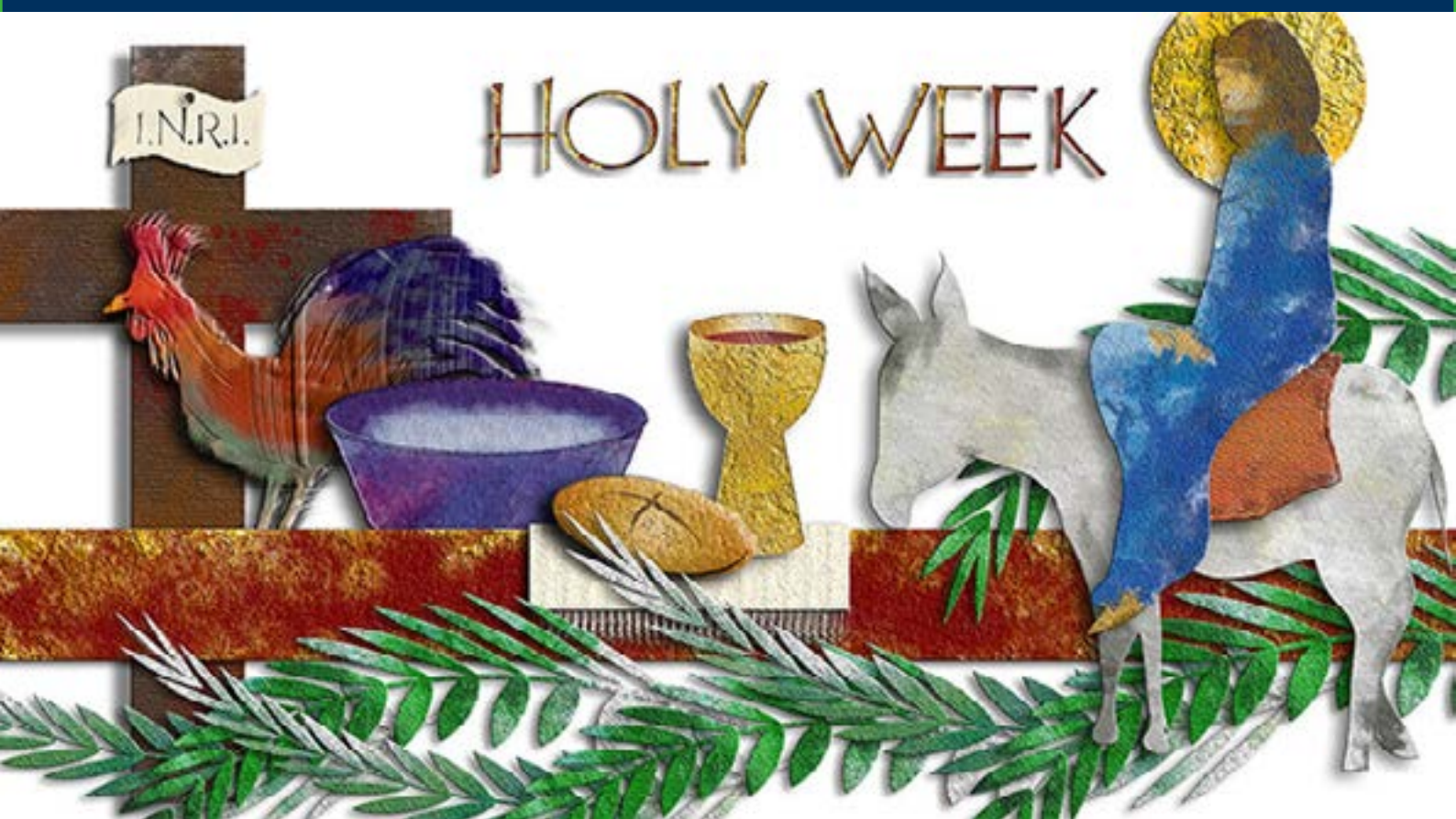




MESSENGER

A MAGAZINE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIANS MARCH 2021



The tree of defeat became the tree of victory;
where life was lost, there life has been restored.

(APBA Preface for Holy Week)

MESSENGER

MARCH 2021

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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



Dear Readers

In this special Lent Holy Week edition of the Messenger, Dr Rachelle Gilmour from Trinity College Theological School will unpack Christ's lament on the cross 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' and how it can be our own prayer of hope in light of Easter.

Archdeacon Angela Webb's feature on International Woman's Day 2021 shines the spotlight on Edith Cowan (a West Australian who became the first woman to be elected to a parliament in Australia) and The Revd Dr Canon Emily Onyango (who will be the first woman consecrated a bishop in the Anglican Church of Kenya).

Anglicare WA's CEO, Mark Glasson, explains the life-saving work of Cypress (Children and Young People Responsive Suicide Support) through the eyes and stories of two young people who have accessed their counselling services.

While St George's Cathedral highlights the upcoming co-production of its Consort and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO) in the first performance of Bach's Easter Oratorio and Duruflé's Requiem in Perth.

We wish you a holy and meaningful Lenten journey to the cross of Good Friday and the Resurrection promise of Easter Sunday.

Sincerely
The Messenger Team

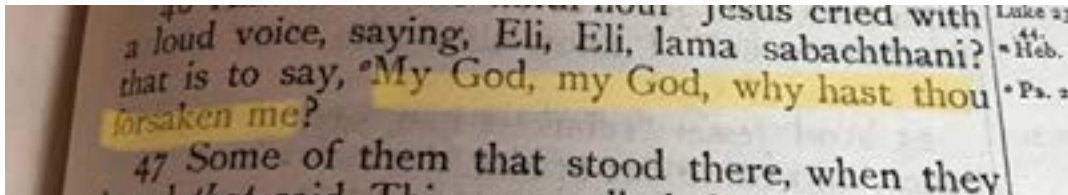
Mission 2020 prayer

Come, Holy Spirit!

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



A REFLECTION FOR HOLY WEEK



'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Christ's last words on the cross in the accounts of Matthew and Mark fuse a tender, intimate address, 'my God', with the deep despair of abandonment. The question is not, 'have you forsaken me?'; nor is the question directed to a third party, 'why has that God forsaken me'; instead the question speaks directly to God, simultaneously trusting and accusing, 'you have forsaken me, why is this so?' Paradoxically, the God who has abandoned is also near, able to hear the accusation and the cry of God's beloved.

Psalm 22, from which Jesus quotes, is a psalm of individual lament from more than 500 years earlier. Although there are no concrete details about the situation causing the psalmist's despair, some scholars have suggested that it is an illness of some kind, based on the effects on the psalmist's body in vv 14-15:

*I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;*

The psalm also gives hints of persecution, of opportunists preying upon the psalmist's despair in vv 17-18:

*They stare and gloat over me;
They divide my clothes among themselves,
And for my clothing they cast lots.*

The psalm was taken up into the liturgy of ancient Israelites, probably as a song sung by those with illnesses travelling up to Jerusalem for healing. The psalm continued to be sung, even after the temple was destroyed, and the second temple rebuilt. And Jesus, upon the cross, took up the words of generations of Israelites who had cried out to the Lord. In the midst of physical exposure and violence at the cross, of onlookers gloating and dividing his clothing, Jesus took his accusation directly to God. God is still 'my God' for Jesus, even at the darkest moment.

This Holy Week, many of us will also feel the physical vulnerability of illness, or the weight of those who oppose us. Pandemic and the threat of illness still weigh heavily on our world. The words of Israelite liturgy are also for us, to cry to God with an intimate address, and have the courage to pray 'why have you forsaken me'. In doing so, we contemplate the cross, joining our voice to that of Christ. And we do so, knowing that God is paradoxically

near to hear us, even as we lament God's abandonment.

The ancient Israelite pilgrims who sang this psalm in their liturgy were on a journey. They travelled to Jerusalem to pray for healing, on a journey of uncertainty and lament, but also a journey to a place where there might be hope. In Holy Week, we are on a journey towards Easter, towards the joy of resurrection, and the salvation that Jesus' resurrection brings.

On this journey, the words of the psalm do not trivialise lament, or pretend that the pain and sin do not matter because healing may come. But the psalmist does make promises about the future, about what the psalmist will do when finally the destination is reached. In v 22, the Psalmist vows:

*I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
In the midst of the congregation I will praise you*

In fact, the psalmist's view keeps expanding: in v 27, 'all the ends of the earth' will join in the worship; in v 29 those who have already died will join in bowing down; and in v 30, those in the future, posterity, will proclaim God's deliverance. All the earth, past and future will join in the chorus.

Now may be the time for lament for our pain and for our sin, not rejoicing. But lament is also the time for making vows, affirming what we will do, and whom we will tell when hope arrives. We prepare for Easter, for the wonderful news of salvation and new life, with vows and determination to tell anyone and everyone willing to hear it of our praise and thankfulness.





THE NEW NORMAL

What is Lent?

Is it six inconvenient weeks for me to give up chocolate or alcohol or gossip, before I go back to my usual patterns? Definitely not! Rather, it's time for me to attentively and with purpose allow something new to show itself in my following of Jesus.

Christian life is about constantly growing into the new normal. There is never any going 'back to normal'. There is only going forward, growing into the fulness of maturity in Christ. Classic Christian spiritual writers have told us again and again that being disciples of Jesus means being on an ongoing journey of conversion. Living in Christ means recognising our sin, taking it prayerfully to the cross, seeking forgiveness and receiving it, and then travelling on, into the 'new normal'.

What is this going to look like, for individuals and for our Church community? For an individual, it might look like putting more trust in God, and carrying less anxiety about what we have to do please God or be good enough.

It might mean living more honestly with the heaviness of grief. There is a lot of grief in the world, from the devastating hundreds of thousands of COVID deaths, to the stories of failure in aged care right here in Australia, to the ache of not having been able to visit the family and friends we love for more than 12 months now. Not to mention the grief we feel over our own shortcomings. All this grief can't be held at bay forever. I need to lower my defences and engage with it. It is something like a eucalyptus shedding back in order to keep growing well.

The stories of Holy Week are coming up, to help with this difficult project of living honestly with grief. What is Lent for, if not for this?

For our church community, the new normal will look something like what I am seeing around our Diocese, where parishes are talking enthusiastically together about ways of collaborating so that they can flourish. This work began during last year's lockdown, and has now grown to the point where parishes are identifying what they need, so that we can all grow into the new normal. Three years ago, after my listening to people across the diocese, I heard some of us say 'we feel old, tired and useless'. This was not a normal anyone would want to go back to. Now, we are asking different questions, and feeling different about the answers. What might we be able to do together? What resources can we share? How are we engaged in our communities? What have we learnt from the past year that we can build on? Our new normal includes feeling more positive about who we are.

