



## To the People



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

July 2026

Winter is upon us. Despite the rainfall around the coast, places like Lake Grace are still short of rain so please pray for rain in the Wheat Belt.

The continuing tensions and risks in the Middle East, the seemingly intractable warfare in Ukraine and the devastating earthquake in Venezuela are all also continuing matters for our prayers. Some of you will have experienced past earthquakes in our diocese. One of the reasons our insurance premiums went up a few years ago was because we are situated in recognised earthquake territory here in the South-West and Great Southern. The nearest I have got, however, were the earthquake zones in the London Science Museum and Canberra's Questacon. It was unnerving to have the ground move literally under your feet, but the accompanying instant destruction and pancaking of multi-storey buildings we have seen on our screens, and the attempts to reach and rescue people, are heart-rending.

### MU Friendship Day – Thursday 2 July

Brought together MU members from various branches and places to the Cathedral Hall manufacturing wonderful greeting cards together, enjoying one another's company and lunch and hearing a video message from Robyn Ray, the Australian MU President.



(Right) Diane Hill and Revd Cathie Broome looking at the completed cards.

Spot the Dean! in the picture below...



## Ordination Service – Saturday 27 June

The weather held back for the Ordination service, allowing full use of the Cathedral, Hall and space in-between. In February, we ordained four priests and one deacon. This time it was four deacons and one priest. 300 people packed in, including visiting clergy from Sydney, Perth, Geraldton and even one driving 12 hours from Carnarvon. Bishop Jeremy James, from Willochra Diocese, kindly led the Ordination Retreat and preached. Revd Gaerlan Baguil's Filipino community travelled in force to support his priesting, singing beautifully in language during Communion, playing drums and dancing afterwards, and producing huge amounts of hot food for everyone. There were another 40 individuals, couples or groups who joined livestream, and 260 hits on the recording since. The service also gave us the opportunity to welcome Revd Neale Sommersby as the new Area Dean for Stirling Deanery, to install Revd Justine Richmond as a Canon of the Cathedral, and to recognise Canon Karen Cave and Canon James Tabor as part-time temporary Archdeacons for the South and North respectively. This is from 29 August until 31 January to assist Archdeacon Geoff who will be both Archdeacon and Administrator for that likely period until a new bishop is elected and can start.

(Below) Preparing beforehand, matching flat caps and booking an early seat!



(Below) Bishop Jeremy James preaching



(Right) Revds Paul Bartley & Neale Sommersby, Diocesan Secretary Jenny Duncan, Registrar Revd Nick Freeland, Advocate Dr Renae Barker and Deacon of the Mass, Revd Tracey Gray



Greeting Revd Neale Sommersby as Stirling Area Dean (middle), installing Justine as Canon (left), and (right) advance recognition of Canons Karen Cave and James Tabor as part-time temporary Archdeacons (South and North) from 29 August



(Below: left to right) Bishop Jeremy James, Scott Thomson (Augusta & Margaret River) Revd Gaerlan Baguil (Church of the Way, Coodanup and Chaplain to Seafarers in Bunbury), Nicky Latham (Cathedral and soon Denmark/Walpole), Michelle Collins (Christ's Church, Mandurah) and May Griffiths (Narrogin, Wickepin and Pingelly)





(Left) Ordaining May Griffiths as Deacon



(Right) robing Revd Gaerlan Baguil as Priest

(photos courtesy of Revd Paul Watson)



Filipino drumming and dancing in celebration

Food and company



## **From Revd Neale Kojonup**

It's been wonderful having Sr. Elisa Helen CSC involved in the ministry of our parishes over the past two weeks. Sr. Elisa is an ordained Anglican Nun in the Diocese of Ballarat and is currently travelling around Australia with her two silky terriers Buddy and Teddy, providing ministry as she travels. We wish her well as she continues on to Denmark / Walpole.

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The Parish of Kojonup extended its sincere thanks to David Frost, who travelled from Yanchep to present an excellent Anglicare session on the serious reality of family and domestic violence in our communities and across the nation. His presentation offered valuable insight into the challenges faced by many families and highlighted the important role that churches and local communities can play in prevention, awareness and support. It was a timely and thoughtful reminder that, by working together with compassion and courage, we can help build safer communities for all.



