should always consult a solicitor. The Registrar of the Diocese of Gippsland has information to assist you in making a bequest, including the form of words you and your solicitor might want to use.

Telephone Brian Norris on 03 5144 2044, or go to www.gippsanglican.org.au and search 'bequests'.



Be a part of supporting the Aboriginal Ministry Fund

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To be involved is to belong

Lyn Olden
Korumburra

I write this article, not because I particularly want to, but because I was asked to. What has brought me to the last 20 years of involvement with Saint Paul's? I became involved because I believe that to belong one must be involved.

So here goes. I became a member of Parish Council when the Rev'd Keith South was the Rector; became a Synod representative in the 1980s; and represented St Paul's Korumburra, there for some 15 years.

Whilst a member of Synod, I was appointed to Bishop-in-Council by Bishop Neville Chynoweth in 1987, continued during the time of Bishop Colin Scheumack, and part of the time of Bishop Arthur Jones.

I remember particularly the Synod presided over by Bishop Arthur, when the decision to ordain women to the priesthood was passed, a particularly thought-provoking time for all concerned. And I remember to this day the speech I made at that Synod, in support of women's ordination.

In February 2000, Fr Noel Richards, Rector of Korumburra, appointed me to the position of Parish Administrator to help him with parish matters, such as correspondence. Little did I know that from May of that same year, Fr Noel would be on indefinite sick leave – and what a time of learning it was for me.

Backed up by a great Parish Council and wonderful friends, we, the parish, survived. When Fr Lyle Hughes was appointed, I was able to work closely with him many times and really appreciated his ministry.

I think we were talked into going to a Cursillo weekend and became involved in this movement within the Diocese. I was a team member who took this Christian program to the Diocese of Melbourne. Following this, I was asked and accepted the task of leading a team of 15 women and two Spiritual Advisors to take Cursillo to the Diocese of Tasmania. This was another learning curve and a time of spiritual growth for me.



Photo: Fran Grimes

Lyn and Ian Olden

The ministry of Archdeacon Ray Elliott and Canon Keith South was of great help to me in my spiritual journey. Both were involved with Cursillo.

I began to play the organ for services in 1994, when Margery Withycombe left to make her home in Mt Eliza. I produced the parish magazine for about 25 years and, helped by others, that too was a great experience, as I learnt many computer skills at that time. I have been involved in many of our committees and groups over this time.

Believe me when I say things have not always been rosy for the parish. I have seen numbers of people leave, but my attitude to this is that to leave the church is to become more of its problem than its answer, so I am still here.

Through all this I have had Ian by my side with his involvement in much of the work of the church, his encouragement, support and unconditional love.

Most of all, I have been able to trust God and to work with Him as Guide and Comforter.

Cursillo in Gippsland

Cursillo is a world-wide Christian movement originating in the Roman Catholic Church in Spain in the 1940s. It spread into other denominations and around the world. Cursillo came to Gippsland in the 1980s and had a huge impact on the Diocese. The Spanish word "cursillo" means "short course" – in this case, a short course in Christian living. The three day courses helped many people to a deeper relationship with God, and to identifying and using their gifts, including for some, a vocation to ordained ministry. It was the Gippsland Diocese which took Cursillo to Melbourne and then to Tasmania. The last Cursillo in Gippsland was held in 2010.



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The Anglican Diocese of Gippsland does not tolerate abuse, misconduct and harm in its Christian community.

The Diocese is committed to ensuring all people in contact with the Church can participate in a safe and responsible environment. If you may have been harmed by a church worker, or know someone who has, please come forward.

The Director of Professional Standards, Cheryl Russell, is available, and will maintain confidentiality, on telephone 03 5633 1573, on mobile 0407 563313, or email cherylrussell1@bigpond.com

Diocesan calendar

October

- 8 – 11 Clergy Retreat at the Palotti Retreat Centre, Millgrove
- 13 7:00 am – 1:00 pm Corinella Community Market, Hughs Park, Corinella. Also 10 November.
- 13 9:30 – 3:00 pm Moe Antique and Collectables Fair, Albert Street Primary School, hosted by Moe-Newborough Parish (see page 4)
- 13 2:30 pm (singing from 2:15) Cursillo Ultreya, St John's Bairnsdale (see page 4)
- 14 2:00 pm Regional Gathering with Bp Richard, Trafalgar
- 16 7:30 pm Induction of the Rev'd Tracy Lauersen at St Paul's, Warragul
- 20 2:00 – 4:00 pm St Luke's Day Gathering at "Allansfield", Rhyll, Phillip Island with the commissioning of new hosts, Diane and Reg Wilkinson
- 21 Vocation Sunday around the Diocese
- 21 2:00 pm Regional Gathering with Bp Richard, Leongatha
- 26 2:00 pm Safe Church Refresher Workshop, St Mary's Trafalgar
- 27 9:30 am Safe Church Full Workshop, St Mary's Trafalgar
- 27 9:30 am – 3:30 pm The 116th Flower Show at St Thomas' Bunyip
- 27 2.30 – 4.30 pm InterPlay with Peter Batten at the Deanery, 63 Market Street, Sale
- 28 5:00 pm "Shine!" youth event with food, fun and water, at the parish hall, Christ Church Drouin. Reclaiming fun and celebration for the Eve of All Saints Day. Details from the Rev'd Jenny Ramage: 5625 4121

November

- 11 Day at Christ Church Drouin for Centenary of the Armistice of 1918: 9:30 am Service of Thanksgiving, finishing 10:20 am to allow attendance at 10.45 am RSL Service, Memorial Park. 1:15pm Blessing of Commemorative Trees, . 2:00 pm Commemorative Concert: Baw Baw Singers present "Songs of the Wartime". Entry by gold coin donation. Afternoon tea in the hall.
- 11 1:30 – 4:00 pm Contemplative Quiet Afternoon at Sale Botanic Gardens with Dean Susanna
- 17 8:00 am – 2:00 pm Bairnsdale Parish Fair
- 18 2:00 pm Regional Gathering with Bp Richard, Bairnsdale
- 24 11:00 am Anam Cara Community Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale
- 24 12 noon – 4:00 pm Dispersed Community gathering at The Abbey. Bookings: 5156 6580 or info@theabbey.org.au
- 24 10:00 am – 3:00 pm A Quiet Day at Bunyip: "Beyond War to Resurrection"
- 25 2:00 – 4:00 pm Vocation Day at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale. Please contact: Archdeacon Graham Knott at rectorleongatha1@bigpond.com

December

- 2 2:00 pm Fifth Bunyip Lecture: Carol O'Connor: "The Word was made flesh".
- 6 10:30 am – 3:30 pm Ecumenical Advent Conversation at The Abbey. Enquiries to The Abbey: info@theabbey.org.au or 5156 6580. (Details page 3)