So what is Lent about?

It is about opening our ears, hearts, minds to the unexpected ways in which God calls us towards a new normal. It is about allowing ourselves to be shaken enough by the Father's love that something new can get through. No complacency; just shaking, re-ordering, transformation; and receiving it, trustingly, as Good News.

+ Kay





INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

International Women's Day was first celebrated in March 1911 when a million women and men rallied in support of women's rights in the United States of America. In the following year, a textile workers strike in Massachusetts became known as the Bread and Roses strike with the slogan of bread and roses appealing for both fair wages and dignified working conditions for a largely female workforce. The slogan, Bread and Roses can be attributed to the 3rd century Roman physician and philosopher Galen of Pergamon who wrote: *If thou hast two loaves of bread, sell one and buy flowers, for bread is food for the body, but flowers are food for the mind.*

In the same year as the Bread and Roses strike, James Oppenheim used this term in a poem:



Bread and Roses

As we come marching, marching, in the beauty of the day,
A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill-lofts grey
Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses,
For the people hear us singing, "Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses."

As we come marching, marching, we battle, too, for men—
For they are women's children and we mother them again.
Our days shall not be sweated from birth until life closes—
Hearts starve as well as bodies: Give us Bread, but give us Roses.

As we come marching, marching, unnumbered women dead

Go crying through our singing their ancient song of Bread;
Small art and love and beauty their trudging spirits knew—
Yes, it is Bread we fight for—but we fight for Roses, too.

As we come marching, marching, we bring the Greater Days—

The rising of the women means the rising of the race.

No more the drudge and idler—ten that toil where one reposes—

But a sharing of life's glories: Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses.

James Oppenheim, 1911

The United Nations first celebrated International Women's Day in 1975 and in 1977 officially supported an annual day in support of women's rights bringing attention to the social, political, economic and cultural issues that women face. The global UN Women theme for International Women's Day (IWD) 2021 is 'Women in Leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world'.

Two great examples of women in leadership in the Anglican Church are:

Edith Cowan

In March 1921 Edith Cowan was elected to the Western Australian Parliament becoming the first woman to be elected to a parliament in Australia. Cowan did not have an easy life. She was only 7 when her mother died in childbirth. Her father remarried and sent his daughter to a boarding school in Perth. When she was only 15 her father shot and killed his second wife while drunk. He was hanged for his crime, leaving Cowan orphaned.

Cowan overcame these personal tragedies to help form the Women's Service Guilds in 1909 and become a co-founder of the Western Australia's National Council of Women. She believed that children should not be tried as adults – something we take for granted today – and she founded the Children's Protection Society.

Edith Cowan believed that if you really wanted something changed, you had to run for parliament. So she did and at the age of 60, she broke existing gender stereotypes by becoming Australia's first ever female parliamentarian, winning the seat of the incumbent Attorney General, Thomas Draper. By



becoming the first woman elected to an Australian parliament, she paved the way for a more democratic and representative parliament.

Cowan was a faithful Anglican and when she was elected to the Perth Anglican Synod in 1916, she was in the first group of women to be so.

The Revd Dr Canon Emily Onyango

Dr Emily Onyango will be the first woman to be consecrated a bishop in the Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) in the Diocese of Bondo on 27 March 2021. Our Partner in Mission Diocese, Eldoret, was the first Diocese in Kenya to vote at its Synod that all Orders of Minister were open to women.

Rev Canon Dr Onyango is currently a lecturer at St Paul's University where she works alongside Professor Esther Mombo. Emily holds a PhD in History from the University of Wales.

ACK, a predominantly conservative church, has been reluctant to appoint women to senior positions. Some members of the church are said to have been opposed to such a move saying it would need more consideration saying women are expected to be confined in their feminine roles.

Dr Onyango is the author of *Gender and Development: A History of Women's Education in Kenya*. In this book, The Revd Canon Dr Onyango has brought to light women's agency in navigating layers of systems that first affirmed them in community life and then excluded them from being heard in education. Education has been and continues to be an important factor in empowering women to be key leaders in society.

After the past few weeks of allegations emerging from our Federal Parliament, one might be moved to ask what has changed for women in the last 100 years since Edith Cowan was elected? International Women's Day continues to shine a light on the inequalities and challenges women and girls face across the world and it links to the fourth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion - *To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation*.

May International Women's Day 2021 be a day of Bread as food for our bodies and Roses as food for our minds.



ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

The Revd Sarah Stapleton | Assistant Curate and Chaplain to St George's Anglican Grammar School

LOOKING FORWARD TO HOLY WEEK

Here at the Cathedral, we have taken Lent very seriously. There are no flowers in the nave, no Gloria in the service and no chocolate in the kitchen (well ... that last bit may or may not be true).

As we spend our forty days in the wilderness, living plainly and without fanfare, we are also journeying with several catechumens who are preparing for baptism and confirmation on Easter Sunday. Our Pastor Rae has walked with them as they have learned about Christianity and the Anglican tradition, in preparation for the promises and commitments they will make when they are baptised. We look forward to their Baptism with hope and expectation.

Holy Week is a good time to re-examine our own commitment to baptism, as well as the promises we make for baptism candidates when we welcome them into the Church.

How do we support our brothers and sisters in their baptismal calling?

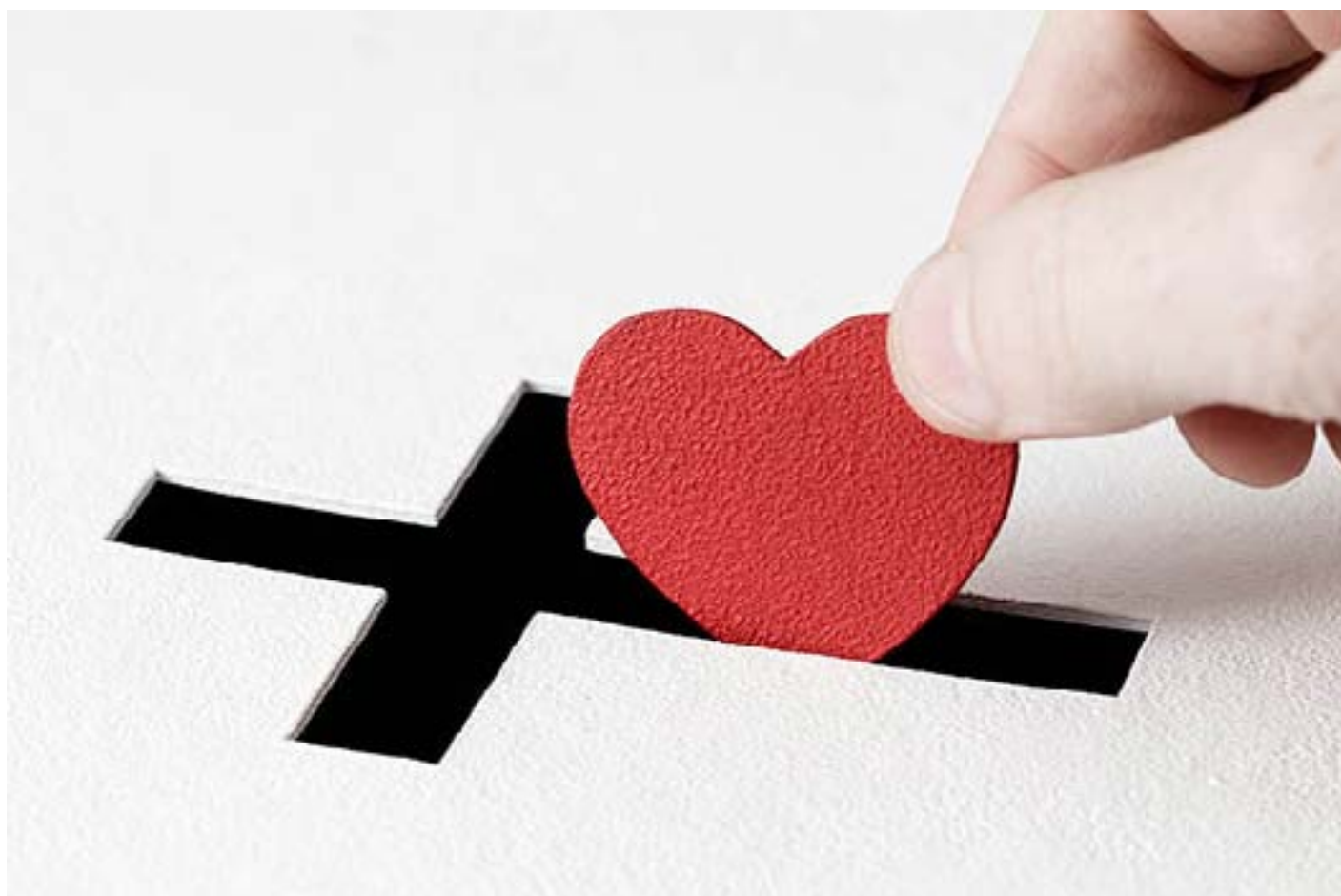
Last month I was fortunate enough to experience an example from my sisters of the clergy, when I sent out a request for support for our new deacons, in the form of clergy shirts. Unfortunately, the buying

of clergy shirts tends to happen in a flurry (usually just days after you have been given the word that your ordination will go ahead), and this year, thanks to the power of the covid-19 virus over the movement of international and national packages: our ordinands were left with worries about whether their shirts would arrive in time (if at all).

To my delight, within hours of my request we had ten shirts making their way to the Cathedral, from Bunbury, Duncraig, and North Beach. Many thanks to Justine, Lorna, and Marie. Your generosity was much appreciated.

In this act of generosity – the sharing of shirts, my sisters in Christ reminded me that although there is much that we undertake as individuals, there is also great blessing in walking together.

As I worship through Holy Week with my Cathedral family, I am reminded that being a Christian is not something we 'do' alone. As we gather together as the Body of Christ this Holy Week, I pray that we will take the opportunity to remember anew the hope and expectation of our own baptismal promises, as well as the promises we make for one another.





Gillian Bouras | An expatriate Australian writer who has written several books, stories and articles, many of them dealing with her experiences as an Australian woman in Greece

ON THE BEACH, IN THE STORM

The twelve days of Christmas seemed to pass very quickly this time, despite the rigours and monotony of pandemic restrictions.