## **Some Clergy News**

### **Revd Ann Frost**

Dear Ann is an ABM Colman Medal winner for her work back in the day as a Missionary.

Ann has finally retired and laid down her Deacon stole but not before she served at Carey Park parish, where this picture was taken, for over 21 years!

When she was ordained in 2004, she thought she might offer a few years, perhaps five!

Ann's wisdom, experience, care and humour have been invaluable to the parish and the diocese, not to mention her meticulous preparation and delivery for leading services.



### **Revd Adam Maynard arriving from the UK**

Adam is the much-anticipated new chaplain at the Cathedral Grammar School. After three and a half years of waiting, since Geoff became Archdeacon, this is very good news. He arrives with his wife, Naomi, and two sons, Harvey 12 and Danny, on 7 July at 6.50am and Archdeacon Goeff will be there to pick them up from Perth airport. Adam has served in parish ministry in Liverpool and more recently was a school chaplain in Nepal. A Service of Commissioning will be announced.

### **Revd Nicky Latham**

Denmark and Walpole have also been waiting patiently for a new minister – about 18 months. With thanks to Revd Sue Lodge Calvert for being locum for far longer than she had planned and indeed for being priest in this parish for over 14 and a half years, God willing, we will have Nicky's Service of Recognition at 4pm on Saturday 15 August at St. Leonard's, Denmark.

### **Revds Allyson Charles and Brent Findlay**

Were proud parents of the bride and groom respectively when Grace and Peter were married by Shane at Living Water on 20 June. Despite being midwinter the weather was sunny in Albany and further use was made of the huge marquee with over 200 guests.



### **Revd Gaerlan Baguil**

On the same day in the Philippines, Gaerlan and Rosina's daughter, Lency, married Ivan at the Holy Innocents Episcopal Church in Baguio City.

Gaerlan and Rosina were able to make it back for the Ordination



## A message of thanks from Bishop Paul in Kapsabet

Parishes and individuals generously give monies for Kapsabet that Laura collects and sends to Kapsabet twice a year. You will see her recent email below and then Bishop Paul's reply:

Dear Bishop Paul

Warmest greetings from the Diocese of Bunbury.

I am pleased to advise that we recently made a payment to the Diocese of Kapsabet. Funds were received from the following benefactors:

Parish	Amount AUD \$	Project
Australind	1,200.00	Own discretion
Secret Harbour	500.00	Own discretion
Mandurah	143.40	Own discretion
Coodanup	200.00	Own discretion
Dunsborough	1,000.00	Building Appeal
Anonymous donor	20,000.00	Own discretion
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$23,043.40</b>	

Kind regards

Laura Payroll & Accounts Officer

God is good all the time!

On behalf of the good people of the Diocese of Kapsabet, we wish to offer our gratitude to you our friends in the Diocese of Bunbury for your timely support which will enable us respond to the enormous needs in a big way, case by case.

We know we can't thank you enough but please accept this email as an act of thanksgiving and gratitude for your kindness. Let the parishes listed here as our ministry support Donors and individuals know that their sacrificial and generous giving will be remembered by our Living God who knows how and when to reward according to his riches in glory! Through your gifts, many lives will be touched, changed and transformed and the ministry and mission of the church will be testified across the communities which is the joy of a missional church!

Your generous support will be utilized for the intended purpose and most importantly for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

As Bp Dr Ian prepares for his retirement, we want him to know that we celebrate his leadership and his commitment to our companionship link that has grown from one strength to another. His visit to our Diocese early last year will be treasured for a very very long time. We were so inspired and blessed by his so rich experiences. This could not have been possible without your prayers and support. We thank you. We wish him and his family a happy retirement and we assure you of our presence online during his retirement service on August 29, 2026, God willing. Once the bank from this end will alert us on the arrival of the funds, we shall keep you posted. In the meantime, may God keep you and bless you all and be rest assured of our prayers.

Yours in Christ

**Bp Dr Paul Korir**, Anglican Diocese of Kapsabet, Kenya



Over the past two years, a great deal of thoughtful and prayerful work has been undertaken across our diocese to strengthen and support our shared mission and ministry. Many of you have contributed generously of your time, energy, and wisdom through local parish life, diocesan conversations, and key initiatives. We give thanks to God for your faithful witness and dedication.