But it's always an ambiguous period, at least in Greece, for here the Christian belief in the Birth is complicated by a layer of folk-lore involving the *Kallikantzaroi*, the souls of the dead who haunt the earth at this time, with the express aim of wrecking the Tree of Life, which supports the Earth. Every Christmas these creatures, who have red eyes, cloven hoofs and monkeys' arms and live on a diet of snakes and worms, become livid with rage because the Birth thwarts their evil intent.

The *Kallikantzaroi* are darkness and evil, the shadow side of the human soul. They occupy themselves by polluting food and water, and otherwise tormenting people, but are always fought with the weapons of all-cleansing fire and all-seeing light. They are finally ousted on the 6th of January, the Feast of the Epiphany, which commemorates St John's baptism of Christ in the river Jordan, and the manifestation of God in the form of a dove. God's voice is heard, and both light and water are present.

Epiphany is a major feast in Orthodoxy, the day on which the Blessing of the Waters takes place, and when the faithful take little containers of holy water home from church. The sprinkling of each room ensures the defeat of the *Kallikantzaroi*. But churches were closed this year because of the pandemic, and young men were unable to compete in icy waters for the prize of a flower-bedecked cross.

I try to have a fairly long walk every day, as regulations permit, and on the 6th I went along the beach road. It was all very quiet, and the waterfront was practically deserted. But I suddenly noticed a sole woman right at the water's edge. She had her back to me, but I saw her lift what was clearly an icon, which she then venerated. I couldn't hear her precise words, but it seemed obvious she was repeating the forms of the liturgy to herself. Then she produced a long ribbon, on the end of which was a small cross, which she drew back and forth through the shallow sea, so engaging in her own individual Blessing of the Waters.

Screened by some convenient trees, I stood there for quite some time, just watching. She was barefoot, and suddenly walked a few steps into the water, which must have been very cold. But she was not deterred, and continued her ritual. I left a few minutes later, not wanting to intrude on her private devotions any further. I was impressed that she wanted to engage in the little ceremony, doing what she thought was right, though alone.

'The woman on the Greek beach that morning faced no danger, but like her, Goodman acted alone and did what he thought was right.'

Later that evening, I was watching the news in my usual ambivalent mood, and asking myself whatever was going to happen next in these very troubled times. I soon learned: the BBC predictably suspended other reporting while the surreal drama of the Capitol invasion unfolded in Washington. There was something symbolic to see this happening on this particular day. At least that's the way it seemed to me, even though the prolonged episode hardly seemed credible, a kind of apocalyptic scene of battle between the forces of reason and those of anarchy.

It was some time later that I saw film of a police officer. He was by himself, did not appear to be carrying any arms apart from a truncheon-like weapon, and had been chased by a mob of protesters to the top of a flight of stairs. In a tense moment, he was able to direct the rioters away from a particular doorway.

Several details came to light later. Eugene Goodman had served in Iraq, so presumably had been in tight spots before. The doorway led to the Senate chamber, where the Senators had been engaged, only moments before, in the business of certifying Joe Biden's electoral victory. Thus Goodman had managed to avert almost certain danger to the nation's lawmakers.

Goodman is now in line to receive the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his actions. The woman on the Greek beach that morning faced no danger, but like her, Goodman acted alone and did what he thought was right.



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A NEW WAY TO CELEBRATE EASTER

In their second co-production, St George's Cathedral and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO) will present an Easter concert never performed before in Perth.

Duruflé's Requiem and Bach's Easter Oratorio will come together on 31 March to create 'a sonic picture of the joy of Easter', in the words of Dr Joseph Nolan, St George's Concert Series Artistic Director and Cathedral Master of Music. The concert tells the Easter story through the works of two extraordinary composers. Beginning with the solemn serenity of Duruflé's Requiem, the second half brings the jubilation of the resurrection in Bach's Oratorio.

'This is a first for WASO and St George's Cathedral Consort, and it is highly likely that it will be Perth's first professional performance of Bach's Easter Oratorio,' said Joseph Nolan.

With the 2020 St George's Concert Series being cancelled due to the pandemic, The Very Reverend Chris Chataway is very much looking forward to his first Concert Series performance. 'Easter's message of new life through death is perfectly expressed in these two works being performed together,' he said. 'The Requiem deals with our mortality and human frailty, and we understand this in the light of Jesus' death and resurrection, wonderfully expressed in the joy of Bach's Easter Oratorio.'

Both pieces are ideally suited to the pure sound of the Cathedral Consort, which has a strong relationship

with WASO, having sung alongside the orchestra on numerous occasions. Top Australian soloists Sara MacLiver, Fiona Campbell, Paul McMahon and James Clayton will sing alongside the Consort and WASO.

The previous co-production by the Cathedral and WASO - Bach's Christmas Oratorio in December 2019 - received high praise, leading to this second, much anticipated collaboration. Perth Concert Hall will be the venue once again, allowing the Cathedral to bring the transcendent sounds of these great composers to a wide audience.

'Perth Concert Hall plays such an important role in the artistic life of Perth, for us not to be involved is almost unthinkable,' said the Dean. 'We have an incredible music ministry at the Cathedral, so being able to share those gifts with the people of the City of Perth is both a joy and an honour. We are very grateful to all those who share this vision, especially to our benefactors, to our musicians under the extraordinary leadership of Dr Joseph Nolan, and to the Concert Hall.'

**Bach's Easter Oratorio
is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 31 March
in the Perth Concert Hall**

**Tickets are available from WASO on 9326 0000
or via the website waso.com.au**





West Australian
Symphony Orchestra

Bach's Easter Oratorio and Duruflé Requiem

Maurice DURUFLÉ Requiem

Johann Sebastian BACH *Easter Oratorio*

Joseph Nolan conductor

Sara MacLiver soprano

Fiona Campbell mezzo soprano

Paul McMahon tenor

James Clayton baritone

Stewart Smith organ

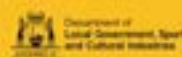
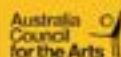
St George's Cathedral Consort

Wednesday 31 March, 7.30pm
Perth Concert Hall

9326 0000 | waso.com.au




Wesfarmers Arts
Principal Partner



Presented in collaboration with St George's Cathedral.



LOVE NEVER FAILS

Each February, love is celebrated far and wide. Red roses are sent, dinners are booked, and proposals planned. Those celebrations honour the romantic love that ignites passion, but as we grow old together, spark becomes the eternal flame of a deeper love that nurtures the soul.

At Amana Living, we are privileged to witness the sort of love that has withstood the tests of time – turmoil, upheaval, illness and war. It's love as described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

There is no exact science to finding the sort of love that will survive and flourish throughout life, but so many do find it, and celebrate it in the way that they live.

Amana Living Home Care clients, George and Emmy, met on a blind date in 1954. Emmy, who had recently arrived in Australia from Holland, and local lad George were set-up by one of Emmy's work friends from the Mt Henry Hospital. It took George four years to convince Emmy to marry him. Sixty years later, the couple have four children, 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, with the 17th great-grandchild on the way.

The couple, who are both in their 80s, have been Amana Living home care clients since 2017. Both George and Emmy have health conditions, and George is living with dementia. Despite all their challenges, the sociable couple love going out together. Amana Living regularly transports them to their local community centre for morning teas and lunches with the friends they've made at the club over seven years. Emmy teaches craft at the club, while George takes part in the club's men's group.

Annette and John are another home care couple who have been married for more than 50 years. To make it easier for the two of them to go out together, Amana Living helped them source a buggy built for two. Although Annette took some convincing to let John do the driving, they are often seen heading to church, local cafes for lunch or popping down to the shops on their wheels.

For these couples, like Abraham and Sarah in the book of 'Genesis', their love has been tested and, ultimately,

rewarded. Abraham and Sarah's marriage survived famine, the wrath of the Pharaoh, and decades of trying to have a child. They travelled through the desert on a promise – a promise from God that they would be the mother and father of a nation. Despite her doubts, Sarah eventually gave birth to her their son, Isaac. This Biblical couple were married for a very long time, and their love, although tested, never failed.



Emmy and George



Annette and John

“Like most people, Joan found getting care for her husband at home really complicated. Until she called me.”

Leonie Demunk, *Amana Living Customer Care*



“Joan was finding it harder to care for her husband Arthur, as his needs increased. She was also finding it overwhelmingly complicated to get the added support he needed to continue living at home.

My professional training and hands-on experience at Amana Living meant I was able to explain things in plain language and help her through each of the steps, just like we’ve done for thousands of other people.

If you’re also finding all this a bit complicated, just call me, and we’ll sort it out together.”

Professionally trained. Naturally kind.



part of the Anglican community

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WHAT IS TRUTH?

February is 'back to school' time. This means the obligatory TV good news story of the teary parent farewelling their child on the first day at school and the colour photograph in *The West Australian* newspaper of the set (or sets) of identical twins who commence in their local kindergarten. It would not be early February without them!

As I started tapping the keyboard to 'pen' this article, breaking news flashed across the computer screen ... 'Facebook bans Australians from viewing or sharing news'. Could this be true? Something the western governments repeatedly accuse more centralist regimes doing is being done to us by the company founded and grounded in 'democracy central', the land of the free, the USA? I went to check this possible 'fake news' on my main social media feed, realising that it was Facebook! Giving up social media during Lent is a now common practise of some Christians around the world, but social media giving up on us for Lent? Surely this is not right?

A former United States President, Theodore Roosevelt wrote early last century: 'To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace'.

In journeying through Lent this year, my mind has turned to how our world has changed since the advent of social media. If our lens to the world is Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the like, it is easy to form the view that a morals-vacuum exists in and through society worldwide. Ten years ago, we raised concerns that discussion and debate over ethics, morals or religious beliefs were now avoided so as not to offend. In 2021, it's all about fake news and offending it seems.

That Holy Week question of Pilate 'What is truth?' (John 18:38) has a striking potency today. That too has become my 2021 Lenten question for daily self-reflection. What is truth?

For centuries, Anglican schools have been well-placed to address this truth vacuum or truth distortion (what we call fake news today) by immersing our young people in an environment where the Judeo-Christian ethic provides a foundation for life – a foundation for forming belief and shaping behaviour. In essence, an Anglican classroom is one where values are valued. Far from the

'indoctrination' approach for which some religious schools of the past (and indeed in some schools today, even here in WA) could be justifiably accused, today's classroom is a place where opinion is encouraged and where diversity is not only accommodated but valued. That's not to say that there aren't some absolutes as far as values are concerned. Anglican schools unashamedly provide a time-honoured foundation of Christian teaching on which any boy or girl, man or woman may base their life.

Every teacher is a teacher of values. How can it be otherwise? Some teachers have the added responsibility of teaching our Religious Studies curriculum, which provides a platform for open values discussion, underpinned by the Christian tradition.

When values issues such as these are discussed, a variety of opinions arise, reflecting the diversity of our Western Australian society and the diversity of our Anglican school classrooms. That's a good thing.

This year our schools conclude Term One in Holy Week. My heart gladdens when this happens, as it provides us the opportunity to journey with students day-by-day through Holy Week. Once again, fake news will be replaced with the retelling of the stories which are central to our faith. We might call it 'faith news'! From Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, to his betrayal and humiliation, death by crucifixion, triumphal resurrection and glorious ascension, this forms the base for not only what we believe but how we act and treat others.

It should not be about banning stories because our views differ with theirs. As Anglicans we recognise the existence and merit of other viewpoints, and in so doing it doesn't require forsaking our own commitment to a particular pathway of truth. In fact, it's because Anglican schools confidently embody clarity of purpose and a particular form of truth that those in our schools are encouraged to pursue the truth. Anglican schools tell a particular story, but we also seek to ensure that the stories of others are honoured and explored, not shut down.

Classrooms must be safe places where young people are given a forum in which their opinions may be expressed without fear of ridicule or persecution. They must be places where, like Pilate, they can ask over and over 'What is truth?'. These same classrooms are the places where their values are shaped and guided. Unless we foster this spirit of openness and truth-searching, we risk creating young men and women who are nothing more than 'educated menaces'.

Cardinal Hume of Westminster wrote late last century: 'The great gift of Easter is hope - Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in God's ultimate triumph, and in God's goodness and love, which nothing can shake'. As you journey through March towards Holy Week and Easter, you too may wish to ponder again Pilate's question:

Quid est veritas . . . What is truth?

TRUTH



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CYPRESS: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE RESPONSIVE SUICIDE SUPPORT

Please note: This article talks about suicide and its impact. If it raises any issues for you, please phone Lifeline on 13 11 14 to seek support.

At Anglicare WA we do all we can to work towards wholeness.

We believe that it is possible for anyone to find healing and wholeness with the right support and resources. Even in the face of the greatest trauma and loss.

One instance of this is the loss of a loved one to suicide. In Australia, nine people die by suicide each day. That is more than the road toll. For each life lost to suicide, the impacts are felt by up to 135 people, including family members, work colleagues, friends and first responders at the time of death (from Lifeline: <https://www.lifeline.org.au/resources/data-and-statistics/>).

Those bereaved by suicide face a painful and challenging journey to survive their loss. Due to the stigma our society still associates with suicide, accessing helpful non-judgemental supports and having permission to talk and grieve openly about their loss can be difficult.

CYPRESS (Children & Young People REsponsive Suicide Support) provides counselling and outreach within Perth Metro for young people aged 6-18 yrs. who have been bereaved by suicide.

Our skilled and dedicated counsellors journey with their young clients through this trauma and loss, supporting them to grieve and find healthy ways to express themselves as they try to make meaning of their loss by suicide.

Tamara and Cade are two young people who have accessed CYPRESS counselling and have willingly shared some of their insights with you.



FREE YOURSELF

Grief is a cage you have been captured in ... being stuck in a mindset.

The only way you can free yourself from the cage is to find the key.

You have to find the key

There are many keys to the cage – you need to find the key that works for you.

My key has been Remembering Memories – the good times and the rough times.

My key has been Hearing Memories – from people who knew him when he was younger and when he was older.

My key has been Family – the family I live with and family who live far away and I visit.

My key has been Making new Memories – in special places with special people.

My key has been Friends – support and having fun.

My key has been Being Loved, knowing that I am not isolated and that others can help.

My key has been Positive Thought – I can learn how to do this, He is still in my life and I have lots of things to look forward to.

By Tamara (14 years)

A LETTER TO MR INCREDIBLE

By Cade (12 years) about asking for help

Dear Mr Incredible,

I'm writing to you because I've seen you have a problem asking for help.

This worries me because if you don't know how to ask for help, you might find yourself in trouble and think you have no support when you always do.

I know you think you have to be tough and do things on your own. Men sometimes feel like they shouldn't ask for help because people might think less of them or think that they are weak. I don't think this is true but I do think it can be hard to ask for help.

It takes a lot of courage to summon the power to get thoughts out of our heads and ask for help if we are in trouble. You don't always have to be incredible! You don't have to always be the strong man people expect you to be. You can allow yourself to be vulnerable – you can let your guard down. You don't need to keep the barrier up of your own self-righteousness. This barrier cuts men and boys off from others and the rest of the world. This is not something I want for you. I want you to be safe and not under fire by your own dark thoughts and worries.

I reckon that your kids might like to see your toughness and strength cause that can help them to feel safe and protected. But they would also want to see you use your strength to ask for help. This gift to your kids would show them that being incredible doesn't mean being strong on your own. It means accepting the strength of others. We are stronger together with others. This is what makes incredibleness and helps us to grow even stronger.

Yours sincerely,

Cade.

All of this arises from long and patient engagement between CYPRESS counsellor and those who have experienced loss through suicide. It can be heartbreaking and incredibly heartening, but we know at Anglicare WA that wholeness and healing is possible with the right support and resources.

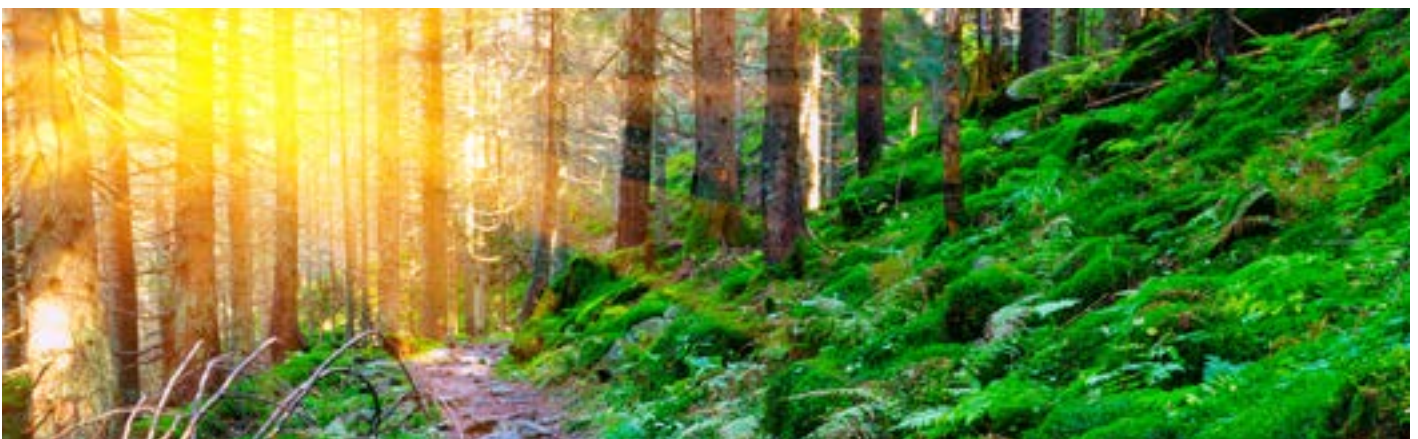
Alongside this important work Anglicare WA offers the ARBOR (Active Response Bereavement Outreach) providing counselling and support for adults bereaved by suicide.

How can I access CYPRESS and ARBOR?

If you are in crisis and require support immediately, please phone Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Samaritans on 135 247

Referrals to CYPRESS and ARBOR are open to agencies, schools, churches, individuals, families and friends:

- Contact Anglicare WA during business hours on 1300 114 446
- Visit the Mental Health and Suicide Postvention page of Anglicare WA website <https://www.anglicarewa.org.au/get-help/mental-health>
- For information and ideas to support young people bereaved by suicide visit the CYPRESS website at www.cypress.org.au



Kim Brooklyn | Chief Executive Officer

A NEW APPRECIATION FOR THE MESSAGES OF HOLY WEEK

Our campus at Parkerville is set in amongst the bush with a beautiful canopy of gum leaves overhead; that gorgeous crunch of twigs and dried leaves as you walk; and the sounds of birds of every kind all around.

Just a few short weeks ago, there was no time or space to see any of that beauty – all those leaves were just potentially deadly fuel for raging bushfire and the canopy of gum leaves just an opportunity for it to leap across a property that is home to children of all ages, recovering from trauma.

It must have been a confusing time for those young people. First told we were in lockdown because of COVID-19, and then, on top of that, they were quickly evacuated to escape what was an unpredictable and uncontrolled fire.

It was one of the most challenging weeks our team at Parkerville has worked through and we couldn't be prouder of how they handled each day and how well they put our emergency plans into action and supported the children for whom we care.

As always, the resilience of the children and young people was amazing. We really do believe they are our superheroes – their ability to survive and thrive in spite of the challenges life throws at them is a constant source of inspiration and awe. That week in early February was no different – they were our super kids in every way.

Perspective is important of course.

The bushfires were devastating. Some 86 families have lost their homes and all their belongings inside. In some cases, their much-loved pets have perished, and others have lost their businesses, livestock, and their livelihoods.

Miraculously – and thanks to an army of firefighters, volunteers and quick-thinking locals – there was no loss of human life. And the weekend of rain that helped bring an end to the fires, once and for all, was blessed relief.

So, we move into Holy Week this year with a fresh appreciation for the range of emotions that come with enormous tests and challenges – where clearly our own challenges pale into

insignificance relative to others. There is such an important message that resonates truly for all of us here at Parky, and that is, at the end of the day we must love one another if we are to survive and then thrive as a community.

That simple and powerful act of love has been so evident in our community through COVID lockdowns – and certainly during the recent bushfires.

Firefighters put their lives on the line to protect homes and lives.

Volunteers put their hands up to cook and help people at evacuation centres.

The community offered to take in livestock, pets, families and anyone who needed shelter.

And more than \$12 million has been donated to the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund to help people who are now facing the daunting challenge of rebuilding.