This work has included improving our financial reporting, listening deeply through Hub meetings, strengthening consistency in financial assessments, launching our *Vision and Strategy 2026*, forming a Families Working Group to encourage ministry with children and young people, and undertaking a comprehensive review of diocesan finances. We have also refreshed our diocesan profile as we prepare to welcome our next bishop. These efforts have laid a strong foundation for the future.

As you know, Bishop Ian will retire at the end of August. During this time of transition and pending the appointment and arrival of our next bishop, our Registrar, The Revd. Nick Freeland has been tasked with moving forward our Vision and Strategy. This will ensure that the important work

already underway continues with clarity and purpose.

Across our parishes and communities, we continue to see remarkable commitment to ministry and mission. From worship and pastoral care to outreach and community service, the good news of the Gospel is being shared in countless ways. At the same time, we recognise that the world around us is changing quickly. The ways people connect, believe, and belong are evolving, and we are called to respond with both faithfulness and imagination.

This means we need to be open to developing different and additional models of ministry and mission. There is no single approach that will suit every context across our diverse diocese. Instead, we are invited to explore together how the gospel can be lived and shared in ways that are locally meaningful, sustainable, and Spirit-led.

Alongside this, we are seeking to build a financially sustainable future. This is not simply about balancing budgets, important though that is, but about ensuring that our resources are directed towards ministries that bear lasting fruit. Our desire is to steward what God has entrusted to us in ways that enable growth, deepen discipleship, and support vibrant communities of faith for generations to come.

The next step in this journey will be a Strategy Workshop in August, where Bishop in Council will gather to prayerfully consider what kind of Church God is calling us to become over the next decade. This will help to shape clear priorities and goals that guide our mission and ministry. We will keep parishes informed of progress and, in due course, provide opportunities for you to contribute to this important process.

As part of our commitment to encouraging ministry with children and young people, a questionnaire will shortly be distributed to parishes to help us better understand current activity, challenges, and opportunities in this area. In addition, if anyone is interested in joining the Families Working Party and is not already involved, you are warmly invited to contact the Registrar at [registrar@bunbury.org.au](mailto:registrar@bunbury.org.au) to express your interest.

Please continue to pray for our diocese during this important time in our diocesan life, giving thanks for all that has been, and asking for wisdom, courage, and hope for what lies ahead.

Remember from 1 July Super must be paid at the same time as stipends so please ensure parish assessment payments are remitted as timely as possible.

**Revd Nick Freeland &**

## Georgiana Molloy Anglican School, Busselton



**“TOSS THE BOSS – DONE AND DRENCHED!**

*What a morning. The Winter Solstice Plunge was absolutely freezing, and yes - Mr Brad Evans took a spectacular dive into Geographe Bay thanks to a very committed shove from his PA, Lynley.*

*The best part was the incredible community support. Thank you to everyone who donated and cheered - we can't wait to find out the total raised for Busselton Hospice Care.*

*Cold toes, warm hearts ❄️💙*

*(Shared from GMAS Facebook Page)*

## Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School

*A huge thank you again to everyone who got behind the Decades Day Community Lunch, helping our Student Executive raise \$2,837.85 for two important causes. If you'd still like to make an independent donation, here's where your support will go:*

*The InTown Centre, also known as the Shoe String Café, provides vital support for people in our local community facing homelessness, unemployment, and social isolation, including meals, emergency relief, and access to important services. You can find out more and give at [intowncentre.com.au](http://intowncentre.com.au)*

*FightMND funds vital research into Motor Neuron Disease, working towards better treatments and ultimately a cure. You can donate directly via our Big Freeze fundraising page:*

*<https://support.fightmnd.org.au/.../bunbury-grammar-big...>*

*Enjoy reliving these (literally) cool moments, with one more HUGE thank you to all who braved the bucket for such a great cause! Including plucky Kathy Chiera!*



*(Shared from the BCGS Facebook Page)*

### Knit n Natter Group Mandurah

At Christ’s Church Mandurah, the Knit n Natter group continues to be a warm and welcoming place of fellowship, friendship and practical care. As members gather to share conversation and creativity, they are also busy making rugs, scarves and beanies to be donated to mission groups. Through their generosity and skill, the group offers comfort and encouragement to those in need, turning each stitch into a simple but meaningful act of love and service.