At Parkerville Children and Youth Care, we evacuated our campus early in the watch and act warning so that we could move without distressing the children too much. As it turned out, we were spared any damage or loss and we were able to move the children back by the Friday. But we, too, have been witness to that spirit of service and love. Calls from a kind and generous community poured in – checking to see how we were faring and if we needed any help; our teams (some of whom have homes in the hills) putting the welfare of our children and young people ahead of everything else; our 'buddy home' hosts who opened their doors and hearts to children who were evacuated from the Parkerville campus; and our supporters and donors who continue to make our work possible.

"Thank-you" seems inadequate, though gratitude is certainly a dominant emotion at this time of year.

We are thankful. We are grateful. We are energised by message of hope, light and new life that Easter brings every year, and especially this year.





St Bart's

INTRODUCING ST BART'S INAUGURAL PATRON

Just as we welcomed a new year in January, along with it came a huge first for St Bart's as we appointed our inaugural Patron - former Vietnam veteran and State and Federal Parliamentarian, Graham Edwards AM.

Set within the beautiful Queen's Gardens and following a moving Welcome to Country by Uncle Ben Taylor and Aunty Mingli McGlade, John Carey MLA representing Minister Simone McGurk, St Bart's Chairman Mel Ashton, CEO Samantha Drury and a number of distinguished guests welcomed Graham to the organisation at a breakfast function.

Confirmed at age eleven at St Columba's Anglican Church in Scarborough, Graham holds many memories there as his mum was a member of the Parish, describing the Reverend at the time, Alf Holland, as a 'really nice bloke'. While COVID-19 restrictions throughout 2020 have kept Graham from attending services on a regular basis, he now calls St Michael and All Angels in North Beach his parish.

Speaking at his welcome event, Graham highlighted the key role of mateship amongst fellow Australians and the simple act of people helping each other as we face significant issues in our community. Referring to the Aussie ballad Waltzing Matilda being about a homeless man, Graham said: 'We don't have swagmen or people jumping into billabongs now but we do have a lot of homeless people who turn to organisations like St Bart's. They are vulnerable people and they are not waiting for handouts, they are simply people looking for a passage through a difficult time'. He urged governments of all

levels to continue to support the sector and not react hastily to attempts by others to politicise the important issue of homelessness.

Graham also praised the St Bart's staff he met during his tours of services over the past few weeks. He told Perth's WestLive radio in his first interview as Patron that the staff he had met were deeply compassionate and committed people.

'As Patron, Graham's proven commitment towards helping people through his various government and community roles will assist St Bart's to continue to support people experiencing, or at risk of homelessness, by raising the profile and awareness of St Bart's, and of homelessness generally, in the broader community,' said St Bart's Chair Mel Ashton.

Graham's passion to help others and his tenacious and generous spirit is well known. He became a member of the Order of Australia in 2012 for his service to the community through his Parliamentary roles, as well as his advocacy for veterans and people with disabilities.

Graham lost his legs in a landmine explosion during the Vietnam War in 1970 and is quoted as saying: 'people should not be measured by their disability'.

'We are honoured that Graham has agreed to be St Bart's inaugural Patron and we warmly welcome him into the St Bart's family,' said St Bart's CEO Samantha Drury.

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





VISITORS

On any Sunday at St John's Kalgoorlie, we're likely to have a few visitors. Some may be grey nomads, though COVID has reduced the number of interstate travellers. Some faithful Anglican travellers sport their name tags from their home parishes. Others are family or friends of Goldfields locals, visiting parents or grandchildren for a week or a month. Every voice that adds an 'Amen' or answers 'And also with you' is a delight.

Some visitors are Aboriginal people from communities hundreds of kilometres away. They are in town for a meeting, a funeral, a family visit, a medical appointment or a celebration. We are close to the centre of town, easy to find. We can provide a prayer for family, for healing, for hope. We can't do food parcels, but we can do a cool drink and perhaps a bite to eat. When we sing an old gospel song, Aboriginal visitors often join in with wonderful harmonies.

Newcomers to town sometimes find their way to us. It's a strange world, the Goldfields, and when you're plonked into it for work or study, or because your partner has moved here, you may go looking for a spiritual landmark. Our church building says, literally, 'please come in.' Kalgoorlie-Boulder has many churches, but not many occupy our particular niche: respect for the seniors, delight in the kids, sermons that exercise the mind as well as the heart, proudly progressive on social justice, gentle on women's place, sexuality and gender issues; and worship that works

without a rock band or even a piano, most weeks.

I pray: 'God, send us the people you want to belong with us'. And they come: with confidence or tentatively; with problems we can't solve but with strengths we probably need; with some, a lot or no Christian background; for a day, a few weeks or perhaps, with grace and perseverance, for a long time.

As the saying goes: 'Be careful what you pray for: you might get it!' I pray carefully for new members, not to change our church's fortunes but to change theirs. May they receive an abundance of God's goodness and mercy, plus hospitable love from us. I pray for people who will trust us with their questions, not so that we can roll out slick answers or proof texts, but so that we can listen more carefully to the hungers, fears and hopes of the people that Jesus is already making friends with in his own remarkable way.

Who will come through our doors as Holy Week and Easter approach? Will they meet God among us, the same God who nudged them to come and pray with us? What challenge to our comfort will they bring us, or what blessing to our need, with their accent or skin colour, ability or disability, knowledge or ignorance of Anglican ways or Christian faith? I will invite everyone, and then welcome whomever God sends us. I will learn their names, and say: 'I'm glad you're here'.



EASTERTIDE AND BEING INTENTIONAL ABOUT FORMATION FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION

I was recently asked, 'What have you been doing in your online missional leadership courses?'

I paused. I paused for too long. The kind soul who asked me the question dropped their chin and raised their eyebrows and asked, 'You still thinking?'

The truth is, I didn't know where to start. In the last month thousands of people have listened, and hundreds have participated in these incredible conversations. In the last month we've offered nearly nine hours of live interviews with leading voices from around the world. We have facilitated 14 hours of teaching on the book of Acts with Indigenous Christian leaders and spent over 20 hours teaching and reflecting in community on global Christian witness and contemplative practices. That's all in the last month. That's without considering our new advanced anti-racism course we have started which is meeting weekly for those who went through our introductory anti-racism courses.

So, do I start with our recent guest, one of the world's most celebrated contemporary Christian poets, theologian and conflict mediator, Padriag O'Tuama? Do I answer by mentioning his new commentary we discussed on the Book of Ruth as a paradigm for exploring Irish and British conflict in the context of Brexit and beyond?

Do I start with our guest, Pastor Rich Villodas and his fantastic new book 'The Deeply Formed Life' where we discussed deeply formed practices for Missional Presence in the places we are called? Given the recent scandals of high profile Christian leaders from across the theological spectrum, the need for honest interior examination and rigorous spiritual formation should be apparent to all. We discussed what it is to take seriously our baptism and be formed for the Great Commission in cultures where we are encouraged to live on the surface, desire spectacle, follow celebrity and often thrive on the thrill of outrage without deep listening to those whom we differ from on issues of faith, politics, race, class, sex, to name a few.

Instead, maybe I should start with guests Luke and Mark Gladville. One brother associate professor of Pastoral Theology at Regent College in Canada, the other associate professor in the Department of International Relations at Australian National University. They have written one of the most important books for the reimagining mission during this global refugee crisis called, 'Refuge Reimagined: Biblical Kinship in Global Politics'. An incredible discussion and (and book!) on how dying churches can come alive not by seeking to save the church by losing our lives for Christ's

sake by coming alongside some of the most vulnerable people in the world. If you are looking for a book to challenge and revive Christian witness in your parish, you can't go wrong with this one.

Or maybe I should answer with our two hour conversation with contemplative and pastor, Brian Zahnd. As well as his profound daily devotional meditating on the life of our Lord for lent, we discussed his important new documentary, 'Postcards from Babylon' on the dangers of Christian nationalism that threatens to poison Christian witness globally at this moment in history.

Then again, maybe I should start by mentioning our discussion with two widely respected African American theologians, Lisa Sharon Harper and Dr Drew Hart. Their dialogue on The Revd Dr Martin Luther King Jr's final book, 'Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community' and its implications for the church today was incredible and so timely.

Or, for something more personal, there was the beautiful conversation on prayer, Jesus, and responding to our ecological crisis with joint Nobel Peace Prize nominee, Jo Vallentine. And, believe it or not, there is more but I won't go on.

But that's why I was slow for an answer. All that is in the last month. Nearly nine hours of teaching and resources, and that's only our live conversations.

I could instead have answered with any of the weekly online courses we are running. We have three courses running currently with people from around the world. There is our Sunday afternoon *Liberating Sunday School* on the book of Acts with Indigenous guest lecturers. Our Wednesday morning Subversive Seminary where we are exploring Dr M Shawn Copeland's incredibly moving text, *Knowing Christ Crucified*. Or our Advanced Anti-racism training where we are using the commentary, 'The Africana Bible: Reading Israel's Scriptures from Africa and the African Diaspora' as a way of integrating our training into our hermeneutics for preaching, teaching, prayer and formation.

I finally did respond.

I simply smiled and said, 'You should join us and find out'.

This Eastertide, we'd like to extend an invitation for you be intentional about your formation for the Great Commission. You are welcome to join us and find out.



BUNBURY BULLETIN

As annual meeting season ends it is wonderful to see so many faithful people offering to minister in various ways in their parishes. A new triennium brings fresh ideas and perspectives while seeking the wisdom of experience. We wish all our new and continuing wardens, parish councillors and synod reps every blessing on the upcoming year of leadership in the diocese.

After cancelling the Cursillo weekend in 2020, it was an absolute delight to see a new team for 2021 commissioned at St Boniface Cathedral, Bunbury on Saturday 20 February, along with lay director, Mrs Wendy Mabey. The Cursillo weekend will take place at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School from 9 to 11 July and application forms are available from the diocesan office via the contact us form at

www.bunburyanglican.org. Anyone wishing to join this movement would be made most welcome, and we wish the 2021 team well as they put in the many hours of preparation required to ensure a successful Cursillo experience.

After the snap lockdown disrupted our planned ordination, we have rescheduled for 6 March, with thanks to Bishop Jeremy James for his willingness to lead the ordination retreat and preach at the service. Our newly ordained colleagues are, Mr Leon Durrant, Deacon in the Parish of Southern Ranges, Mr Kevin Toovey, Deacon in the Anglican Community of Wagin and The Revd Justine Richmond, Priest in the Parish of Dunsborough. Please pray for them as they begin this next chapter of ministry and take their places in the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter in their new roles.



Plan for Retirement and Beyond

A Free Info Session on Retirement Homes, Will Writing and Funerals

Get advice and help when living life after work. A friendly event by Anglicare WA with three professionals.

Date: 8th April 2021 from 10am

Venue: Meadows St, St Matthew's in Guildford

Cost: FREE

► To register or for Info: Contact Romm 9263 2076 or www.anglicarewa.org.au/get-involved/events



NEWS FROM THE NOR'WEST

Farewelled in Sydney was The Revd John Chalker, who died late in January. John, deaconed and priested in 1994 to be Minister in charge of Kalbarri, was there 11 years when he returned to Sydney for support for his elderly parents. We thank God for his gospel teaching, children's work, music conducting, photography, and great love for wildflowers. We were pleased to be able to zoom into his funeral service on 4 February.



Zooming is proving to be such a blessing post-Covid. Most of the clergy wives in the Diocese joined together one Monday evening recently, to meet Lorraine Seccombe, wife of our locum Dean, The Revd Dr David Seccombe. They are staying for at least 6 months whilst the Cathedral looks for a new Dean. We also 'met' Joy Appleby, married to The Revd Canon Dale Appleby, locum priest in Carnarvon until Easter. And then heard each others' news as we start this new year in 2021.



Zooming again as over 30 Cathedral members gathered together on Wednesday 24 February at 5.00pm to 'attend' the consecration of our ex-Dean, Peter Grice, who is now Bishop of Rockhampton. Amazing for us to 'be there' on the side of the county! Peter's installation was conducted in St Cathedral Rockhampton on Saturday 27 February.

Naomi Warth from Wickham has been in hospital with an insect bite which turned into a streptococcus infection causing her to lie low for weeks, rather than days. Sadly missed and missing her work as a school chaplain in Karratha.

The Revd Daniel and Bec Faricy in Kununurra had a great holiday in Perth. Unable to fly to the eastern states in case Covid restrictions were tightened they were able to enjoy lots of the recreational parks with their three girls. School has returned, the rain has been falling and waterfalls are 'pumping'!

Our newest minister Mike Welham, Geraldton Cathedral Assistant Minister for Youth and Families has hit the ground running. 'In a world that is opposed to God, I'm excited to help young people stand firm in their faith and defend it,' he said. Mike is helping Bluff Point Assistant Minister Brendan Hurley run Friday night youth group. He was deaconed early in February in Holy Cross Cathedral.



Getting excited as the reopening of Holy Trinity Church, Roebourne draws nearer – Friday 7 May. Invitations are going out. Contact Eugenie Harris 0433 832 576 to be included. Next is the Centenary of St Andrew's Mullewa, to be celebrated in August this year. Contact Judy Critch on 0429 625 044.

For God loved me (the world) so much, that He gave His only Son, that if I (whosoever) believe in Him I will (should) not perish, but have LIFE FOREVER and EVER! (John 3:16)

ADVOCACY COMMISSIONS

Throughout the year there are many days and celebrations that remind us of our mission as Christians, particularly the fourth and fifth marks, to transform unjust structures of society and to care for God's Creation. The Advocacy Commissions have electronic resources to help parishes, schools and agencies focus on these special days as part of our mission in the world.

Harmony Day is Sunday 21 March and Harmony Week is 15-21 March. For Christians, we may reflect that Harmony Day falls on the equinox, the day created by God when the light and the dark are of equal lengths and in balance, showing the balance we are called to create within our world. The day highlights our multi-cultural and diverse society, encouraging us to befriend and learn from people of other faiths and cultural backgrounds. One third of Western Australians are born overseas and we speak 240 different languages in our homes. While Christianity remains the dominant faith, a hundred other faiths are practised in WA also. The SRC will issue a pew-sheet with prayers and information. More information and links to events in your area can be found at <https://www.omi.wa.gov.au/events-and-training/harmony-week>

Earth Hour will officially occur on Saturday 27 March, 8:30pm – 9:30pm. This is an international event supported by individuals, schools, churches and other organisations across 7000 cities in over 180 countries. During this hour, all lights and non-essential electronic equipment is switched off as a symbolic show of solidarity for our planet, conservation and sustainability. As Christians, we join in this action to give thanks for

God's good Creation and to contemplate how we are called to sustain and re-new the life of the earth.

EcoCare will be sending out liturgical resources for parishes, schools and agencies to engage in Earth Hour either on Saturday evening, Sunday morning or another time. <https://www.earthhour.org.au/get-involved>

Clean Up Australia Day (March 7) was started thirty years ago as a grassroots campaign to make a difference to the local environment. Originally focused on the collection, and removal of rubbish that pollutes the environment, today the events also focus on limiting the amount of rubbish that enters the environment. There are many different activities we can get involved in for the day, focusing on schools, businesses and local communities. Or we can personally, with family and fellow churchgoers, create a small, local action focused on a local park or bush area. Let us know how you go and we will share your care for God's creation on social media. <https://www.cleanup.org.au/>

Another part of our work for God's Creation and the world, is focusing on the preciousness of water, one of the symbols used in our baptism. **World Water Day** (22 March) started by the United Nations, is a day to focus our attention on the life-giving qualities of water, the spiritual and social meaning of water and the imperative to ensure all people have access to safe, clean and free water. <https://www.worldwaterday.org/>

For more information and resources contact our Project Officer, Peregrin Campbell-Osgood on 9425 7276 or src@perth.anglican.org



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

On Thursday 4 February there was to have been a surprise 86th birthday celebration at St Paul's Church, Woodlands-Wembley Downs for our beloved retired priest Fr John Warner. Unfortunately the COVID-19 lockdown put paid to that, so it was decided to have a joint celebration on Thursday 25 March to mark not only Fr John's birthday but also the 60th anniversary of his ordination as a Deacon in St Peter's Cathedral, Adelaide.

Fr John was joined on this occasion by The Ven Michael Pennington who not only shared the same ordination date but was a student at St John's College, Morpeth New South Wales, where they trained together for the priesthood. John and Michael cut the anniversary cake surrounded by friends, parishioners and family. Fr John has served in Whyalla, Port Lincoln, Warrnambool, Kangaroo Point (Brisbane) and Claremont parishes.



**COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS
WESTERN AUSTRALIA Inc.**

Jesus — the Observant Jew

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

in memory of Margaret Storey



by Rabbi David Freilich OAM

Emeritus Chief Rabbi, Perth Hebrew Congregation; Interfaith Director,
Jewish Community Council of WA

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

Kosher light refreshments
COVID regulations to be observed

ALL WELCOME

DATE: Tuesday 9 March 2021

TIME: 7:30 pm

VENUE: Wesley Church, cnr William & Hay Streets, Perth

RSVP by Fri 5 March: 9335 4974 or marie.e.wilson@bigpond.com



BOOK REVIEWS

Shirley Claughton



THE LION EASTER COLOURING BOOK - \$9.95

This delightful children's book features page after page of intricate drawings that will entice the young reader to start colouring. The pictures help to unfold what is happening as twelve scenes from Holy Week and Easter are told in meaningful children's language.

Whilst children will spot animals and birds hiding in each scene amongst the delicate foliage, cultural and historical illustrations are apparent, and these can open up useful discussion.

'Long ago in Galilee there lived a man named Jesus 'You are all welcome in God's kingdom' he told the crowds who gathered to listen to him. Even little children. Do for others what you would like them to do for you. Forgive those who are unkind to you, and God will forgive you.'

The text in each of the twelve stories is likewise gentle and child appropriate. At the Last Supper, he says 'when I am gone, share a meal like this to remember me'. Meanwhile Judas had slipped away.

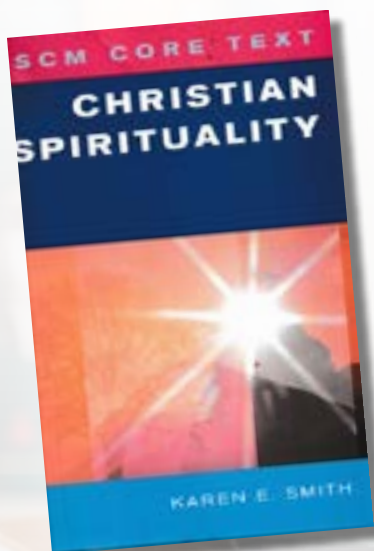
And the book concludes with

'I want you to carry on my work. Spread the good news I have told you about God. Show people how to live as God's friends. Go and tell everyone in the world about God's love – the love that will last forever.'

This is a lovely Easter message for little ones and for all.

It might be appropriate to give a copy of this wonderful little book to children who can come to worship this Easter, or to find a way to make it available to those who cannot.

The creative team of Felicity French (illustrator) and Antonia Jackson (author) have succeeded in presenting an exceptionally special book which can be useful for its story telling and its inventiveness. It begins and ends with pages full of pretty Easter eggs, but when imaginatively coloured in, the personalized book will last a lot longer than a chocolate treat.



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA DIRECTORY 2021 - \$80.00

available now from your local bookshop, St Johns Books Fremantle

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY - SCM CORE TEXT series Special price of \$32.00 (RRP \$75)

Karen E Smith

What initially appears to be an academic text, as it has been a recommended University reader for many years, this remarkable book is a particularly good read! It is extremely clear, pastoral, personal and to quote the author: 'an invitation to discovery'. Karen Smith wants the book to be useful for those who see Christian Spirituality as an ongoing dialogue and experience, not as a series of dot points on doctrine. Accordingly, stories and anecdotes abound as she seeks to examine spirituality within the context of relationship and community.

Whilst all six chapters are important and enticing, the Chapter which might make fitting reading for Lent is titled 'The Suffering of Christ and our Suffering'.

In this troubling time of pandemic, when some individuals and churches have been making headline catching announcements which have been very confusing to many Christians, it is useful to remember that the world has been through suffering before and, 'in the past some Christians found it difficult to believe that God could be affected by, and subject to the suffering of the world. Yet the horrors of the World Wars, genocide and suffering on an unprecedented global scale in the twentieth century caused people to consider that God might be vulnerable and open to the pain and suffering of all creation'.

This engaging chapter on suffering mentions the thoughts and writings of Jurgen Moltmann, John Macquarrie, Rowan Williams, Flora Slosson Wuellner, Julian of

Norwich, John V Taylor and St Francis of Assisi, amongst others. Williams is quoted as saying that more than simply recognizing that God is with us in our suffering, 'this is the great challenge to faith: knowing that Christ is in the heart of darkness, we are called to go there with him'.