### The Blessing of the Fleet at Augusta Whalesong Festival

Revd David Bardsley, Revd Scott Thomson and Christine Brown from Augusta-Margaret River parish council, joined the Augusta community for the annual Whalesong Festival, where they took part in the traditional blessing of the fleet.



Despite stormy weather, spirits remained high as locals and visitors gathered to celebrate the region’s deep connection with the sea. 🌊

Held from 29 May to 1 June, this year’s festival offered its biggest

program yet, including a street parade, sand sculpture workshop, markets, live music and family-friendly activities. The blessing of the fleet was a meaningful moment in the celebrations, giving thanks for those who work on the water and praying for their safety, provision and care throughout the year ahead.



## “Symbols and Mystery - Christian Art: how to read a church”

### with Dr Angela McCarthy

Western art has developed from a rich background of Christian Iconography and has a role to play in our contemporary experience. Angela teaches how religious art unlocks the viewer’s emotions and transforms our understanding of the mystery of God. It can transport us beyond our sense of knowing.



- ❖ The symbols of the Church, Christian Iconography and Western Art and making sense of the symbols.
- ❖ How to read your sacred space. Dwelling on the sacred items that surround us and enter more deeply into their meaning.

Dr McCarthy is an academic whose major research area is art and theology. She is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer at University of Notre Dame Australia and her teaching career spans over 20 years involved nursing education, theology and liturgy. She is the Chairperson of the Mandorla Art Award, Australia’s biennial religious art prize. This follows her popular visit in 2023.

**Saturday 10th October, 9 – 12 pm and 2-5 pm**  
**St Boniface Cathedral, Bunbury**

**All are welcome. For expressions of interest, contact Sue Kalab**  
**0407 319 344 or email [suekalab@hotmail.com](mailto:suekalab@hotmail.com)**

*Angela McCarthy at St Boniface Cathedral.*  
*Photograph by Sue Kalab*

### They took the children away - Adrian Price

In 1950 my family arrived in WA where my father, Rev’d Sidney Price was to become minister of the Perth Baptist Church. The WA Baptist Union then appointed him as Secretary Baptist Home Missions.

The Carrolup Mission near Kojonup was handed over to the Baptist Union and was renamed Marribank Mission. As a 12-year-old, I went to the handover event. When I learnt that most of the children had been taken from their parents, it made wonder how I would have felt if I was to be permanently removed from my parents.

It was not long before my father began to campaign against what most denominations considered was appropriate in those days.

There was a bright side. A teacher at the Carrolup Mission said to the children; “I have given you paper, coloured pencils and crayons, go and draw what you see”. These became known as the Carrolup drawings.

Many years later, these drawings were on display at Colgate University USA. After the display the drawings were stored in a cupboard until WA Arts Minister Sheila McHale heard about the drawings. The Minister applied to have the drawings returned to WA. Many are now on display at Kodja Place in Kojonup. *Google; ‘Carrolup Drawings’ for a viewing.*

### From the Sustainable Living Working Group

Dunsborough Parish recently received a Waste Sorted Community Education Grant from the Waste Authority of WA to run some workshops alongside their recycling stations and other sustainability initiatives.

The first two workshops were held in June and focused on making eco-friendly cleaning products. The workshops were presented by Jo Kennedy, who runs the monthly community repair coop hosted by St George's. Jo was assisted by Rev'd Justine Richmond. There were 22 participants in each workshop who were educated about what can be recycled, what is actually in the products we use in our homes and how the parish works to reduce waste and enable people access a 'one-stop' recycling service. Participants made an eco-cleaning spray, washing powder, hand wash and toilet cleaner tablets. Jo explained that these products are better for the environment, don't contain harmful chemicals and are much cheaper than buying commercial cleaning products.

The parish discovered some unexpected benefits from offering these workshops. The overriding reaction from participants was extremely encouraging of the parish's work in the community. The workshops opened a space where conversations were held not only about the 'how' but also about the 'why' – our call to care for God's creation. The workshops were held alongside the Share and Care food relief program and participants were able to observe the church's outreach to the community in action.



Making washing powder.



Jo explaining how to make a cleaning spray.



Education was one aim of the workshops.