In drawing towards a conclusion, the author says that 'when Christians campaign or demonstrate, give charitable aid, offer prayers, write letters of protest, at some level this is not simply **'caring for'** others, it is actually **'caring with'** them'.

And this kind of sharing in the suffering of others is expressed in the well-known prayer of St Francis: Lord, Make me an Instrument of your Peace.

It will come as no surprise that Karen is also a retreat leader. One can imagine much of the text being offered as an engaging presentation, and, unsurprisingly, she is also a regular contributor to BBC radio!

Each chapter, while addressing matters of doctrine, comes from the approach that Christian spiritualities are discovered as individuals and groups engage in an **ongoing conversation between doctrine and experience**. This conversation is always in progress; at times an individual may think that she has arrived at a clear understanding of Christian spirituality only to discover that a new experience or another person's experience raises questions – 'when a person is at home with a particular doctrine, experience may tap on the door of belief or vice versa and the conversation between doctrine and experience begins again'.

It is a privilege to have access to this interesting and appealing book.



JOURNEYING WITH JOHN - \$25.00

Hearing the voice of John's Gospel in Years A, B and C

James Woodward, Paula Gooder, Mark Pryce

This is one of the Journeying With series - Bringing the Gospel alive for Groups and Individuals. At the Outset this series commissioned a volume for each of Matthew, Mark and Luke, and because the Lectionary follows the three-year pattern of the Synoptic Gospels there is not a year available for John! The publishers of the series felt initially that their task was complete but later decided that enough of St John's Gospel was used in the Revised Common Lectionary to justify a further volume. And so, Journeying with John came into being, and so we as readers are better enriched, informed and challenged.

Whilst the book covers the whole liturgical year, Lent makes exceptionally interesting reading in its mixture of Biblical scholarship, imagination, and reflection. We are introduced to the 'discourses', found throughout the gospels, (formal discussions on a subject,) and realise that a number of these discourses are found in readings from John set in Lenten readings. The author explains that 'anyone who has sat and listened to the Johannine discourses might well agree that they are lengthy discussions on a subject' but not actually very formal...as they jump around between conversations – explained in part that in John's Gospel we are presented an historical memory that begins very firmly in history but has become so internalized that it becomes impossible to decide where history and reflection divide.

Then follows a brilliant reflection concerning how we can find ourselves retreating into a place of failing to engage with people if we are too organized and bureaucratic. 'Our theology can be enriched if we open ourselves up to people, their work and values, their hopes and anxieties.'

The following Chapters cover Holy Week, Easter and then Pentecost and then starts the liturgical cycle again. A marvelous and useful resource.

These Lenten books, and many others, including many from the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent books over past years, are available from St Johns Books, Fremantle

T 9335 1982 E books@stjohnsbooks.com.au

THE BUSH BROTHERHOOD - WILLIAMS

Holy week begins with the journey of Jesus into Jerusalem; a physical and spiritual journey which ends with the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday. The journey is a theme that features heavily throughout the week.

Within Western Australia, the journey to minister was sometimes difficult in a practical sense. Great distances were often required to be covered. Inadequate transportation and difficult conditions all had to be overcome.

The Bush Brotherhood of St Boniface in Williams was formed in 1911 by Bishop Goldsmith from the Diocese of Bunbury. It was the fourth Brotherhood established within Australia. The aims of the organisation were 'to provide a ministry in the smaller bush centres to relieve the clergy in the larger towns from incessant travelling' (Bush Brotherhood – site, 2017).

The Brotherhood travelled great distances. In an article written in the Blackwood Times in 1913, Brother White recorded the longest journey as being seven hundred miles; a journey that lasted five weeks. The Brotherhood was headquartered in Williams (House of Grace) and operated from 25-30 small centres and areas. Services were held across these areas in schools, halls and private homes.

Two notable wardens of the Brotherhood were Bishop Elsey and Bishop Frewer, who went on to lead the Diocese of Kalgoorlie and the Diocese of the North West respectively.

In his publication, *The Story of the Bush Brotherhoods*, Tomlin (1949) suggests the history of the Brotherhood can be separated into two periods, horse days and motor days. The use of cars improved travel times but were expensive to run and maintain ultimately contributing to the closure of the Brotherhood in Williams. The difficulty in getting unmarried priests out from England and the expectation from regional centres for more regular ministry were also contributing factors.



Bishop W E Elsey

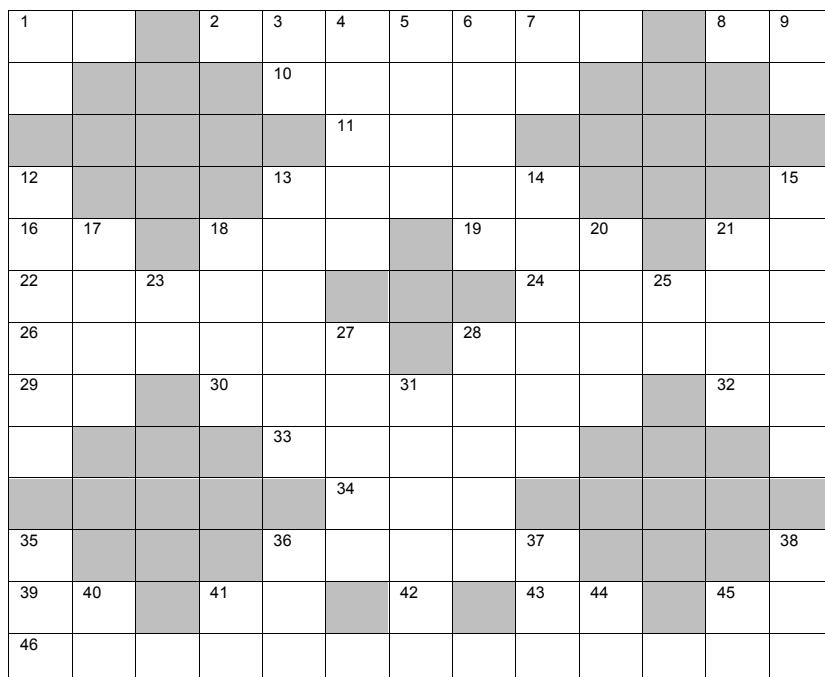
Bishop W E Elsey, Diocese of Kalgoorlie. Bishop Elsey was Warden of the Bush Brotherhood of St Boniface at Williams from 1916-19.



Part of Travelling Communion Case. Brought out to Western Australia by Bishop John Frewer in his time as Warden of the Bush Brotherhood of St Boniface at Williams 1919-29

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MOVING THROUGH LENT



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

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

ACROSS

- 1, & 8 across. Two moves in 1960s dance. (4)
2. Mettle of twisting our cage? (7)
8. See 1 across.
10. Devise ruses for the operators. (5)
11. Australian Department of the Environment, initially. (3)
13. Pain previously in tops of New York. (5)
16. No alternative to extreme horn. (2)
18. Ben is upset in Queensland airport. (3)
19. Melody in pairs. (3)
21. Anglican women in the mug? (2)
22. Nothing as is at the water-hole. (5)
24. Zealous to agree mixing. (5)
26. Mother squawks to American parrots. (6)
28. Sh!! Vile mixture made by imps. (6)
29. Article left off man. (2)
30. Breathe out flexible schedule for quarantine. (7)
32. Half a laugh. (2)
33. More arson across the back parts. (5)
34. Private charity in the Congo? (3)
36. Little saint with the operational support system makes hill from glacier! (5)
- 39, 41, 42, 43 & 45 across. Smash hit at your right to command. (9)
46. Asian Synod spun around Lent's fifth Sunday! (7,6)

DOWN

- 1, & 9 down. Undergo odyssey across Friday in Holy Week. (4)
3. Or French ormolu extremes. (2)
4. American era customs. (5)
5. Repeat action in credo. (4)
6. Tina sings in the stadium. (5)
7. Start with Good Sammys. (2)
9. See 1 down.
12. Apostle stirred warm mash right away! (6)
13. Reply as wren dabbled. (6)
14. Yes, gives way weaving through the bent lid. (8)
15. Had rum stirred in northern diocese. (6)
17. Multi-tasking Nana makes Indian bread. (4)
18. Purchasers, I hear, have a prejudice. (4)
20. Party in the travel. (4)
21. Win some shekels across the lattice. (4)
23. Columbia state capital. (2)
25. Drink right away for US soldier. (2)
27. Aroma of the apostles, I hear. (5)
28. Marsupials used for currency. (5)
31. No gaol reform for billabong. (6)
35. Mate back around once. (3)
36. His turn to be a Chinese personator. (3)
37. Supreme Ruler of the Universe heads up. (3)
38. Tea doubly wise is super-cool... (3)
40. First un-Australian. (2)
41. Head of theological school. (2)
44. Fashionable tavern, I hear. (2)
45. Tag right away, thank you. (2)

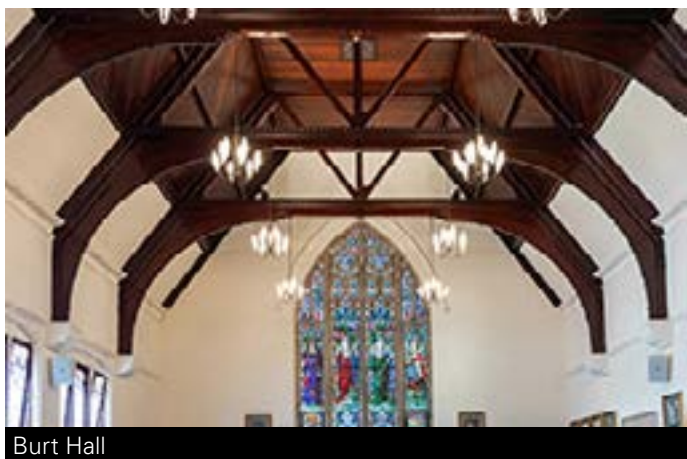


THEATRE - AND OTHER ARTS

Anthony Howes

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

In December last year we saw the beginning of a creative partnership established between Perth's innovative theatre company Theatre 180, and St George's Cathedral. Jenny Davis OAM's 'A Christmas Miracle' re-created the Great War extraordinary event when allied and German soldiers observed an unofficial truce to share the joy of Christmas. And, in February Christopher Fry's classic, 'Sleep Of Prisoners' was performed, again, in the Cathedral. Prior to this, and on a continuing basis, The Very Reverend Chris Chataway, the Dean, and the Chair of Theatre 180 and the Company's artistic staff, looked at the ways the Cathedral's ministry through drama might be of mutual benefit, while being inclusive of the wider community in as many ways as possible. Those discussions have resulted in Perth now having a brand new intimate theatre venue, right in the heart of the city. The Cathedral's historic Burt Memorial Hall, jutting out from the Cathedral right on to the Terrace is just that. The theatre space is found in the lower floor of Burt Hall, with entrances at ground level.