Jo presenting to one of the groups.



Two different cleaning products were made at each workshop, and participants labelled and took home recycling and compost buckets.

## Article from the Walpole Weekly

Great Joy and Thanksgiving in Walpole

Last Sunday, 14th June, St George's Walpole Church was filled with joyful sounds and celebration!



and

Around 40 people gathered with Bishop Dr Ian Coutts, the Tenth Bishop of Bunbury, to give thanks for the **70th anniversary of St George's Church Hall**, which Bishop Donald Redding, the Fourth Bishop of Bunbury, dedicated on 5th June 1956.

As part of the celebration, everyone joined in singing along to various songs, with organist Marion Jamieson leading the way.

"Long ago our congregation gathered in the wilderness ... what a rich tradition we are blessed to know." The bishop reminded us of that rich tradition, including its beginnings some 100 years ago when the Colonial and Continental Church Society, the beginning of the Australian Bush Church Aid Society (BCA), sent out a mission nurse, Sister Jane Anderson (later assisted by Deaconess Lila Fleck, also sponsored by CCSS), who established a mission house midway between Group Settlements 116 (Tingledale) and 139 (Hazelvale).

Bishop Ian informed everyone that the lead taken by Walpole 50 years ago is being followed again now with BCA sponsoring a priest at Augusta. Learn more about this at [www.bushchurcaid.com.au](http://www.bushchurcaid.com.au).

Folk lore has it that the name "St George's Hall" has much more to do with the Rector of the day, Reverend George Kingston, than the Patron Saint of England! Reverend George Kingston, also from Ireland, came to Denmark with his wife and four little ones to take up the role of Rector for the parish that stretches west, including Walpole.

Bill Armstrong (RIP), a local teenager at the time, described the Reverend as, "a man in his thirties, big in stature, and even bigger in personality, who took the parishioners of Walpole by storm".



**Photo: Xavier Kolan**

Journalist-Historian, Molly Smith, wrote George Kingston was, "truly, an amazing man who will long be remembered throughout the district".

Last Sunday, Walpole recalled his inspiration and leadership in bringing the local community together to help build the hall, which has been a valued asset to the community for 70 years.

After the service lead by Bishop Ian, there was, of course, a feast for all to share (and much to take home afterwards too).

Music was there at the morning tea too as Xavier Kolan (from the neighbouring church, St Francis) generously played a Mendelssohn piece with his violin.

Indeed, a good time had by all.

~ Harold Luxton, Warden, St George's Church





Please find above brief details of a Women's Writing Retreat at Ridley College, Melbourne.

This owl (right) was a temporary resident of the Cathedral last month for a couple of days

### Bishop's Calendar

- |             |             |  |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| <b>July</b> | <b>5</b>    | Service at St Paul's Harvey 9.30am                                     |
|             | <b>5-12</b> | NAIDOC week  |
|             | <b>9</b>    | Finance Committee Meeting, Diocesan Office                             |
|             | <b>12</b>   | Service at St George's Boyanup   |
|             | <b>13</b>   | National Bishops' meetings planning group (my last mtg)                |
|             | <b>15</b>   | Metropolitan's Meeting via Teams                                       |
|             | <b>16</b>   | Finance Committee Meeting, Diocesan Office                             |
|             | <b>17</b>   | Annual Leave Day – Anne's second cataract op                           |
|             | <b>19</b>   | Confirmation and Red Bench Unveiling at Church of The Way, Coodanup    |
|             | <b>23</b>   | Finance Committee Meeting, Diocesan Office                             |
|             | <b>24</b>   | Safe Church Commission Meeting   |
|             | <b>24</b>   | Farewell Dinner at Bishopshouse, St George's Terrace Perth             |
|             | <b>26</b>   | Service at All Saints, Donnybrook                                      |
|             | <b>28</b>   | Safe Ministry Commission Meeting via Teams                             |
|             | <b>30</b>   | Blessing of Pocket Forest Planting, Georgiana Molloy Anglican School   |
| <b>Aug</b>  | <b>1</b>    | Bunbury Roman Catholic Diocesan Council, Bunbury Catholic College      |
|             | <b>2</b>    | Service & Confirmation at Living Water Anglican Church, Oyster Harbour |



Blessings,