Burt Hall

The programme to introduce the new theatre space provides an ideal way to sample both the venue and the performances. Under the general title of 'Morning Melodies' the productions are wide ranging. The season begins with a concert version of the much loved play, **DEAR HEART**, by Jenny Davis, based on the WWII diaries and letters of Jenny's aunt to her young POW husband in Java. The moving and true life story of Wynne and Mickey has entranced theatregoers around Australia and the UK. Rebecca Davis plays her great aunt, and her own husband, Stuart Halusz, plays Mickey, while Alinta Carroll and Craig Skelton perform live, the beautiful songs of wartime that sustained the young lovers while apart.

On its international tour, UK's *The Scotsman* reported: 'A simple tale told with real gentleness and pathos . . . Rebecca Davis and Stuart Halusz mix a kind of noble dignity with a sense of rarely faltering optimism that verges on the heartbreaking . . . It's a play that at once tests and reaffirms your faith in the human spirit and comes warmly endorsed as an early evening treat'.

The West Australian critic wrote: 'Dear Heart is filled with small but powerful moments of emotion . . . this simple yet elegant tale . . . a vibrant performance mounted with integrity and commitment'.

The Morning Melodies season runs on Thursdays at 11.00am.

18 March - **DEAR HEART**

3 June - **THE I'S HAVE IT** by Sally Tunnicliffe and Jenny Davis, featuring Alinta Carroll, Brendan Hanson and Craig Skelton. The life and times of the talented Irving Berlin and Ivor Novello are celebrated in this delightful show of song, dance and anecdotes. Comedy and beautiful music will cheer a winter's day.

28 October - **CRAZY DAYS AND LAZY DAYS** by Sarsi Grace and Jenny Davis, featuring Sarsi Grace, Craig Skelton and friends. Be entertained with songs old and new, songs mellow, songs dramatic, and songs to tap your feet to. Morning Tea provided. See website for bookings: www.theatre180.com.au

Messenger readers will be kept informed of Cathedral presentations which are currently being planned.



Legally Blond Elaina with dog

April 16 to 25 sees pure escapism come to Crown Theatre. Hamer Productions turns the Theatre into a sea of pink energy with the feel good, international hit musical, **LEGALLY BLONDE**. Dumped by her boyfriend who prefers Harvard and a Law career, our blonde bombshell chases him into Harvard; but things don't go according to plan! This production stars Elaina O'Connor, Annie Aitkin, Lloyd Hopkins and Emmett Forrest, together with a superb cast of WA talent. Bookings: www.ticketmaster.com.au

As Lent unfolds, I wish you reflective joy.



Rating: M Distributor: Icon Release Date: 25 February 2021

Mark Hadley

BLACKBIRD

The iconic Beatles song *Blackbird* encourages its listener to, 'take these broken wings and learn to fly', urging them to find meaning and release in painful circumstances. The newly released film by the same name offers a different approach. Be satisfied that broken wings can't fly; best to leave them in the dust.

Blackbird is the story of a woman who has decided that it is time to end her life. Lily, played by Susan Sarandon, is terminally ill. Her husband and doctor, Paul (Sam Neill), assures his family their mother has nothing but grim times ahead:

'She wouldn't be able to move or talk, or even swallow ... We'd have to feed her through a tube through her side ... and she doesn't want that. She's decided that now's the time to do it while she's still in charge of what happens to her.'

And so, the stage is set for Lily's final weekend. She invites her two daughters, Jennifer (Kate Winslet) and Anna (Mia Wasikowska) to join her with their families for one last dose of 'wonderful life'. Then, after they leave, she will take an overdose and bring her struggle to a peaceful conclusion.

Blackbird is a beautifully shot, sympathetically phrased argument for euthanasia. Its actors are emotional and endearing, possessing a full range of doubts that are steadily resolved. And its ending is as comforting and expertly handled as a cinemagoer could wish. For all that, though, it leaves its audience unsettled and unconvinced.

The first bumps on the road to a satisfying conclusion emerge in Lily's setting. Her spacious, architecturally designed home is situated on a stretch of coast much like America's idyllic Martha's Vineyard. Paul pauses from picking vine ripened tomatoes to look out the window of his greenhouse on long grass waving over an endless beach. Their retirement speaks of both significant wealth and ease. Lily's condition is limiting, but not incapacitating. She eats large breakfasts with her family and enjoys walks in the wild. Speaking of family, she is deeply loved by her husband and children and, what's more, deeply needed by them. Jennifer is a judgmental soul who needs softening; Anna, a painfully drifting one who longs for a place in her mother's affections. In short, Lily has everything to live for and no reason to leave this world except for the prospect of one day losing her many blessings – which hints at her real challenge.

Blackbird does nothing to hide Lily's self-focus. Instead, it celebrates her coming death as the triumph of a truly individual heart. Her husband assures his daughter,

Jennifer: It's a little insane.

Paul: No, it's not. The people in this situation, those that choose to end their lives prematurely, are characteristically not insane, not even depressed. They're usually intelligent, articulate, analytical and deeply, deeply controlling.

Lily announces that she wants a final Christmas, and so the family hurries to obey. Lily bestows gifts and basks in their recipients' praise. She urges her grandson to drink and smoke pot alongside his parents because it fits her vision of a happy family. Lily even encourages her best friend to have an affair with her husband, so that she can feel free to leave him. She calls this last request an act of love, but it amounts to



another moment of self-service. Ultimately, this valued wife and mother requires her family to participate in and accept an illegal act because doing so will be less traumatising to her. Lily's motivation might best be summed up by the tantrum she falls into when it seems her daughters will no longer abide by her wishes: 'I choose! I choose! I CHOOSE!'

It is very hard to criticise those seeking a release to what might be seemingly unendurable pain. The suffering brought to the fore by euthanasia debate should not be taken lightly. However, *Blackbird* raises the problem at its heart. So long as the purpose of someone's life is solely measured in terms of the pleasure they take out of it, there can be no real objection. But what if we are actually here to live for others? What if every moment of life is a gift, to be valued and treated as such?

From its very beginning the Bible presents life as the inestimable gift of a good God. He supplies it as he makes the first man in his own image, thereby bestowing on Adam the opportunity to discover and experience every good aspect of the human character and existence. The Bible is also full of encouragements, even warnings, to discover our need to appreciate this gift and the God who gives it:

'Remember him - before the silver cord is severed,
and the golden bowl is broken;
before the pitcher is shattered at the spring,
and the wheel broken at the well,
and the dust returns to the ground it came from,
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.' ¹

Blackbird's real tragedy, though, is not the loss of opportunity Lily's passing represents nor even her own selfishness in choosing to depart this way. Its real sadness lies in her family's failure to convey to her the value of what it is she is about to throw away. There is a silence in our society that encompasses death, whether it be natural or pre-determined. There is a sense that the worst thing we could do would be to disturb our loved one's passing, whatever spiritual issues might hang in the balance. Lily's family is supportive but ultimately silent throughout, and when she finally arrives at her last moment her husband's comfort is cold:

Lily: Now I'm frightened.
Paul: Don't be frightened.
Lily: Where am I going?
Paul: You tell me, kiddo.

- as though that too was ultimately up to her.

APPOINTMENTS

The Revd Joanna Colgan	Assistant Curate, Subiaco	24.02.21
The Revd Rowena McMicking	Chaplain (Deacon), St Mark's ACS	24.02.21
The Revd Belinda Newman	Assistant Curate, Kingsley North-Woodvale	24.02.21
The Revd Justine Coverdale	Chaplain (Deacon), John Wollaston ACS	24.02.21
The Revd Canon Dr Philip Raymont	Priest-in-Charge, Parishes of Beverley-Brookton, Quairading and York	July 21
The Revd Liz Flanigan	Chaplain, All Saints' College	19.04.21
The Revd Jacob Legarda	Archbishop's Vocational Liaison (in addition to roles as Archbishop's Chaplain and Chaplaincy Co-ordinator)	01.02.21

LOCUM TENENS

The Revd David Prescott	Floreat Park	11.02.21 – 04.04.21
The Revd Graeme Manolas	Scarborough	01.02.21 – 28.02.21
The Revd Dr John Yates	Bassendean	01.02.21 – 04.04.21

RIP

Mrs Jan Watts	Widow of The Revd Canon Frank Watts	09.02.21
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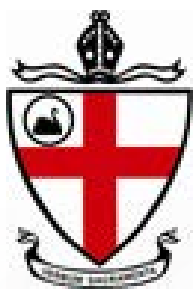
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St George's Cathedral

The Cathedral is open – COVID-19 restrictions apply
Information about our services and events can be found at www.perthcathedral.org

MONDAY TO SATURDAY SERVICE TIMES

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

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

SPECIAL SERVICES

Sunday 7 March	5.00pm Choral Evensong for Commonwealth Sunday and International Women's Day
Sunday 14 March	5.00pm Choral Evensong to Commemorate Edith Cowan
Sunday 21 March	5.00pm Choral Evensong for St Patrick of Ireland
Thursday 26 March	10.30am Mothers' Union service
Sunday 28 March	5.00pm Passion Carols

THEATRE

Thursday 18 March at 11.00am: **Dear Heart** - A moving true story of a young couple separated by thousands of miles and a barbed wire fence
Tickets: <https://theatre180.com.au/show/dear-heart/>

SPIRITUALITY SERIES

Wednesday 10 March from 9.30am-2.00pm: **C1** - 2nd Letter of Clement of Rome: Prayer, Almsgiving and Fasting with The Revd Luke Hoare, Assistant Curate, Parish of Mt Pleasant
Wednesday 24 March from 9.30am-11.30am: **Spirituality and Community Airwaves** with Mr Anthony Howes, Presenter, Capital Radio

MUSIC

Wednesday 31 March at 7.30pm **Bach's Easter Oratorio** presented with WASO at the Perth Concert Hall
Tickets: <https://www.waso.com.au/concerts-tickets/whats-on/concert/easter>